GULF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

GEDA

ORGANISATION PROFILE · 2026

Gulf Economic Development Authority

The Gulf Provincial Government's platform for economic development, investment facilitation and strategic infrastructure in Gulf Province, Papua New Guinea.

TYPE

Provincial development authority

HEADQUARTERS

Malalaua, Gulf Province

FOCUS

Papua LNG readiness & local participation

GEDA

Organisation Profile
Version 1.2 · November 2026

01 · WHO WE ARE

About GEDA

The Gulf Economic Development Authority (GEDA) is the Gulf Provincial Government's lead body for economic development. Its mandate is to coordinate and promote economic development, investment facilitation and strategic infrastructure growth within Gulf Province.

GEDA is the Provincial Government's platform for aligning private investment with provincial priorities, regulatory compliance and long-term social and economic outcomes. With the Papua LNG project moving toward a final investment decision, GEDA's work centres on making sure Gulf people, landowners and businesses take a real, safe and well-governed part in the opportunities it brings.

OUR VISION

A prosperous and self-reliant Gulf Province, where Gulf people share fully and fairly in the wealth of their land, rivers and resources.

OUR MISSION

To coordinate economic development, facilitate investment and grow strategic infrastructure in Gulf Province, so that major projects such as Papua LNG leave lasting jobs, skills, businesses and services for Gulf people.

CHAIRMAN
Mr Morris Taudevin

MANAGING DIRECTOR
Mr Christopher U Haro

HEADQUARTERS
GEDA Office, Malalaua, Gulf Province

COVERAGE · GULF PROVINCE
Kerema & Kikori Districts, 10 LLGs

FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME
Skilled Labour Mobilisation

KEY PROJECT
Papua LNG (Elk & Antelope fields)

Our mandate

01

Economic development

Coordinate and promote economic activity in line with approved provincial strategies.

02

Investment facilitation

Link private investors with provincial priorities and regulatory requirements.

03

Strategic infrastructure

Grow the infrastructure that brings long-term benefits to Gulf communities.

02 · THE GULF AGENDA

Gulf Province development priorities

Gulf Province is rich in land, rivers, forests, fisheries and petroleum. GEDA's work is guided by the Gulf Provincial Government's development plans, which aim to turn these resources into jobs, businesses and services for Gulf people.

SECTOR	PROVINCIAL PRIORITY
Agriculture	Commercial agriculture and livestock, building on coconut, coffee and oil palm.
Fisheries	Grow the fisheries sector, with a target of 70% of catch processed onshore.
Forestry	100% downstream processing of timber within the province.
Mining & petroleum	Support the development of resource sites, including the Papua LNG wellheads and pipeline.
MSMEs & growth hubs	Micro, small and medium enterprises, and district growth centres.
Downstream processing	Add value to raw products in the province before they are sold.
Trade & investment	Promote the Ihu Special Economic Zone (SEZ) and industrial hubs.
Infrastructure	Kikori wharf, an Industrial Park, and an integrated network of roads, rivers and waterways.
Tourism	Develop tourism, including services for workers and visitors linked to the LNG projects.
Land development	Organise land so it can be used for development.

HOW GEDA WORKS

Papua LNG is the largest investment ever planned for Gulf Province. GEDA links it with the priorities above, so the project leaves lasting skills, local businesses and infrastructure, not just royalties. GEDA:

- **Represents provincial interests** in major resource projects, making sure activities match approved development plans and public accountability.
- **Facilitates investment** as the Provincial Government's single platform for investors, linking them with provincial priorities and regulatory requirements.
- **Supports Papua LNG readiness**, so Gulf people and businesses can take part safely and fairly when construction begins.
- **Prepares the Gulf workforce**, building a verified register of skilled Gulf people ready for resource, construction and service jobs.

Source: Gulf Provincial Government, Development Plans (gulf.gov.pg).

03 · THE OPPORTUNITY

Papua LNG and the Gulf

Papua LNG will develop the onshore Elk and Antelope gas fields in Gulf Province. Gas will be piped to a new LNG plant at Caution Bay, next to the existing PNG LNG plant near Port Moresby.

US$14bn
Estimated capital cost
≈ K63.7 billion at K4.55 = US$1

~320 km
Pipeline: about 60 km onshore, 260 km under the Gulf of Papua

80%
Share of project benefits to Gulf (20% to Central)
Tier-One agreement, Oct 2026

Late 2026
Target for the final investment decision (FID)

Project partners

PARTNER	INTEREST
ExxonMobil (operator)	34.1%
Kumul Petroleum & MRDC (State)	22.5%
Santos	21.0%
TotalEnergies	20.0%
ENEOS Xplora	2.4%

In September 2026 TotalEnergies handed operatorship to ExxonMobil, to line up with the neighbouring PNG LNG plant.

Gulf's position

At the Papua LNG Development Forum (September 2026), Acting Gulf Governor Morris Taudevin, who is also GEDA Chairman, set out the province's conditions:

- No pipeline through Gulf without guaranteed benefits and safeguards
- Avoid the delays and unmet promises of PNG LNG
- Real gains in infrastructure, health, education and business
- Fair, inclusive and transparent partnership

On 8 October 2026, Gulf and Central signed the Tier-One benefit-sharing agreement, giving Gulf 80% of project benefits.

GEDA'S ROLE

GEDA turns the province's position into practical delivery. Through the Skilled Labour Mobilisation programme and its investment facilitation role, it helps make sure Gulf workers, landowners and businesses are ready to take part safely and fairly when construction begins.

04 · FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME

Skilled Labour Mobilisation

Led by GEDA, the programme is building a verified register of skilled and semi-skilled Gulf people who can be mobilised for jobs on resource, construction, infrastructure and service projects.

5,000
Foundation applicants targeted in Phase 1

10 LLGs
All Gulf LLGs to be covered in later phases

50
Trained surveyors in 10 field teams

Nov–Dec
Phase 1 roll-out, 2026

Phase 1 coverage

AREA	TARGET
Gulf people living in Port Moresby (NCD)	1,500
Malalaua (from GEDA HQ base)	1,250
Kerema town	1,250
Other wards, with NID Registrar support	1,000
Total Phase 1	**5,000**

Later phases will cover the remaining wards of all ten Gulf LLGs in Kerema and Kikori Districts.

Key dates

2–3 Nov 2026	Surveyor training
4 Nov 2026	Launch in Port Moresby
13 Nov 2026	Starlink internet live at Malalaua base
16 Nov 2026	Malalaua and Kerema town begin
7 Dec 2026	Other wards begin
31 Dec 2026	Phase 1 close-out report
Jan 2027	Review and next-phase decision

HOW THE REGISTER WORKS

- Each applicant is recorded in the GEDA Skilled Labour Mobilisation MIS by Province, District, LLG, Ward, Village and Clan.
- Skills, certificates, work experience and training needs are captured so people can be matched to jobs and training.
- Identity and ward or clan origin are checked with ward councillors and community leaders.
- The Provincial NID Registrar's Office supports the ward roll-outs alongside the national ID registration.

05 · PEOPLE AND GOVERNANCE

Leadership & governance

Mr Morris Taudevin

Chairman, GEDA. Also the Acting Governor of Gulf Province.

Mr Christopher U Haro

Managing Director, GEDA. Chairs the programme Steering Committee and gives final approval on plans and phase gates.

GEDA Executive Management

Sits on the programme Steering Committee, reviewing progress and major changes every fortnight.

Partners

- **Gulf Provincial Government**: GEDA's parent government and source of its development priorities.
- **Gulf Province NID Registrar's Office**: partner on ward roll-outs for the skilled labour register.

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GEDA

Contact GEDA

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Sources

1. GEDA, Skilled Labour Mobilisation – Phase 1 plan documents (October 2026).
2. Gulf Provincial Government, Development Plans, gulf.gov.pg.
3. The National, "Gulf, Central agree to 80-20 benefits split" (9 Oct 2026); EMTV Online (12 Oct 2026).
4. PNG Haus Bung, "Gulf Provincial Government sets clear conditions for Papua LNG Development Forum" (19 Sep 2026).
5. Offshore Magazine, "Papua LNG edges toward FID as TotalEnergies hands operatorship to ExxonMobil" (8 Sep 2026).
6. Exchange rate: K4.55 = US$1 (Trading Economics, 30 Oct 2026).