



INNOVATION PNG 2026 AWARDS

Judges' report

Wednesday 3 June 2026

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INTRODUCTION

The Innovation PNG Awards were created in 2019 by the Port Moresby Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Business Advantage International to reward and encourage innovation – creative problem-solving – in PNG businesses.

This is the fourth time the Innovation PNG Awards have been run and we had a record number of entries this year: 79, compared to 43 entries for last year's awards.

Of these, just under half (48%) were from small businesses (those with less than 10 employees) – our largest cohort. 40 per cent of entries were from larger businesses and we had 23 entries for the Young Innovator Award, awarded for the best innovation by a person under thirty.

The applications came from across all of PNG's regions, with entries from nine different provinces.

The range of innovations covered by the entries was nothing short of breathtaking, covering many different economic activities, from agribusiness, food production, education, recycling and energy, to telecommunications, logistics, manufacturing, information technology and more.

They also represented projects at various stages of development, from early concepts through to completed projects, some of which are already delivering commercial benefits.

The digital economy is an important opportunity for PNG's future and many entries focused on using PNG's improved internet connectivity to launch their new ideas, including those making use of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The judges also noted this year an increase in the number of projects that had an environmental or sustainable element to them.

The judges would like to congratulate all those who entered the awards. We applaud your commitment to innovation, encourage you to keep innovating, and wish you every success with your projects in the future. Whether you are winners, shortlisted, commended or just entrants, nothing would please the judges more than to see your ideas flourish and succeed and we will be keenly watching your progress.

The judges:

- **Peter Williams**, Chief Edge Officer, Deloitte Centre of the Edge (Chair)
- **Priscilla Kevin**, Vice President International, PNG Digital ICT Cluster Inc.
- **Vagi Gaudi Kevau**, Director, V&C InfoPlus Limited (POMCCI representative)
- **Andrew Wilkins**, Publishing Director, Business Advantage International (BAI representative)

JUDGING CRITERIA



In assessing the entries this year, the judges adopted the criteria devised by the original 2019 judging panel.

These were:

- Does the entry represent a truly new way of doing things in PNG?
- How much of this innovation originates in PNG itself?
- Does the innovation address a significant PNG problem?
- Is the solution to this problem well thought out?
- Has there been any attempt to create a working model or product design to test the innovation? If so, what have the results been?
- Does the innovation have potential to benefit PNG in some way?
- If the innovation is commercial, is there demonstrated potential?

We have sought to base our judgment primarily on the material submitted, but have also done our own research as well, where relevant.

Each entry was scored on the above criteria to help us arrive at a longlist, and then the debates began, as we tried to reach agreement on which entries fitted the criteria the best. In the end, we are pleased to report, the judges' decisions were unanimous.

The final results of the judging follow.



THE 2026 INNOVATION PNG AWARD FOR SMALL BUSINESS (SPONSORED BY KINA BANK)

WINNER

Valana Poultry BSF Integrated Agro Farm

This small poultry farm in Central Province has deployed a smarter, more affordable and sustainable way of producing poultry feed, using the proven powers of the amazing Black Soldier Fly.

Poultry feed is expensive, and accounted for some 70% of the farm's costs. In July 2025, Valana started feeding organic food waste to Black Soldier Fly larvae, which consumed the waste and were then used as a feed supplement. The experiment has been a great success in its first year. By using the fly larvae, the Valana farm has been able to cut its feed costs in half. As a bonus, the birds produced grow faster, are healthier, and – they claim – taste better too!

The judges were very impressed by this innovative approach, which is already delivering commercial benefits to the farm and has the potential to be used by many other farms across PNG.

SPECIAL COMMENDATIONS

Homes Purse Clean Energy

This innovative SME in Port Moresby has created and taken to market an alternative, clean fuel for domestic use, sourced from local waste.

The judges were impressed by this sustainable and affordable alternative to collecting firewood for cooking and/or using and paying for gas and power. Notably, the project also offers a new waste-processing option for municipal councils and households.

Gotronical Engineering

Based in Jiwaka Province, Gotronical has created Kastom PNG, a website which not only helps to preserve and promote PNG's cultural heritage but also deploys a business model that could generate funds to support it. The judges feel this project has the potential to be "more than just a website," by providing producers of traditional crafts and artefacts – and even traditional stories – with a platform to connect with paying customers.

Website: <https://kastom.online>



ALSO SHORTLISTED

Central Dakis Mamina Trading

This successful Central Province coffee roaster and marketer deploys an innovative and proactive approach to supporting its coffee farmers in order to ensure a reliable and quality supply of coffee beans.

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100076395456975>

Pinpoint Consulting

Port Moresby's Pinpoint Consulting has created Decipher, a news intelligence platform powered by artificial intelligence (AI), designed specifically for PNG's media landscape.

Website: <https://www.decipher-intelligence.com/#news>

Yaung Organics

This small manufacturer in Lae, Morobe Province, uses a diverse range of organically grown local produce in the manufacture of its cosmetics/wellness products.

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/p/Yaung-Organics-61578534851814/>



THE INNOVATION PNG AWARD FOR CORPORATE INNOVATION (SPONSORED BY VODAFONE PNG)

WINNER

Niupay

NiuPay's Digital Strata Title Platform is a locally devised response to the recently-launched strata title system in PNG.

PNG has a unique approach to land ownership and land management. The issuing of land titles by the Department of Lands has hitherto involved time-consuming, manual processes. The adoption of PNG's new strata title system therefore represented an opportunity to innovate.

The judges were particularly impressed with this project, which saw the use of smart technology to create PNG's first digital strata title – or e-title – earlier this year. NiuPay's innovation has the potential to revolutionise the management of all land titles in PNG, benefitting landowners, home owners and developers.

Website: <https://niupay.com.pg>

SPECIAL COMMENDATION

Coffee Industry Corporation

The CIC's Green Gold Card initiative for coffee growers is designed to help make PNG's important coffee sector more efficient, by creating this identification and verification system for all coffee growers.

The judges commend the Coffee Industry Corporation both for this initiative (which was one of three projects it entered in this year's awards), and for its strategic approach to the use of technology to promote PNG coffee exports.

ALSO SHORTLISTED

Coffee Industry Corporation

The CIC's Coffee Export Management and Facilitation System is a digital platform aimed at improving exports of this important rural commodity.

NCSL Savings and Loan

NCSL has introduced a breakthrough digital solution that simplifies how members remit funds into their accounts without having to queue in bank branches.

www.innovationpng.com



TISA Bank

The bank has integrated a QR payment capability into its Yumi Pei mobile wallet, enabling small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) to accept cashless payments instantly using QR codes.

THE INNOVATION PNG AWARD FOR YOUNG INNOVATOR (SPONSORED BY MONI PLUS)

WINNER

e-Skul PNG

Anthony Tutmulai in the NCD has devised a student management system for schools, aimed at helping teachers spend less time on administration and more on teaching.

SPECIAL COMMENDATION

Areca Fluffy Pulp Project

The use of the fibres of the betel nut to make textiles has been demonstrated but Debbiealishia Kuamba's innovative project in Goroka involves using the fibres to address a major challenge for PNG women: the production of affordable sanitary products.



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About the Innovation PNG Awards

The Innovation PNG Awards celebrate organisations and local communities who are solving real problems in Papua New Guinea through new ideas, smart technology and practical innovation.

First launched in 2019 by [Business Advantage International](#) in partnership with the [Port Moresby Chamber of Commerce and Industry \(POMCCI\)](#), the Innovation PNG Awards have become the country's leading platform for recognising innovation in both the private and public sectors.

