
Oil Search supports Kutubu Kundu & Digaso Festival

Media Release

Wednesday, 18 September 2019

Oil Search has continued its support of the annual Kutubu Kundu and Digaso Festival which begins today (Thursday, 19 September) in Daga village, near Lake Kutubu in the Southern Highlands Province.

The company donated more than K15,000 in-kind (rations, diesel and gasoline and waste collection material) to help stage the event which will be held from 19-21 September with the theme “*Strongim na wok bung wantaim*” which encourages communities to work together.

The festival provides visiting locals and international tourists alike a rare insight into the rich and diverse culture of the Kutubu people, including the importance of the Kutubu kundu (drum) and the Digaso oil trade.

Apart from an amazing display of traditional regalia, cultural practices and unique art and craft from the Bosavi, Kutubu, Kikori, Hela, and Magarima regions, visitors will also be given the opportunity to visit the Kutubu human skull cave, local orchid farms and participate in activities like bird watching, canoeing, bush trekking, swimming and diving.

The festival is also aimed at educating local communities on the importance of protecting and preserving the environment and in turn their culture as both are deeply connected.

Into its ninth consecutive year, the event is a proud initiative of the Kutubu Foe Culture group to promote sustainable tourism, with the hope of increasing socio-economic benefits and capacity building for local communities. Oil Search has been a proud sponsor of the event since its inception in 2011.

Event organizer, Saina Jefferey Philyara, thanked Oil Search for its continuous support since 2011. According to the event organisers, funds raised from the event will go towards establishing a cultural resource centre.

While Oil Search’s operations in PNG extend over large areas of high biodiversity value, its physical footprint is small. The company actively works to manage any impacts it may have, recognising these ecosystems support a variety of species and contribute to the livelihood and sustenance of local communities.

End.

For media enquiries:

Ruth Waram
Manager, PNG Communications
Ruth.Waram@oilsearch.com
Mobile: 71906078

Photos courtesy of Oil Search



A rattle shaking group from Lower Faso perform to the delight of tourists and guests at the 2018 Kutubu Kundu and Digaso Festival. Oil Search has continued its support towards the annual event which begins today, Thursday 19 September.



A diverse group of dancers at the 2018 Kutubu Kundu and Digaso Festival take a break for a quick photo. Oil Search has continued its support towards the annual event which begins today, Thursday 19 September.



A Kutubu *'Fish Tail'* Kundu (drum).