



REPS from No Roads and Australian High Commission with Bisiatabu Primary School students.

## Face masks an investment in children's education

CHILDREN from the Kokoda Track region received protective face masks recently - supporting them to safely and happily participate in learning and community life.

The face masks were distributed on Friday 20 November reflecting this year's World Children's Day theme; 'Investing in our future means investing in our children'.

Sogeri Primary headmaster, Maima Iamuia said that the distribution of the facemasks was timely and reflected a safe way of celebrating World Children's Day in alignment with the Department of Education's new normal Covid-19 policy for schools

throughout Papua New Guinea.

"These facemasks come at the right time, ensuring all our students are wearing a face cover when talking or interacting with each other".

The PNG-Australia Partnership will support the distribution of facemasks and sanitary kits across the Kokoda Track region in Central and Oro.

Australian High Commission representative, Andrew Egan added that all children deserve the opportunity to continue their education and fulfill their potential.

"PNG and Australia have partnered to support the

production and distribution of facemasks, the items that are not easily accessible in remote areas.

They are an investment in children, the future of PNG giving them the best chance to continue to attend school and learn," he said.

The facemask project started in October and was led by the No Roads Expeditions Foundation, which engaged local seamstresses to produce and distribute close to 4000 facemasks.

The facemask pattern complies with the recommended World Health Organisation standard, ensuring that masks meet stringent quality assurance.