

## **Canberra: ANU Seminar**

### **Mining in Bougainville: Current Issues and Future Directions**

#### **Various Speakers**

**04:30pm - 06:00pm**

**14 February 2013**

**Lecture Theatre 1, Hedley Bull Centre (130), Garran Road, ANU**

#### **Abstract**

Bougainville is recovering from the impacts of a terrible civil war originating in large part in disputes related to various impacts of mining. As it heads towards a referendum on independence to be held between 2015 and 2020, issues about mining continue to be significant. Amongst other things:

- The Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) and landowners are preparing to negotiate the future of the giant Panguna copper and gold mine

-Thousands of Bougainvilleans are involved in artisanal mining in many parts of Bougainville, generating significant economic activity

- The ABG is developing its own mining legislation, which will deal with the controversial issue of ownership of minerals by land owners.

The Panel will discuss these and other key issues with regards to mining in Bougainville.

Light refreshments will be served following the discussion.

Panelists include:

**John Momis - President of the Autonomous Bougainville Government**

**Albert Punghau - Bougainville Minister for Finance**

**Sam Akoitai - Former MP for Central Bougainville and PNG Minister for Mining 2002-07**

**David Osikore - Geologist and minerals explorer**

**Stephen Burain - Secretary, Bougainville Department of Mining**

**Raymond Masuno - Director, Bougainville Government's Office of Panguna Negotiation**

Introduced by Anthony Regan - Fellow, State, Society & Governance in Melanesia Program

