



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 30 August 2022

Government should do more to address house rent problem

Access to adequate, safe, and affordable housing is a basic human right. However, access to affordable housing in major cities of Papua New Guinea (PNG) including Port Moresby has continued to be a long-standing issue.

The National Research Institute (NRI) Spotlight Vol. 15, Issue 10: *House rent determination by landlords and real estate agents in Port Moresby: Concerns raised by tenants* by Research Intern Evelyn Malala highlights some concerns raised by tenants and strategies that the government can use to address the concerns.

Concerns raised by tenants include the following:

- Landlords tend to overprice houses for rent by fixing the rent arbitrarily;
- Most real estate agents advertise houses for rent without providing important information such as floor size, age of the house, and maintenance history of the house; and
- Security related costs are often passed to tenants which further increases house rent.

Government can address concerns raised by tenants by:

- Providing more conducive environment for private developers to construct more houses;
- The Independent Consumer and Competition Commission (ICCC) should consider regulating house rent;
- ICCC should consider regulating advertisements on houses for rent; and
- Government at all levels should do more to address the law and order problems.

The Publication and Media Release can be accessed on the PNG NRI website <https://www.pngnri.org>.

Also, follow discussions and updates on the reports on our social media pages:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pngnri>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/pngnri>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/national-research-institute-of-papua-new-guinea-nri/>

For enquiries, please contact Samuel Kehatsin on Tel: 326 0061 or Email: Samuel.Kehatsin@pngnri.org.

Authorised for release by:

Dr. Osborne Sanida
PNG NRI Director