

# Jiwaka Environment

## Jiwaka Province

### Last update: December 2014



#### Environment of Risk

Jiwaka is a new province that was established in 2010 from three districts of Western Highlands Province and has a population of approximately 350,000. (“Jiwaka” comes from Jimi + WAgghi + KAmbia.) As a new province, it is still highly dependent on Western Highlands Province (WHP) for its resources and administration. The provincial administrative centre has not yet been decided, creating a degree of ongoing tension between the two possible locations’ populations: Banz on the old highway in North Waghi district and Minj in South Waghi, which is closer to the current highway. There is a Governor in place and some government funds are administered through the Governor for isolated projects, but there are no funds for administration.

Kudjip Junction is quickly developing as a third centre in Jiwaka. People from all over the province as well as neighbouring provinces are settling here. The Nazarene church has a strong presence here with a primary school as well as the Nazarene ‘white haus’ and nursing college. There is a lot of retail and wholesale development in the area, as well as the recent establishment of a BSP ATM. The Provincial police headquarters are based here and host the highway patrol as well as the mobile squad.

Banz is also experiencing considerable growth and development as people from more remote Jimi District relocate for better access to services and income generating opportunities.

In general, there is a weak police presence. There are two police stations, but the buildings are condemned and people are regularly seen breaking the law in public spaces with little or no interventions (drinking alcohol, smoking marijuana are commonly seen).

Marketing is the major source of income in Jiwaka. Tea and coffee have historically been major cash crops and are still very significant in the Province’s economy. The largest such enterprise, WR Carpenters, harvest tea and coffee in seven estates. There are also many small (independent) holders in a variety of crops: coffee, tea, peanuts and vegetables are among the most popular. In addition to the three large markets at Banz, Kudjip and Minj there are many smaller market tables established along the busy roads.

Jiwaka lies between Western Highlands and Simbu. The Highlands Highway runs through Jiwaka: Kindeng Junction to the west and through Kudjip, Minj Junction and Waghi Bridge. At Kindeng Junction (towards WHP), a road runs from the Highway up to the old Highway at Kimil and extends through Banz and on to the military barracks at Kerowil. From Kerowil, the road splits with the north branch continuing on to Kerowagi in Chimbu Province, and the

south branch running to the main Highlands Highway at Waghi Bridge. In addition, a road connects Banz to Kudjip that is very busy with local travel around the province.

Overall, there is a lot of development in the area. Minj Junction is an area of intense development due to its location on the Highlands Highway, as well as movement of people away from Minj Station. (In recent years there has been continuous violent tribal fighting at Minj Station. People are tired of the violence and are looking to relocate to more peaceful areas.)

The distances are not particularly great and there is a lot of travel between major centres within the Province. To get to Kerowil from Hagen, via Kudjip takes about 1.5 hours. From Hagen to Minj takes approximately 1 hour; 45 minutes to Kudjip. To travel from Kudjip to Banz takes approximately 20 minutes.

## **Environment of Risk**

Jiwaka is traditionally known to have a more laid back and 'free' attitude – hence the common expression, "Jiwaka Free Country" (JFC). This concept has changed in recent years so that people are free to do as they like with little repercussions for otherwise unacceptable or illegal behaviours – in particular around drinking, drugs and sexual activities. However, many people from Jiwaka find this term to be controversial, as it implies that they live without constraints, culture and principles, in particular around sexual culture.

Through its micro mapping, TL found that there is a lot of transactional sex that takes place in Jiwaka – women engaged in sex work at Kudjip market estimated that half the women there were similarly engaged. Additionally, people were more open to talking about sex and in general discussed sex more comfortably – sexual behaviours and multiple sexual partnering in particular. There is a sense of accessibility and openness to talk about this that appears to be greater than in many other locations in PNG.

While JFC may not be seen as a compliment, there does seem to be an environment of greater acceptance, which may in turn be more accepting of HIV interventions. The women TL met who are engaged in sex work described themselves as "free women" – not attached to a man or under control of a man. Many of these women are single mothers, but not all of them. Both men and women reported being involved in multiple sexual partnering.

In 2009, Mountain Wine opened its factory in Banz. Priced competitively with beer but with nearly three times the alcohol content (14.6%), this locally-produced wine has the potential to reduce homebrew consumption, a pattern observed in Goroka when a similar product produced there, Live Lave, became popular.

More than 30 entertainment venues were identified throughout Jiwaka. Beer is available at all hours of day and night from tucker boxes and other black market sources. The SP depot opened in Banz in 2010 supplies both legitimate and off-market suppliers. These black

market outlets are usually clustered with haus piksa, kai bars, gambling, accommodation, etc. and are popular places for women and men engaging in transactional sex to hang out.

For the women engaged in sex work there is a high level of mobility within Jiwaka – between Kerowil, Banz, Kudjip and Minj, but little regular travel to Hagen or other major centres.

Markets are commonly known as locations where transactional sex can be negotiated as well as at major Highway Junctions – Banz, Minj and Kudjip. Many of the small market table sellers and dart boys act as pimps or connectors into sexual networks. Sex takes place in cars on the side of the road, or outdoors in bush areas.

In general, TL found that there was very little awareness of STIs, HIV, condoms and services available for treatment.

Tingim Laip has been active in Jiwaka for 7 years with narrowly defined geographic sites at Kerowil (established in 2006) and Minj (2005, although this location has been inactive in recent months due to mismanagement of funds and security issues around tribal fighting). Through its micro-mapping, TL has learned that transactional sex is often arranged and then takes place through a series of complicated steps that may occur: at different locations; at different times of day; involve several different people. Understanding this process presents opportunities for multiple intervention points for Tingim Laip volunteers and field staff that may target: clients of sex workers (MMM); women engaged in sex work; associated gatekeepers; and relevant stakeholders. Further, the timing of these interventions can be done at key stages of the process: contact establishment; negotiation; socialising before transactional sex; transactional sex; and after transactional sex. This section describes the network of connected settings in which there is increased risk of HIV transmission, and in which HIV makes a greater impact.

The Tingim Laip Jiwaka Environment includes local villages, several markets, and various locations along the Highway that are small collections of structures and businesses creating local environments of risk. Major locations include:

- Hideaway Guest House (Banz): Offers guest rooms and has a public bar (although in “maximum security” with two fences, razor wire and iron bars). This is a meeting place, where sex negotiation takes place. It is next to the Banz buai market. There are not a lot of women here. It is popular with buai sellers and traders, local businessmen and others who have money. It is open 10 am until late. Women tend to drink outside and then go into the club later, or are picked up as men leave the club.
- Kuru Sako Club (Banz): Located behind the SP Depot, this is a club that sells beers out of the SP warehouse. The Club has a bar with music and sex can be negotiated here, although most women hang out in the market. It is popular with civil servants, local coffee owners and others who have money – trade shop owners, beer storeowners.

- Kunai Hotel (Banz): An old hotel located on the Banz/Kudjip road. It offers hotel rooms and sells beer through a public bar. It is popular with civil servants, local coffee owners, miners and LNG landowners, as well as women who sell sex.
- Banz Club (Banz): This is the old 'European's Club' and is now the club for Jiwaka's elite – plantation managers, people with vehicles, teachers, LNG landowners, businessmen and policemen. It is located on the Banz/Kudjip road.
- JVT Guest House (Banz): Located on the Banz/Kudjip road behind Jimi Valley Trading and Mountain Wine Company, and just across the road from the North Waghi District Administration building. It is a guesthouse (with very run down rooms) but is known for dancing and is very popular. Many women 'spin' in this area – they hang out in front of the rooms or behind the guesthouse looking for clients. There is a fuel station and many tucker boxes in the area, often with pool tables. Sex negotiation takes place here and then takes place in the rooms.
- Peter Mote Guesthouse (Banz): offers accommodation. Men go to Kuro Sako and Hideaway clubs and bring women from markets or from Hagen. Day rates are offered.
- Wara Emi Club (Banz): Located in Banz - it is popular for beer, dancing and sex negotiation.
- Jumbo Guesthouse (between Kudjip and Minj): close to the 'to light, to light' (all night) market and attracts night buses and Highway transport
- Waghi Barel ('young girl') Guest House (Waghi Junction): Operated by a retired female teacher. Rooms are available and it is popular with Hagen men who want to 'hide from their wives' for the weekend. If guests don't bring a girlfriend, the owners can arrange for relatives (often young girls).
- Barracks, PNG Defence Force Highlands Regional Engineer Base (Kerowil): This is the sole transit point for soldiers in the Engineering Division who are deployed throughout the Highlands for 3 months periods. There are four military personnel attached to the base, also on short-term deployment and one civilian permanently stationed there. Detachments travel to the barracks en route to their worksites in Mendi, Baiyer River, Wabag, Porgera, Hela, etc. The transit period is generally only one night and it is commonly known as an opportunity for drinking and sex. Women engaged in sex work can come from nearby villages but are increasingly brought in from outside the area by the soldiers.

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- Kudjip Market: Located at Kudjip, starts to get busy around 11am and is the main transit spot for Jiwaka – up to Banz and along the Highway with estimates of over 500 vehicles passing through the intersection every day. On either side of the market/bridge there are two highway pick up spots where drivers pick up women: west of the junction, drivers pick up at the tea plantation and go to Hagen; and east of junction, they pick up at the bridge and go to Goroka.
- Banz Market: Located at Banz, across the street from the Hideaway Guest House, Banz buai market; Kuru Sako Club and Kunai Hotel.
- Minj Market: Located at Minj junction, where there is a lot of development happening: buai market, beer and steam sales. The market is busy throughout the week, peaking on Saturdays.

### Key Populations

TL has identified the following key populations to work with in the Jiwaka Environment.

- Women engaged in sex work: There seems to be high level of transactional sex in Jiwaka. Many of these women can be found in major markets from Monday to Saturday and come from the surrounding communities. Highway PMV drivers, civil servants, buai traders and other men with money pick up women who hang around the markets. Clients might be directed to particular men through dart boys, street seller boys, guesthouse and club owners and security guards.
- PMV drivers and crew: Most Jiwaka Highlands Highway drivers reside just west of Kudjip. TL has made contact with one of the PMV drivers who is well connected with other drivers. TL will explore this connection further to develop an appropriate intervention. Those PMV drivers based in Banz generally stay around JVT or Hideaway guesthouses. It is common for PMV drivers to pick up women at the end of the day.
- Residential clients: includes local coffee sellers, tucker box owners, Jiwaka PMV drivers, buai sellers – all of these men have regular income. TL will reach these clients through other interventions (work with women engaged in sex work, condom umbrellas, etc.)
- Buai traders: In Jiwaka a large number of interprovincial buai traders are women. Teams of female traders will work for one businessman and will carry out purchasing, transport and selling on his behalf. Buai traders and their PMV crews stop at Kudjip, Banz or Minj markets to sell their buai. Often the PMV crews and traders are in league with one another so that following sale of buai at the market, the trader will skim money off the top for the PMV crew and often sex is included in the transaction. There does not seem to be regular ‘teaming’ of traders to specific PMV crews, so there is a complicated and regular sexual network at work here.

- Military personnel: While men who transit the barracks overnight are engaged in risky behaviour, it is not certain what opportunities exist to implement a comprehensive intervention with this population. TL will continue to supply condoms for the time being and work with military staff stationed at the barracks to explore further opportunities.
- PLHIV: Jiwaka Friends is an informal existing network that does not appear to have existing links with Igat Hope. There is a group of women engaged in sex work who form a sub-group of this network. TL will explore opportunities to work with this network further and perhaps link them to Igat Hope.

### Gatekeepers

TL uses “gatekeepers” to mean *people who control or affect access to sexual networks*. In Jiwaka, as elsewhere, some gatekeepers are also members of key populations - police, security guards and street-based buai sellers as well as staff at clubs, bars, guest houses and hotels.

TL has identified the following as gatekeepers in the Jiwaka Environment:

- Clubs and beer outlet owners and staff; Buai sellers; Security Guards; Dart Boys, Street Seller Boys
  - They connect clients to women engaged in sex work – get woman from the market for clients who don’t know the area. Local, or familiar clients will not need to go through the middleman – both men and women (clients and women) go through middleman to seek partners. TL will focus on areas immediately surrounding Kudjip and Banz and the Kudjip/ Banz road.
- Guesthouse owners and staff
  - As above.
  - Additionally, TL will work with the Waghi Barel guest house at Waghi bridge

### Stakeholders/ Service Providers

TL uses “stakeholders” to mean *any individual, agency or organisation with interest in a specific HIV intervention*.

	Name	Works with	Provides	Opportunities
<b>Stakeholders</b>				
1	Jiwaka PAC (a/HRC is also acting Health Promotion Officer), Banz	Partner organizations, general population	Coordinates provincial response; plans to devolve activities to sub-district; has done stakeholder mapping	PAC membership; possible shared office space; a/HRC wants MOU with Tingim Laip
2	Police, Banz & Kudjip	General population	Responsible for law and order	Condom distribution, sensitisation training
3	PNG Defence Force Engineer Battalion for the Highlands, Kerowil	Troops deployed to Highlands	Condom distribution to troops passing through Kerowil to other centres	Condom promotion; TL could provide sensitisation training

4	WR Carpenters, Kudjip	Workforce; general population; PLHIV	Prevention &, condom distribution, referrals for PLHIV to Whitehaus; manages 7 aid posts that treat minor STIs	TL could assist in condom supply, provide sensitisation training, support ART adherence
<b>Service Providers</b>				
5	Kudjip Whitehouse (Nazarene Hospital)	General Population, PLHIV, WES	STI, VCT, ART services, Early Infant Diagnosis, cancer clinic	Referrals; ART adherence support
6	Nazarene Hospital, Kudjip	General Population	Multi-service hospital facility	Partnership, collaboration
7	Family Support Centre, Minj Health Centre (CHAI)	PLHIV	ART Clinic and STI Centre	Partnership, collaboration, referrals
8	El Rapa Care Centre (EBC), Minj	PLHIV	VCT; supports PLHIV network, "Jiwaka Friends"	Partnership, collaboration, referrals; Positive prevention and ART adherence support
9	Shalom Care Centre – satellite of Tininga Clinic – (Catholic) at Maria Queen Compound, Banz	PLHIV	VCT and ART; care, counselling & treatment	Partnership, collaboration, referrals; use training facility; ART adherence support
10	St Anselm Aid Post (Catholic), Banz	General population	STI services	Referrals
11	Ngambe Care Centre	PLHIV Orphans	Residential care for children orphaned to parents with HIV	Partnership and collaboration

### TL Workforce and Structure

TL engages a variety of workforce types to deliver a broad range of interventions. Based on the target populations in Jiwaka and interventions proposed for this environment, the TL workforce is as follows:

- Volunteers**
  - Two women engaged in sex work volunteer groups will be established in major centres in Jiwaka: Banz and Kudjip
  - TL will continue to assess the possibility of re-establishing a volunteer group in Minj.
- Field Officers.** TL will support the placement of up to four Field Officers in Jiwaka
  - Field Officer: MMM and support and monitor condom distribution points
  - Field Officer: support recruitment and establishment of women engaged in sex work volunteer groups. Once this is completed, the Field Officer can strengthen referral pathways (Banz base)
  - Field Officer: support recruitment and establishment of women engaged in sex work volunteer group and strengthen referral pathways (Kudjip base)
  - Field Officer: Support work with PLHIV
- Condom distributors.** Increase visibility and availability of condoms:

- Kudjip junction (5): two pick up points; market; buai market; road towards Nazarene hospital
- Banz junction (6): market with dart boys; market with peanut sellers; 2 others locations in the market near entrances and areas where women engaged in sex work hang out; Hideaway Hotel; buai market
- Banz-Kudjip road: JVT at speed bump
- Waghi bridge guest house and market
- Kerowil
- Minj junction



