



The Eadies

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Re-opening an Airstrip



Great photo of MVK hitting a puddle on the runway. And a pretty view down the valley.



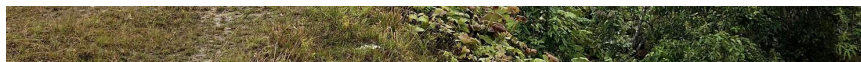
Taking off over the valley. Kwegono sits just under 5800ft elevation.



MAF uses about 100 active airstrips in Papua. Sometimes we open new ones, and sometimes we close existing ones. We might close an airstrip because it needs maintenance or upgrades, or we might close one due to security concerns as well. Kwegono is an airstrip that was closed in the past due to security concerns. Thankfully, the situation changed, and at the request of the local church we moved towards re-opening this very isolated location.

To re-open Kwegono, we first needed to fly in and give the runway a good "on the ground" inspection. We also needed to check more pilots out at this airstrip. The reason why a pilot checkout is necessary (even though they are already flying into many other airstrips) is that every airstrip is unique including the physical layout of the strip, the approach terrain, even the micro weather patterns that may exist in a given valley. Many of our airstrips have wind curfews, meaning after a certain time during the day we do not fly in due to prevailing winds at that location. Or, there is also the term "sun shadow", where when you are in the sun and looking into the shade you can see next to nothing. Sun shadows at certain times of the day can make it extremely dangerous to land.

In October we had an instructor pilot fly in with two other pilots that needed checkout, and each took their turn getting reps taking off and landing in Kwegono. These types of airstrip checkouts happen regularly as we are continually working towards getting our pilots able to fly into more locations, which in turn enhances our capability as an organization to serve. May God use our flights into and out of Kwegono for His good purpose and glory!



stabilized landing approach! Practicing to hit that spot.

Respond and Encourage

Taking a second to respond to this update makes a big difference for The Eadies.



like



praying

Leave an encouraging message

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