



Tania Bale

Tania Bale is a prominent international journalist, television presenter and media producer from a pioneering PNG family from Finschhafen in the Morobe Province.

She is an advocate for human rights, social justice, equity, equality and empowerment of women and youth and a champion for the arts, culture, music and a vocal campaigner against violence.

Tania has worked in media and communications across PNG, Australia and globally for more than 30 years, including over 18 years with ABC Australia. work and her face have been screened in over 45 countries and 22 million homes. around the world.

Tania's entry into the media profession came in 1987, as Founding Producer and Host of Papua New Guinea's first locally developed and produced television program, Kids Kona, for EMTV. The program continues to be made and broadcast daily today and is PNG's longest running TV program

She was the first person of colour and first woman to be appointed as Presenter on the ABC's Behind the News current affairs program (1994–2000), which recently celebrated 50 years of broadcast and is one of Australia's longest running TV programs.

From 2001 to 2012 she was a Presenter and Producer on the ABC's International service, Australia Network, hosting Nexus and English Bites which helped people around the world to improve their English language skills.

From 2010, Tania began to focus on capacity building projects and the use of media for development within the Pacific region, particularly Papua New Guinea.

Tania has been engaged to develop and manage media capacity building projects for NBC PNG, Television Bilong Vanuatu and PACMAS (Pacific Media Assistance Scheme) with the aim of lifting skills and technical standards. This involved designing and delivering bespoke training for senior newsroom journalists and TV production teams and workshops in script-writing for youth.

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2012, Tania was involved in establishing the Namatan Short Film Festival with the Australian High Commission in Vanuatu and served for four years as the festival's international judge. The festival's aim was to provide a platform to address national and community issues and to teach young people film-making skills.

Tania is also an Events Curator/Producer, specialising in culture and tourism, creative arts and live events. In 2012 and 2013 she joined the Woodford Folk Festival team as Program Head for First Nations, responsible for curating and coordinating a six-day program of live music, theatre, dance, speakers, workshops and art gallery at Australia's biggest annual gathering of artists and musicians, attended by more than 100,000 patrons each year.

This experience led to what Tania regards as one of her most challenging, rewarding and pivotal roles, Producer for the groundbreaking PNG 2015 Pacific Games Opening Ceremony. The production involved a cast and crew of more than 7,000 people from all corners of the nation, reflecting the diversity of PNG cultures and took 18-months from start to finish to develop, deliver and acquit.

In 2017, Tania returned to the small screen in Papua New Guinea, with the TV series, Point of View with Tania Nugent on EMTV's 30th anniversary, delivering 65 x one-hour episodes as the programs Producer, Researcher, Writer and Host.

As a Marketing and Communications Specialist, Tania was engaged from 2018 by Enga Provincial Government, to develop and promote the regions rare, authentic, intact traditional cultures and pristine environment as a tourism asset. Her work has resulted in more than doubling tourist numbers to the province each year, until Covid-19 closed international borders globally.

In 2020 & 2021 she served the World Health Organisation (WHO), as a Risk Communications Consultant with the Covid-19 PNG National Control Centre and was also engaged by DFAT to develop communications materials for the roll-out of the Covid-19 vaccines provided to PNG by Australia.

Tania is the lead consultant for the establishment of a youth & education-based TV channel with Digicel PNG Foundation called Be-Lit which was launched in late 2021. This included the development of the YouthTok & Grounded TV programs and training young, entry-level newcomers to produce and present television. She also currently hosts the BeLit Health Q&A program for the Digicel TV service, TVWan, which puts the spotlight on critical health issues in PNG.

Tania is a sought-after public speaker, panel discussion facilitator and event MC, both in Australia and Papua New Guinea. She is proud to be an Ambassador for the Kokoda Track Foundation charity and an advocate for early-childhood learning and literacy though her support for Buk bilong Pikinini Libraries charity.