

Russell Deka Harada

Associate Professor & Director of ICT, UPNG

Recipient of The King's Medal for Distinguished Service

Professional Bio

Russell Deka Harada is a pioneering leader in Papua New Guinea's digital landscape, with a career spanning over 25 years of transformative impact in higher education and national ICT infrastructure. Currently serving as the Associate Professor (CEIT) and Director of ICT at the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG), Russell oversees the strategic integration of technology into academia and administration.

A recent recipient of The King's Medal, he is recognized nationally for his instrumental role in shaping PNG's digital future. His career highlights include serving as the administrator for the .pg country-code top-level domain, leading digital transformation at PNGUoT, and establishing the foundational ICT infrastructure at the University of Goroka. From spearheading UN-aligned hackathons to reforming national domain policies, Russell remains a dedicated advocate for sustainable technology, digital capacity building, and innovative education.

