ANU Crawford - UPNG SBPP Partnership

Six-monthly Report (1 January - 30 June 2017)



Note: This is the fourth six-month progress report required under the grant agreement signed between the ANU and Palladium International Pty Ltd in August 2015, and novated to Abt Associates on 1 September 2016. It follows the format specified in the grant agreement.
This report was submitted on 1 August 2017.
Cover photograph: Lady Winifred Kamit, Ms Evan Biesco, Ms Rosie Batty, Ms Monica Toisenegila and Dr Anna Joskin in a panel discussion at the Vice Chancellor's Lecture, UPNG, 27 April 2017.
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Acronyms

BPW Business and Professional Women's Association (PNG Chapter) CHELT Centre for Higher Education, Learning and Teaching (ANU) CHRD Centre for Human Resource Development (UPNG) CSPP Crawford School of Public Policy DDA District Development Authority DFAT Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade DLP Developmental Leadership Program ECDF Education Capacity Development Facility ECLRC Early Career Lecturer and Researcher Committee EFT Equivalent Full-Time ESS Economics Students Society (UPNG) ICT Internet and Communications Technology IDEC International and Development Economics (ANU Masters program) LMS Learning Management System M&E Monitoring and Evaluation MBA Masters of Business Administration (UPNG) MEPP Master of Economics and Public Policy (UPNG) MOU Memorandum of Understanding NRI PNG National Research Institute PGF Papua New Guinea Governance Facility (managed by Abt Associates) PNG Papua New Guinea Institute of Public Administration PPM (Division of) Public Policy Management PPMSA Public Policy Management Student Association (UPNG) SBPP School of Business and Public Policy (UPNG) SDGS Sustainable Development Goals SHSS School of Humanities and Social Science (UPNG) STACE SCHOOL S	ANU	Australian National University
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1. Project description

The University of Papua New Guinea School of Business and Public Policy's partnership with Australian National University's Crawford School of Public Policy commenced in 2012. In its latest scaled-up manifestation, it follows the MOU drawn up between ANU and UPNG in March 2015, and the grant agreement between ANU and Palladium International Pty Ltd signed in August 2015 and novated to Abt Associates (who manage the Papua New Guinea Governance Facility, or PGF) on 1 September 2016, under the auspices of the Pacific Leadership and Governance Precinct, an initiative between the governments of Papua New Guinea and Australia that aims to strengthen leadership, governance and public sector capacity in PNG.

The partnership has four key components: faculty strengthening, collaborative research and outreach, student and faculty exchanges and partnership management.

- Faculty strengthening involves the deployment of ANU staff to assist with an immediate shortage of qualified staff in SBPP and to strengthen the school over time.
- Collaborative research builds research capacity among academics at SBPP and strengthens research capacity on PNG at the ANU, through the PNG Economics and Public Policy Project (PNG Project) in the Crawford School.
- Student and faculty exchanges include workshops, scholarships, training and other visits.
- Effective management of the partnership includes planning, monitoring, evaluating and reporting, the provision of administrative support to all staff, assistance with project-related activities, liaising across all stakeholder groups, and communication and promotion of the partnership and its activities and outputs.

Within the ANU Crawford School of Public Policy, the Development Policy Centre takes the lead on this project. Within the School of Business and Public Policy, there is a particular focus on the Economics and Public Policy Management Divisions, but all Divisions of the School have opportunities under – and are expected to benefit from – the partnership.

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2. Executive summary

The Crawford ANU - SBPP UPNG partnership had very productive first half of 2017. In undergraduate teaching, this began with the resumption (16 January) and completion (15 March) of the 2016 academic year and the commencement of the 2017 academic year (mid-April). The partnership facilitated the implementation of the new Masters in Economics and Business Policy (MEPP), supported numerous research initiatives and hosted key events such as the launch of the PNG Elections Database at UPNG. Evaluations undertaken showed a positive impact from the partnership on student experience and learning. The hard evidence we have collected of impact is reassuring and provides a strong evidence-base on which the project can move forward.

Faculty strengthening

Five ANU staff members were in place at UPNG from the beginning of 2017, with four staff teaching six second semester 2016 undergraduate courses to 92 female and 141 male (233 total) students across the Divisions of Economics and Public Policy Management. Second semester 2016 concluded mid-March 2017. First semester 2017 undergraduate teaching commenced on 17 April with ANU staff convening six undergraduate courses for 88 female and 225 male (313 total).

The first trimester of the new MEPP program began 20 March 2017, with ANU staff teaching two of the three core MEPP courses to a cohort of 11 postgraduate students. Teaching in the first trimester of the MEPP program concluded on 9 June and on 12 June two ANU staff and an ANU-affiliated academic began teaching all three courses for second trimester of the MEPP program.

Student evaluations showed that our staff offered a high standard of teaching in all undergraduate and postgraduate courses they convened in the period.

The 2016 ANU Economics Exam showed that, while there is a way to go, there has been a marked improvement in academic performance by economics students at UPNG since 2014 (notably in the last two years).

Collaborative research and outreach

The partnership supported significant PNG-related research in the first half of 2017, with specific focus on elections, decentralisation (esp. District Development Authorities), family and domestic violence, leadership and corruption, roads and infrastructure development and the PNG economy. This work resulted in substantial outputs in the period, including the launch of a major interactive website for the PNG Election Database, the PNG Budget Database, and various discussion papers. In Canberra, the Development Policy Centre included a raft of PNG-related papers in its annual aid conference, hosted a major forum on drought and famine relief in PNG, two seminars with guest speakers, and published 42 blogs on PNG-related research as part of our outreach efforts.

Faculty and student exchanges

The Dean of ANU's College of Asia and the Pacific visited UPNG in April and the Dean SBPP visited ANU in early May 2017. Encouragingly, staff exchanges also involved Crawford Faculty not employed by the

project (Dr Terence Wood and Assoc. Prof. Fiona Yap) indicating that the project is having the desired effect of inducing other academics to engage in research at UPNG through the partnership. Two UPNG staff members from the Division of Economics commenced ANU scholarship programs in early 2017. In the same period, a third student was selected as the 2018 scholarship awardee and a selection process commenced to identify a cohort of 10 students for the 2018 Summer School at ANU.

Partnership management in the first half of 2017 strengthened internal project protocols and facilitated both routine and ad hoc program activity, including event management and assistance with AHC initiatives at SBPP. Partnership staff liaised closely with AHC and PGF counterparts during the period to ensure effective project implementation, and advanced monitoring and evaluation work.

Project costs in the first half of the year were 106% of our estimated first-half year budget for 2017. This is the first time we have been able to spend our budget in full, and indicates that the project is reaching a more mature phase. At the same time, we are still well below the original (contracted) budget, which provides a basis for a no-cost extension, which is currently under discussion. A financial report is forwarded separately.

3. Progress against key deliverables

The partnership has four key components: faculty strengthening, collaborative research and outreach, student and faculty exchanges and partnership management. The subsections below detail the progress under each component in the first half of 2017.

3.1 Faculty strengthening

Five ANU staff members were in place at UPNG from the beginning of 2017, with four staff teaching six undergraduate courses to 92 female and 141 male (233 total) students across the Divisions of Economics and Public Policy Management. Second semester 2016, delayed by the student boycott of 2016 (see earlier reports), concluded mid-March 2017. First semester 2017 undergraduate teaching commenced on 17 April with ANU staff convening six undergraduate courses for 88 female and 225 male (313 total) students and will conclude early August 2017.

The first trimester of the new MEPP program began 20 March 2017, with ANU staff teaching two of the three core MEPP courses to a cohort of 11 postgraduate students. Teaching in the first trimester of the MEPP program concluded on 9 June and on 12 June an ANU staff member and an ANU-affiliated academic began teaching two of the three courses for the second trimester of the MEPP program.

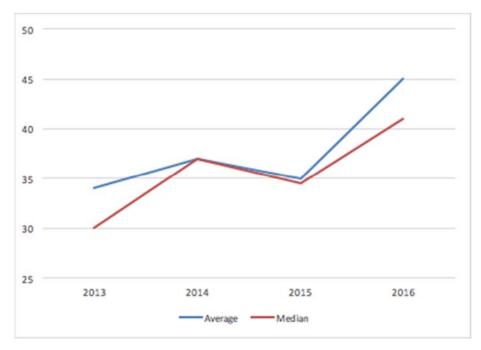
ANU staff at UPNG, supported by their Canberra-based colleagues, implemented several initiatives to improve teaching and research quality and to increase student engagement with their cohort and disciplinary networks at UPNG.

Evaluation efforts undertaken during the last six months confirmed the success of this approach.

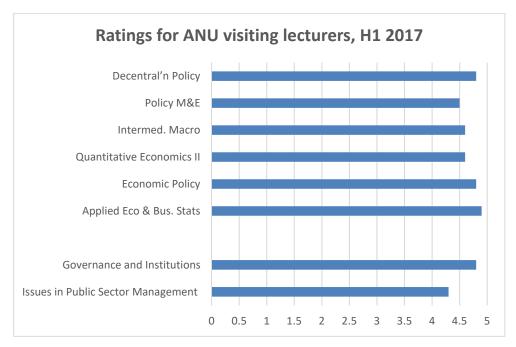
Since 2013, an annual one-hour ANU-UPNG **economics examination** for final-year students and recent graduates has been held. On 23 February 2017, the 2016 ANU Economics Exam, which had been delayed due to the student boycott of 2016 took place. This provides clear evidence of improved learning outcomes in economics at UPNG. Results indicate improved performance over time, including among the better-performing students, who may be expected to take the exam each year. The results are summarized below and discussed in more detail in Annex 2.

As shown in the graph below, the average score in the 2016 Exam was 45 out of 100. This represents an improvement of about 10 percentage points on previous years, where the average score was 35. The median shows a similar improvement. Disaggregated data indicates an improvement of over 15 percentage points in the 2016 results for the top 10 students compared with previous years. In the 2016 Exam, the top 5 students scored higher than all but one student in the years 2013 to 2015. Also, a larger percentage of students passed the 2016 Exam (29% of students, compared an average of 12% in 2013-2015). In all earlier years combined only 2 students got above 60%. In the 2016 Exam, 5 students achieved a grade 60% or higher.

ANU Economics Exam: results over time (2014-2017)



Turning to student course evaluations, these were conducted for the six undergraduate and two postgraduate courses taught by our staff in the period. ANU partnership staff at UPNG used ANU evaluation forms; courses and lecturers were evaluated separately on a scale from 1 to 5, where any score rated 4 and above is considered very good and any score 4.5 and above is considered outstanding. The average score of our lecturers in second semester 2016 was 4.7 for satisfaction with overall quality of teaching and 4.4 for student learning experience. These are very high scores. By comparison, ANU College averages for learning experience at the ANU range from 3.6 to 4.2. The evaluation response rate was 67%. Anything above 50% is considered to be a good response rate at ANU. Teaching evaluations are summarized in the graph below and details are provided in Annex 1. The very strong results obtained are a testament to the boost to lecturing being provided at UPNG by the partnership faculty.



3.1.1 Visiting faculty

Five ANU staff based in Port Moresby were lecturing in the first half of 2017 at UPNG.

Ms **Tatia Currie** convened *Decentralisation Policy* (3rd Year) in second semester 2016 and *Public Policy Development* (2nd Year) in first semester 2017. As the PNG-based Partnership Coordinator for the project, Ms Currie was also involved in various teaching, research and administrative support activities.

Dr **Manoj Pandey** convened *Economic Policy* (4th Year) and *Applied Economics and Business Statistics* (4th Year) courses in second semester 2016 and began teaching *Econometrics I* (4th Year) in first semester 2017. In addition to his teaching load, Dr Pandey presented his research at the 2017 Pacific Update in Suva, submitted several papers for publications and continued in his role as Team Leader of ANU's UPNG-based staff for the first half of 2017.

Dr **Lhawang Ugyel** convened *Policy Monitoring and Evaluation* (3rd Year) in second semester 2016 and *Comparative Public Sector Administration* (3rd Year) in first semester 2017 and convened *Issues in Public Sector Management* in the first trimester of the MEPP program, from 20 March to 9 June 2017. Dr Ugyel also engaged in significant research in the period, including fieldwork in Bougainville (Feb/March) and East New Britain (May) with UPNG counterparts. Dr Ugyel presented PNG research at the International Conference of Public Policy in Singapore in June 2017; Mr Gorea and Dr Sause also attended ICPP.

Dr **Marcel Schröder** convened *Intermediate Macroeconomics* (2nd Year) and *Quantitative Economics II* (3rd Year) in second semester 2016 and *Quantitative Economics I* (3rd Year) and *International Economics* (3rd Year) in first semester 2017. He also completed collaborative research with Mr Rohan Fox on PNG's exchange rate in the period, presenting this research at a seminar at ANU and the 2017 Pacific Update. Dr Schröder will leave the project mid-August 2017.

Dr **Amanda Watson** joined the Division of Public Policy Management in SBPP in early January 2017. She co-convened *Management Theory* (3rd Year) in first semester 2017 with SBPP's Ralph Kaule and convened *Governance and Institutions* in the first trimester of the MEPP program and started teaching *Development thinking and policy* in the second trimester of the MEPP program from 12 June 2017.

In mid-June, Associate Professor **Martin Davies** joined the partnership team at UPNG as a visiting fellow for 3 months to teach *Macroeconomic analysis and policy* to MEPP students in the second trimester of the MEPP program and engage in collaborative research on PNG's economy.

In May/June, Mr **Bao Nguyen**, an Australia Award PhD scholarship recipient, was recruited into the program to replace Dr Schröder. Mr Nguyen has extensive experience of teaching economics, most recently with the <u>Fulbright Economics Teaching Program</u>, a partnership between the Harvard Kennedy School and the University of Economics, Vietnam. Mr Nguyen submitted his PhD mid-July 2017.

Lecturing

ANU partnership staff convened, taught and tutored six courses for undergraduate students and two courses for postgraduates in the first trimester of the MEPP in the period.

ANU partnership staff convened, taught and tutored six courses for undergraduate students in the Divisions of Economics and Public Policy Management in second semester of the 2016 UPNG academic year (November 2016 to March 2017). The following table indicates these courses and the numbers of students enrolled in each course.

Students (by course) being taught by ANU staff at UPNG in second semester 2016

Course	Lecturer	Year level	Female students	Male students	Student with disability	Total students
Intermediate Macroeconomics	Schröder	2 nd	12	7	0	19
Quantitative Economics II	Schröder	3 rd	12	11	0	23
Policy Monitoring and Evaluation	Ugyel	3 rd	16	39	0	55
Decentralisation Policy	Currie	3 rd	30	55	0	85
Economic Policy	Pandey	4 th	10	18	0	28
Applied Economics & Business Statistics	Pandey	4 th	12	11	0	23
Total student numbers			92	141	0	233

More detail on these evaluation responses is available in the Monitoring and Evaluation discussion (section 5) and in Annex 1a.

The following table indicates the first semester 2017 courses convened, taught and tutored by ANU staff at UPNG and the numbers of students taught in each course. First semester 2017 began mid-April and will run until early August 2017.

Students (by course) taught by ANU staff at UPNG in first semester 2017

Course	Lecturer	Year level	Female students	Male students	Student with disability	Total students
Econometrics I	Pandey	4 th	11	14	0	25
International Economics	Schröder	3 rd	11	26	0	37
Quantitative Economics I	Schröder	3 rd	15	40	0	55
Public Policy Development	Currie	2 nd	22	49	0	71
Comparative Public Sector Admin	Ugyel	3 rd	14	33	0	47
Management Theory	Watson	3 rd	15	63	0	78
Total student numbers			88	225	0	313

ANU partnership staff convened two of the three courses offered in the first trimester of the new Master of Economics and Public Policy (March to June 2017) and supplemented the salary of a third lecturer (from NRI) employed by UPNG to convene the third MEPP course. The following table indicates the first trimester MEPP courses convened, taught and tutored by ANU staff at UPNG and the number of students taught in each course. These courses commenced 20 March and ended 9 June 2017.

MEPP courses taught by ANU staff at UPNG in first trimester 2017

Course	Lecturer	Female students	Male students	Student with disability	Total students
Governance and Institutions	Watson	0	9	0	9
Issues in Public Sector Management	Ugyel	0	10	0	10
Total student numbers			10		10

Postgraduate student evaluations were conducted using the same ranking system as for undergraduate students (as explained above). The average score of the three MEPP lecturers was 4.6 for satisfaction with overall quality of teaching and the same 4.6 ranking for learning experience. Again, these scores are outstanding. The evaluation response rate was 89%. More detail on these evaluation responses is available in the Monitoring and Evaluation discussion (section 5) and in Annex 1b.

The following table indicates the second trimester MEPP courses convened, taught and tutored by ANU affiliated staff at UPNG and the number of students taught in each course. These courses commenced 12 June and will continue until early September 2017.

MEPP courses taught by ANU partnership staff at UPNG in second trimester 2017

Course	Lecturer	Female students	Male students	Student with disability	Total students
Development thinking and policy	Watson	0	9	0	9
Macroeconomic analysis and policy	Davies	0	9	0	9
Total student numbers			9		9

3.1.2 Initiatives to improve teaching

Curriculum development

The new two-year Masters in Economics and Public Policy (MEPP) degree was launched in a special event on 16 March; MEPP first trimester classes commenced 20 March 2017. This new degree is the culmination of a significant collaborative effort between the two universities. ANU and ANU-affiliated staff at UPNG have been critical in the rollout of degree, convening and creating teaching materials, course content and assessment tasks for four of the six MEPP courses offered in the first half of 2017.

Academic induction program

On 19-20 April 2017, Mr Rohan Fox ran an induction program for new tutoring staff in SBPP. He met new staff in economics; Nathan John (a new part-time tutor recruited from the class of 2015) who will be tutoring in foundation economics and Kale Kaupa who has been recruited as a temporary full-time lecturer (to teach principles of micro and intermediate micro economics). Rohan inducted seven new and recently arrived tutors and academic staff in SBPP from the Division of Economics and Division of Business

Administration (there were no new staff for the induction program in the Divisions of Public Policy Management or Strategic Management).

Textbooks and student library

ANU's partnership staff at UPNG, together with their SBPP counterparts, invested a great deal of time in the preparation of textbook orders for the School's library. By early May 2017, the School had prepared a book order for almost 1000 individual titles. ANU's management team in Canberra assisted with the largest book order, securing a very substantial discount from John Wiley and Sons on more than 400 unique titles and a total of more than 2000 books. The logistics for this and other orders was handled by PGF on behalf of the Australian High Commission, who funded these purchases.

Computer-based learning

The computer lab continues to be a hub of learning in SBPP. ANU's UPNG staff used the lab extensively in the first half of 2017, taking particular advantage of the updated computer hardware that partnership staff helped to secure through the Lowy Institute last year.

Course websites

In 2015 and 2016 course websites were used by limited numbers of UPNG lecturers, due to management concerns about a lack of password-protected access to information. In 2016 UPNG migrated to a Google-based university email for staff. Rohan Fox has been working with IT Director at UPNG and the Dean at SBPP to introduce university emails for all students. This will allow for the use of "Google Classroom", a widely used LMS with substantial functionality for university students and lecturers. The first set of trials of the LMS is scheduled for second semester 2017.

In the first half of 2017, Rohan Fox also compiled extensive offline-learning resources for teaching and self-instruction in economics. USB flash drives containing Kahn Academy videos, ANU publications on PNG and a variety of other resources are now ready for distribution to students in Principles of Microeconomics (2nd year) and Quantitative Economics I (3rd year) in second semester 2017.

3.1.3 Engaging students and building links with employers

'UPNG Inspired' film discussion nights

In early 2017, Dr Amanda Watson re-established film nights at UPNG. Whereas earlier screenings in 2015/16 had a particular focus on economics (the film series was known as 'Economics Inspired'), Dr Watson broadened the remit for her weekly* Wednesday evening 'UPNG Inspired' screenings and made a critical addition – the inclusion of post-film discussants to address key themes in the film(s). In the first half of 2017, nine 'UPNG Inspired' nights were run, four with accompanying speakers, as follows.

Date	Film	Speaker(s)	Attendees
19 April	Baraka	No respondent required	150
26 April	Angels of War	Dr Jonathan Richie, Dr John Waiko (narrator of the film)	231
3 May	Driving the Change	Mr Roy Trivedy (Head, UN Mission in PNG), Mr Stephen Liston (UNDP), Marco Venditti (Director)	100
10 May	Lapan (Pawa Meri #1, Manus Province) and Lost Land of the Volcano (Part 1)	No respondent required	80
17 May	Lost Land of the Volcano (Part 2) and One More Chance (Eastern Highlands, HIV/AIDS)	No respondent required	53
24 May	Lost Land of the Volcano (Part 3) and Voice of Change	No respondent required	30
7 June	Canning Paradise	Mr Michael Kabuni (UPNG)	44
14 June	Betelnut Bisnis	Mr Busa Wenogo (CIMC)	65
28 June	Highlands night: four films set in the highlands that address social issues, including HIV/AIDS and gender issues	No respondent required	43

^{*}excluding nights with State of Origin rugby games



UPNG Inspired film night Facebook page banner image

The UPNG Inspired film series has been a key mode through which partnership staff have engaged in extra-curricular activities with students in SBPP and the wider UPNG community. Dr Watson's efforts in the first half of 2017 have resulted in significant student interest in the UPNG Inspired film series. Dr Watson is collaborating with staff, students and The Voice Inc. to strengthen student involvement in these events and a <u>Facebook page</u> has been established to help circulate information about forthcoming film screenings. The Facebook group set up by 4th year student Methuselah Wabiria and Rohan Fox to disseminate information about the series at, has 170+ members.

Student associations

The partnership has allocated a budget of up to 5,000 Kina per semester each for the Economics Student Society (ESS) and the Public Policy Association (PPA), to assist them in initiatives that promote student-learning, interaction and outreach in both economics and public policy at UPNG. This funding is subject to the submission of a formal budget and the approval by the Dean SBPP.

The Economics Students Society (ESS) took advantage of partnership funding in the first half of 2017 and ESS Patron, Dr Manoj Pandey, participated in these ESS events.



Economics Students Society members celebrate the end of the 2016 academic year at a picnic at Gaira Beach near Port Moresby, with Division of Economics staff (seated, front of frame: Dr Manoj Pandey, Dr Albert Prabhakar and Mr Nelson Atip)

On 17th March 2017, ESS students together with Dr Pandey and other Division of Economics staff organized a 'closing function' at Gaira Beach in Central Province. The event celebrated the success completion of the unusually long and challenging 2016 academic year. Activities at the closing event include the formal announcement of the creation of the UPNG Economics Alumni Association, a farewell to outgoing 4th Year students, and discussions about the ANU-UPNG partnership and the challenges that the Division of Economics and its students face. UPNG and ANU lecturers, ESS executives, and economics students from various year levels attended this event.



Economics Students Society (ESS) of UPNG with ANU and UPNG Economics staff at the first semester 2017 orientation night

On 24 May, the Economics Students Society (ESS) of UPNG, under the guidance of Dr Manoj Pandey, organized an orientation night for first semester 2017 at UPNG. The key objectives of this event were to welcome the newly elected ESS executive and farewell outgoing ESS office-bearers, to discuss an economic model competition and to facilitate the first formal meeting of the UPNG Economics Alumni Association.

ANU staff built rapport with the Public Policy Management Student Association (PPMSA) in the first half of 2017, but no funds were expended on PPMSA events in the period.

Graduate outlook and outcomes

In January 2017, the Development Policy Centre published <u>Discussion Paper #53</u> Papua New Guinea economics graduate exit survey by Michael Cornish (who worked with the partnership as a lecturer in Economics at UPNG from early 2015 to mid-2016). This first-of-its-kind study for UPNG helps us to better understand the aspirations, expectations and career pathways of UPNG's economics graduates. It also raises important questions about the kind of practical support, career guidance and applied learning UPNG graduates need from the partnership program areas and other disciplines within SBPP, if they are to realise their goals and fullest potential.

Mr Rohan Fox plans to extend this tracer or tracking survey, and has ANU Ethics approval pending for further graduate-related research. This research will involve follow-up surveys with recent graduates in economics. Three students doing economics majors at UPNG are assisting Rohan with this research: Ms Hadassah Sitaing, Mr Cayllan Boeha and Mr Methuselah Wabiria. As part of the partnership's effort to maintain contact with UPNG economics alumni, Mr Fox also maintains a Facebook page for recent graduates (at the end of June 2017, this page had 51 members).

Professional groups, alumni networks and internships for UPNG students

On 4 March 2017, an all-female cohort of students from UPNG's School of Business and Public Policy attended the Business Professional Women's (BPW) meeting at St Joseph's Church Hall in an early celebration of International Women's Day. Ms Tatia Currie, ANU-UPNG's Partnership Coordinator and lecturer in public policy, supported students in preparing their scholarship applications to BPW for the 2017 round of grant support. BPW support is aimed at female students who are high achievers and from lower socio-economic backgrounds and who currently do not receive financial assistance. Nine students assisted by Ms Currie received endowment support from BPW in the period.

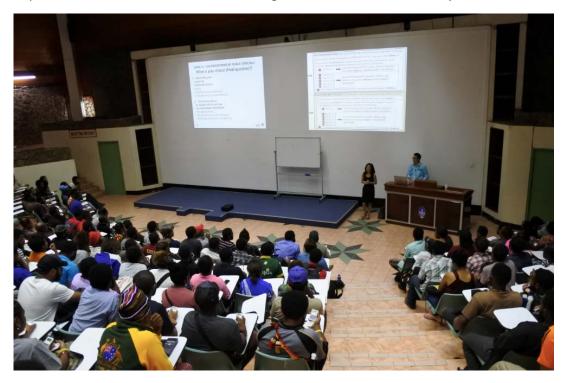
On 2 June 2017, ANU-UPNG staff Dr Manoj Pandey, Dr Lhawang Ugyel, Dr Marcel Schröder, Prof. Stephen Howes and two other staff from the Crawford School of Public Policy, attended the PNGAA and Austrade 2017 Roadshow Networking Event at the Stanley Hotel, Port Moresby.

3.2 Collaborative research and outreach

The research and outreach component of the project made significant gains in the first half of this year.

3.2.1 Research workshops and training

Dr Anthony Swan and Assoc. Prof. Fiona Yap conducted collective action research at UPNG from 5-8 June 2017. (This research included a training workshop for assistants involved in the survey, conducted during their preliminary research visit in May.) The research aims to evaluate the conditions under which educated Papua New Guineans (potential future leaders of the country) might choose to participate in peaceful, collective efforts to reform government service delivery in PNG.



Assoc. Prof. Yap and Dr Anthony Swan facilitating research with UPNG students (Photo: Currie)

The research employed several innovative techniques, including digital voting to record participants' background information and their choices as well as monetary reward (in the form of phone vouchers) to elicit various responses from participants (an approach commonly used in behavioural economics). The team believes this is the first time electronic polling technologies have been used at UPNG. ANU's Human Research Ethics Committee and UPNG's Research Committee approved this research.

Preliminary results show that participants are engaged and motivated to peacefully pursue and develop reforms of government services delivery and that they will do so even if these actions carry individual costs.

Other workshops and training

As noted earlier, Mr Rohan Fox conducted a tutor induction workshop in mid-April. In late June 2017, Ms Michelle Rooney and Ms Camilla Burkot conducted a blog writing workshop for PNG students at ANU. Unfortunately only two students participated in this workshop. The Writer's Workshop was rescheduled for July 2017 and the Research Methods Workshop deferred until after the 2017 PNG Update. No other research or training workshops were conducted in the period.

3.2.2 Conferences and seminars

The 2017 PNG Update

The PNG Update is the premier forum for the discussion of research and analysis relating to contemporary economic and public policy issues in Papua New Guinea. The organising committee received more than 100 abstracts for consideration by the end of May 2017; by late June, the draft program included 9 keynote speakers and more than 60 papers (across four parallel sessions).

International conferences

The **Australasian Aid Conference** is an annual conference hosted by the Development Policy Centre at the ANU. This year's conference included a dozen presentations of direct relevance to Papua New Guinea – on healthcare provision, international relations, labour mobility, international aid, women's coalitions and urban settlements. More information is available on the 2017 AAC conference website.

The **2017 Pacific Update** was held at the University of the South Pacific (Suva) from 20-21 June 2017. Dr Matthew Dornan co-convened the conference and three ANU-UPNG research collaboration teams from UPNG's School of Business and Public Policy and ANU's Development Policy Centre presented research at the Update (* denotes papers presented with these co-authors *in absentia*):

- 1. A 'survey of recent economic developments, 2016/17' presented by Dr Marcel Schroder, coauthored by Professor Stephen Howes, Mr Rohan Fox* and Mr Nelson Nema*.
- Professor Lekshmi Pillai, Dr Manoj Pandey and Mr Raymond John co-presented a paper titled 'Measurement of Entrepreneurial traits of university students of Papua New Guinea'. Mr Ponnusamy Manohar* and Mrs Benedicta Mellam*, UPNG colleagues, were co-authors on this

- paper. The purpose of this pilot study was to identify entrepreneurial competencies of students from different regions of Papua New Guinea based on survey results from students at UPNG.
- 3. Dr Pandey presented a paper titled 'Demographic Changes and PNG's labour market developments: Challenges and Prospects'. He will present a substantially revised version of this paper at the 2017 PNG Update.

Guest seminars

Mr Peter Kanaparo (UPNG) and Dr Grant Walton (Devpolicy ANU) presented a seminar at the National Department of Education in early February 2017 on the implications of education polices for schools in Gulf and East New Britain. The presentation – with input from Ms Tara Davda (Devpolicy ANU) – argued that the Department of Education should reconsider its current ban on school project fees and its current moves to recentralise school funds through proposed District Education Implementation Committees. They also argued that given increased funding to schools, the Department might look at ways to better support school inspectors and to train school communities in financial management, conflict resolution and community engagement. Mr Peter Michael Magury (NRI) facilitated this seminar.



Peter Kanaparo makes a point about PNG's education policy in a presentation at the Department of Education (photo: Watson)

Professor Stephen Howes gave a guest lecture to a joint class of MEPP and MBA graduate students at UPNG on Monday 3 April 2017. He used the newly launched Devpolicy PNG Budget Database to illustrate some of the fiscal trends in PNG since 1989. Prof. Howes also explained the challenges facing PNG's economy, noting that decreasing revenue in recent years was combined with increased expenditure over the same period. His talk concluded with a discussion of strategies that may address these fiscal issues.

Dr Marcel Schröder gave a presentation in the Economics Trade and Development Seminar Series of the Arndt-Corden Department of Economics at ANU (Canberra) on 11 April 2017. This seminar was attended by around 40 individuals and related directly to the Development Policy Centre Discussion Paper he published with Rohan Fox in February 2017 (see below).

3.2.3 The PNG Project

The rationale for the PNG Project is to ensure that ANU can be an active PNG-research partner to UPNG counterparts (as per Section 2.2 of the grant agreement). In the first half of 2017, the benefits of this strategic approach to research collaboration became more apparent as 2016 ANU-UPNG research collaborations came to fruition (with outputs for both education and health service delivery research) while other new partnerships emerged (with ANU-UPNG collaborative research in PPM on PNG public administration).

Funding for PNG Project research comes from a variety of sources; only sub-projects involving partnership funds are included here (an *asterisk indicates staff costs paid for under the grant agreement – the asterisk is included the first time an individual appears in the list, not thereafter):

- 4. **Macro and fiscal analysis.** Work under this component includes the joint ANU-UPNG research paper (PNG survey of recent economic developments, 2016-17) by Marcel Schröder*, Rohan Fox*, Nelson Nema and Stephen Howes), and blogs by Rohan Fox, Stephen Howes and Nelson Nema. The PNG economic survey paper was presented at the Pacific Update in late June, and will be a keynote presentation at the PNG Update in August 2017. Marcel Schröder and Rohan Fox produced a Devpolicy Discussion Paper on the PNG exchange rate, and Martin Davies is now engaged in research under the partnership on PNG macroeconomic issues. Matthew Dornan's* research on aid to the Pacific (including PNG) was published, and he published analysis on Pacific trade arrangements.
- 5. **Infrastructure.** Matthew Dornan, together with colleagues at the PNG National Research Institute (NRI), continued with research on road management at the sub-national government level in PNG in the period. This research will be published through NRI later this year. Matthew also undertook research on the policy impacts on green growth in the Pacific, including PNG. One of his collaborators, Tess Newton Cain, was invited to present the results at a PNG Planning Department / ADBI workshop in Moresby in July 2017.
- 6. **Health and education**. Grant Walton, Tara Davda* and Peter Kanaparo have completed a discussion paper on education in PNG they will presented in a plenary session at the PNG Update. In the period they broadened the scope of their initial education research to incorporate geospatial analysis of relationships between student results and critical infrastructure (esp. school access to road networks) this work is ongoing. Colin Wiltshire, Amanda Watson*, Denise Lokinap and Tatia Currie*, have continued their collaboration on health service delivery in PNG and will present their findings in another plenary at the PNG Update in August 2017. Lhawang Ugyel* began new health-related research in February/March 2017 with fieldwork looking into key factors for the success of the Bougainville Healthy Community Program (with a specific focus on leadership, organizational structure and coordination).
- 7. **Communications**. Amanda Watson continued her research on media and communications in PNG, with a project that is looking into the state of the telecommunications and media industries. In addition, she is collaborating with SBPP colleague Ralph Kaule on research on the use of mobile phone services for health delivery.

- 8. **Urban livelihoods.** Michelle Rooney* continues her PNG urban research across a broad spectrum of issues that include urban service delivery, gender and economy, urban land tenure and family and sexual violence.
- 9. **Elections and electoral politics.** Terence Wood continues his research on elections in PNG. In mid-March 2017, he launched the PNG Elections Database (discussed earlier) and a related discussion paper (see below). The Database was developed with assistance from Ashlee Betteridge* and Tatia Currie. This work continues with Terence deployed to PNG in late June 2017 as part of a wider State, Society and Governance in Melanesia (SSGM) program election study.
- 10. Public Policy and administration. Lhawang Ugyel initiated new case study research on public administration in PNG in the first half of 2017 with a research trip to Bougainville in February/ March and collaborative fieldwork in East New Britain in May 2017 with UPNG counterparts Emmanuel Gorea and Lawrence Sause. He is also involved in collaborative research on a comparative study of administrative cultures in PNG and other countries with Leo Marai (Psychology, SHSS UPNG). This research will be presented in three papers at the PNG Update. Stephen Howes, Lhawang Ugyel, Ashlee Betteridge (ANU) and Lawrence Sause worked on and drafted a paper comparing the conditions for evidence-based policy making in PNG and Australia, and developing and developed countries more broadly. This paper has now been completed, released as a Discussion Paper, with accompanying blog, and will be published in a Crawford collected volume.
- 11. **Corruption.** Grant Walton continued collaborative research with Caryn Peiffer (from the Developmental Leadership Program, or DLP) to test the impact of anti-corruption messages in Papua New Guinea. In February 2017 they completed a major corruption survey in PNG with the assistance of Anglo Pacific Research. This research will help policy makers understand how anti-corruption awareness raising programming can facilitate or hamper anticorruption activism and reporting. Grant Walton and Husnia Hushang* also completed a discussion paper in the period on anti-corruption spending in PNG to be presented at the forthcoming PNG Update. Anthony Swan* and Fiona Yap were involved in extensive behavioural economics research at UPNG in May/June 2017 to better understand leadership and corruption challenges in PNG.
- 12. **Labour markets:** Under this component, Manoj Pandey* commenced research in the period on demographic change and PNG's labour market developments. He is also involved in related collaborative research to measure entrepreneurial traits through a study of university students at UPNG, together with Lekshmi Pillai, Raymond John, Ponnusamy Manohar and Benedicta Mellam. Carmen Voigt-Graf, now based in Canberra, continues her research under ANU's collaboration with NRI on labour markets, migration and skill development in PNG.
- 13. **SDGs and data issues in PNG:** In the first half of 2017, Manoj Pandey initiated research on the deficiencies in available data in PNG by which to measure progress towards the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. This 'data gap' is an issue of growing concern to UN and other multilateral and bilateral agencies working in PNG.
- 14. **Family and sexual violence.** In early 2017, Michelle Rooney began new research on family and sexual violence support services in urban areas in PNG, with a particular focus on Lae City. She made two visits to PNG in the first half of 2017 to advance her FSV research. To provide the basis

for this and related research, Dr Kamalini Lokuge undertook a literature survey on family and sexual violence interventions, with modest research support funded by the project. This was recently published.

PNG Project outputs

The PNG Project supported the following research outputs in the period:

PNG Elections Database website: Dr Terence Wood, Research Fellow at the Development Policy Centre, met Chesna Cocker, Deputy High Commissioner of New Zealand to PNG, staff from the PNG Parliamentary Library and the Deputy Commissioner of the PNG Electoral Commission during his recent visit to PNG (6-17 March). On 14 March, Dr Wood gave a seminar to staff at the Australian High Commission in Port Moresby on electoral politics and electoral quality in PNG.

On 16 March 2017, Dr Wood launched the <u>PNG Elections Database website</u>. This open-access online resource features a dataset he compiled over a decade with all known PNG election results from 1972 to 2012. It includes an interactive map of electoral boundaries and allows for a range of analysis of election results.

PNG Budget Database website: On 20 March, the Development Policy Centre made the PNG Budget Database available online. The database is an Excel spread sheet that compiles information from PNG national government budgets from 1989 to 2017. This database is an open-access resource designed for use by any member of the public, government, NGO, media or researcher for analysis and comparison of budget-related data over time. The database has been compiled in the same format as the original budget documents and includes information about revenue, expenditure, GDP, inflation, finance and debt from Volume 1 of successive budgets for the past three decades.

The PNG Budget Database is updated twice yearly, when the FBO (Final Budget Outcome) is released, and then at budget time. Rohan Fox is the primary author of the database, but other staff members at the Development Policy Centre have collaborated over the past few years to help produce this resource. Two UPNG economics students assisted with updating the most recent version of the database. The PNG Budget Database is available online.

Academic publications

The following peer-reviewed publications were supported by the partnership in the period.

Development Policy Centre Discussion Papers:

- Papua New Guinea economics graduate exit survey <u>Discussion Paper 53</u> by Michael Cornish (January 2017). Read <u>summary blog post</u>.
- After Papua New Guinea's Resource Boom: Is the Kina Overvalued? <u>Discussion Paper 54</u> by Rohan Fox and Marcel Schröder (February 2017). Read <u>summary blog post</u>.
- Papua New Guinea election results: trends and patterns 1972-2012 <u>Discussion Paper 55</u> by Terence Wood (February 2017). Read <u>summary blog post</u>.

 The geographies of collective action, principal-agent theory and potential corruption in Papua New Guinea <u>Discussion Paper 58</u> by Grant Walton and Ainsley Jones (June 2017). Read <u>summary blog</u> <u>post</u>.

Other publications:

- Dornan M. and Pryke J. (2017) Foreign Aid to the Pacific: Trends and Developments in the Twenty-First Century. *Asia and the Pacific Policy Studies* (in press). Available here
- Rooney, M. N. (2017) 'Lewa Was Mama (Beloved Guardian Mother)', in: M. Macintyre & C. Spark (eds.) *Transformations of Gender in Melanesia*, ANU Press. Available here
- Rooney, M. N. (2017) 'There's nothing better than land': a migrant group's strategies for accessing informal settlement land in Port Moresby' in S. McDonnell, M.G. Allen and C. Filer (eds.) Kastom, Property and Ideology: Land Transformations in Melanesia, ANU Press. Available <a href="https://example.com/heres/here

3.2.4 Outreach

The Devpolicy blog

Devpolicy.org is the online public outreach portal for the Development Policy Centre at the ANU. The portal is used for communicating and discussing much of the development, economic and public policy research relating to PNG undertaken by the ANU. The partnership grant supports editorial work on blog posts about PNG and in the first half of 2017, Devpolicy.org published 42 blog posts related to PNG (see Annex 4). Fourteen of these blogs were authored or co-authored by Papua New Guineans. These blog posts are widely read in PNG, and often picked up by the PNG media. In June 2017, partnership staff completed a selection of the best PNG-related Devpolicy.org blogs for hard-copy publication. These booklets provide an alternative channel for disseminating information about economics and public policy issues affecting PNG and the region and will be made available at this year's PNG Update.

Events

The PNG Project seeks to engage speakers and be involved in activities in Australia and the region that promote broad public outreach on contemporary issues in Papua New Guinea.

MEPP and PNG Elections Database joint launch: On 16 March, the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG), in partnership with the Australian National University (ANU), hosted the joint launch of UPNG School of Business and Public Policy's Master of Economic and Public Policy (MEPP).



Prof. Albert Mellam, Vice Chancellor of UPNG, launching the new MEPP degree at UPNG, 16 March 2017

The MEPP launch was followed by the launch of the ANU Development Policy Centre's PNG Elections Database website. Dr Terence Wood, who compiled the database, gave a presentation to discuss the database and demonstrate its use. This event was opened by the His Excellency Bruce Davis, Australia's High Commissioner to PNG, Professor David Kavanamur, then Secretary for the Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (DHERST) and Prof. Albert Mellam, Vice Chancellor of the University of Papua New Guinea. Mr John Kali, Secretary for Department Personnel Management and Board member of the Precinct, was in attendance.

Vice Chancellor's Lecture by Ms Rosie Batty, Australian of the Year 2015. Ms Rosie Batty gave the second Vice Chancellor's Lecture for 2017 at UPNG on 27 April 2017. ANU partnership staff facilitated this event, which was supported by partnership funds. Ms Batty spoke on family and sexual violence (FSV). Her address was followed by a panel discussion by leaders on FSV and women's leaders in PNG, including Lady Winifred Kamit and Ms Evan Biesco (Case Manager with Femili PNG). An estimated 140 people attended the event which was followed by an afternoon tea attended by 40 VIPs from UPNG, AHC, PGF, Femili PNG, other FSV NGOs and various government agencies. The partnership supported advertising and catering for this event, the final Vice Chancellor's Lecture for Prof. Albert Mellam before he stood down as VC in late May 2017.



Lady Winifred Kamit, Ms Evan Biesco, Ms Rosie Batty, Ms Monica Toisenegila and Dr Anna Joskin at UPNG, 27 April 2017



Dr Bruce Hunt reflects on the strategic significance of PNG for Australia during his seminar on 24 May 2017

On 24 May 2017, partnership staff at ANU hosted a seminar by Dr Bruce Hunt (ex-DFAT) titled "The absence of trust: Australian strategic thinking and PNG 1950-1975." Dr Hunt reflected on his recent book 'Australia's Northern Shield' as well as his current research project for DFAT, preparing the official history of Australia's relations with Papua New Guinea in the period 1970-75. His presentation demonstrated the continuities in Australian thinking towards PNG over the past century and gave an insight into the importance of confidential cabinet notebooks in understanding the political struggles of the era. More than 30 people, including prominent strategic thinkers like Allan Gyngell AO, attended this event.

On 7 June, ANU hosted a public forum on 'PNG Drought and Famine Relief, 2015-16', with Dr Mike Bourke, Ms Sally Lloyd and Mr Brendan Jinks. Regrettably the two speakers from PNG, Mr James Komengi and Mr Matt Kanua, were unable to attend the event. The three speakers in this forum also attended a roundtable meeting at DFAT with government representatives from DFAT and other government agencies, as well as a meeting with CSO/NGO representatives concerned with drought and famine relief in PNG. The partnership supported this event with catering, and travel expenses for Ms Lloyd.

PNG Film nights @ ANU: In early 2017, Devpolicy, in partnership with the PNG Canberra Students Association and the ANU's Pacific Institute, commenced ad hoc screenings of PNG films at ANU in Canberra. This film series echoes the 'PNG Inspired' film screenings at the University of Papua New Guinea. In the first half of 2017, we screened *First Contact* (1983), *Angels of War* (1983, with discussion by Mr Deveni Temu and Dr Keiko Tamura) and *Path to Nationhood* (1964, with discussion by Dr Nicole Haley and Dr Terence Wood). Tea, coffee and light snacks were provided at these film events.



Dame Meg Taylor addresses a packed audience at the Q&A after the screening of her film My father, My country

On 22 June, Dame Meg Taylor attended a screening and Q&A session for her film *My father My country* (1989) at the ANU's Weston Theatre in Canberra. The event was attended by 105 people, including Sakias Tameo, Chargé d'affaire of the PNG High Commission in Canberra, various acting and retired members of the diplomatic corps, academics, local university students, students of the University of the Third Age, and members of Canberra's PNG and Pacific communities. The partnership supported this event with a catered light supper.

Engagement with media and other public outreach

- Henry Sherrell and Stephen Howes on January 19, 2017, <u>'First in class: PNG student migration to Australia'</u>. This article generated media interest and <u>ABC's Pacific Beat</u> interviewed Sherrell on 23 January 2017.
- Amanda Watson was on air on PNG's National Broadcasting Corporation radio nationwide on the
 evening of 1 March speaking with Mr Charlie Tongia about her research into the online behaviour
 of PNG Internet users. This interview was in response to her research and blog post about a frontpage newspaper article that asserted that PNG has the highest rate of online pornography
 consumption in the world.
- As a follow up to Rohan Fox and Marcel Schröder's discussion paper on the devaluation of PNG's currency, Marcel was interviewed by <u>ABC Radio's Pacific Beat</u> 16 March 2017.
- Terence Wood's launch of the PNG Elections Database generated significant media interest in PNG, including a live-to-air radio interview with Charlie Tongia from NBC (15 March) and a radio interview with ABC Radio's Pacific Beat on 16 March 2017.
- Kelly Samof, the recipient of the 2018 ANU-UPNG Scholarship in Economics, garnered significant media interest, including an interview with EMTV news. See http://www.emtv.com.pg/news/2017/04/kelly-samof-winner-of-the-anu-upng-scholarship-in-economics-optimistic
- Amanda Watson was on air on NBC radio nationwide for almost an hour on Wednesday 10 May.
 Topics covered with presenter Mr Stephen Mase included access and use of mobile phones in urban and rural areas of PNG, rates of uptake of social media, and the role of information and communication technologies in the lead-up to the 2017 national election.
- Devpolicy's Deputy Director, Matthew Dornan was interviewed on radio by ABCs Pacific Beat on 29 May http://www.abc.net.au/news/programs/pacific-beat/2017-05-29/academic-says-australia-and-new-zealand-likely-to/8569562
- On 7 June, Matthew Dornan's Devpolicy.org blog post, 'PACER Plus is not much to celebrate' was
 re-published by the Vanuatu Daily Post. In response to the article, Matt was also interviewed on
 Newswire and ABC's Pacific Beat.
- On 13 June, Rohan Fox's research on PNG's exchange rate and APEC 2018 was featured in the PNG Business Advantage online magazine (see http://www.businessadvantagepng.com/five-questions-to-economist-rohan-fox).
- More MEPP media coverage may be found at https://devpolicy.crawford.anu.edu.au/department-news/9412/coverage-upng-new-masters-launch-and-election-database

Research outreach

PNG Economic research: On 15-16 June, ANU-UPNG research collaboration team, Dr Marcel Schröder, Mr Rohan Fox and Mr Nelson Nema (UPNG Division of Economics) visited Lae where they interviewed business leaders to better understand the obstacles facing businesses in Lae and gauge levels of confidence in the private sector. Researchers met with key industry stakeholders from agriculture, logistics and manufacturing, as well as representatives of the Lae Chamber of Commerce, DFAT consulate in Lae, and the Internal Revenue Commission Lae. This research will inform the annual ANU-UPNG economics survey paper presented at the Pacific Update in Suva in June and the paper to be presented at the PNG Update in Port Moresby in August 2017. Information from these interviews will also inform a presentation by Mr Nema at the 2017 PNG Update on changes to tax revenue in PNG.

Graduate employer research: Survey design has been completed for a graduate employer survey that will be undertaken by Rohan Fox in second semester 2017. In addition to creating links between UPNG and employers, the survey will provide an avenue for employer input and discussion of economics skills needs, UPNG economics graduate skills and the economics curriculum.

Outreach and engagement with the wider community in PNG and the region

On 14 February, Dr Thangavel Palanivel (UNDP) was invited by Dr Manoj Pandey to give a guest lecture on changing demographics, human development, and the SDGs in the Asia and the Pacific to third year students in the *Economic Policy* course. While at UPNG, Dr Palanivel met with senior SBPP staff, including Dr Albert Prabhakar, Head of the Division of Economics and Prof. Lekshmi Pillai, Dean of SBPP. Dr Palanivel is the Chief Economist and Senior Strategic Adviser at the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and lead author of 2016 Asia-Pacific Human Development Report.

On 16 February, Mr Henry Nema gave a guest lecture to third and fourth year SBPP students enrolled in *Policy Monitoring and Evaluation* (convened by Dr Lhawang Ugyel). Mr Nema currently works for UNDP as team leader for SDGs, Aid Effectiveness and Population providing technical and advisory support to Department of National Planning & Monitoring and completed a dual Masters in public health and international development for Flinders University, Adelaide.

On 4 April, Dr Amanda Watson welcomed two guest speakers to her *Governance and Institutions* MEPP class. Mr Langa Kopio, Acting Assistant Secretary, Economic Policy Branch, Policy and Budgets Division, Department of National Planning and Monitoring (DNPM), discussed the institutions involved in policymaking processes within the country and the cascading logic of Vision 2050, PNG SDP, MTDP, sector plans, provincial plans, district plans, LLG plans, ward plans & the annual budget. Mr Henry Nema, National Technical Advisor, Department of National Planning and Monitoring (DNPM), discussed the roles of international organisations, external institutions and development aid in supporting institutional and managerial reform with particular attention on MDGs, SDGs, and reflections on his experiences with the WHO and UNDP.



Dame Carol Kidu with students from MEPP course Governance and Institutions (25 April 2017)

On 25 April, Dame Carol Kidu reflected on her experiences of public policy-making in PNG in Dr Amanda Watson's *Governance and Institutions* MEPP class.

On 27 April, Associate Professor Graham Hassall of Victoria University Wellington New Zealand gave a guest lecture to the *Governance and Institutions* class on Pacific Regionalism.

On 16 May, Ms Betty Palaso, Commissioner General of the Internal Revenue Commission of Papua New Guinea, gave an address regarding the IRC's transformation in recent years to MEPP students. Mr Steve Fielder, her IRC colleague, accompanied her to the lecture. Also in attendance were Executive Dean Professor Pillai and taxation lecturer Mr Suresh Babu.

On 17 May, Dr William Savedoff, from the Centre for Global Development, presented on aid effectiveness to MBA and MEPP students, DFAT representatives and ANU-UPNG academic staff. The presentation, 'Aid to Health Sector' was followed by a Q&A session.

On 23 May, Mr Flierl Shongol, from the Department of Information and Communication, gave a presentation about the PNG government's e-government initiative to MEPP students at UPNG.

On 6 June, Dr Zui Neofa, Director of the PNG Education Institute (PNGEI) gave a guest lecture to third year public policy students at UPNG in a course jointly convened by Dr Amanda Watson and Mr Ralph Kaule (PPM SBPP). Dr Neofa presented on PNGEI's strategic planning processes, including design, implementation and review.



Ms Betty Palaso (centre in orange shirt), Commissioner General of the Internal Revenue Commission of Papua New Guinea with MEPP class and her colleague Mr Steve Fielder (right of image)

On 13 June, students in *Management Theory* received a guest lecture from Mr Emmanuel Ginis, Acting Manager, Gender Equity & Social Inclusion (GESI), Whole of Government Coordination, based in the Department of Personnel Management. Mr Ginis spoke about the GESI policy and its importance as a management tool in PNG's public service. Dr Amanda Watson and Mr Ralph Kaule co-convene *Management Theory* within the Division of Public Policy Management.

3.3 Student and faculty exchanges

The 2016/2017 UPNG academic years were significantly disrupted by the student boycott in mid-2016 and subsequent events at UPNG. This affected some student and staff exchanges, most notably plans for a Summer School at ANU in January/February 2017. Despite scheduling constraints due to compressed teaching timeframes, the partnership did advance key exchange initiatives in the first half of 2017.

3.3.1 Staff exchanges - UPNG

Professor Lekshmi Pillai, Dean of School of Business and Public Policy visited ANU from 7-10 May 2017. He participated in interviews for staff recruitment for ANU positions based at UPNG under the partnership (one in economics, the other in public policy) and high-level meetings with ANU staff to discuss possible further collaboration between ANU and UPNG. Prof. Pillai meet with Prof. Sharon Friel, Director of the School of Regulation and Global Governance (RegNet); Prof. Ian Clarke, Dean of the College of Commerce, Business and Economics (CBE); and Prof. Helen Sullivan, Director of the Crawford School of Public Policy. While in Canberra, Prof. Pillai also followed up with ANU counterparts on research projects under the partnership and on purchasing issues related to large book orders for SBPP.

Prof. L.N. Pillai, Dr Albert Prabhakar, Head of the Division of Economics and Mr Raymond John of the Division of Human Resources travelled with Dr Manoj Pandey and Dr Marcel Schröder from PNG to the Pacific Update in USP (Suva) in mid-June 2017. Prof. Stephen Howes, Dr Matthew Dornan and Mr Sam Koim (currently a Visiting Fellow at ANU) joined this UPNG contingent in Suva for the Pacific Update, and all made presentations. Prof. Pillai, Dr Prabhakar and Dr Pandey used this opportunity to further build rapport with high-level counterparts at USP and lay the foundation for ongoing collaboration between USP and UPNG for teaching in Economics, Business and Finance.

In late June, Dr Lhawang Ugyel, **Dr Lawrence Sause** and **Mr Emmanuel Gorea** attended the International Conference for Public Policy (ICPP) in Singapore. Dr Ugyel presented his paper on the "Role of Big Man in PNG's Public Administration."

3.3.2 Staff exchanges - ANU

Professor **Michael Wesley**, Dean of ANU's College of Asia Pacific and Dr **Nicole Haley**, Convenor of the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia program (SSGM) at ANU, met with Professor Lekshmi Pillai, Dr Lawrence Sause, Mr Gorea, Dr Prabhakar, Mr Manohar and ANU's UPNG-based staff on 20 April 2017. At the meeting, the Deans of both universities affirmed their enthusiasm for and to commitment the partnership and discussed ways to strengthen the collaboration going forward.



Meeting between Prof. Michael Wesley, Dean ANU College of Asia and the Pacific (second from left) and Prof. Lekshmi Pillai, Dean UPNG School of Business and Public Policy (second from right) at UPNG 20 April 2017

Prof. **Stephen Howes**, the Director of the Development Policy Centre at the ANU, made two visits to UPNG in the first half of 2017 to undertake research, lecture UPNG students, and meet with UPNG leadership and the AHC.

Dr **Michael Cookson**, the Partnership Manager, made three visits to UPNG in the first half of 2017, in February (to finalise activity report and Annual Plan), in March (to assist with the launch of the MEPP program and PNG Elections Database and in June to advance preparations for the 2017 PNG Update.

Assoc. Prof. **Martin Davies** joined the ANU-UPNG team in Port Moresby on 15 June for three months to convene *Macroeconomic Analysis and Policy* in the second trimester of Master of Economic and Public Policy (MEPP) program and conduct collaborative research on PNG's economy with colleagues at UPNG.

Mr **Rohan Fox**, a research officer with the Development Policy Centre, made two trips to PNG in the period. In April 2017, he conducted an Induction Workshop for new SBPP staff (discussed earlier) and in June he conducted fieldwork for the collaborative economic survey paper with Schröder and Nema.

Dr **Manoj Pandey**, a member of ANU's UPNG-based academic staff, made two trips in the period; a research trip to ANU and a trip to Suva to present a paper on PNG's demographic changes at the Pacific Update in late June 2017. While at USP, he liaised further with USP counterparts on ways to strengthen collaborative research and curriculum development between UPNG and USP.

Ms **Michelle Rooney**, a researcher with the Development Policy Centre, made two trips to UPNG in the period to advance new research on family and sexual violence in urban settings in PNG.

Dr **Anthony Swan**, a research fellow with the Development Policy Centre, made two research trips to PNG in the period, together with Assoc. Prof. **Fiona Yap** of the ANU's Crawford School.

Dr **Grant Walton**, a research fellow with the Development Policy Centre, made one fieldwork visit to PNG in January/February 2017, to coordinated corruption messaging research in PNG and present a seminar with Peter Kanaparo at the National Department of Education.

Dr **Terence Wood** travelled to PNG at the expense of the partnership in March 2017 to advance PNG election-related research and launch the PNG Election Database.

Refer to Annex 5 for a schedule of all partnership related travel in the first half of 2017.

3.3.3 Student exchanges

The 2016 ANU-UPNG Economics Exam

The 2016 exam was held in February, delayed due to the boycott (see Annex 2). A special third-year exam was held to select students for the summer school (see below). The regular 2017 Economics Exam will be run later in 2017, and as usual will be open to all students and recent graduates in economics.

Long-term ANU scholarships

The partnership has instituted a long-term scholarship program, to support the most promising UPNG graduates in economics undertake a Masters in International and Development Economics (IDEC) at ANU. This scholarship program is intended to provide a pathway for the top economics graduate from UPNG each year to complete postgraduate study at ANU and then return to a faculty position in SBPP.

On 17 March, interviews of top ranking students (by GPA and 2016 ANU Economics Exam results) were conducted for UPNG economics students. The interview panel consisted of Dr Prabhakar, Head of the Division of Economics, Dr Manoj Pandey, Dr Marcel Schröder, and Dr Amanda Watson. Seven students were interviewed to determine their interest in a career in academia and their potential to serve as an economics tutor in the Division for the duration of 2017.

On 10 April the 2018 ANU-UPNG Scholarship in Economics was awarded on 10 April to Mr Kelly Samof. He accepted the scholarship offer (and associated conditions) and was appointed as a tutor in economics at UPNG for the 2017 academic year. He will take up his scholarship to pursue a Master in International and Development Economics at ANU in January 2018.

The 2016 and 2017 scholarship recipients, Mr Maholopa Laveil and Mr Ani Rova (respectively) both commenced their Masters in International and Development Economics (IDEC) at ANU in January 2017 and both successfully completed first semester studies in June 2017.

Summer School student exchange program

The process of shortlisting candidates for the 2018 Summer School (10 January – 13 February 2018) was complete by the end of June. The five students of economics and five students of public policy management to be invited to attend the 2018 Summer School will be announced in early August 2017.

3.4 Partnership management

3.4.1 Management objectives

Partnership management activity in the first half of 2017 centred on routine administration, reporting and preparations for key events, including: MEPP and PNG Elections Database launch (16 March), Vice Chancellors Lecture by Rosie Batty (27 April), Swan and Yap behavioural economics research at UPNG (5-8 June), PNG drought and frost forum (7 June) and the 2017 PNG Update. Staff recruitment and placement was also a significant preoccupation for management in the period.

Dr Michael Cookson managed all aspects of the project from ANU in Canberra, supported by Ms Husnia Hushang (Project Officer), Ms Tatia Currie as Project Coordinator in PNG and Dr Manoj Pandey as Team Leader at UPNG (a non-supervisory leadership position). Professor Stephen Howes provided significant ongoing management oversight through the period with no charge to the project. Regular Canberra — Port Moresby management meetings during this period ensured prompt action and response to emerging issues.

Partnership liaison with key stakeholders

ANU's Canberra and PNG-based partnership staff liaised extensively and effectively with PGF and AHC officials through the first half of 2017. Ms Tatia Currie, the Partnership Coordinator based at UPNG, joined Precinct partners at the Pacific Leadership and Governance Precinct's Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop on 1-2 March 2017. Dr Michael Cookson met with PGF and AHC counterparts in February to discuss reports and the 2017 Annual Plan, and again in June to meet new counterpart staff at the AHC.

Prof. Stephen Howes met with senior AHC representatives in June 2017 to discuss possible extension of the partnership and an ANU proposal for on-site accommodation for international staff at UPNG.

Partnership staffing

The partnership had its full complement of administrative staff in both Canberra and Port Moresby throughout the first half of 2017. We undertook a significant recruitment round in early May 2017, which resulted in a new member of staff being recruited (Mr Bao Nguyen) to replace Dr Marcel Schröder, who will leave the project in mid-August 2017. Dr Anthony Swan also left the project (and ANU) at the end of June 2017 and was replaced by Dr Terence Wood.

Supporting SBPP colleagues

Four ANU and four UPNG staff from the School of Business and Public Policy completed their First Aid (Level 2) training with St John's Ambulance on 23 May 2017 in Port Moresby.



Kelly Samof (2018 Scholarship Awardee) immobilising arm of St John's Ambulance staff member (Photo: Currie)



Mother's Day celebration with participation from ANU and UPNG counterpart staff (Photo: Currie)

On 12 May, Ms Tatia Currie and Dr Amanda Watson (ANU staff based at UPNG) joined School of Business and Public Policy colleagues in celebrating Mother's Day (14 May). SBPP female staff members initiated the luncheon this year and plan to make this an annual occasion in the future.

3.4.2 Partnership finance

Overall expenditure is closely tracking the revised budget estimate and we expect this to continue through Q3 and Q4 2017, with a slight overrun possible. Note that total expenditure for the first half of 2017 was only 28% of the original Y2 budget. This provides a firm basis for a no-cost extension for the project which is currently under consideration.

A separate financial report is attached.

3.4.3 Alternative accommodation and remote teaching

When we consider the long-term viability of the project, a major barrier is the cost of accommodation, which exceeds salary costs by a significant margin. The project will only be sustainable if we can either find alternative accommodation and/or engage in more teaching remotely.

As we have always considered a long-term commitment to this project to be essential to its success, in the first half of 2017, the ANU and UPNG submitted a concept note to the AHC related to the construction of a Precinct International Visitors Centre at UPNG.

Remote teaching at UPNG is a long-term goal, but progress in other areas will help, including establishment of an LMS, and provision of online materials in the first half of 2017. It is clear from other ICT initiatives at UPNG (notably the long-anticipated rollout of the Google classroom LMS, see above) that progress on this initiative is likely to be slow. There was broad agreement among project staff that the most sensible approach to any remote teaching initiative was to progress this idea with guest lectures, with a particular focus on the MEPP program.

4 Project narrative

The overall project narrative is extracted from an earlier report.

Overall project narrative

The project takes a long-term approach. Aid funding for this partnership may wax and wane (and we hope it waxes) but the project has been set up to be here for the long term, at least a decade. Of course, there is no guarantee it will last for a decade, but that is the intent: there is little point to setting up a shorter-term project.

The concept of partnership is critical. Both parties have skin in the game. Both have made a long-term commitment to the partnership. Both are prepared to discuss and resolve issues in a transparent manner.

The benefits of the project are both direct and indirect. Perhaps the most important, certainly the most tangible, benefits of the project are for the students who otherwise might receive no teaching, and certainly a lower quality of teaching. These are the future leaders of PNG after all. But there are also important indirect benefits – the systemic changes, the research and outreach. This dual approach serves as both a risk mitigation approach and as a way to maximize project value.

The project has and requires strong support from the highest levels. Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs initiated the expansion of the project during a meeting in mid-2014 with the then ANU Vice Chancellor. It is strongly supported by ANU and UPNG at the highest levels. Given the difficulty of the project, this is critical for success.

The project has strong UPNG ownership. The project is as much a UPNG initiative as an ANU one. It was the UPNG VC's initiative to seek a new MOU with ANU, and it was his drive that brought that into fruition. The SBPP Dean plays a critical role in providing day-to-day support to the partnership and its various initiatives. Without this, the project would undoubtedly falter.

The project takes an adaptive, learning-by-doing, and adjusting-as-we-go approach. This is the only approach that makes sense. We learn as we go, documenting what we learn along the way: for example, completing a "baseline report" in 2015 of the SBPP-Economics Division.

The project values continuity. To develop good relationships, and to learn to be effective, staff need to be in place for as long as possible. Long-standing relationships between ANU and UPNG faculty are key to the success of the partnership. If project staff do well, we want them to stay for as long as possible.

The project is based on realistic expectations, and seeks incremental gains. It would be foolhardy to wish away the systemic challenges that UPNG faces in a range of areas. No external intervention can turn UPNG around, or even a part of the university. However, an external intervention can make a difference, and be judged a success, provided realistic expectations are maintained.

Key examples of significant achievements consistent with the project narrative in the first half of 2017 include the following:

- Successful commencement of the Masters of Economics and Public Policy. By drawing on ANU and NRI resources, UPNG was able to fill all required teaching slots for the first trimester. Adequate students enrolled for the program to run.
- Training of the next generation of PNG's economic lecturers. The two scholarship candidates both passed (or did better than pass in) all their subjects. From humble beginnings with a partnership MOU back in 2012, we made important gains in 2015 with AHC support and the placement of two staff in the Division of Economics at UPNG. Partnership activity ramped up significantly after a funding agreement between ANU and Palladium was signed in August 2015 (and novated to PGF/Abt Associates in September 2016), but it wasn't until the beginning of 2017 that we had a full complement of academic staff in both Divisions of Economics and the Division of Public Policy Management at UPNG.
- **Collaborative research**. New, combined research efforts were launched, and PNG Project research outputs in particular the PNG Elections Database and the PNG Budget Database, are resources now available to the entire nation.
- Outreach. More than 15 external experts were engaged as guest lecturers by partnership staff in their courses and the UPNG Inspired events to relate global economic and public policy issues to the PNG context. At ANU, partnership staff members have undertaken activities in the period to raise awareness of PNG.

As commented on in earlier reports, sustainability is always a risk for a project such as this, which is why it has been conceived from the start as at least a decadal-effort. Some sustainability in the short term is possible: the human capital distilled in the students our faculty are teaching will outlast the project. But for full sustainability, we have to give time for the training of the next generation of lecturers, and to provide them with a clear sense of academic pathways. Training two is not enough. One needs something like two a year for a decade or more. As we know and have experienced, by no means all staff will stay with the university. Progress towards sustainability was made during the six months with encouraging discussions in relation to a no-cost extension of the current project.

5 Monitoring and evaluation

The partnership significantly enhanced M&E reporting in the first half of 2017: all courses convened by ANU partnership staff were evaluated for (undergraduate) second semester 2016 and the first trimester of the 2017 MEPP degree (Annex 1); results from the annual ANU Economics Exam (held over from 2016) were reviewed and compared with previous years (Annex 2); and further M&E activity was planned with a student survey (see Annex 3a) and PNG Update evaluation form (see Annex 3b) prepared in the period. In addition, agreement was reached with SBPP that a new staff survey would be integrated into a wider School review process later in 2017.

As part of the partnership's commitment to communications, the 2017 plan and the last 6-month report were made publically available on to the ANU <u>website</u>.

Student and staff surveys

Course evaluations are discussed under Faculty Strengthening (3.1), and in detail in Annex 1. More general student feedback is also part of the evaluation plan for the partnership. A student feedback form was prepared in the period. This form, designed to be part of our annual M&E process, aims to gather general information about student's experiences with and perceptions of the ANU-UPNG partnership in SBPP (c.f. the specific lecturer and course related feedback of student evaluations). This student survey is scheduled for early September 2017 (see Annex 3a). We have also discussed and agreed with UPNG to integrate a similar partnership feedback survey for staff into the SBPP review planned for later in 2017.

2017 PNG Update evaluation

A new evaluation form for the PNG Update was developed by ANU and UPNG and is available as Annex 3b. This form will be distributed on both days of the Update, and at the Update dinner.

M&E Matrix

The performance indicators for this project were outlined in the 2016 Annual Plan and revised in the 2017 Annual Plan. The colour rating in the matrix below indicates performance: off track (red), partially on track (orange), or on track (green).

Performance against indicators was good, with outstanding feedback on lecturer evaluations (see Annex 1a and 1b); exceptions to this generally related to activities where academics at UPNG were constrained by their workloads due to the rescheduling of the 2016 and 2017 academic years.

INDICATOR	RATING	COMMENTS
Teaching improvement (Faculty strengthening)		
ANU lecturers in place and teaching at UPNG		All partnership staff members were in place and teaching for the full 6 months in undergraduate and post-graduate programs. Very significant curriculum development was achieved in MEPP program.
Positive student evaluations of courses taught by ANU lecturers		End of year coursework teaching evaluations were conducted, with very positive overall results for both content and lecturers (see Annex 1).
Masters in Economics and Public Policy underway		MEPP program off to an excellent start with 4 of 6 programs being taught by ANU partnership staff.
Improved teaching: increased use of course websites; improved availability of textbooks and/or notes to students; increased use by students of computers in the course of learning; increased use of evaluations		Google classroom trial within SBPP scheduled for second semester 2017. Substantial addition to SBPP library thanks to donation by AHC. Plan to employ recent graduate as librarian at UPNG to manage School library (to be paid through grant) once majority of books received. The computer lab was extensively used for teaching, training and research in the second-half of 2017. Student evaluations used by all partnership staff. As yet little uptake by

	UPNG counterparts. ANU staff in PPM provided USB thumb drives with relevant course content.
Feedback from students, including an annual survey, show that their learning experience at UPNG is improving	Student evaluations were completed for S2 2016, S1 2017 and the first trimester of the MEPP program; survey of SBPP staff and students has been held over by mutual agreement with SBPP will be integrated into wider School-based survey later in 2017.
ANU-UPNG annual exam in economics shows increased number of students doing well	Two ANU Economics exams were conducted in the first half of 2017; the first was open to all students, and used as part of the selection process for scholarship awardee – exam results indicate overall improvement in student learning (see Annex 2); the second exam was used to select students for the 2018 Summer School.
Greater opportunities for students to link with employers	Some progress made in building employer networks for students, but this was limited by the constraints of heavy teaching loads for partnership staff. ANU staff again assisted students with written job references in the period. Ethics approval is pending for Rohan Fox to survey recent SBPP graduates, to strengthen our understanding of the graduate outcomes; this research will also help to better define opportunities for the partnership team to support student engagement with future employers.
Increased number of SPBB staffing positions filled, with staff with postgraduate qualifications	SBPP Division of Economics down to two full-time faculty members.
Greater emphasis in courses on critical thinking, development of problem solving skills, and PNG-related content where appropriate.	Critical thinking and problem solving skills are a focus of current MEPP teaching and now embedded more widely in undergraduate courses taught by partnership staff. Similarly, PNG-related content is used more frequently than the previous period in partnership teaching; reflecting growing confidence and experience of our staff with the PNG context.
Research and outreach	
Number of Discussion Papers and blogs produced on PNG	In the first half of 2017, 42 blogs about PNG were published, up from 35 in the previous period; 14 were by PNG co/authors (Annex 4). Four discussion papers were published in the period, up from two in the previous period.
Extent of participation by UPNG staff in partnership research activities and output	UPNG staff involved in joint fieldwork in PPM and co-authored papers in Economics and PPM. Partnership engagement also with NRI.
Number of papers and attendance at PNG Update	An unprecedented number of abstracts (around 110) submitted in April-May for the 2017 Update; more than 64 were accepted, together with 9 keynotes. Attendance will be determined in August; evaluation forms will be circulated to participants.

Number of UPNG staff presenting at PNG Update	22 UPNG staff or students are included as presenters or co-authors in the 2017 PNG Update.
Number of seminars/workshops at UPNG	Limited in the first half of 2017 due to constraints in teaching schedule. Tutor Induction Workshop ran as scheduled, as did Blog Writing Workshop at ANU, but with poor attendance.
Number of research skills workshops, including attendance and feedback	Limited due to constraints in teaching schedule. Dr Manoj Pandey did not continue his staff research skills workshops due to poor attendance and heavy teaching loads on all UPNG staff. No workshop evaluations were conducted in the period.
Staff and student exchange	
Number of ANU staff visits to UPNG	ANU staff members made numerous visits to UPNG in the period, including a visit by the Dean ANU College of Asia and the Pacific to SBPP UPNG.
Number of UPNG staff visits to ANU and ANU- related events	Dean SBPP was the only UPNG staff member to visit ANU in the period; opportunities for other staff travel were constraint by teaching obligations. However, UPNG faculty successfully participated in the ANU-organized Pacific Update.
Progress in short- and long-course visits to ANU	Two UPNG faculty members awarded scholarships to study at ANU – Mr Maholopa Laveil and Mr Ani Rova – took up their awards in early 2017.
Progress to 2018 Summer School	Planning for ANU's 2018 Summer School program for UPNG students from economics and public policy is well underway; students have been shortlisted and arrangements are in place at ANU.
Program management	
Project able to acquit and report expenditure on a timely basis	Financial reports for the first half of 2017 were submitted on time.
Visas and logistics managed in a timely way for short- and long-term project staff	All visa and logistical issues were managed smoothly in the period.
All required hiring undertaken in a timely manner	Hiring was conducted in a timely way in the period.
Required hiring for 2017 undertaken in 2016 in a timely manner	All partnership positions required for 2017 were filled in a timely way. The need to recruit a new member of staff for the second half of 2017 was met by the recruitment round in May 2017.
Timely and comprehensive M&E and reporting	Evaluations for all courses taught by ANU staff in the first half of 2017 were completed (see Annex 1). Broader M&E reporting for the partnership was also done in a timely and comprehensive way.
Positioning of project beyond 2018 bearing in mind the long-term aspirations of the project	A concept note for long-term low cost on-site accommodation for ANU and other international staff at UPNG was presented to the AHC. A no-cost extension of the project is also being discussed.

6 Risks and challenges

Looking back over the past six-months, the key risks that materialized are as follows (using the risk headings of the 2017 Annual Plan):

Economic and political uncertainty

There has been no unrest among students or staff for several months. However, with the economy still slowing and the uncertainty of the 2017 national elections and their outcome, there remains a risk of further unrest at UPNG and in the wider community. Our key strategy to mitigate this risk in the period was and continues to be to maintain a collaborative, open and flexible approach.

SBPP capacity

We saw the Division of Economics faculty numbers (including tutors) increasing from just 1 in 2014 to 5 by mid-2016, but the numbers fell back to 4 by the end of 2016 (after the resignation of Mr Win Nicholas). Two staff members from the Division of Economics (one lecturer, one tutor) are now at ANU pursuing further study. Inadequate capacity in economics remains the program's most serious risk. SBPP has indicated that they will advertise for more staff in August 2017.

Tight budgetary position

This remains a risk, though so far has been mitigated by Australian aid support for maintenance, and salaries have been paid on time.

New initiatives

Despite various new initiatives, partnership staff helped to ensure quality-teaching outcomes and meet MEPP teaching shortfalls in the period in three ways: i) partnership seconded staff (i.e. Associate Professor Martin Davies), ii) supplementary payments for extra coursework teaching (i.e. Dr Marcel Schröder), and iii) salary top-up for sessional lecturing in SBPP (i.e. Dr Francis Odhuno, NRI).

Staffing and recruitment

We highlight one additional risk. While we are keen for staff to stay for as long as possible, we recognize that with family and other constraints and opportunities, some staff may only stay for one or two years. We need to mitigate turnover and hiring risks by making the jobs as attractive as possible, and undertaking regular hiring rounds. Extension of the project will be critical to hire new staff going forward.

7 Conclusion

In the first half of 2017, the partnership made great strides, transcending the challenges of 2016 and revealing the transformative effect its program activities are having within SBPP and for the wider Precinct initiative. This sense of possibility this creates is apparent in the period even with the constraints imposed on ANU staff and our UPNG counterparts due to the compressed 2016/17 academic years.

Teaching by ANU partnership staff at UPNG was exemplary, in both undergraduate courses and the new MEPP program. Research and outreach activities significantly exceeded those anticipated in the period, with ANU-based staff at UPNG building on the collaborative research base established in 2016, greater involvement by UPNG counterparts in conferences and more outreach and engagement activities at UPNG and ANU.

The hard evidence we have collected of impact is reassuring and provides a strong evidence-base on which the project can more forward.

The second half of 2017 promises to deliver more, with two semesters to complete and the PNG Update in August bringing together more than 70 speakers (in keynotes and parallel sessions) on a diverse range of topics of contemporary relevance to Papua New Guinea and its peoples.

While the School and UPNG more broadly faces many challenges, over the past six months project partners and key partnership stakeholders have demonstrated just how much can be achieved with determination, commitment and perseverance. We are grateful to our partners at UPNG and our counterparts at PGF and AHC for their continued support as we seek to firm up these gains.

List of Annexes

- Annex 1a: Undergraduate student feedback on courses and lecturers
- Annex 1b: MEPP student feedback on courses and lecturers
- Annex 2: Results report for the 2016 ANU Economics Exam
- Annex 3a: Student survey (draft)
- Annex 3b: PNG Update evaluation form (draft)
- Annex 4: PNG-related Devpolicy blog posts (1 January 30 June 2017)
- Annex 5: Project travel (1 January 30 June 2017)
- Annex 6: Asset register (at 1 August 2017)

Annex 1a: Course and lecturer evaluations for Semester 2, 2016 (undergrad)

The two tables that follow provide an overview of student evaluations in Economics and Public Policy Management for courses convened by ANU staff in second semester of the 2016 UPNG Academic Year (November 2016 to March 2017). They used ANU evaluation forms, which separately evaluate courses and lecturers on a scale from 1 to 5, where any score rated 4 and above is considered very good and any score 4.5 and above is considered outstanding. The average score of our lecturers in second semester 2016 was 4.7 for satisfaction with overall quality of undergraduate teaching and 4.3 for student learning experience. These are very high scores. By comparison, ANU College averages for learning experience at the ANU range from 3.6 to 4.2. On the teaching side, every course returned a score of 4.5 or more for quality of teaching. This is remarkable. The evaluation response rate was 67%. Anything above 50% is considered to be a good response rate at ANU.

Lecturer evaluation

Questions	Decentral'n Policy (Currie)	Policy M&E (Ugyel)	Intermed. Macro (Schröder)	Quantitative Economics II (Schröder)	Economic Policy (Pandey)	Applied Eco. & Bus Stats (Pandey)	
The lecturer taught in a way that supported my learning	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.2	4.8	4.6	
The lecturer stimulated my interest in the subject	4.9	4.5	4.3	4.3	4.8	4.5	
The lecturer effectively used illustrations and examples	5.0	4.7	4.1	4.2	4.8	4.6	
The presentation of lectures was at a suitable pace to assist my learning	4.7	4.0	4.4	4.2	4.4	4.5	
The lecturer actively encouraged student questions and participation	4.7	4.5	4.4	4.3	5.0	5.0	
Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of teaching	4.8	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.9	

Course evaluation (learning experience)

Questions	Decentral'n Policy (Currie)	Policy M&E (Ugyel)	Intermed. Macro (Schröder)	Quantitative Economics II (Schröder)	Economic Policy (Pandey)	Applied Eco & Bus. Stats (Pandey)
I had a clear idea of what was expected of me in this course	4.5	3.9	4.1	4.0	4.4	3.7
The teaching and learning activities (eg. lectures, tutorials, field trips) supported my learning	4.6	4.1	4.3	4.2	4.3	4.4
I had ready access to the learning opportunities provided in this course (notes, online materials, library resources, fieldtrips)	4.5	4.4	4.3	3.9	4.5	4.2
The assessment was appropriate given the goals of the course	4.7	4.4	4.0	4.0	4.6	4.2
The feedback I received during the course supported my learning	4.6	4.2	3.9	4.0	4.5	4.3
Overall, I was satisfied with my learning experience in this course	4.7	4.2	4.3	4.1	4.5	4.2

The final table provides an overview of student numbers and breakdown by gender and disability for courses in Economics and Public Policy Management convened by ANU staff in second semester of the 2016 UPNG Academic Year (November 2016 to March 2017). It also includes student response rates for this evaluation process.

Students (by course) being taught by ANU staff at UPNG in second semester 2016

Course	Lecturer	Year level	Female students	Male students	Student with disability	Total students (responses)	Evaluation response rate
Intermediate Macroeconomics	Schröder	2 nd	12	7	0	19 (15)	79%
Quantitative Economics II	Schröder	3 rd	12	11	0	23 (20)	87%
Policy Monitoring and Evaluation	Ugyel	3 rd	16	39	0	56 (31)	55%
Decentralisation Policy	Currie	3 rd	30	55	0	85 (55)	65%
Economic Policy	Pandey	4 th	10	18	0	28 (17)	61%
Applied Economics & Business Statistics	Pandey	4 th	12	11	0	23 (17)	74%
Total student numbers			91	140	0	233	67%

Annex 1b: Course and lecturer evaluations for Trimester 1, 2017 (MEPP)

The two tables that follow provide an overview of student evaluations for the first trimester of the new Master of Economics and Public Policy. In the first trimester (March to June 2017), three core courses were offered in the MEPP; two were taught by ANU staff at UPNG, the third by a researcher from NRI. The assessments below use ANU evaluation forms, which separately evaluate courses and lecturers. The scales are out of 5. Any score rated 4 and above is considered very good; any score 4.5 and above is considered outstanding. The average score of our ANU MEPP lecturers (Watson and Ugyel) for satisfaction with overall quality of teaching is 4.6, and for the learning experience is 4.7. These are high scores. ANU College averages for learning experience at the ANU range from 3.6 to 4.2. The evaluation response rate was 89%. At ANU anything above 50% is considered a good response rate.

Lecturer evaluation

Questions	Governance and Institutions (Watson)	Quantitative Research Methods (Odhuno)	Issues in Public Sector Management (Ugyel)
The lecturer taught in a way that supported my learning	4.6	4.4	4.5
The lecturer stimulated my interest in the subject	4.4	4.5	4.3
The lecturer effectively used illustrations and examples	4.4	4	3.1
The presentation of lectures was at a suitable pace to assist my learning	4.9	4.3	3.9
The lecturer actively encouraged student questions and participation	4.6	3.9	4.1
Overall, I was satisfied with the quality of teaching	4.8	4.6	4.3

Course evaluation (learning experience)

Questions	Governance and Institutions (Watson)	Quantitative Research Methods (Odhuno)	Issues in Public Sector Management (Ugyel)
I had a clear idea of what was expected of me in this course	4.5	4.3	4.5
The teaching and learning activities (eg. lectures, tutorials, field trips) supported my learning	4.9	4.6	4.4
I had ready access to the learning opportunities provided in this course (notes, online materials, library resources, fieldtrips)	4.9	4.5	3.9
The assessment was appropriate given the goals of the course	4.6	4.3	4.4
The feedback I received during the course supported my learning	5	4.3	4.9
Overall, I was satisfied with my learning experience in this course	4.8	4.3	4.6

Annex 2: Results report for the 2016 ANU Economics Exam

Introduction

This summary reports on results for the annual ANU Economics Exam at UPNG. The 2016 ANU Economics Exam was actually held on 23 February 2017 due to the disruptions to the 2016 academic year. A second ANU Economics Exam was run in the period (14 June 2017), exclusively for third-year students as part of the selection process in economics for the 2018 Summer School.

The ANU has run an annual exam in economics at UPNG since 2013. Student participation in this exam is voluntary. Students who sit the exam are almost exclusively third or fourth year economics majors.

The purpose of the annual economics exam is threefold:

- 1. assist with the ranking and selection of candidates for the annual ANU-UPNG Scholarship in Economics under the partnership program;
- 2. provide an objective measure of the ability of a student cohort in a given year; and
- 3. provide a measure of the effect of ANU's partnership with UPNG on student performance over time: since 2015, ANU lecturers have been teaching economics at UPNG.

The exam tests basic math (calculus, short answers), microeconomics (short answers) and macroeconomics (long answer). As of 2014, the exams have been designed to be comparable over time by retaining this structure of 'math, micro, macro' questions. In 2013, the exam did not have a long-answer macro question. The standard is (roughly) comparable to what would be expected of second year students at the ANU.

Comparisons to previous years



Figure 1: Exam participant numbers 2013-2016

Figure 1 shows the total number, and break-up of exam participants since the first exam was conducted in 2013. In some years a few graduates have taken the ANU exam. This was because one of the original goals of the exam was to identify candidates who may be suitable for an Australia award, and provide a

reference for their application. However, graduate scores have been removed from the analysis so that undergraduate results can be compared over time.

The average score in the 2016 Exam was 45 out of 100 (see Figure 2). This represents an improvement of about 10 percentage points on previous years, where the average score was 35 (Figure 2). The median shows a similar improvement. Clearly, there is a long way to go, but the trend is encouraging.

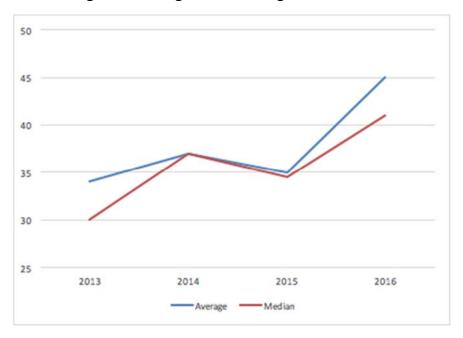


Figure 2: Average and median grade 2013-2016

While average scores may be affected by variable student turnout for the voluntary exam, we can assume with reasonable confidence that in each year, the top handful of students from each year took the exam, due to the rewards on offer for top students (i.e. scholarship). This means that we can be more confident in comparisons of the *top* students than *all* students across years. Compared with previous years, high performing students performed better in 2016 than ever (Figure 3). The average score of the top 10 students shows improvement of over 15 percentage points in 2016 compared with previous years.

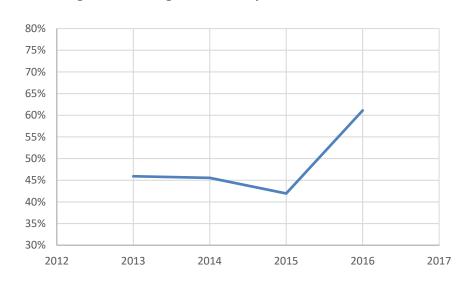


Figure 3: Average score of top 10 students 2013-2016

In 2016, the top 5 students scored higher than all bar one student from 2013 to 2015. Also, a larger percentage of students passed the exam in 2016 (29% of students passed the exam in 2016, compared to the 2013-2015 average of 12%). In all earlier years combined only two students got above 60%. This year 21% (5 students) did (Figure 4).

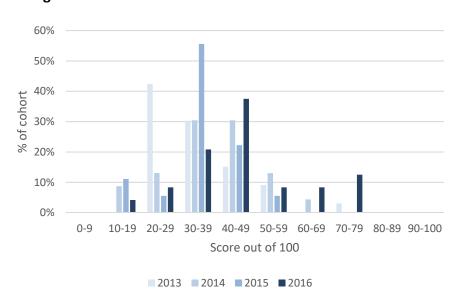


Figure 4: Distribution of total candidate scores 2013 – 2016

Conclusion

The fact that this exam is voluntary limits the representativeness and comparability of results. That said, the exam shows clear signs of improved performance, including among the better-performing students, who would be expected to take the exam each year. The 2016 exam provides clear evidence of improved learning outcomes in economics at UPNG.

ANU lecturers have been teaching at UPNG since 2015. It is interesting that we do not see an impact till the second year. This is probably because it takes time to have an impact and because the number of students taught by ANU staff in 2015 in core quantitative subjects was limited. There has also been a modest increase in the number of UPNG economics staff, which had fallen as low as one staff member in at one time in 2015. In 2016, staff numbers rose to three, but is has returned to two staff members only, so further increases are needed.

Despite the progress made, there are considerable challenges ahead: including the need for the average grade for students taking the exam to be a pass mark or higher.

It is not feasible to make this exam compulsory – nor is there any guarantee that students forced to take the exam would put in significant effort. Despite its limitations, we think that the exam is a valuable evaluation tool, and plan to continue with it on an annual basis.

Annex 3a: Student survey (draft)

The Australian National University (ANU) has a partnership with the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) under which it provides lecturers in economics and public policy and collaborates in research and outreach. The purpose of this survey is to obtain students' feedback on the ANU-UPNG partnership.

The survey consists of three sections. **Section A** questions are background information; **Section B** includes questions on ANU lecturers and teaching materials; and **Section C** questions address ANU-UPNG Research Collaboration and Outreach opportunities.

The survey uses the 'likert scale', a scale from 1 to 7, where 1 is strongly disagree and 7 is strongly agree. Simply circle your preferred number when answering the questions below.

All the information provided will be kept confidential. If there is any question/s you feel uncomfortable in answering, please just leave those questions blank.

Section A: General information

1.	What is your gender? (circle) M / F	
2.	What year are you in?	
3.	What is your major?	
4.	Are enrolled in undergraduate or postgraduate studies?	_
5.	Are you a School-leaver or an Executive student?	
6.	Which is your home Province?	

Section B: ANU lecturers and teaching materials

7. ANU lecturers have been based at UPNG, teaching courses in Economics and Public Policy since 2015. Please indicate the number of courses completed with each ANU lecturer by name. If you have not completed any courses with an ANU lecturer, please write an 'X' in the 'None' row.

ANU lecturer	Course(s) by name
Dr Amanda Watson	
Dr Lhawang Ugyel	
Dr Manoj Pandey	

Dr Marcel Schroder	
Mr Michael Cornish	
Mr Rohan Fox	
Ms Tatia Currie	
None	

In the questions below, 1 is strongly disagree and 7 is strongly agree. Simply circle your preferred number when answering the questions below.

	Strongly Disagree					Strongly Agree	
8. ANU lecturers are knowledgeable in Economics and Public Policy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
 ANU lecturers are approachable and available to assist students 	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10. The provision of learning materials by ANU lecturers has improved my learning experience	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11. Exposure to ANU lecturers has had a positive impact on my learning experience	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

12. How did you access learning materials from your ANU lecturer? Please indicate by ticking the appropriate boxes.

Learning materials	
ANU e-library (wifi)	
Email	
Facebook	

Lecture slides				
Printed handouts				
UPNG Somare e-library (W drive)				
USB soft copies from lecturer				
Other				
13. Is there any written feedback on AN	NU lecture	rs you would	like to give?	
14. What improvements could be made	e by ANU I	ecturers?		

Section C: ANU-UPNG Research Collaboration and Outreach

15. Since 2014, ANU and UPNG have co-hosted the annual PNG Update event which showcases PNG related research topics. Have you attended any of the PNG Updates? If you have, please indicate which ones below. If you have not attended any, please indicate with an 'X' in the box marked 'None".

2017	PNG: After the Elections	
2016	Sustaining development beyond the resources boom	
2015	Development challenges in the LNG era	
2014	PNG's economic outlook	
None		

In the questions below, 1 is strongly disagree and 7 is strongly agree. Simply circle your preferred number when answering the questions below.

	Strongly Disagree					Strongly Agree		
16. Attending the PNG Update improved my awareness of PNG and global policy issues	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
17. Exposure to research presentations at PNG Update influenced my own research interests and studies	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

18. In addition to ANU staff lecturing at UPNG, visiting ANU academics present occasional research seminars at UPNG on PNG-related topics. These are open to students. Please indicate whether you have attended a seminar or presentation by visiting ANU staff and Development Policy associates between 2015-2017?

Presenter	Topic	Venue	
Ms Rosie Batty	Family and sexual violence: experiences and responses in Australia and Papua New Guinea (2017)	MLT	
Dr Terence Wood	PNG Election database and website launch (2017)	MLT	
Dr Grant Walton	PNG's Tuition Fee Free Education policy (2016)	ALT	

Ms Michelle Rooney	Exploring research gaps in gender, the economy and public policy in Urban areas (2016)	ALT				
Dr Michael Cookson	Writer's workshop (2016/2017)	NRI				
Dr Anthony Swan	Using data for policy development and evaluation (2016)	МВА				
I have not attended any of the above presentations						

19. The Development Policy blog (*Devpolicy.org*) is produced by the ANU and provides a lot of articles relevant to PNG.

Have you read any *Devpolicy.org* articles that feature PNG policy issues? (circle) Yes / No

20. If you have read a Devpolicy.org article on PNG, how did you access it?

ANU lecturer provided article as course reading	
Article was on the ANU-UPNG notice board in SBPP corridor	
I found the article online at <i>Devpolicy.org</i>	
I receive daily Devpolicy articles by email	
I have never read any <i>Devpolicy.org</i> articles	

21. In addition to lecturing and research seminars at UPNG, ANU staff are involved in student outreach activities aimed at improving students' overall learning experience at UPNG, as well as raising awareness around PNG-related issues. One example is the weekly PNG Inspired movie nights screened on Wednesday evenings at the MLT. Have you attended any of the **PNG Inspired** documentary film nights screened at MLT?

(circle) Yes / No

22. Please indicate with an 'X' in the right column which films you have attended

DATE	FILMS	
19/4/17	Baraka	
26/4/17	Angels of War	
3/5/17	a) Never Give Up (Western Province)	
	b) Driving the Change	
10/5/17	a) Lapan (Manus)	
	b) Lost Land of the Volcano - Episode 1	
17/5/17	a) One More Chance	
	b) Lost Land of the Volcano - Episode 2	
24/5/17	a) Voice of Change (Bougainville)	
	b) Lost Land of the Volcano Episode 3	
7/6/17	Canning Paradise	
14/6/17	Betelnut Bisnis	
28/6/17	a) Path to Nationhood	
	b) Meri Markham (Morobe)	
5/7/17	TO BE CONFIRMED	
28/6/17	a) Hapsait Long Maunten: HIV na AIDS long Porgera	
	b) Mama Betty (Southern Highlands)	
	c) Paul's Big Heart	
	d) Yu Ken Mekim (Goroka)	
5/7/17	a) Moresby Modern: A New Generation for PNG?	
	b) Save Meri Skulim Meri (Port Moresby)	
ТВС	a) Man Without Pigs	
	b) Minister Without Money	

In the questions below, 1 is strongly disagree and 7 is strongly agree.	Simply circle your preferred number
when answering the questions below.	

	Stron Disag							Strongly Agree
23. Attending the PNG Inspired documentary film nights improved my awareness on PNG issues	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
24. Attending the PNG Inspired documentary film nights improved my awareness on global issues	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
25. Have you requested a reference lette (circle) Yes / No	r for potential e	mploym	nent fro	m an A	NU lec	turer?		
Is there any written feedback you wo	uld like give on	ANU-UP	'NG res	earch c	ollabor	ation a	nd outr	each?
Do you have any suggestions for us, a particular topics you would like to see		Ipdate, s	seminar	rs, films	or any	thing e	lse? Are	e there any
3. Do you have any final comments on t like to see as part of the ANU-UPNG p		oartners	hip? Is	there a	ınythin	g in par	ticular	you would

Annex 3b: PNG Update evaluation form (draft)

EVALUATION FORM - 2017 PNG UPDATE (10-11 August 2017)

Dear Participant,

We would like to thank you for your involvement in the PNG Update 2017 conference.

Please rate using the following criterion (1-Very Poor, 2-Poor, 3-Average, 4-Good, 5-Excellent)

Your feedback is greatly appreciated.

Criterion	Day	1, 1	0 Au	gust	t	Day 2, 11 August					
	Bac	i		G	ood	Bad		i	Good		ood
Overall quality of the Update	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
2. Update objectives are clear	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
3. Topics discussed are relevant to my organization	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
4. Knowledge gained will be useful in my work/research	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
5. Presentations were informative and well clustered	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
6. Presentations had practical applications for policymakers	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
7. Organisation of conference and related events	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
8. Venue and facilities	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5
9. Catering	1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5

1.	What were the highlights of the conference for you?
2.	How did you hear about the Update? (UPNG student/staff; newspaper; presenter; other)
3.	In what capacity did you attend the Update? (Presenter, academic, government rep., etc)
4.	Do you normally live in Port Moresby? If not, then where?

5. Were there topics or themes not presented this year you'd like see in the 2018 Update?

6. Will you apply knowledge gained at this event to your work or research? If so, how?
7. Would you like to comments on any specific sessions, presenters, or speakers?
8. Have you attended previous Updates? (Please circle responses) YES / NO If YES, which years? 2014 2015 2016 If YES, how did this Update compare to Updates in previous years?
9. Do you have any comments on the length of the conference or number of parallel sessions?
10. Do you have any comments or suggestions that would help us improve future conferences?
Thank you for your participation in this evaluation. Your feedback will be used to improve future PNG Updates. If you have queries regarding this survey, please contact Dr Michael Cookson (michael.cookson@anu.edu.au), Dr Albert Prabhakar (prabhakar@upng.ac.pg) or Mr Rohan Fox (rohan.fox@anu.edu.au).
OPTIONAL (please provide contact details for more information about future PNG-related events):
Name:
Affiliation:
Email:
Mobile:

Annex 4: PNG blogs posted to Devpolicy.org (1 January – 30 June 2017)

Title (with hyperlink)	Date of pub.
Stories and memories of Port Moresby	9 January
Pacific Predictions: what will 2017 hold for the Pacific?	11 January
The beginning of the end of "free education" in PNG?	12 January
First in class: PNG student migration to Australia	19 January
Papua New Guinea stumbles to an election	24 January
PNG in 2017: a year of redefining democracy?	27 January
Does PNG rank highly for Internet porn searches?	31 January
How recruitment and selection can shape seasonal work programs: comparing Fiji and Papua New Guinea	2 February
Improving the electoral chances of Melanesian women: an evidence-based approach	6 February
What future for PNG economics students? Findings from a graduate exit survey	8 February
Research on anti-corruption messages and sharing education findings in PNG	23 February
How much is PNG's kina overvalued?	24 February
Principles of Family Law in Papua New Guinea: a reflective review	3 March
Supporting health service delivery in New Ireland: an evaluation of ADI health patrols	7 March
The Papua New Guinea Election Results Database	16 March
Telecommunication and broadcasting regulation in Papua New Guinea - in conversation with the regulator	21 March
The fight against TB begins with protecting health care workers	24 March
Budgetary data in PNG: taking the long view	27 March
The violence engendered on Manus Island cannot be ignored	31 March
Cash or program aid - a delicate balance	3 April
PNG at 40: reflecting on the past to build a solid future for Papua New Guinea	6 April
Aid advisers in Papua New Guinea: a partial solution	18 April
Do anticorruption messages work? Findings so far and what they could mean for Papua New Guinea	20 April

Aid advisers in Papua New Guinea: a full solution	24 April
Significance of the centenary: history and commemoration of the Kokoda Campaign in Papua New Guinea	25 April
Revenue falls for a second year in a row in PNG	28 April
Did changing electoral systems change election results in PNG?	2 May
Has LPV helped women candidates in PNG?	4 May
Midwifery and maternal health in Papua New Guinea	5 May
Rubi Miranka and the Bougainville Healthy Community Programme	9 May
As election looms, PNG political parties should consider supporting informal economy	17 May
The future starts today	19 May
Corporate philanthropy in Papua New Guinea – in conversation with the Digicel Foundation	30 May
PACER Plus is not much to celebrate	5 June
Candidate numbers fall in PNG elections in 2017	8 June
Day of judgement: PNG and the O'Neill Government	9 June
Media fail! Papua New Guinean women deserve better from the media	14 June
Electoral Women candidate numbers up in PNG	15 June
Corruption in PNG: caught between the law and a hard place	19 June
Some challenges for voters in PNG's 2017 general election	23 June
Voices from the war: PNG stories of the Kokoda Campaign	27 June
Labour supply challenges in the horticultural industry	29 June
Decentralisation and the potential for corruption in PNG	30 June

Annex 5: Project travel (1 January - 30 June 2017)

[Removed from online version of this report for privacy reasons.]

Annex 6: Asset register (at 30 June 2017)

This register lists items purchased for the project with a value of more than \$2,000, as per Section 8 of the Grant Agreement.

Purchase date	Item description	Price (AUD)	Item location
14 October 2016	Public address System SBPP UPNG	2,847.16	Stored in Executive offices, SBPP
13 October 2016	Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS)	6,168.36	Hard-wire installed into Computer Lab, SBPP