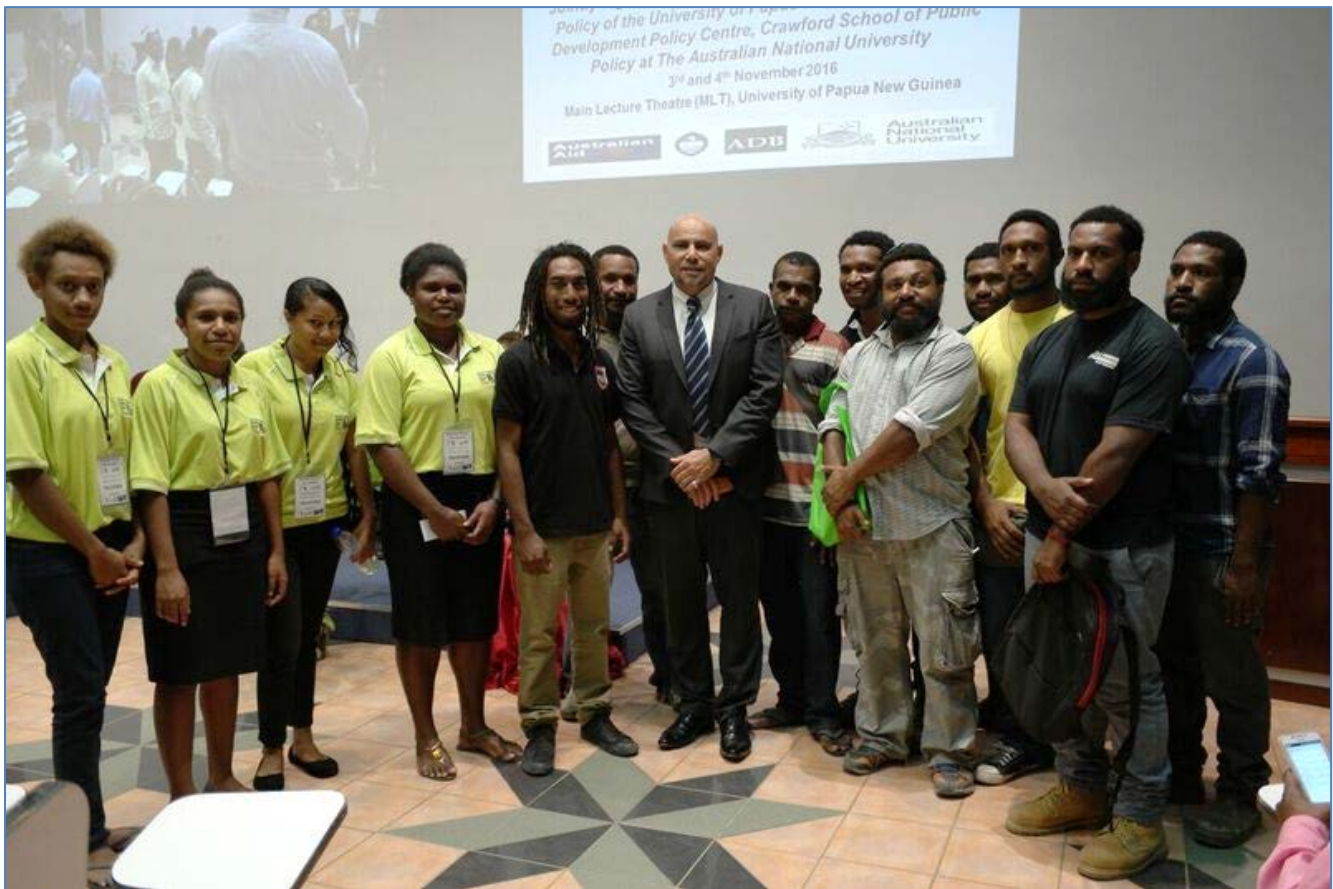


ANU Crawford - UPNG SBPP Partnership

Six-monthly Report (December 2016)



Cover photograph (by Rohan Fox): UPNG economics students meet The Hon. Charles Abel, Minister for National Planning, after his keynote address at the 2016 PNG Update, 3 November 2016.

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Acronyms

ANU	Australian National University
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
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
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	National Research Institute
PGF	Papua New Guinea Governance Facility (managed by Abt Associates)
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PNG-IPA	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)
SoTP	State of the Pacific (ANU Pacific regional conference)
UN	United Nations
UPNG	University of Papua New Guinea

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.

2. Executive summary

The Crawford ANU-SBPP UPNG Partnership regained its momentum in the second-half of 2016. The four-month teaching hiatus that followed the student boycott of 2 May 2016 at UPNG slowed progress but also provided opportunities for research and a breakthrough in curriculum development, with the approval of a new Masters in Economics and Business Policy. This along with the resumption of teaching at UPNG in early September, the holding of the PNG Update in November 2016, and a full complement of ANU staff recruited by the end of 2016 augur well for the future of the project.

Faculty strengthening

First semester 2016 began strongly with four ANU staff in place at UPNG teaching five courses (total of 186 male and 103 female students) across the Divisions of Economics and Public until the student boycott suspended classes in early May. The break in the teaching program provided significant opportunities for ANU's UPNG staff to help develop a new graduate degree program at SBPP. During the second half of the year, they also implemented initiatives to improve teaching and research quality, increase student engagement and to link students with potential employers. In early September, teaching resumed at UPNG and ANU staff completed their five first semester courses at the end of October. Second semester classes began a week later on 7 November and paused for the Christmas break on 16 December 2016. The project ended its transition phase with the return, as planned, to Australia of the two junior staff who had been at UPNG since 2015, and the arrival of more senior replacements to take the project staffing size to full strength.

Collaborative research and outreach

The partnership supported significant research undertakings in 2016 related to PNG's education and health policies, its roads and infrastructure development and its economy. This work was able to proceed in spite of disruptions to teaching at UPNG from early May. ANU and UPNG staff communicated research at regional conferences in July and September and at the PNG Update (the partnership's flagship research collaboration) in early November. In Canberra, the Development Policy Centre hosted two seminars by high-level PNG officials and published 34 blogs on PNG-related research as part of our outreach efforts.

Faculty and student exchanges. ANU visiting researchers gave several workshops and seminars at SBPP in the second half of 2016 and UPNG staff attended two regional conferences, one at the University of the South Pacific (USP) and the other at ANU. Student exchange activity in the period focussed on preparations for the arrival at ANU of the first two scholarship awardees under the partnership. The planned 2017 Summer School was cancelled due to the student boycott.

Partnership management in the second half of 2016 saw with the successful novation of ANU's grant agreement with Palladium to Abt Associates. This novation provides greater certainty for project management and timeframes with the grant agreement now running through to December 2018. Partnership management liaised closely with staff at the Australian High Commission in Port Moresby during the student boycott and with Abt to manage the transition.

Project costs in the second half of the year were at 72% of our revised second-half year budget for 2016 owing in large measure to the postponement of various activities related to student disruption. 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 second half of 2016.

3.1 Faculty strengthening

ANU staff at UPNG taught five courses in the Division of Economics and the Division of Public Policy Management in September to October to complete first semester 2016 and six courses from November to mid-December, before second semester paused for the Christmas break. They also implemented initiatives to improve teaching and research quality, increase student engagement and to link students with potential employers.

3.1.1 Visiting faculty

Mr **Rohan Fox**, who left PNG in June 2016 shortly after the student boycott began (to continue partnership work in Canberra), generously agreed to return to UPNG's Division of Economics in early September to teach *Quantitative Economics I* (3rd year) and *Principles of Microeconomics* (2nd year). Rohan also engaged in research on PNG's exchange rate and ran several workshops at UPNG in the second half of 2016 (see section 3.2.1). Rohan returned again to ANU in early November and continues with the partnership as a Program and Research Officer based in Canberra.

Ms **Tatia Currie** assumed the role of PNG-based Partnership Coordinator in mid-2016, replacing Rohan Fox in this position. Tatia taught *Public Policy Development* (2nd year) for first semester before and after the hiatus in teaching and has been involved in the health and education service delivery research with UPNG counterparts (Ms Denise Lokinap and Mr Peter Kanaparo). She began teaching a new course on *Decentralisation Policy* (3rd year) which will continue through to the end of second semester in March 2017.

Dr **Manoj Pandey** completed his first semester *Econometrics* course. In November, he began teaching two fourth-year courses in *Economic Policy* (4th year) and *Business Statistics* (4th year), and spearheaded the joint ANU-UPNG 2016 PNG Economic Survey.

Dr **Lhawang Ugyel** arrived in the Division of Public Policy Management (PPM) in July 2016 and immediately began to pursue discussions with UPNG colleagues related to research on PNG public administration (with Mr Emmanuel Gorea and Dr Lawrence Sause). In the first few months of his time at UPNG, he also provided substantial inputs to the process of creating SBPP's new Masters in Economics and Public Policy (MEPP) degree. His experience of teaching students enrolled in equivalent masters-level programs in Economics and Public Policy at the Crawford School at ANU has been invaluable to this

process. In November, Lhawang began teaching *Policy Monitoring and Evaluation*, a second semester course for third-year students in PPM.

Dr **Marcel Schröder** joined the Division of Economics at UPNG in August and assumed teaching of the first semester *International Economics* (3rd year) course. In second semester, he began teaching *Intermediate Macroeconomics* (2nd year) and *Quantitative Economics II* (3rd year). He also completed research on the PNG exchange rate in collaboration with Rohan Fox.

Dr **Amanda Watson** was recruited in September 2016 to fill the fourth academic slot in ANU's UPNG team, and the second in public policy.

Our ability to fill all the four academic positions with well-respected candidates, all with PhDs, is testimony to the extensive advertising and networking efforts made by the project and by numerous academics at ANU. The ability to transition from the 2015-staff (Rohan Fox, Michael Cornish) to a new and more senior team is also a source of pride. We learnt from Rohan Fox's experience that it is desirable that the position of Project Coordinator should be filled by someone who can also teach, and we are delighted that Ms Currie has been able to take that role.

At the end of 2016, we assigned the Team Leader role to Dr Manoj Pandey. This is a Moresby-based non-supervisory, leadership position that was always envisaged to be part of the project but which we had not been able to fill earlier due to challenges associated with transition and disruption.

3.1.2 Lecturing

The table below indicates the first semester courses convened, taught and tutored by ANU staff at UPNG and the students taught in each course. First semester 2016 ran from late February to 2 May (student boycott began) and resumed again early-September and concluded late-October 2016.

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

Course	Lecturer	Year level	Female students	Male students	Student with disability	Total students
Econometrics	Pandey	4 th	8	17	0	25
International Economics	Schröder	3 rd	11	12	0	23
Principles of Micro Economics	Schröder	2 nd	44	78	0	122
Quantitative Economics I	Fox	3 rd	21	25	0	46
Public Policy Development	Currie	2 nd	32	75	1	107
Total student numbers			116	207	1	323

The following table indicates the second semester courses convened, taught and tutored by ANU staff at UPNG and the students taught in each course. These courses began on 7 November and will conclude in late March 2017.

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	9	18	0	27
Applied Economics & Business Statistics	Pandey	4 th	12	10	0	22
Total student numbers			91	140	0	231

As teaching was interrupted well before the end of first semester, student feedback on teaching performance is limited and it was impracticable, due to pressures of time, to gather full student feedback after the initial student boycott of 2 May 2016. However, we have evidence from three mid-semester evaluations (see Jan-Jun report) and one end-of-semester evaluation (Annex 1). Responses were similarly positive to those in 2015.

3.1.3 Initiatives to improve teaching

Curriculum development

The ANU team provided substantial assistance in the second half of 2016 in developing a combined UPNG Masters in Economics and Public Policy (MEPP) degree. The new MEPP was approved by UPNG Council in late November and will be offered from 2017. The degree will be offered in a three-term (tri-semester) academic year over two years. It will have a strong professional development focus and target fee-paying public sector employees seeking to strengthen their understanding and credentials of these key fields. We anticipate that ANU staff at UPNG will continue to be involved in implementation of the MEPP in 2017/2018.

Academic induction programs

ANU staff prepared an induction pack for new tutors in the Division of Economics. SBPP has contributed to this process and the pack will be used as part of an induction process for new and recently engaged tutors at the start of the 2017 academic year.

IT Infrastructure

ANU staff assisted SBPP with several key IT infrastructure initiatives in the second half of 2016.

Rohan Fox, working in consultation with Mr William Tapio, UPNG's ICT Director, helped SBPP identify an appropriate Network Assisted Storage (NAS) System for the School. The NAS System is a low cost option (around AUD\$400) that provides SBPP staff and students effective and secure file sharing and backup via

Wi-Fi routers without reliance on the Internet (which is often slow or intermittent at UPNG). This system is now in place in the School and used on a daily basis.

ANU staff at UPNG and in Canberra also helped facilitate a donation of 22 near-new computers to SBPP by the Lowy Institute. These machines were received by SBPP on 9 September 2016 and are now installed in the SBPP computer lab. ANU helped arrange the purchase and installation of an uninterrupted power supply for the entire SBPP computer lab in October 2016; this system now protects all the computers in the lab from black outs and brown outs that would otherwise result in damage to equipment and/or loss of data and disruptions to classes.

Computer-based learning

The computer lab is a hub of learning in SBPP. ANU's UPNG staff used the lab extensively in first and second semester teaching in 2016, for training in Excel, statistical analysis software (i.e. STATA) and occasional workshops.

Academic staff training and development

Dr. Manoj Pandey's three-year program of staff training and development at UPNG (refer to previous 6-monthly report for more detail), begun in early 2016, was suspended in early May, and resumed again in early August. These weekly sessions, delivered to a core group of 17 SBPP staff members, continued until mid-October, but had to be suspended due to the pressures associated with semester rescheduling.

3.1.4 Engaging students and building links with employers

Partnership staff at UPNG continued their successful 'Economics Inspired' series, mentored individual students and provided patronage to the UPNG Economics Students Society until the student boycott in early May brought an end to teaching and curtailed staff-student interactions.

UPNG Economics Students Society and UPNG Public Policy Management Student Association

The Economics Students Society (ESS) was well supported by ANU academic staff at UPNG in 2015 and until the student boycott in early May 2016. The resumption of teaching at UPNG in early September has gone a long way to normalising staff-student relations and in late 2016, Dr Manoj Pandey was approached by the new ESS leadership to become the new patron of the Society – taking over from Michael Cornish, a former partnership faculty member. ANU staff in Public Policy Management also established a rapport with the Public Policy Management Student Association (PPMSA) in the second-half of 2016.

Careers outreach and graduate outlook

ANU staff support for student career related training and assistance in job placements was significantly disrupted in the second half of 2016; staff-student interactions were limited during the shut-down

period at UPNG (early May – late August) and from early September staff and students alike have been playing catch-up with teaching and study. This situation has changed somewhat since late November, with ANU staff at UPNG (notably Rohan Fox and Manoj Pandey) responding to requests from dozens of students for job references for 2017.

UPNG's graduates typically disperse quickly after university and maintaining contact with them proves extremely difficult. Michael Cornish has finalised a graduate tracing study that has been published as a discussion paper with the Development Policy Centre. Rohan Fox has established a Facebook page for UPNG Economics alumni that will help connect with recent graduates (at the end of 2016, this page had 17 members). We want to be able to trace the career pathways of SBPP graduates in the future.

3.2 Collaborative research and outreach

The research and outreach component of the project made significant gains throughout 2016, in spite of the instability at UPNG and the repeated postponement of the partnership's flagship event, the PNG Update. Collaborative fieldwork activities and follow-up data analysis between ANU and UPNG academics complimented workshops and other outreach activities during the year. Outputs from this research were presented in a plenary session at the PNG Update held on 3-4 November 2016 at UPNG in Port Moresby.

3.2.1 Research workshops

Four workshops and a weekly training session were held during second-half of 2016 as summarised in the table below. These activities were intended to strengthen the research capacity of UPNG-SBPP academics and other PNG researchers and to improve communication and outreach for the PNG Update.

Summary of workshops and training by ANU staff in the second half of 2016

Training Title	Date	SBPP participants	Location
Staff quantitative training (weekly)	Aug-Oct	20	Comp. Lab
Using survey software in teaching/research	12 Oct	13 (of 17)	Comp. Lab
Online research methods (and free data sources)	13 Oct	8 (of 11)	Comp. Lab
NBC preparatory workshop for PNG Update	14 Oct	0	MBA Suite
Policy Impact Evaluation short-course	1-2 Nov	3	Comp. Lab

Quantitative Training (staff development)

Discussed above. See Section 3.1.3.

Survey and research software and survey design

Rohan Fox ran a workshop on survey software for research, which reviewed survey design and other useful software with research applications. The workshop was open for all of university, and received

participants from natural and social sciences. Five females and twelve males participated.

Online research methods & data collection

Rohan Fox ran a research workshop that went through free sources of academic literature and data online. It also introduced participants to a specially created customised Google search created by the presenter that specifically searches PNG relevant pages and websites hosting thousands of free academic articles. Six females and five males participated in the workshop.

Media workshop on the PNG Update, economics and public policy

Rohan Fox also ran a workshop in the lead up to the PNG Update. In this workshop, NBC employees were introduced to the format of the PNG Update so that they can cover the talks on radio, and do interviews with the speakers. Additionally, Manoj Pandey, Lhawang Ugyel and Rohan Fox gave presentations on the PNG economy and public administration and time was given for interviews after the presentations. The workshop aimed was to support the Precinct's key objective of promoting awareness of economic and public policy issues in PNG by broadcasting the presentations of (and interviews with) key speakers at the Update. The workshop also provided an opportunity for UPNG staff coordinating the Update to be appraised of the technical needs of NBC staff covering the event. Three females and two males participated in the workshop.

Connections have now been made between ANU academics, and NBC economics and finance reporters and the breakfast show host Stephen Mase. In early November 2016, Mase covered the PNG Update on his breakfast radio show and in that month interviewed several ANU staff about their collaborative teaching and research in PNG.

Policy Impact Evaluation short-course

Dr Anthony Swan convened a short-course in **Policy Impact Evaluation** (using data to answer policy questions and evaluate policy) from 1-2 November 2016. The aim of this course was to raise the ability of participants to identify and use data to support the development of evidenced-based policy. The course described the uses and limitations of different data sources relevant to policymaking in PNG, and provided step-by-step tutorials on data analysis using freely available statistical software. The course also provided an overview of basic statistical analysis focusing on the assumptions, purpose and limitations of techniques, rather than formulae and equations. It gave particular emphasis on issues related to sample selection and demonstrating causality of relationships. An innovative aspect of the course was that it allowed participants the opportunity to access and interrogate social media generated data, such as Twitter data, to inform policy impact. Seven female and nine male staff from UPNG, relevant PNG government agencies and the National Research Institute (NRI) took part in the workshop, as indicated in the table below.

Participants by organization	Participants by number
National Research Institute staff	5
UPNG staff	4
Investment Promotion Authority staff	5
Department of Education staff	1
UN/Department of National Planning	1
<i>Total participants</i>	<i>16</i>

3.2.2 Conferences and seminars

Partnership staff members were extensively involved in preparations for the annual PNG Update early in 2016 and again later in the year. Several ANU-based academics also gave guest seminars at UPNG and partnership staff members assisted UPNG counterparts with their involvement in international fora.

The 2016 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. It is a good example of what the ANU-UPNG partnership can achieve in terms of research, collaboration, public outreach, and dialogue on public policy in PNG. After a period of uncertainty, and after a few false starts, we were delighted to join UPNG in hosting the 2016 PNG Update on 3-4 November at UPNG.

This year's PNG Update, on the theme of "Sustaining development in PNG beyond the resources boom" involved around 500 participants. It featured an inaugural address by His Excellency Bruce Davis, Australian High Commissioner in Papua New Guinea, in which he reflected on the diversity and strategic importance of the Australian – Papua New Guinean relationship and discussed the need to recast the framing of that relationship away from foreign aid, to one that more accurately reflects the reciprocal economic nature of the partnership.



His Excellency Bruce Davis, Australian High Commissioner in Papua New Guinea at the 2016 PNG Update

The Hon. Charles Abel, Minister for National Planning, discussed the importance of PNG's transition to a sustainable economy in his opening address to the Update, and argued that the responsible use of renewable resources is essential if PNG is to sustain growth beyond the resource boom.



Dean Betty Lovai giving a keynote address on 'Women in Leadership' at the 2016 PNG Update

The Update also included three keynote addresses, on women in leadership, superannuation and finance and two plenary sessions which featured collaborative research between ANU and UPNG researchers on the PNG economy and PNG health and education delivery. The program also included 50 papers by researchers with wide-ranging interests in PNG. A highlight of the Update was the powerful and widely reported address by Professor Betty Lovai on Women in Leadership, which is available as a blog post on Devpolicy.org and (along with other Update keynotes) as a podcast via the PNG Update website.



Division of Hospitality students assisting with catering at the 2016 PNG Update

In 2016, the PNG Update was sponsored by the Australian Aid program through the ANU-UPNG partnership grant and by UPNG itself, which contributed 50,000 Kina to the event, indicating its commitment to the conference in spite of its tight fiscal position, and by the Asian Development Bank. The conference paraphernalia, as well as advertising in major PNG newspapers (a significant expense), was carried by UPNG alone. The Update was also very strongly supported by the staff and students in the School of Business and Public Policy, and the wider UPNG community. Many of the 2016 PNG Update presentations are now available online on the conference website at <https://devpolicy.crawford.anu.edu.au/png-and-pacific-updates/png-update>.

Guest seminars



Michelle Rooney presenting her research in the SBPP Seminar Series (24 August 2016)

On Wednesday 10 August, SBPP held its first School-wide Seminar since the end of student teaching on 2 May. This Seminar, presented by Nelson Nema, Manoj Pandey and Win Nicholas, was on the PNG Economy 2015-16 and was attended by 45 members of UPNG faculty (15 female and 30 male members of staff).

Michelle Rooney presented SBPP's second school-wide seminar at UPNG on 24 August. Forty-one UPNG faculty members (27 females and 14 males) attended her presentation on gender, urbanisation, the economy and social policies at UPNG. Michelle also presented her research findings to invited guests at the Australian High Commission (15 attendees, including several UN research staff).

International conferences

Pacific Update, 16-17 July 2016. In July, Prof. Pillai, Win Nicholas and Nelson Nema from UPNG, joined Dr Manoj Pandey, Prof. Stephen Howes and Dr Matthew Dornan at the University of the South Pacific (USP) in Suva for the 2016 Pacific Update. Win and Nelson presented the co-authored PNG economic survey

paper and Prof. Pillai presented a paper on UPNG and the Precinct initiative. Matt Dornan presented a paper on his research into roads maintenance in PNG.

State of the Pacific (SoTP), 13-15 September 2016. In mid-September, Mr Nelson Atip from the SBPP Economics Division, together with Dr Manoj Pandey, presented the co-authored ANU-UPNG survey paper on the PNG economy 2015-16. Regrettably, Mr Win Nicholas, who was scheduled to travel to ANU for this conference, had already left UPNG to commence a new job at the Bank of PNG. Ms Denise Lokinap and Mr Peter Kanaparo, two other UPNG academics from SBPP's Division of Public Policy Management scheduled to present at the SoTP, were also unable to attend this conference for personal reasons. Mr Colin Wiltshire and Dr Grant Walton represented the ANU-UPNG team's collaborative research findings on health delivery and education delivery respectively, at the State of The Pacific conference.

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 second half of 2016, the strategic benefits of the PNG Project initiative became more apparent as ANU researchers began to develop strong research collaborations in public policy with their UPNG counterparts. In other areas, ANU partnership staff took the lead on research projects, or continued to play an important role in established collaborations (e.g. with NRI). Funding for this research comes from a variety of sources, and only those sub-projects with financing from the Partnership are highlighted here (an asterisk indicates staff costs paid for under the grant agreement):

1. **Macro and fiscal analysis.** Work under this component includes the joint ANU-UPNG research paper (PNG survey of recent economic developments, 2015-16) by Rohan Fox*, Stephen Howes, Manoj Pandey,* Win Nicholas, and Nelson Atip), and blogs by Rohan Fox, Stephen Howes, Win Nicholas and Nelson Atip. The PNG economic survey paper was presented at the Pacific Update in mid-July, at the ANU's State of the Pacific conference mid-September and at the PNG Update in November 2016. Dr Marcel Schröder* and Mr Rohan Fox are engaged in ongoing research on PNG's exchange rate. Dr Anthony Swan* analysed PNG's proposed protectionist reforms to rice.
2. **Infrastructure.** Dr Matthew Dornan*, together with colleagues at the National Research Institute (NRI), led research on road management at the sub-national government level in PNG. The research team of Dr Matthew Dornan and Rohan Fox from ANU, Dr Carmen Voigt-Graf (ANU/NRI Partnership) and Ronald Sofo and Chris Banga from NRI, completed fieldwork in four of the five provinces selected as case studies (i.e. Milne Bay, Gulf, Eastern Highlands, and Madang) in the first half of 2016. Research findings were presented at the PNG Update conference and are expected to be published by NRI in the next 6-12 months, and will be presented at both NRI and UPNG. Matthew Dornan also recently published work on road management at the national level in PNG in the well-regarded Asia and the Pacific Policy Studies journal, and consulted for DFAT on its development assistance for infrastructure.
3. **Health and education.** Dr Grant Walton is writing up the findings of the UPNG-ANU collaboration on the condition of health facilities and schools in East New Britain and Gulf province. He has released a blog on some of the policy implications of free education policies in PNG with Dr

Anthony Swan*. He also presented research based on this work at the State of the Pacific conference (Canberra); the PNG Update (PNG), and the American Political Science Association meeting (Philadelphia). He continues to collaborate on this research with UPNG staff Denise Lokinap, Peter Kanaparo, Dr Amanda Watson*, and Tatia Currie*, as well as colleagues from the ANU Colin Wiltshire, and Tara Davda*. The fieldwork component for this research was paid for by the ANU-UPNG grant agreement.

4. **Education and communications.** Dr Anthony Swan* presented a paper at the PNG Update on the political and economic challenges faced by PNG to meet the Sustainable Development Goal for quality education. Anthony also wrote a series of Devpolicy Blog posts analysing the extent to which the Australian media focuses on PNG over the last five years, the issues that are focused on, and differences in the way PNG stories are reported across media outlets.
5. **Urban livelihoods.** In second semester 2016, Ms Michelle Rooney* continued research on issues related to her PhD project that include urban service delivery, gender and economy, urban land tenure and other social issues in PNG. Michelle was invited to present her paper on urban service delivery in PNG at a seminar organised by the University of Hawaii at Manoa and the East West Centre, Honolulu, and to present a paper at a panel discussion on Space and Place in the Pacific at the Melbourne RMIT University (28 July 2016). Michelle presented a seminar on her research on urban livelihoods in PNG to staff and students at the University of Papua New Guinea. She also gave a seminar to DFAT staff at the AHC on 25 August. She co-convened a panel on urban issues at the UPNG Update (3 November 2016). Michelle's participation in seminars and conferences was funded in whole or in part under the grant agreement. Michelle also supported PNG students at ANU in PNG Independence Day discussions and commemorations (17 September 2016).
6. **Public Policy and administration.** Dr Terence Wood continues his research on elections in PNG and together with Ashlee Betteridge* and Tatia Currie* is compiling data for an online PNG elections database. This work will result in an online PNG elections database to be launched in mid-March 2017. Dr Lhawang Ugyel* has initiated a research program on public administration in PNG.
7. **Family and sexual violence.** Dr Kamalini Lokuge of the ANU has completed a literature survey on family and sexual violence interventions, as part of a broader program of research into family and sexual violence interventions in PNG. Dr Lokuge's costs are covered by the ANU, but the Partnership provided short-term, casual research assistance costs for Ms Sarah Geddes*.

3.2.4 Outreach

The partnership relies on various modes of 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 second half of 2016, Devpolicy.org published 34 blog posts related to PNG (see Annex 3). Three of these blogs were authored or co-authored by UPNG staff (2 from SBPP; 1 from

SHSS). Eight 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.

Each year, partnership staff members collate the best PNG-related Devpolicy.org blogs for hard-copy publication. These booklets provide an alternate channel for disseminating information about economics and public policy issues affecting PNG and the region (N.B. Devpolicy is able to print and distribute this material without copyright issues). Five hundred copies were printed this year with many distributed to attendees at the PNG Update in November 2016. This booklet is available online at <http://devpolicy.org/publications/reports/Econ%20and%20governance%20in%20PNG%202016.pdf>.

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.



Secretary Kali, giving a seminar on Public Sector at ANU's Crawford School, 21 October 2016

Mr John Ma'o Kali, Secretary of Papua New Guinea's Department of Personnel Management, gave a public seminar on 21 October that described PNG's public service sector, its recent successes and current challenges, and priority areas of reform in public sector management in PNG. The Development Policy Centre in the Crawford School at ANU hosted this seminar, which was attended by around 50 people and supported by the ANU-UPNG partnership under the Pacific Leadership and Governance Precinct. While at the ANU, Secretary Kali met over lunch with representatives from DFAT, DPM and ANU. As a very senior government bureaucrat and a key member of the Precinct's Executive Advisory Board, Secretary Kali put a compelling case for strengthening moral leadership in the PNG public sector.

Sir Nagora Bogan, former Chancellor of the PNG University of Technology (Unitech) and Chairman of the PNG Tax Reform Commission, gave an animated and wide-ranging seminar on PNG's economic and development challenges, and the need for urgent tax reform in the country. He sought to impress on the audience the potential for PNG to develop a much broader economic base and the importance of this diversification for PNG's long-term economic development. Around 35 people attended Sir Nagora's public seminar. Dr Albert Schram, Vice Chancellor of Unitech and Unitech DVC Ora Renagi accompanied him in his visit to Canberra. As his seminar coincided with a visit to ANU by Secretary Dixon DPLGA and his senior advisor, a dinner with ANU, DFAT and PNG Consular representatives to honour these guests was held at the ANU on the evening of 8 December 2016.



Sir Nagora Bogan giving a seminar on Tax Reform in PNG at ANU's Crawford School, 8 December 2016

Engagement with media and other public outreach

Win Nicholas's research on small and medium enterprises in PNG was published on 22 July in The National newspaper; this article was adapted from his Devpolicy blog post of 18 July.

Michelle Rooney, a full-time researcher with the ANU-UPNG partnership, was invited to attend the American Anthropological Association (AAA) 115th Annual Meeting in Minneapolis where she received the prestigious 2016 Graduate Student Paper prize of the Association for Political and Legal Anthropology (APLA) for her research paper that explores how residents of Port Moresby's ATS settlement access education in their local communities in the context of their marginalise place in urban policy framework and their illegal occupation of urban land. The APLA judges commended Michelle's paper as a "nuanced analysis, which contributes to our understanding of citizenship, human rights, urban development, political ecology, and the paradoxes of the state." Michelle has donated the prize money to the Christ the King Primary School (ATS Settlement) for their annual student awards for male and female students who demonstrate citizenship and leadership in their school community. The National newspaper ran an article

on Michelle's award on 14 December 2016 (see <http://www.thenational.com.pg/researcher-rewarded-work-education>). Ms Rooney's trip to AAA was funded in part by the grant agreement.

The 2016 PNG Update featured significantly in newspaper and radio reports in early November, thanks in part to the promotion of the event in advertisements prior to the Update and to efforts (including the NBC Workshop) to promote media attention around the event. Some of the articles published online related to the update have been aggregated at <https://devpolicy.crawford.anu.edu.au/departments/news/8835/coverage-2016-png-update>.

3.3 Student and faculty exchanges

In 2016, the partnership sought to promote a variety of student and faculty exchanges. From early May the opportunities for such exchanges were severely curtailed due to the student boycott and subsequent events at UPNG. Due to rescheduling, we were forced to cancel our first ANU-UPNG summer school, which was expected for early 2017. We will now aim for our first summer school in 2018.

3.3.1 Staff exchanges – UPNG

Prof. **L.N. Pillai**, Dean of SBPP, presented at the Pacific Update in USP (Suva) in mid-July 2016. Prof. Pillai used this opportunity to establish a rapport with high-level counterparts at USP and lay a foundation for possible collaborations in the future. He will also travel to ANU in mid-September, to participate in the ANU's State of the Pacific Conference (13-15 September 2016).

Mr **Win Nicholas** and Mr **Nelson Atip Nema** presented a version of the ANU-UPNG collaborative Economic Survey (2015-16) paper at the Pacific Update in USP (Suva) in mid-July 2016. Nelson Nema also travelled to ANU in mid-September, to present a portion of the collaborative economics paper at ANU's State of the Pacific Conference (13-15 September 2016).

3.3.2 Staff exchanges – ANU

Dr **Michael Cookson**, the Partnership Manager, made three visits to PNG in the second-half of 2016 for stakeholder meetings and to coordinate ANU's role in assisting UPNG with the 2016 PNG Update.

Ms **Tara Davda**, a research officer with the Development Policy Centre, co-presented a paper on the unintended consequences of PNG's tuition-free education policy at the PNG Update in November 2016.

Dr **Matthew Dornan**, a research fellow with the Development Policy Centre, presented a paper on provincial roads maintenance in PNG at the Pacific Update in USP (Suva) in mid-July 2016 and at the PNG Update in November 2016.

Mr **Rohan Fox**, a research officer with the Development Policy Centre, presented a paper on PNG's exchange rate with Dr Marcel Schröder at the PNG Update in November 2016.

Prof. **Stephen Howes**, the Director of the Development Policy Centre at the ANU, made four visits to UPNG in the second half of 2016. One of these trips was to attend the PNG Update, where he chaired several sessions and presented a fiscal retrospective on PNG's resources boom.

Mr **Brendan Jinks**, a PhD candidate at ANU, presented two papers (one on behalf of Dr Mike Bourke, one co-authored with James Komengi) on the impact of PNG's frosts and drought 2015-16 at the PNG Update in November 2016.

Ms **Ellen Kulumbu**, a PhD candidate at ANU, presented a paper on women and health in PNG at the PNG Update in November 2016.

Dr **Manoj Pandey**, a member of ANU's UPNG-based academic staff, travelled to Suva in July to co-present the ANU-UPNG joint paper on the PNG economy (2015-16) and liaise with counterparts at USP on ways to strengthen collaborative research and curriculum development between UPNG and USP. He also travelled to Canberra to present a paper with Mr Nelson Nema (UPNG) at the ANU's State of the Pacific conference in mid-September 2016.

Ms **Michelle Rooney**, a researcher with the Development Policy Centre, presented a seminar to UPNG and another to staff at the AHC on her urbanisation research in late August 2016. She also presented a paper on urban housing and public policy at the PNG Update in November 2016.

Dr **Anthony Swan**, a research fellow with the Development Policy Centre, presented a co-authored paper on PNG's education policy at the PNG Update in November 2016.

Dr **Carmen Voigt-Graf**, a research fellow with the National Research Institute (NRI) and the Development Policy Centre, presented a paper on employment, visas and skill's development in PNG at the ANU's State of the Pacific conference in mid-September 2016.

Dr **Grant Walton**, a research fellow with the Development Policy Centre, coordinated the presentation of the joint ANU-UPNG education research fieldwork findings at the PNG Update in November 2016.

Dr **Colin Wiltshire**, a researcher with the State, Society and Governance in Melanesia (SSGM) Program at ANU, presented a paper on decentralisation policy in PNG at the PNG Update in November 2016.

The partnership also assisted several academics not directly connected with ANU or UPNG to attend the 2016 PNG Update: Mr **Pes Wilson** (Divine Word University) presented his research on violence against girls in schools as part of the panel on gender, and Ms **Imelda Ambelye** (a lecturer at Unitech and PhD candidate at James Cook University) presented her research findings on formal education and disempowerment of young women in the panel on gender at the 2016 PNG Update.

3.3.3 Student exchanges

The 2016 ANU-UPNG Economics Exam

Since 2013, the ANU has conducted an annual one-hour economics examination for final-year students and recent graduates. This examination is normally held towards the end of second semester each year. The purpose of the exam is threefold. Firstly, it seeks to identify top students who are future candidates for Australia Awards. These top students are then provided references from the ANU to assist their application for an Australia Award once they have acquired the necessary work experience. Second, the exam helps identify promising candidates who may be awarded scholarships by ANU for either short or

long courses. Third, it provides an independent measure of student standards, and thus helps provides to gauge the effectiveness of the partnership's contribution to student learning over time.

It was not possible to hold the ANU-UPNG exam in economics in 2016 due to the student boycott. We will aim to run the exam twice in 2017.

Summer School student exchange program

The revised academic calendar for 2016-17 made it impossible for the partnership to host a Summer School program in early 2017 as planned. However, the framework for the Summer School program was firmed up during the second half of 2016 is now in place and we are aiming for the first Summer School to be held in 2018.

Long-term ANU scholarships

The partnership has instituted a long-term ANU 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 the ANU and then return to a faculty position at the School of Business and Public Policy. In September 2016, Mr Ani Rova was awarded the second scholarship under this program and both he and Mr Maholopa Laveil, whose commencement was delayed by illness, will start their scholarship programs at ANU in early 2017.

3.4 Partnership management

The effective management of staff and key stakeholders is critical to the successful implementation of this project.

3.4.1 Stakeholder liaison and high-level visits

ANU and PNG-based partnership staff liaised extensively with Palladium, Abt Associates and AHC officials through the second half of 2016. The Hon Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, Minister for International Development and the Pacific and senior AHC staff visited UPNG on 14 December. On that occasion, the Minister met with staff from SBPP and two ANU partnership staff, Dr Manoj Pandey and Dr Marcel Schröder.



The Hon Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, Minister for International Development and the Pacific (centre front in white) together with faculty from ANU and SBPP, and staff from the Australian High Commission in Port Moresby, at UPNG

3.4.2 Management issues

Major management pre-occupations in the second half of 2016 included responding to the boycott, novating the contract, putting new staff in place, and reporting. A major demand on management time was the handling of numerous difficulties and challenges that arose around having staff based offshore. ANU has very few staff based offshore, and even fewer in high-risk environments. A wide range of issues have come up regarding terms and conditions, especially in the particularly difficult context of last year's boycotts. These have consumed considerable time, and in some cases anguish, but have left us in a much stronger position going forward. We now have detailed statements of terms and conditions, as well as of expectations. We paved the way for our first family to join a staff member here, a very positive move for staff welfare, and project sustainability.

3.4.3 Grant Agreement

The current grant agreement was successfully novated from Palladium International (ECDF) to Abt Associates (the managing contractor of the new PNG Governance Facility, or PGF) on 1 September 2016 with minor amendments and to the satisfaction of all parties.

3.4.4 Partnership management staffing arrangements

The partnership had its full complement of administrative staff in both Canberra and Port Moresby throughout 2016. Dr Michael Cookson managed all aspects of the project from ANU in Canberra, supported by Ms Tatia Currie as Project Coordinator (since mid-2016) and Dr Pandey was appointed

Team Leader, a Moresby-based, non-supervisory, leadership position. Professor Howes provides significant management oversight without charge to the project.

3.4.5 Partnership finances

For the semester, expenditure was at 72% of the revised budget; and for the full year it was at 77%. Total expenditure was lower simply because overheads were deducted in the first semester; taking out overheads, expenditure increased by 30% in the second semester as project staffing ramped out. Expenditure came in under budget due to disruptions associated with the student boycott, which for example prevented the summer school from occurring. Note that expenditure is only 56% of the original budget, with the extra margin of 20 percentage points coming in due to lower unit costs, indicating the value for money which the project represents.

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.

Turning to the period under review, from modest beginnings in 2012, the partnership grew strongly in 2016. The student boycott was a major threat, but in the end the project emerged strongly, in particular with the acceleration of work on the new Masters in Economics and Public Policy degree at UPNG, a signature Precinct and project achievement.

That said the challenges of the past year, and in particular the past six months, have been very significant for our UPNG-based staff and their local counterparts. The uncertainties of the student boycott were wearing on staff and students alike and the accelerated teaching schedule adopted by UPNG to resolve this issue has created a new set of pressures for all at UPNG. We are proud of the way our PNG-based staff and their SBPP counterparts have maintained their optimism and an unwavering commitment to the partnership and the collective enterprise of teaching and research at UPNG. We believe this commitment is predicated on the sense of ownership by UPNG of this project and the effective rapport built over the past few years between the ANU and UPNG, and with staff in DFAT at the Australian High Commission and Palladium/Abt Associate as principal contractor.

Key examples of the sorts of significant change the project has brought about include:

- **The introduction of a Masters of Economics and Public Policy.** This new degree can act as a flagship for the entire Precinct. It will increase UPNG's reach into and boost economic and policy literacy in the public sector. There are still risks to overcome, but potentially it could be a degree that will be around for decades, indeed indefinitely.
- **The nurturing and training of the next generation of PNG's economic lecturers.** This entire partnership was born out of the denuding of the PNG economics department. At one stage in 2015, there was just one lecturer in the department. Now we have two young lecturers studying at the ANU. This would be impossible without the ANU faculty at UPNG to fill the gap.
- **The training of the next generation of PNG's economists.** Despite the best and genuine efforts of the university, it remains the case that without our economists, there would be inadequate training of economists in PNG. This is because economics is only taught at UPNG, and there is a huge shortage of economic faculty at UPNG.

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.

5 Monitoring and evaluation

The performance indicators for this project were outlined in the 2016 Annual Plan. The colour rating in the matrix bellows indicates performance: not achieved (red), partially achieved or pending (orange), achieved (green).

Performance against indicators was mixed, with the disruptions at UPNG making it difficult for progress in certain areas, especially related to teaching and exchange. The re-opening of UPNG in August and return to teaching in early September, helped turn around some of these indicators.

INDICATOR	RATING	COMMENTS
Teaching improvement (Faculty strengthening)		
ANU lecturers in place and teaching at UPNG		In place, but not teaching for duration of student boycott. ANU staff recommenced teaching in September and continued until the end of year break mid-December 2016. Curriculum development was also a positive achievement.
Positive evaluation by students of courses and workshops taught by ANU lecturers		Mid-semester coursework teaching evaluations were conducted, with an average score of 4.5 out of 5 (see previous 6-monthly report) and one end-of-semester evaluation was conducted with similarly positive feedback (see Annex 1). Workshop evaluations indicated positive feedback for content and ANU academic staff (see Annex 2). However, few end-of-semester evaluations were undertaken due to rescheduling of the semester.
Increased number of UPNG staff using course websites for their courses		Five SBPP lecturers used a web-based Learning Management System (LMS) to release notes and lectures to their students in first semester 2016. In the second half of 2016, this initiative stalled as UPNG sought to implement a university-wide LMS (not place at end of 2016).
Increased availability of textbooks to students		New books added to student library but open access for students still remains a problem. Efforts have been made by ANU lecturers to ensure students have textbooks or comprehensive notes.
Increased use by students of computers in the course of learning		The lab was extensively used for teaching, training and research in the second-half of 2016 and significant new computer assets were added through the donation of 22 computers to the SBPP by the Lowy Institute, facilitated by project staff.
Feedback from students, including an annual survey, show that their learning experience at UPNG is improving		Student course and lecturer feedback is positive, but unable to hold annual survey at end of 2016 due to student boycott and rescheduling of academic year (which now ends March 2017).

ANU-UPNG annual exam in economics shows increased number of students doing well		This exam is re-scheduled for 21 February 2017 (at the equivalent time in semester to previous years, but much later due to the rescheduling of the UPNG academic year).
Greater opportunities for students to link with employers		Some progress made but undermined by cessation of teaching, and resumption with amended and intensive schedule. At the end of 2016, ANU staff assisted dozens of students with written references.
Greater opportunities for students to be exposed to economic thinking and to discuss economics		Accelerated teaching schedule in second half of 2016 made it impossible to run <i>Inspired</i> sessions, but a greater effort was made to incorporate PNG-relevant material in course curricula.
Increased number of SPBB staffing positions filled		Additional hire of one economics lecturer with postgrad qualifications in the first half of 2016, but loss of one staff member to Bank of PNG. UPNG now need to recruit qualified temporary replacements for Mr Ani Rova (Lecturer) and Mr Maholopa Laveil (Tutor), now both at the ANU.
Increased number of UPNG staff with postgraduate qualifications		Progress underway with two UPNG lecturers/tutors now pursuing postgraduate degrees at ANU.
Increased number of UPNG staff who have participated in training courses		Seventeen staff participated in teaching courses in August and September 2016, but training curtailed due to semester restructuring. Four UPNG staff attended workshop on Policy Evaluation (1-2 Nov) in addition to other teaching obligations.
Number of staff (not just ANU staff) undertaking course evaluations has increased		Use of course evaluations beyond ANU staff remains very limited.
Restructuring of economics courses to increase coherence across courses		Good progress in economics (notably maths and econometrics).
Greater emphasis in courses with PNG-related content, where appropriate		Good progress. The addition of new teaching staff in public policy, and the growing familiarity of ANU staff with issues of relevance to contemporary PNG have enabled out staff to incorporate more PNG-content in course curricula.
Greater emphasis in courses on critical thinking and development of problem solving skills		Good progress, achieved by engaging students in tutorial exercises and assessment tasks that promote analysis, reflexive thinking and problem solving.
Research and outreach		
Number of Discussion Papers and blogs produced on PNG		34 blogs (From 1 July 2016 – 31 Dec. 2016); 1 discussion paper published, 2 close to publication.
Number of seminars/workshops at UPNG		Only one research seminar was held due to the boycott, but the successful execution of PNG Update was a major achievement.
Number of research skills workshops, including attendance and feedback		5 research skills workshops, with positive feedback.

Number of UPNG staff presenting at PNG Update		24 UPNG staff members were involved in individual or co-authored presentations at the PNG Update in November 2016.
Extent of participation by UPNG staff in partnership research activities and output		Good progress in joint research on education, health and macro/fiscal issues. Joint research with NRI as well.
Number of papers and attendance at 2016 PNG Update		The 2016 PNG Update had an estimated 500 attendees, including staff and students from UPNG. Around 90 papers were submitted with 50 selected for inclusion in the conference.
Staff and student exchange		
Number of ANU staff visits to UPNG		ANU staff visits to UPNG were limited in the second half of 2016 until the university reopened in late August. However, eight members of ANU staff visited UPNG for the 2016 PNG Update.
Number of UPNG staff visits to ANU		UPNG staff visits to ANU were limited in the second half of 2016 due to the disruption associated with the student boycott and rescheduling of classes.
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. ANU's 2017 Summer School program for UPNG students in economics and public policy was cancelled as it clashed with the rescheduled 2016 academic year.
Holding of ANU-UPNG economics exam		Not possible due to student boycott and rescheduling of second semester. Will be held in February 2017.
Program management		
Project able to acquit and report expenditure on a timely basis		Financial reports for the first half of 2016 were submitted on time and are on track for second half.
Visas and logistics managed in a timely way for short- and long-term project staff		Some logistical issues with novation, particularly regarding transfer of long-stay aid exemption visas from Palladium to Abt Associates. This resulted in the need for our Moresby staff to all exit PNG the week first-semester teaching resumed at UPNG. Fortunately, this issue was swiftly resolved.
Project "novated" in a timely manner		Novation was successfully completed 1 September 2016.
Required hiring for 2017 undertaken in 2016 in a timely manner		All partnership positions were filled by or before the end of 2016.
Timely and comprehensive M&E and reporting		Limited due to inability to carry out economics exam and annual survey of students, as well as annual survey of staff – all are now planned for implementation in 2017.

6 Risks and challenges

Looking back over the year, the key risks that materialized are as follows

Disruption to classes

This was unexpected, but the student boycott turned out to be the major challenge for 2016. There was little we could do, but remain flexible and adaptive.

UPNG and PNG budgetary position

UPNG remains very largely dependent on the PNG Government for funding support and the PNG Government has moved into a very tight fiscal position. We have already seen that staff that leave may not be replaced. This risks our capacity building efforts. We continue to stress to UPNG management the importance of replacing staff who leave, and of hiring staff to fill remaining gaps.

7 Lessons Learnt and Conclusion

An overview of achievements for the second half of 2016 can be found in the executive summary. It was a tough year, but we have come through it well.

The project design proved to be robust and appropriate in 2016, with the project benefiting from its pragmatic and pro-active approach. One key lesson learnt was that mentioned above: the need to be adaptive and flexible. Another very practical lesson has been how to manage all the difficulties around having staff based offshore. ANU has very few staff based offshore, and even fewer in high-risk environments. Numerous issues have come up regarding terms and conditions, especially in the particularly difficult context of last year's boycotts. These have consumed considerable time, and at times caused some heartache, but have left us in a much stronger position going forward.

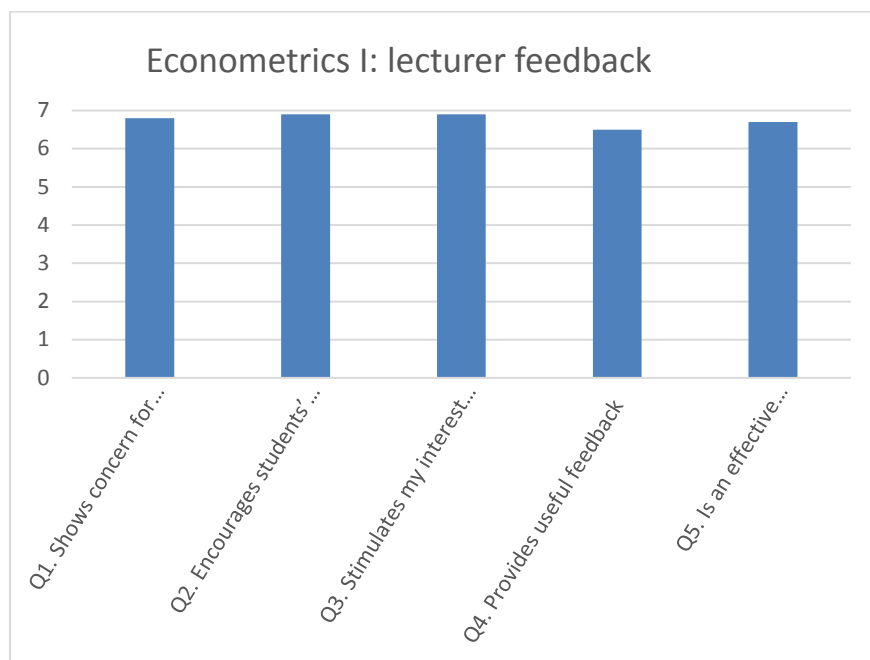
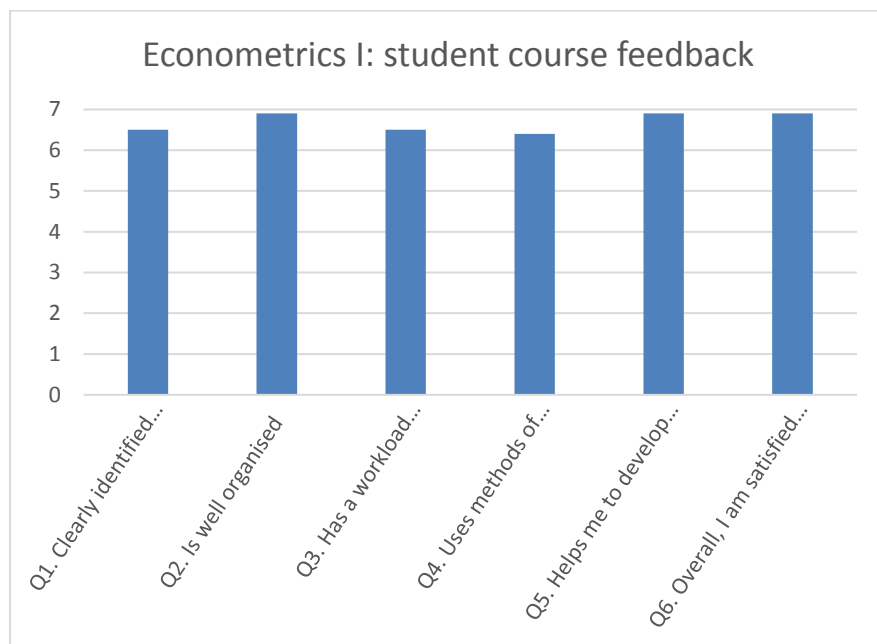
2017 is a year of great opportunity and risk. While we remain alert to the risks (discussed at length in our 2017 plan), we begin the year with a clear sense of the possibility and promise of this project. The partnership remains strong. We have built and maintain good rapport with our UPNG colleagues and have a sense of mutual respect and common purpose. We also continue to build a positive relationship with staff at the Australian High Commission and are working closely with our counterparts at Abt Associates to ensure smooth and effective project implementation.

List of Annexes

- Annex 1: Student feedback on courses and lecturers
- Annex 2: Workshop attendee feedback
- Annex 3: PNG-related Devpolicy blog posts (1 Jul – 31 Dec 2016)

Annex 1: Student feedback on lectures by ANU faculty based at UPNG

Student evaluation for Econometrics I Semester I, 2016 (Lecturer: Dr. Manoj K. Pandey)



Selected free-text feedback

What are the best aspects of the lecturer teaching?

- Demonstration in the class, graphs are now easy to understand in STATA.
- Class presentations helps us in building confidence.
- I like the way he explains, makes me able to understand.
- Very supportive and motivational in his lecture.
- This course is best because it covers mostly practical problem which is important to us.

- The best aspect of this course is to develop my thinking skills and explaining real life situations using the skill we learnt in class.
- I learn to analyse a problem through collecting data, research, and explanation.
- School should provide teaching materials, so that students can make notes.
- He explains concept practically as well as theoretically his ways of teaching reflects his deep knowledge
- Giving more practical stuff for student for student to master the skills particularly in research areas. Otherwise the lecturer teaching skills are suited for me.
- It would be improved if we restructure the course outline of the economic division, so that we have econometrics one for first semester and two for second semester because this course is so practical economic and courses like natural resources, environmental economics and agricultural economics can be combined to one because one way or other are related.
- I think the course structure is good. The only thing I see is that it is better if we were thought both STATA and Excel for finding the estimates.

Course and Lecturer Evaluation Questions	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Mean Score	SD	Min	Max
	Response distribution (in %)										
The Course Feedback: This course has											
Q1. Clearly identified learning outcomes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.3	26.7	60.0	6.5	0.7	5	7
Q2. Is well organised	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.3	86.7	6.9	0.4	6	7
Q3. Has a workload appropriate for the achievement of its learning outcomes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.3	26.7	60.0	6.5	0.7	5	7
Q4. Uses methods of assessment that help me achieve its learning outcomes	6.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7	6.7	80.0	6.4	1.6	1	7
Q5. Helps me to develop my thinking skills (e.g., problem solving, critical analysis)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7	93.3	6.9	0.3	6	7
Q6. Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of this course	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.3	86.7	6.9	0.4	6	7
Overall (Q1-Q6)								6.7	0.8	1	7
The Lecturer Feedback:											
Q1. Shows concern for students	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	20.0	80.0	6.8	0.4	6	7
Q2. Encourages students’ participation	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7	93.3	6.9	0.3	6	7
Q3. Stimulates my interest in learning this course	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.3	86.7	6.9	0.4	6	7
Q4. Provides useful feedback	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7	0.0	33.3	60.0	6.5	0.8	4	7
Q5. Is an effective University teacher	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	26.7	73.3	6.7	0.5	6	7
Overall (Q1-Q5)								6.8	0.5	4	7

Note: Total number of students in the class were 25 students (17 M, 8 F) but only 15 could provide their feedback after exam in semester I, 2016. Feedback scale ranges from 1 (Strongly Disagree) to 7 (Strongly Agree).

Annex 2: Workshop Evaluations

Guide to questions used in workshop surveys:

Course content

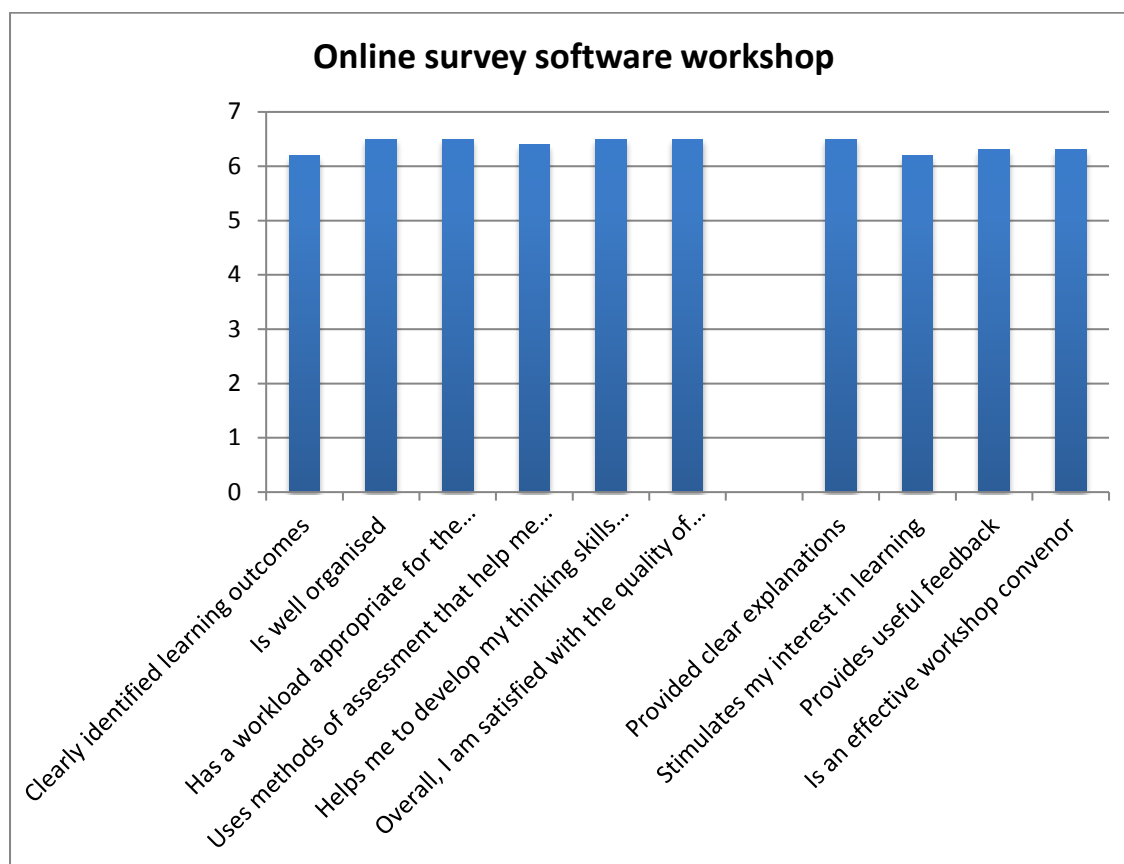
- Clearly identified learning outcomes
- Is well organised
- Has a workload appropriate for the achievement of its learning outcomes
- Uses methods of assessment that help me achieve its learning outcomes
- Helps me to develop my thinking skills (e.g. problem solving, critical analysis)
- Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of this course

Course presenter

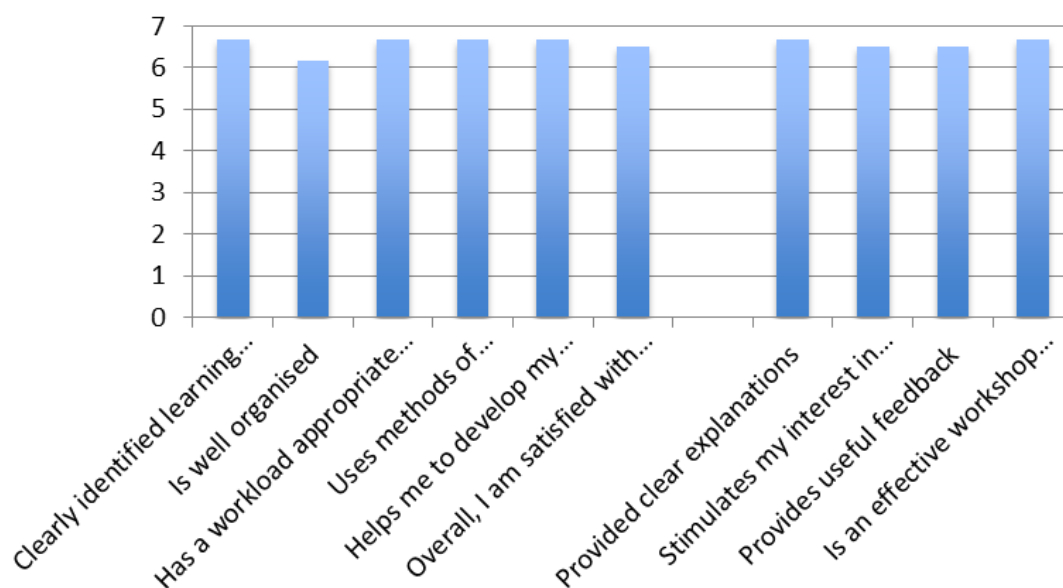
- Provided clear explanations
- Stimulates my interest in learning
- Provides useful feedback
- Is an effective workshop convenor

Mr Rohan Fox ran three workshops in October 2016:

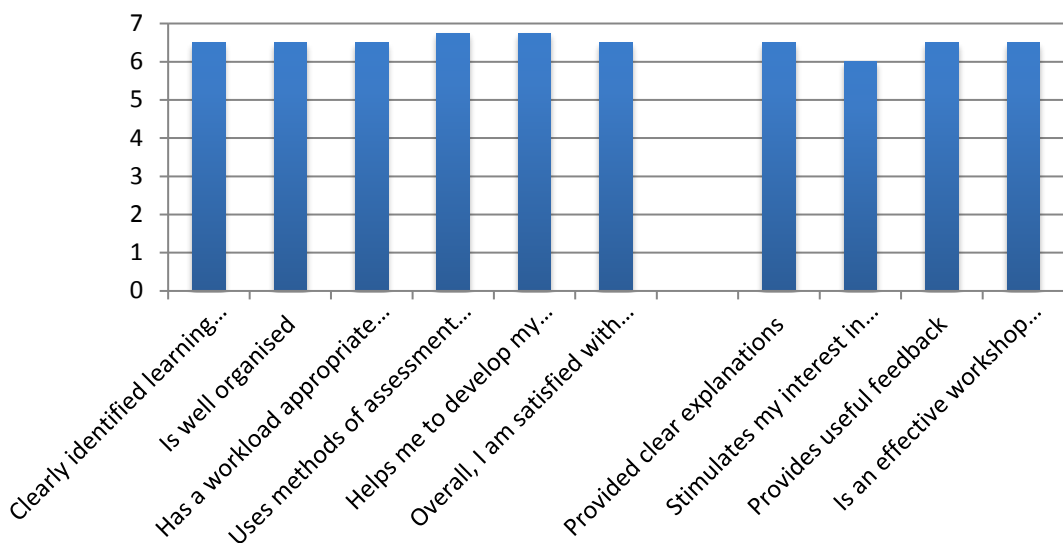
- Online survey software workshop (12 October)
- Online research methods workshop (13 October)
- NBC PNG Update Media Workshop (14 October)



Online research methods workshop



NBC PNG Update Media workshop

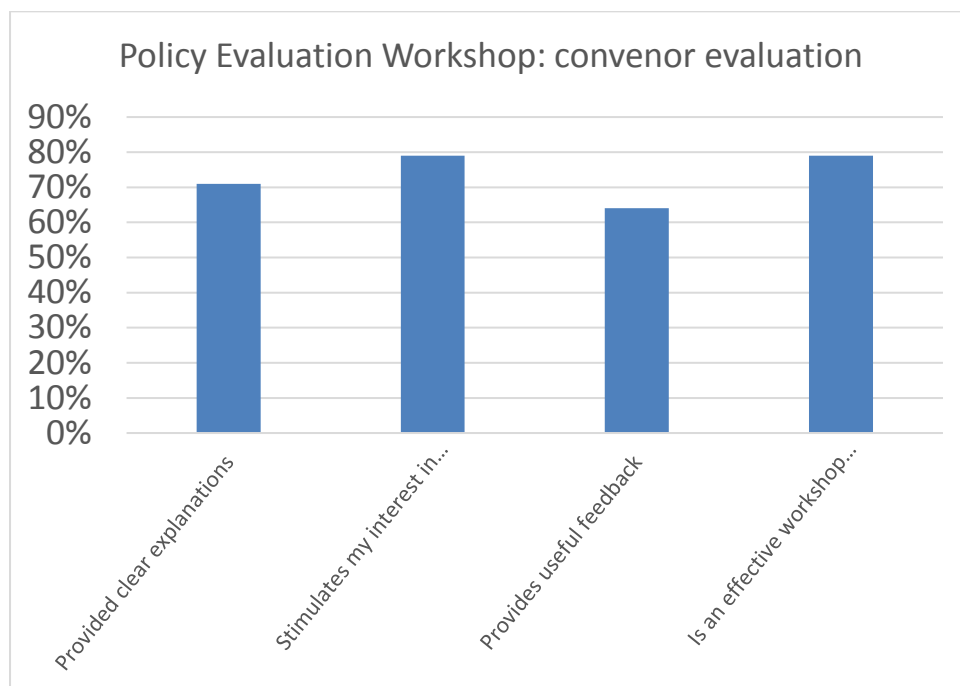
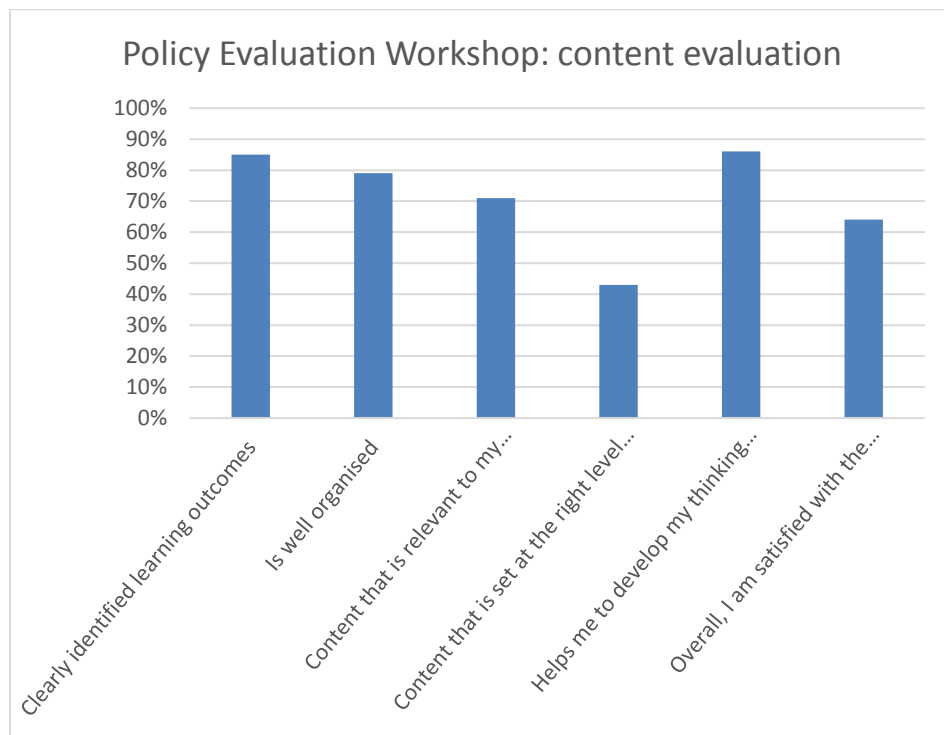


The following quote is by a participant in the Online survey software workshop:

"It is one of the most exciting new thing(s) I have learnt in the recent months and I am very impressed and so excited about it. Just a suggestion here. Please run another workshop on analysing the data once extracted in to Excel. Otherwise, that was (an) excellent job!"

Policy Evaluation Workshop 1-2 November 2016 (Lecturer: Dr Anthony Swan)

Dr Anthony Swan gave a two-day workshop on policy evaluation on 1-2 November to staff from SBPP/UPNG and participants from other Port Moresby-based institutions, including the National Research Institute, National Planning and the UNDP. Dr Swan was assisted by Dr Lhawang Ugyel, who will run a similar workshop in 2017. The most prominent feedback related to the workshop was that some of the empirical



Participant evaluation survey results

	Strongly Disagree						Strongly Agree	Number
This workshop has:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Clearly identified learning outcomes	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	15%	85%	13
Is well organised	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	21%	79%	14
Content that is relevant to my current work	0%	0%	0%	7%	7%	14%	71%	14
Content that is set at the right level of complexity for me	0%	0%	0%	21%	7%	29%	43%	14
Helps me to develop my thinking skills (e.g. problem solving, critical analysis)	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%	0%	86%	14
Overall, I am satisfied with the quality of this workshop	0%	0%	0%	0%	14%	21%	64%	14
This workshop convenor, Dr Anthony Swan:								
Provided clear explanations	0%	0%	0%	14%	7%	7%	71%	14
Stimulates my interest in learning about Policy Evaluation	0%	0%	0%	7%	0%	14%	79%	14
Provides useful feedback	0%	0%	0%	7%	7%	21%	64%	14
Is an effective workshop convenor	0%	0%	0%	7%	7%	7%	79%	14

Annex 3: PNG blogs posted to Devpolicy.org (1 Jul – 31 Dec 2016)

Title (with hyperlink)	Date of publication
Alcohol, gender and violence in Bougainville	12 July 2016
PNG's SME policy: the right aim, but dubious means	18 July 2016
West Papuan refugees in Papua New Guinea: on the way to citizenship?	19 July 2016
PNG GDP could be higher under a more flexible exchange regime	28 July 2016
Making hospitality work for urban PNG women	4 August 2016
PNG real revenue back to 2006 levels	22 August 2016
Uncovering hidden content in Australian newsprint articles on PNG	23 August 2016
Where to with betelnut? Beyond bans and spot fines	25 August 2016
Skills transfer through infrastructure	26 August 2016
Australia sounds the alarm on PNG's proposed rice policy	31 August 2016
Evaluating impact evaluation in PNG and the Pacific	9 September 2016
How did PNG spend the resources boom?	12 September 2016
How a boxer brought a new country together	16 September 2016
Tuberculosis and the mystery of invisible solutions	19 September 2016
PNG's discretionary expenditure crunch	20 September 2016
The perils of quantifying corruption	29 September 2016
PNG through the lens of Australian newsprint media	30 September 2016
The dark side of economic globalisation: politics, organised crime and corruption in the Pacific	7 October 2016
An insider's view on education reform (and corruption) in PNG: an interview with Peter Michael Magury	18 October 2016
Transferring HIV treatment to the PNG government: a good idea?	31 October 2016

<u>Coffee, market economy and informality in late colonial Goroka</u>	3 November 2016
<u>Angau Hospital, and PNG's 2017 budget</u>	10 November 2016
<u>Imagining the Other: a reflective review</u>	14 November 2016
<u>PNG women in leadership</u>	18 November 2016
<u>Imagining the Other: its contemporary significance</u>	21 November 2016
<u>Trump and the PNG 2017 elections</u>	25 November 2016
<u>How not to address maternal mortality</u>	2 December 2016
<u>Improving quality education in a world obsessed with student numbers: evidence from PNG</u>	6 December 2016
<u>PNG's eye health heroes</u>	8 December 2016
<u>Advocating for women in Porgera: an interview with Everlyne Sap</u>	9 December 2016
<u>PNG education policies in urban contexts: Christ the King Primary School, Port Moresby</u>	13 December 2016
<u>Judicial setbacks for the PNG anti-corruption movement</u>	14 December 2016
<u>PNG LNG landowner royalties -- why so long?</u>	20 December 2016
<u>Has the PNG Economy been in recession?</u>	22 December 2016

