The Role of Tertiary Education for Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Papua New Guinea

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Outline

1. Introduction
2. Significance of Tertiary Education for sustainable development
3. Status of Tertiary Education in PNG
4. Transformation into Knowledge Driven Economy
5. The way forward
The Word of Wisdom

“We are entering a new age, an age of knowledge, in which the key strategic resource necessary for prosperity has become knowledge itself – educated people, their ideas and innovation, and their entrepreneurial spirit.” (Bloch, 1988)
2. Significance of Tertiary Education

- Produce high caliber economic work force
- Contribute to long run economic growth
- Earn high income and improve quality of life
- Produce expertise to manage the economy and business
- Research, Innovation and development
- Skilled on Industry based Entrepreneurship
- Poverty reduction and higher level of living standard
- Positive effects on public health, crime, political participation and social cohesion

Source: Department of Education 2009
The tertiary education as a dynamic force in order to drive the economy and leads to the sustainable development with the support from the stake holders.

- Tertiary level education is major dynamism of Sustainable development of a country
- Poverty reduction and higher level of living standard
- Higher education enrollment rates are positively correlated with labor productivity growth.
- Significant correlation between higher education enrolment rates and governance indicators
- Positive correlation between higher education and entrepreneurship
- Higher education graduates positively correlated with quality of life and social wellbeing
### 3. Status of Tertiary Education in PNG

#### Concerns and challenges

- Limited tertiary institutions
- Limited accessibility
- Limited academic and professional programs
- Inadequate physical, human and financial resources
- More Public tertiary institutions than privates
- Quality, quantity and equity
- Governance and Leadership

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Source: Partnership for Development between the Government of Papua New Guinea and the Government of Australia
Tertiary Education in PNG

- Average of 97,000 grade 12 students expects a place in tertiary institutions annually
- Only 1.38% of the population completes Grade 12
- The space availability only 10,200, meaning only 10.2% of grade 12 students get admissions in universities and other tertiary institutions.
- Only 0.45% of the population get admission to tertiary/higher education, where in developed countries up to 50% of the population enter high education some time in their lives.
- Public tertiary institutions (include 4 Universities) 81% and Private tertiary institutions (include 2 Universities) 19%, in Asian region more than 70% of the graduates comes from private tertiary institutions
- Majority of the young age group of 17 – 25 years neglected in the tertiary education due to various grounds

This data alarms the Authorities to pay more attention on the tertiary education PNG
Knowledge Economic Index (KEI): Lack of information management of PNG, no data available for this calculation. The four aspects in KEI, Education, ICT, Innovation and knowledge development

Expansion of the tertiary education is the way to produce the knowledge based workforce in the knowledge driven economy
5. The Way For Ward:

Convent this economic boom in the time of transformation to the right direction in Investing on Development of Tertiary Education Capacity

- Development of more public universities and tertiary institutions
- Initiative for private universities and other tertiary institutions
- Appropriate funding mechanism to improve the capacity of public universities
- Raise the intakes to public universities
- Strengthen public university students enrollment process
- Academic audit to ensure quality in tertiary education
- Life-long learning opportunities in tertiary level education
- Diversification of academic program to meet the needs locally and globally
- Focus on research and innovation
- Equal participation in tertiary education
PNG must create and sustain a highly educated and innovative workforce and the capacity to generate and apply new knowledge, supported through policies and investments in developing human capital, technological innovation and entrepreneurial skills.

THANK YOU