Promoting Effective Public Expenditure Budget Forum

Implementing policies from the PNG National Budget: Evidence from PEPE Project

Date: 10 April 2014   Time: 9 am - 12 noon   Venue: NRI Conference centre

Over the last ten years, Papua New Guinea (PNG) has experienced a minerals boom that has led to a rapid rise in revenue and subsequent increases in public expenditure. However, PNG has struggled to translate the benefits of its resource wealth into effective development outcomes.

In an effort to better understand service delivery conditions and challenges to the PNG Government's key expenditure reforms, the Promoting Effective Public Expenditure or PEPE Project completed extensive expenditure tracking and facility surveys across eight provinces at the end of 2012. Survey teams visited 216 schools and over 140 health facilities in some of PNG's most remote and isolated communities to complete over 1250 separate interviews.

Following the release of preliminary findings from the surveys in September 2013, the next Budget Forum, scheduled for **10th April 2014 from 9am at the NRI Conference Centre**, the NRI & ANU will present further analysis of survey data, related to key policy reforms aimed at improving PNG's health and education services, especially the Tuition Free Education Policy and Free Primary Health Care Policy. The forum will also present analysis of the 2014 PNG National Budget, which has undergone major changes through incorporating both recurrent and development budgets.

Speakers for the forum include senior government officials, academics, researchers, policymakers, and NGOs which are directly involved in budgeting as well as health and education service delivery in PNG.

The general public is welcome to attend but via prior reservation. For more details on the budget forum contact: Andrew Mako: amako@nri.org.pg or 326 0300/0061 ext.331; for reservation, Eunice Kivan: ekivan@nri.org.pg or ext. 345 and media/communication enquires contact Dennis Badi: dbadi@nri.org.pg or ext.360

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