GOPNG – INGO PARTNERSHIPS: A CASE STUDY OF CARE INTERNATIONAL IN PNG

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Problem statement and Research Question

Problem Statement

- Remote non-resource rich communities in Papua New Guinea often suffer huge disparities in human development indicators and economic empowerment opportunities compared to other parts of Papua New Guinea. These are the target areas of a small number of INGOs. Strong and reliable partnerships of these INGOs with government can enable greater development outcomes for such disadvantaged communities.

Research Question

- How can strong partnerships between government and INGOs be forged to enable improved service delivery and development outcomes for the remote non-resource rich areas that NGOs can target?

CARE PNG ‘s Experience

Partnership for Development Projects

Partnership for Education and Literacy

Key Advantages

- Development NGOs have a niche in the social aspects of development and bring that to the partnership
- INGOs are a neutral partner in development thus can facilitate equitable development

Key Challenges and Risks

- INGOs often have short time span of projects and cannot work beyond the funding period
- INGOs usually do not undertake medium to large scale infrastructure projects which the government oftentimes prioritises
- Pressures on INGOs to meet deadlines and go ahead without meaningful government contributions have the potential to undermine the effectiveness of partnerships.
- Partnership coordination by GoPNG tends to be lacking

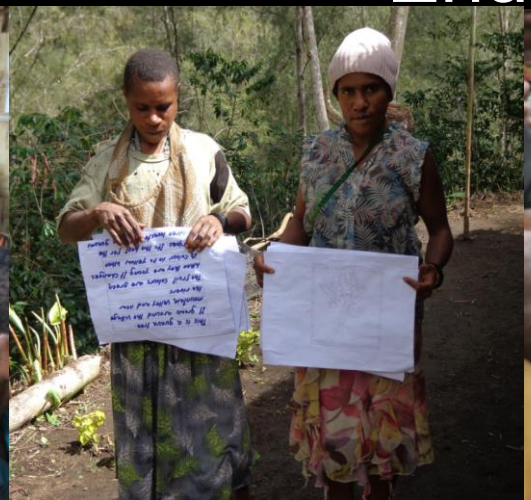
Key Success Enablers

- Partnerships arrangements are better recognised with formal agreements and monitoring of responsibilities
- Willingness of political, administrative, and service delivery arms of government to partner with and meaningfully engage with INGOs
- Regular dialogue, engagement, and reporting from INGOs to Government

Conclusion

- GoPNG – INGO partnerships can be in the form of: counter-part funding; joint implementation of activities; technical assistance; jointly doing project design, planning, and monitoring and evaluation of projects; and INGOs managing GoPNG funding for project implementation.
- Partnerships can be formalised through MoUs

Recommendation

- Among other stakeholders, the Government of PNG would benefit from proactively seeking to develop strategic partnerships with development INGOs

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