

# ‘Action men’ in PNG politics

by Ashlee Betteridge  
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There are many lessons that can be learned from looking more deeply into the political campaigns of Papua New Guinea, said social media and political commentator [Deni ToKunai](#) in his presentation at the 2013 Pacific and PNG Update.

It is important to look at the language that is used in PNG political campaigns because it has an impact on how people perceive the roles and responsibilities of their MPs, ToKunai said.

He highlighted the growing use of the word ‘action’ in election 2012 campaigns, promoting the idea of MPs as project managers and creating problematic expectations among voters that their MP would directly deliver them tangible goods or outcomes.

ToKunai also spoke on the importance of the Alotau Accord, signed by the key parties during the formation of government in 2012. He also highlighted the small size of the opposition in the current PNG Parliament as a barrier to no confidence votes and the increasing power of the executive.

The powerpoint presentation is available for download [here](#) and an audio podcast is available [here](#). Video will be available soon.

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Link: <https://devpolicy.org/action-men-in-png-politics-20130704-4/>