This is our last blog for the year.

The editorial team of Robin Davies, Amita Monterola, Anne Moorhead and Sadhana Sen would like to thank you everyone who has written for, read, commented on, promoted and supported the Devpolicy Blog in 2023.

We hope you are able to enjoy some rest over the holiday period until we resume on Monday 15 January 2024.

Here are suggestions for your summer reading and a recap of the year with some of our favourite and most popular blogs.

**Summer reads**

Gordon Peake’s book *Unsung Land, Aspiring Nation* (free to download) is based on the four years he spent in Bougainville as an Australian aid-funded adviser. Stephen Howes recommends reading it for enjoyment, for understanding, and for better aid policy.

Donating to NGOs that deliver development assistance might be morally desirable if it helps, but what if it doesn’t actually help – what if it causes harm? These are the questions that Terence Wood reflects on in a two-part review of Larry Temkin’s latest book, *Being Good in a World of Need*.

Prema Clarke launched her new book *Education Reform and the Learning Crisis in Developing Countries* at the 2023 Australasian AID Conference. Robert Cannon praises her...
**frank, personal account** of growing up in India which offers rich insights into the challenges faced in educational development.

And if you have time, there’s plenty more good reading among the [Devpolicy reviews](#).

**Australian aid**

Devpolicy series on [Australia’s new International Development Policy](#)

- [Local leadership in donor-funded programs](#)
- [A shot at the title: why DFAT should change its name](#)
- [Questions about Australian aid to fund the Pacific Games](#)
- [Why are two in five Australian aid investments rated unsatisfactory on completion?](#)
- [Is Australian public support for aid on the wane?](#)
- [Doubling down on governance?](#)

**Global development**

- [Global aid 2022: Australia risks becoming a minnow on development](#)
- [If Malpass had to go, will Banga offer a brighter future for the World Bank?](#)
- [Malaria: fight half done](#)
- [Climate finance from the World Bank: pluses and minuses](#)
- [The flickering light: Australia’s governance credentials damaged](#)
- [Aid localisation amidst revolution in Myanmar](#)
- [Trump 2.0? Potential implications for global aid](#)

**Pacific politics and geopolitics**

- [To the (Micronesian) victors go the spoils](#)
- [Small is (sometimes) beautiful: perceptions of corruption in seven small Pacific Island countries](#)
- [Basic but essential: Vanuatu’s proposed political integrity legislation](#)
- [The Australia-Tuvalu Falepili Union: Tuvaluan values or Australian interests?](#)
- [Using aid to shift power paradigms in the Pacific](#)
Sea of Western flags in Oceania?

China’s shifting Pacific engagement – loud and brash to “small but beautiful”

Papua New Guinea

PNG as resource dependent as Saudi Arabia

Doubling of PNG MP funds a bad move

Timber barons v carbon brokers: the Kamula Doso forest area in PNG

Ministries, parties and PNG politics

Reversing rural decline in PNG: the 11th Henry Kila Memorial Address

The local “resource curse”: missed opportunities in Porgera

How to address escalating violence in PNG

Australia should listen to PNG not the IMF

Pacific migration and labour mobility

Devpolicy series on the Pacific Labour Mobility Survey

Australia’s NZ migration reforms: Pacific implications

Three-part series: We want the forest but fear the spirits: labour mobility predicaments in Samoa

Pacific labour mobility over the last year: continued growth

Why the Catholic Archbishop of Fiji is wrong to condemn seasonal work

Pacific paternalism keeping families apart

Pacific Engagement Visa legislation finally through

Can PNG really supply 8,000 people to work overseas?

Australia in the Blue Pacific: a political and development shift for the century

Personal stories

Trepidations of a female student in Port Moresby

My education journey from Jiwaka to UPNG

Farewells
Vale Sir Leonard Wilson Kamit, CBE

Tributes to Sir Rabbie Namaliu by Bart Philemon and Charles Lepani

Vale Colin Barlow

Jim Ingram: a great Australian internationalist

Meraia Taufa Vakatale: anti-nuclear activist and feminist trailblazer

Aid as a two-way street: Bill Hayden on aid, development and PNG

About the author/s

Amita Monterola
Research Communications Coordinator at the Development Policy Centre.

Link: https://devpolicy.org/best-of-the-blog-2023/
Date downloaded: 17 June 2024