

Newsletter: Stakeholder survey | Australian views on aid | Femili PNG anniversary | AAC keynotes | Events



by Development Policy Centre

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Stakeholder survey: please respond

A reminder that there is still time to complete our 2015 Australian and New Zealand aid stakeholder surveys. The surveys will be open until September 25, and only take around 15-20 minutes to complete—the perfect Friday afternoon activity!

For more details on the rationale and importance of the survey, [read this blog post](#). You can find the links to the two surveys [here](#). It's your chance to have your say on Australian and/or New Zealand aid.

We've had a good response so far, but we do need more. You don't have to live in Australia or New Zealand to take part—we're particularly interested in hearing from recipients in countries that receive Australian and NZ aid. Please [participate!](#)

Australian attitudes to aid

Last week, we released a new discussion paper by Camilla Burkot and Terence Wood that looks at what Australians think about foreign aid, and what they know (or don't know) about it.

The paper draws on findings from a range of opinion polls and surveys conducted between 2011 and 2015. The survey data suggest that Australians are supportive of aid. And most believe it should be given primarily on a humanitarian basis. But when it comes to the bottom line—the size of the aid budget—their enthusiasm wanes.

Read the summary blog [here](#), or download the discussion paper [here](#).

You can also hear Camilla discuss the paper [with Radio Australia](#), or Terence talking to [ABC News Radio](#) and [Radio NZ](#).

Femili PNG celebrates first anniversary

We recently celebrated the first anniversary of Femili PNG's case management centre in Lae, which Devpolicy supports in a pro-bono capacity. It's been a big year, with much achieved for survivors of family and sexual violence, but with many challenges still ahead. The anniversary was marked with [an event in Lae with our partners](#), and in an interview our CEO and Operations Manager [reflected](#) on the hurdles that have been overcome in the first year. Stephen Howes [looked at](#) how the provision of safe house accommodation to survivors in Lae has improved, and Kath Taplin at [repatriation](#).

If you're interested in following Femili PNG's work, sign up to its [newsletter](#). You can also support its work by making a [tax-deductible donation](#).

Another keynote for 2016 aid conference; call for papers closing soon

[Kitty van der Heijden](#), Director of the World Resources Institute Europe Office, will address the conference on the SDGs and the Paris climate change conference. Kitty has a wealth of experience as a former senior Netherlands civil servant and her country's Ambassador for Sustainable Development. She will be joining DFAT Secretary Peter Varghese, who will open the conference.

Registrations for the conference are [now open](#), with early bird pricing until 10 November. Our call for papers is open until 15 October, with more details [available here](#).

Microcredit, family planning and RCTs

In an event next week (Wednesday 23 September, 12.30pm) Jaikishan Desai will summarise the results of a cluster randomised control trial which sought to measure the impact of exposure to family planning and credit programs in two regions of Ethiopia over a three-year period. [Register here](#).

Can the SDGs be achieved?



Chris Hoy of ODI will present a new report on how achievable the new SDGs are

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(all 17 of them) on Thursday 1 October (12.30pm). The event will discuss which goals we on track to achieve, and which ones will need more effort, both for the world as a whole and in different regions. [Register here](#). (And for our recent blog debates on the SDGs, [click here](#)).

Higher education reform in PNG



On Monday 12 October (12.30pm), the Honourable Malakai Tabar MP, PNG's Minister for the Department of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology, will discuss the issues and challenges that Papua New Guinea is currently facing in the Higher Education sector, and the reforms underway. [Register here](#).

PNG pathways to gender parity event



On Tuesday 13 October (12pm), in conjunction with the Asia Pacific Professionals Association and PNG High Commission, we will host a panel of high-level speakers exploring gender parity issues in Papua New Guinea, and discussing how business can help.

The stellar panel includes: Ann Steele, Head of Human Resources and Senior HR Executive, ANZ PNG; Avia Koisen, Principal, Koisen Lawyers; Eric Kwa, Secretary/CEO, PNG Constitutional Law Reform Commission; The Honourable Malakai Tabar MP, Minister for Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology in PNG; Magistrate John Kaumi, Mendi District Court Senior Provincial Magistrate; Dr Linda Van Leeuwen, Capacity Building Specialist and Manager, Anitua; Gloria Sevua, Business Incubation Officer, National Development Bank Investments Ltd.

[Register here](#).

Research assistants

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We're on the lookout for research assistants for various projects. If you have strong quantitative or qualitative research skills in the areas we work in – aid effectiveness, PNG and the Pacific, and global development policy – and are interested in casual part-time or short-term full-time work – send in your CV to Anthony Swan (anthony.swan@anu.edu.au).

Upcoming events

Do microcredit and family planning programs have their intended impact on poor households?

Wednesday 23 September 12.30 – 1.30pm, Brindabella Theatre. [Register here.](#)

Can the SDGs be achieved by 2030?

Thursday 1 October 12.30 – 1.30pm, Barton Theatre. [Register here.](#)

Higher education issues and reform in Papua New Guinea

Monday 12 October 12.30 – 1.30pm, Barton Theatre. [Register here.](#)

PNG: Pathways to gender parity

Tuesday 13 October 12 – 1.30pm, Barton Theatre. [Register here.](#)

2016 Australasian Aid Conference

10-11 February 2016. Call for papers and registrations now open. [Details here.](#)

Blog highlights

[The aid budget and Syrian refugees](#)

[NGOs and the private sector](#)

[Malaysia's disappearing PM](#)

[PNG student politics](#)

On the blog

[Too much of a good thing—avoiding the tyranny of context in social accountability interventions](#) by Anna Wetterberg

[Indonesian South-South cooperation: renewing the old message](#) by Miranda Tahalele

[Student boycotts at the University of Goroka: some patterns and distinct features](#) by Ivo Syndicus

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A shared value? The role of the private sector in international development by Priyanka Sunder

Putting Lae's safe houses to work by Stephen Howes

Pacific climate diplomacy and the future relevance of the Pacific Islands Forum by Greg Fry

What do Australians think about foreign aid? By Camilla Burkot and Terence Wood

I'm in love with the SDGs, but they won't break my heart by Jo Spratt

Assessing the shift to limited preferential voting in Papua New Guinea: money politics by Nicole Haley and Kerry Zubrinich

The international anti-corruption conference and the case of the disappearing prime minister by Grant Walton

In brief

Fortnightly links: Middle East, religion in development, East Africa, and more...

Of Osborne, Dutton, refugee costs and overseas aid budgets

Supporting survivors of violence in PNG to find safety

This is the fortnightly newsletter of the [Development Policy Centre](#) at Crawford School of Public Policy, The Australian National University, published every second Friday.

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