Sir Richard Feachem on eradicating malaria by 2030

Hear the man who started the Global Fund, renowned global health and development expert Sir Richard Feachem, speak on malaria eradication in the Asia Pacific in a public seminar on Tuesday 25 November (12.30pm, Barton Theatre). Sir Feachem will discuss the striking progress that has been made in some countries in the region, and the challenges that lie ahead. Register here.

Sam Koim on tackling corruption in PNG

Not one to shy away from the headlines, Sam Koim, the chairman of PNG’s Taskforce Sweep, has been an outspoken critic of the lack of action on corruption in Papua New Guinea, including Australia’s inaction on money laundering.

Taskforce Sweep was ordered to disband this year after Prime Minister Peter O’Neill was served with an arrest warrant over his alleged role in a corruption scandal. But it continues to operate in an increasingly difficult environment. In a seminar on 27 November, Sam Koim will speak about his challenging work. More details and registrations here.

2015 PNG Update: announcement and call for papers

We are pleased to announce that the 2015 PNG Update will once again be co-hosted by the UPNG School of Business Administration and the Development Policy Centre, ANU, and will be held at the University of Papua New Guinea on 18-19 June 2015. The theme for the Update will be “Development Challenges in the LNG Era”.

A call for papers is now open. More details are available on the website.

‘A lost decade?’ Australian launch

After a successful launch in Port Moresby last month, we will be launching the report from our joint NRI-ANU Promoting Effective Public Expenditure program here in Canberra on 11 December.

The report ‘A lost decade? Service delivery and reforms in Papua New Guinea 2002-2012’ is based on two years of research and survey results on some 360 primary schools and health care clinics across the
country, from the national capital to the most remote districts.

Speakers will include NRI Director Dr Thomas Webster. For further details on the event, contact macarena.rojas@anu.edu.au.

If you can’t wait until December to hear the findings, the report and a summary is available online.

2015 Australasian Aid Conference

Abstract submissions are now closed. We received more than 100, and will shortly be releasing the full draft program. In the meantime, here is the skeleton program [pdf].

Upcoming events

Malaria elimination in the Asia Pacific by 2030

With Sir Richard Feachem. Tuesday 25 November, 12.30PM–1.30PM. Register here.

The challenges of fighting corruption in Papua New Guinea

With Sam Koim. Thursday 27 November, 12.30PM–1.30PM. Register here.

Australian launch of the ‘A lost decade?’ report

With NRI Director Dr Thomas Webster, on Thursday 11 December. For details, contact macarena.rojas@anu.edu.au.

2015 Australasian Aid Conference

Our annual aid conference will be held on 12-13 February 2015. Registrations are open, with early bird pricing until 21 November. For details, visit the website.

Blog highlights

Problems with the Pacific Index.

In her blog debut, Devpolicy Fellow Carmen Voigt-Graf writes on life in Port Moresby.

In conversation with Vanuatu’s PM.

Should Australia join the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank?

On the blog

Elections, and the state Solomon Islands is in by Terence Wood

Political instability, the MSG and regional politics – an interview with Prime Minister Joe Natuman of Vanuatu by Joe Natuman and Tess Newton Cain

Another review of the Pacific regional architecture is neither warranted nor appropriate by Matthew Dornan and Tess Newton Cain

Bainimarama and the Pacific islands forum: a storm in a calm ocean by Wadan Narsey

Some clarification from the courts in Papua New Guinea PM’s ‘fight to the very last breath’ – part two by Bal
Kama

Problems with the Pacific index by Jonathan Pryke

Papua New Guinea: an assessment of trade performance by Sabit Otor

Another day, another bank: why there’s no hurry for Australia to join the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank by Matthew Dornan and Robin Davies

Settling as an expat in Port Moresby – a personal account by Carmen Voigt-Graf

Is there finally hope for Timor Leste’s rural people? By Terry Russell

In brief

ICAI report slams DFID’s anticorruption efforts, aid experts slam report

‘Pacific Stories’ – sharing insights from the region

Should Australia try to re-establish democracy in Fiji using its aid program?

The dilemmas of Ebola, and an African state on the edge of genocide

Australian aid for the Gavi vaccine alliance — additional yes, more no

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