

## Newsletter: AAC reaching capacity | PNG in 2017 | Global transparency portal | Blog survey

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**Date :** January 27, 2017

### **Last chance for 2017 AAC!**

Registrations are going quickly for the [2017 Australasian Aid Conference](#). If you are planning to attend and haven't registered yet, now is the time to do so – we expect the conference will sell out again. The highlights will include addresses by Foreign Minister Julie Bishop and a keynote by World Bank social development specialist Michael Woolcock, as well as the presentation of the Mitchell Humanitarian Award at the conference dinner.

We'd also like to remind conference attendees that the Aid Supplier Conference, to be held on Friday 17 February, also at ANU, is a separate event organised by DFAT. For more information, contact [aidsupplierconference@dfat.gov.au](mailto:aidsupplierconference@dfat.gov.au).

### **PNG in 2017**

Find out what 2017 has in store for PNG in terms of both economics and politics. Paul Flanagan [predicts](#) another tough economic year, while Bal Kama [points](#) to conflicting trends around money politics and voter awareness in the lead up to the June elections.

### **Global transparency portal**

In a recent [blog](#), Robin Davies summarizes a discussion with Rupert Simons, CEO of global campaign for aid transparency [Publish What You Fund](#). Simons notes that the aid effectiveness agenda, including the aid transparency agenda, has 'gone off the boil internationally'. Davies argues for a global transparency portal to make use of data now potentially available, but currently difficult to access, through the [International Aid Transparency Initiative](#). If you want more, Simons will be speaking at the [2017 Australasian Aid Conference](#) and check out the podcast [here](#).

### **Devpolicy Blog reader poll**

Many thanks to everyone who responded to the request in our last newsletter to fill out our Devpolicy Blog reader poll. We're eager for your feedback to help us improve the blog, so if you haven't done so already please fill it out today [here](#). The poll will close on 31 January.

### **Upcoming events**

*World Development Report 2017: Governance and the Law*  
5 – 6.30pm, Tuesday 14 February, Molonglo Theatre, Crawford School, ANU. Details [here](#).

*Australasian Aid Conference 2017*  
14 – 16 February, Crawford School, ANU. Event details [here](#).

### **Blog highlights**

[Vanuatu's seasonal worker rise](#)

[PFM in the Pacific: in-line equivocation](#)

[The awkwardness of moral saints](#)

### **Latest podcasts**

[The state of aid transparency: in discussion with Publish What You Fund](#)

### **On the blog**

[PNG in 2017: a year of redefining democracy?](#) By Bal Kama

[The Seasonal Worker Program: who is coming to Australia?](#) By Henry Sherrell

[Papua New Guinea stumbles to an election](#) by Paul Flanagan

[Lessons from public financial management reforms in the Pacific](#) By Nematullah Bizhan

[The ingredients of aid transparency: political commitment, consumer pressure, the right tools](#) by Robin Davies

[First in class: PNG student migration to Australia](#) by Henry Sherrell and Stephen Howes

[The awkwardness of moral saints](#) by Stephen Howes

[Priced out of the market: informal settlements in Honiara, Solomon Islands](#) by Luke Kiddle and Meg Keen

[Feminist innovations in the Pacific: the inaugural Pacific Feminist Forum](#) by Jane Alver

### **In brief**

[Fortnightly links: globalisation, Gambia, cash is best, corruption, Trump, and more](#)

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