

Newsletter: Aid budget breakfast | Trump and development – 100 days | Why forests? | PNG drought and famine

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In 2015, the federal aid budget was slashed by almost \$1 billion, followed by cuts of a further \$200 million in 2016. 2017 is the first year it is expected to increase, if only [enough to cover inflation](#). Join us the morning after the 2017-18 budget announcement at the sixth annual Devpolicy Aid Budget Breakfast for fresh insight and expert analysis on how aid has fared in this year's budget. The event will be held on Wednesday May 10, commencing at 9am sharp. Please join us from 8am onwards for breakfast, or watch the livestream [here](#). Further details [here](#). Register [here](#).

Trump and development: the first 100 days

Stephen Howes and Robin Davies contributed to the ANU volume [The Trump Administration's First 100 days](#) with an article on "[Trump and development: aid, migration and the Beijing Consensus](#)." They argue that apart from aid cuts, migration reforms and a slashing of refugee intake, the lasting developmental legacy of the Trump administration might be the fillip it provides to the so-called "Beijing Consensus", which emphasizes the importance of exports and authoritarianism.

Why forests?

On Tuesday May 16 at 2pm, the Development Policy Centre will co-host a public [seminar](#) by Jonah Busch of the Centre for Global Development, based on his recent [book](#) (with Frances Seymour) *Why forests? Why now? The science, economics, and politics of tropical forests and climate change*. Read about the event [here](#), and register [here](#).

PNG drought and famine

In 2015, much of PNG was hit by a major drought and a series of destructive frosts. On Wednesday June 7 at 3.15pm, Devpolicy will host a public forum entitled *Drought and famine relief in Papua New Guinea, 2015-2016*. More detail [here](#), and register your interest [here](#).

Also, on PNG check out Terence Wood's latest [analysis](#) of PNG electoral reforms; Stephen Howes on PNG's [ongoing revenue decline](#); Joachim Luma, Michael Anderson and Carmen Voigt-Graf on how to get more aid-funded staff into [in-line positions](#) in PNG; and Grant Walton on [anti-corruption messaging](#).

Finally, the deadline for submission of papers to the 2017 PNG Update (10–11 August 2017) has been extended. Abstracts will be accepted until Friday 12 May 2017. Further information [here](#).

Upcoming events

Aid Budget Breakfast

9 – 10.30am, Wednesday 10 May, Molonglo Theatre, Crawford School, ANU. Details [here](#).

Why forests? Why now? The science, economics, and politics of tropical forests and climate change – Jonah Busch

2 – 3.30pm, Tuesday 16 May, Acton Theatre, Crawford School, ANU. Details [here](#).

Drought and famine relief in Papua New Guinea, 2015-2016

3.15 – 5.15pm, Wednesday June 7 at Lecture Theatre 1, Hedley Bull Centre, Building 130, Garran Road, ANU. Details [here](#).

2017 Pacific Update

20 - 21 June, The University of the South Pacific (USP), Suva, Fiji. Details [here](#).

2017 PNG Update

10 - 11 August, The University of Papua New Guinea, Waigani Campus, Port Moresby. Details [here](#).

Blog highlights

[Democracy for prosperity?](#)

[Samoa's creeping politicization of religion](#)

[Polio progress: one-step closer](#)

On the blog

[Midwifery and maternal health in Papua New Guinea](#) by Susan Crabtree

[Has LPV helped women candidates in PNG?](#) By Terence Wood

[Does China need to become democratic to become rich?](#) By Stephen Howes

[Did changing electoral systems change election results in PNG?](#) By Terence Wood

[Heeding a global call to action on rehabilitation](#) by Wesley Pryor and Alexandra Lewis-Gargett

[For immunisation, Australia must continue to also look beyond its borders](#) by Helen Evans

[Revenue falls for a second year in a row in PNG](#) by Stephen Howes

[Christianising Samoa's constitution and religious freedom in the Pacific](#) by Bal Kama

[Polio is one step from eradication, and we must take it](#) by Chris Maher and Reza Hossain

[Significance of the centenary: history and commemoration of the Kokoda Campaign in Papua New Guinea](#)
by Gregory Bablis

[Aid advisers in Papua New Guinea: a full solution](#) by Joachim Luma, Michael Anderson and Carmen Voigt-Graf

In brief

[Fortnightly links: global poverty, non-violent protest, vaccine trial, pro-aid ad, and more](#)

[Your chance to have an evaluation discussed in the next Australian Aid Evaluation Forum](#)

[New opinion data on aid spending, and 2017-18 Federal Budget preview](#)

[PNG Elections: 1964 to 2017 – film screening at ANU](#)

[Aid at the end of Murray McCully's time as NZ's foreign minister](#)

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

