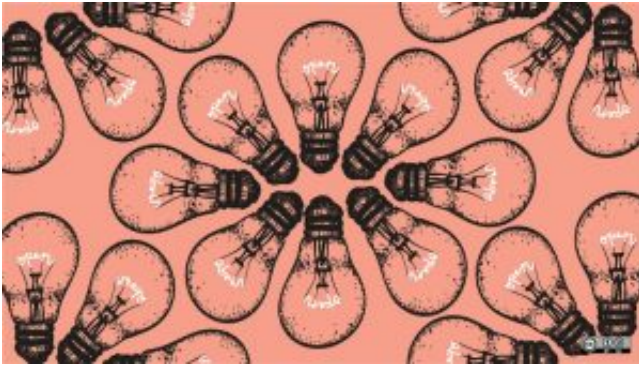


## Newsletter: Aid policy change | Decentralisation and corruption | PNG Update draft program

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### Aid policy change: entrepreneurs, ideas and rules

In an essential read for those who engage with the politics around aid, Jo Spratt examines the role of actors, ideas and rules in two significant New Zealand aid policy changes. The three-part blog series is based on her PhD research. In the first [post](#), she explains how entrepreneurial behavior in individuals was essential to achieving change, and in the [second](#), she explores how ideas-based networks shaped and supported these changes. In the final [installment](#), she discusses the importance of advocates knowing the rules.

### Decentralisation and the potential for corruption in PNG

How does location affect the response to corruption? What are the implications for policy makers? Drawing on interviews with stakeholders in PNG, Grant Walton and Ainsley Jones argue that context matters when dealing with corruption. They examine decentralisation structures in PNG and find that in places with strong institutions and alignment between social and administrative norms (i.e. East New Britain Province), principal-agent theory is relevant, but in places where these factors are weak (i.e. Gulf Province), collective action problems are more likely. Read the [discussion paper](#) here and [blog](#) here.

### PNG Update draft program + keynotes

The draft program for the 2017 PNG Update is now [available](#). This year's Update will be bigger than ever, featuring some 63 papers, an increase on 50 last year, and covering a broad variety of topics including PNG economics, social issues and politics. The theme of the Update is 'PNG: after the elections', and it will be held on 10 – 11 August 2017, at the University of Papua New Guinea, Waigani Campus, Port Moresby. The event is free, open to all and does not require registration — more details [here](#).

### Pacific Update wrap

This year's Pacific Update, held last week at the University of the South Pacific in Suva, Fiji, was again a highly successful platform for the discussion of key issues affecting the region. Approximately 400 attendees heard engaging discussions on labour mobility, disaster management, and the future of Pacific regionalism. If you weren't able to attend, you can access the presentations [here](#). Dame Meg Taylor opened the conference, and you can read her opening remarks [here](#).

### Devpolicy seeks Program Officer

We currently have a vacancy for a Program Officer, and it's not too late to submit an application. The role is a crucial part of the centre, coordinating events and administration. We are accepting applications until Friday 14 July. For more details, see the [job description](#).

## Welcome

We are delighted to welcome Mitiana Arbon to the Development Policy Centre. Mitiana is a Samoan-Australian student currently finishing his Honours year in Pacific Studies at ANU, and he will occupy the role of Labour Mobility and Migration Research Officer. If you'd like to contribute content on these topics for the blog or our monthly newsletter focused on labour mobility and migration, contact [Mitiana](#).

## Upcoming events

### *2017 PNG Update*

10 –11 August, The University of Papua New Guinea, Waigani Campus, Port Moresby. Draft program now [available](#). Details [here](#).

### *Australian aid evaluation forum*

7 August. Save the date for our next evaluation forum in conjunction with DFAT's ODE. More details soon.

## New podcasts

[My Father, My Country: a film evening with Dame Meg Taylor](#)

## Blog highlights

[Corruption and culture – crossing the line at the PNG elections?](#)

[PNG at the polls: the challenges](#)

[Beijing Consensus: looking beyond infrastructure?](#)

## On the blog

[Participatory budgeting at the local level in Nepal](#) by Thaneshwar Bhusal

[Aid policy change: the rules in a dynamic process](#) by Jo Spratt

[Labour supply challenges in the horticultural industry](#) by Matthew Dornan

[Voices from the war: PNG stories of the Kokoda Campaign](#) by Timothy Pirinduo

[Asking the right questions](#) by Bob McMullan

[Does the Beijing Consensus have anything to do with foreign aid?](#) By Patrick Kilby

[Some challenges for voters in PNG's 2017 general election](#) by Bal Kama

[Helping the Seasonal Worker Program reach its potential in the NT](#) by Development Policy Centre

[Aid policy change: ideas-based networks](#) by Jo Spratt

[Tobacco trouble: Asia and the Pacific in the spotlight](#) by Ian Anderson

[The workforce of the future: Solve-a-thon applications open](#) by Lisa Cornish

[Electoral corruption in PNG: caught between the law and a hard place](#) by Sam Koim, Grant Walton

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