



## Newsletter: Mitchell Humanitarian Award | AAC wrap | PNG currency

By Development Policy Centre  
24 February 2017

### **Veterinarian Robyn Alders wins inaugural Mitchell Humanitarian Award**

In front of a full house at the conference dinner, veterinarian [Dr Robyn Alders](#) was named the winner of the inaugural [Mitchell Humanitarian Award](#) for her career-long efforts to eliminate Newcastle disease in village chickens. She was presented the prize by Harold Mitchell AO, after whom the award is named. You can read Robyn's fascinating story [here](#) in our Aid Profiles series, or [this story](#) about her win that ran across Fairfax newspapers on the weekend. We've also put up a [blog](#) on Robyn's acceptance speech. Stay tuned for a new series of [Aid Profiles](#) this year, which will form the shortlist for the 2018 award.

### **AAC wrap**

Read Camilla Burkot and Anthea Mulakala's [wrap](#) of the [2017 Australasian Aid Conference](#), and Ashlee Betteridge's [winning entry](#) in the Three Minute Aid Pitch. You can also watch video of all plenary, keynote and a few parallel sessions [here](#). We'll be putting up podcasts and presentations for other sessions shortly, with more blogs to come. Fill in our feedback survey [here](#). Photos of the [conference](#) and [conference dinner](#) are now available online, so please feel free to tag yourself and share amongst your networks!

### **PNG kina overvaluation**

In a new [policy brief](#) and [blog](#), Marcel Schroder and Rohan Fox analyse the economic fundamentals in PNG and, using an econometric model, find that the PNG currency is overvalued by approximately 20%.

### **People news**

We bid a temporary farewell to Macarena Rojas, who undertakes a six-month secondment at the [Sir Roland Wilson Foundation](#). Returning to fill Macarena's absence, we are delighted to once again welcome Husnia Hushang.

This week, Matthew Dornan presented the ANU-World Bank [Pacific Possible: labour mobility](#) report to senior officials from APEC economies in Nha Trang, Vietnam at a workshop towards the development of an APEC labour mobility framework. Stephen Howes and Henry Sherrell recently hosted a roundtable on Pacific labour mobility with several Pacific embassies. The discussion focused on how to improve existing programs and ideas for the future.

## **Blog highlights**

[MP Warren Entsch on TB](#)

[Mitchell Award acceptance speech](#)

[Australian NGO gender woes](#)

[Supply-driven aid in Pakistan](#)

## **On the blog**

[How much is PNG's kina overvalued?](#) By Rohan Fox and Marcel Schroder

[9 highlights from the 2017 Australasian Aid Conference](#) by Camilla Burkot and Anthea Mulakala

[Focusing on what is important](#) by Robyn Alders

[Communications for protection: a three-minute aid pitch](#) by Ashlee Betteridge

[Knowledge of sickness and healing, medical pluralism, and health seeking in Vanuatu](#) by John Taylor and Lana Elliott

[Ending TB requires global support](#) by Warren Entsch and Nick Herbert

[Australian veterinarian Robyn Alders wins inaugural Mitchell Humanitarian Award](#) by Ashlee Betteridge and Stephen Howes

[Water and sanitation in Australia's aid program: building it back better](#) by Bob McMullan and Robin Davies

[The aid policy network in Pakistan](#) by Faheem J. Khan

[The gender woes of Australian NGOs](#) by Terence Wood

## **In brief**

[Fortnightly links: humanitarian aid vs ice cream, DFID's new strategy, cholera, and more](#)

[Research on anti-corruption messages and sharing education findings in PNG](#)

[PNG conference on urban safety: abstracts invited](#)

[Refugee film 'Home' wins best short film award](#)

[Gender analysis, and thinking and working politically – bridging the gap](#)

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## About the author/s

### Development Policy Centre

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