

## Newsletter: New aid evaluations | Post-boom PNG | Democracy in Africa | What good public goods?

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### **Australian aid evaluation forum: DFAT policy, Indonesia roads and PNG health**

On Monday April 10 at 2pm, the Development Policy Centre and the Office of Development Effectiveness (ODE) will host their latest Australian Aid Evaluation Forum. The forum will discuss DFAT's new aid evaluation policy and plan, and evaluations of two important projects: the [Eastern Indonesia National Roads Improvement Project](#), perhaps the largest Australian-aid-funded infrastructure project ever, and the Australian Doctors International remote and rural [integrated health patrols](#), which are co-funded by the Australian and PNG governments. Further details on the event [here](#). Register your interest [here](#).

### **Post-boom PNG**

The management of the exchange rate is one of the key instruments a country has at its disposal to protect against economic shocks. In this [public seminar](#) at 215pm, on Tuesday 11 April, Marcel Schroder provides an [overview](#) of recent economic developments in Papua New Guinea, and argues that the PNG RER is overvalued by approximately 20%. Register [here](#).

### **Democracy in Africa**

Africa has a rich history, diverse cultures and abundant natural resources. Despite this, the overwhelming majority of Africans remain poor, disenfranchised and oppressed. In a public event at 1230pm, on Wednesday 12 April, former Eritrean Ambassador to the EU and [author](#) Andebrhan Welde Giorgis will discuss the drivers of the democratic deficit in Africa and the continent's prospects for the future. You can read more about the event [here](#), and register your attendance [here](#).

### **What good global public goods?**

In this [discussion Paper](#) and [blog](#), reflecting on an interview with economist Inge Kaul, Robin Davies argues that the concept of a global public good in aid policy narratives has generally been used in an unduly restricted and self-serving way. He proposes that it might be deployed to greater effect were it linked more specifically to concrete, realistic global public policy commitments aimed at eliminating certain of the world's 'bads' — in effect, by declaring them public enemies. The unabridged version of the interview is annexed to the [paper](#), and a link to the audio recording can be found in the [blog](#).

### **Measuring change in Australian aid**

In a new paper on the post-2013 changes to Australian aid, Terence Wood, Camilla Burkot and Stephen Howes draw on data from the 2013 and 2015 Australian Aid Stakeholder Surveys to examine the extent and significance of the changes. You can read the article (open access) [here](#), an APPS Policy Forum summary [here](#), or the In brief [here](#).

### **Upcoming events**

*Australian aid evaluations: new aid evaluation policy; Indonesia roads; and PNG health*

2 - 5pm, Monday 10 April, Weston Theatre, Crawford School, ANU. Details [here](#).

*Papua New Guinea after the resource boom – Marcel Schroder*

215 – 345pm, Tuesday 11 April, Coombs Seminar Room B, Coombs Building 9, Fellows Road, ANU. Details [here](#).

*Democracy in Africa: past, present and future - Andebrhan Welde Giorgis*

1230 - 130pm, Wednesday 12 April, Brindabella Theatre, Crawford School, ANU. Details [here](#).

*Tertiary education in the Pacific - trends and issues - Rajesh Chandra*

530 – 7pm, Wednesday 12 April, Hedley Bull Theatre 2, Hedley Bull Centre (130), Garran Road, ANU. Details [here](#).

*Complexity in governments and markets - Vito Tanzi*

5 - 630pm, Wednesday 19 April, Weston Theatre, Crawford School, ANU. Details [here](#).

*Coping with high risk and uncertainty in aid policy design and practice – Adam Forde*

12.30 – 1.30pm, Wednesday 26 April, Seminar Room 7, Level 2, JG Crawford Building 132, Lennox Crossing, ANU. Details [here](#).

*Aid Budget Breakfast*

9 - 1030am, Monday 10 May, Molonglo Theatre, Crawford School, 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**

[Fairfax on the SWP](#)

[Gendered humanitarian leadership gap](#)

[Budget support to PNG?](#)

## **On the blog**

[Public enemies: global public goods in aid policy narratives](#) by Robin Davies

[PNG at 40: reflecting on the past to build a solid future for Papua New Guinea](#) by Paul Barker

[Reflections on governance and corruption at the 2017 AAC](#) by Rob Lamontagne

[Cash or program aid – a delicate balance](#) by Sam Koim

[Book review: becoming comfortable with the complexity of 'How Change Happens'](#) by Thushara Dibley

[The violence engendered on Manus Island cannot be ignored](#) by Michelle Nayahamui Rooney

[The recent Fairfax story on ni-Vanuatu seasonal worker exploitation](#) by Stephen Howes

[The role of regionalism in financing development in the Pacific](#) by Raymond Prasad

[The gendered leadership gap and the humanitarian sector](#) by Ayla Black

[Budgetary data in PNG: taking the long view](#) by Rohan Fox and Stephen Howes

**In brief**

[Fortnightly links: worms, inequality, paywalls and happiness](#)

[New publication on land transformations in Melanesia](#)

[The future of USAID and more](#)

[New Zealand needs an aid campaign—here's how to get it](#)

[Gauging change in Australian aid – new journal article](#)

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