Challenges of developing human capital for PNG’s Sustainable development

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Outline of Presentation

- Sustainable Development as a founding development principle at Independence
- Development Planning and Sustainability considerations
- Bachelor of Sustainable Development - as a response to the human capital for sustainable development
Sustainable Development (SD)

- UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Social Economic Environment
PNG StaRS

"PNG... EM MI YAH!"
National Strategy for Responsible Sustainable Development for PNG
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PILLARS/PRINCIPLES

Quality of Life/Social Pillars/Principles
- Ensure a fair distribution of the costs and benefits of development for all those alive today.
- Respect and reinforce the fundamental rights of human beings, including civil and political liberties, cultural autonomy, social and economic freedoms, and personal security.
- Seek to sustain improvement over time; ensure that depleting natural resources will not deprive future generations through replacement with other forms of capital.

Environment Pillars/Principles
- Promote responsible stewardship of natural resources and the environment, including remediation of past damage.
- Minimise waste and environmental damage along the whole of the supply chain.
- Exercise prudence where impacts are unknown or uncertain.
- Operate within ecological limits and protect critical natural capital.

Economic Pillars/Principles
- Maximise human and well-being.
- Ensure efficient use of all resources, natural and otherwise, by maximising rents.
- Seek to identify and internalise environmental and social costs.
- Maintain and enhance the conditions for viable enterprise.

Governance Pillars/Principles
- Support representative democracy, including participatory decision-making.
- Encourage free enterprise within a system of clear and fair rules and incentives.
- Avoid excessive concentration of power through appropriate checks and balances.
- Ensure transparency through providing all stakeholders with access to relevant and accurate information.
- Ensure accountability for decisions and actions, which are based on comprehensive and reliable analysis.
- Encourage cooperation in order to build trust and shared goals and values.
- Ensure that decisions are made at the appropriate level, adhering to the principle of subsidiarity where possible.

PNG THE BEST LITTLE COUNTRY IN THE WORLD
Sustainable Development as a founding development principle at Independence

National Goals and Directive Principles as in the table
Providing all citizens with the opportunity to achieve their potential. Quality education and a world class health system are key elements of the PNGDSP for human development, helping to develop a highly skilled work force and equipping PNG’s entrepreneurs with the skills they need to grow their businesses.

All citizens should have equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from the nation’s legal framework. PNG’s prosperity will alleviate the country’s poverty and inequalities.

PNG’s development will be fostered in ways that learn from and build upon PNG’s cultural diversity of any nation of the world. PNG’s development will be fostered in ways that learn from and build upon PNG’s cultural diversity of any nation of the world.
Sustainable Development (SD)

• **Sustainable Development (SD) is not new to Papua New Guinea**

• PNG’s participation in many international agreements has since validated the wisdom of this foresight.
Change in global consciousness around Climate Change led to the framing and adoption of Vision 2050.

MTDPIII

Development Plans
- Provincial
- District
- LLG?

To be a world leader in Responsible, Sustainable Development.
O’Neil/Abel Government upon taking office in October 2013
- approved adoption
- use of the Sustainable Development Paradigm
- as the guiding philosophy for future development policies and plans.
UPNG’s response to sustainable development –

- UPNG admitted its first intakes in 2015.
- 2019 is the fifth year for the programme.
- Pioneer students graduated in 2018.
- 2019 the second batch of students graduated.
Bachelor of Sustainable Development

- full four-year degree programme (undergraduate),
- a second degree two year programme (from other fields)
- multi-disciplinary, giving students an employment edge in becoming sustainable development practitioners
Development Planners,

Planning and Research officers,

Urban and physical planners,

Policy advisers,

Economic sectors (Mining, energy, forestry, fisheries etc),
SIPT: Students sharing notes from a Guest Lecturer - CIMC
Role play of scenarios for Resource Negotiations in RENCOR practical
Challenge #1

• Need for Funding and resource support for the BSD Programme
• ... initially signed between DNPM and UPNG in 2014.
• Programme nears the end of its first phase
• Funding is needed for 2020 and beyond
Challenge #2

- DNPM assisted in 2017 and 2018
- ... engaged six students for work experience.
- Students needs for bus fare, meals, or field trips, insurance
Challenge #3

- Awareness campaign of SDGs & StaRS
- The problem of poor awareness of the programme is funds for travel to different provinces.
- The students’ involvement is a more effective strategy because of their ability to communicate with their people in their own languages.
Challenge 4

Space, no proper lecture room for effective teaching and learning
2016

Pioneer students
Space: no proper lecture rooms for effective teaching and learning
Small class numbers works out alright

35 students in here?
Final year presentation from Work Experience, 2017
Lack of proper classroom space, staff room coffee room was used a lot in 2017, 2018, still the same in 2019
Students sit for Test outside Staff Coffee Room
Challenge #5

• Multi-disciplined … draws on expertise
• The engagement of experts in the industry to assist with teaching specialized subjects.
• Architects and Engineers – Sustainable Built Environment
Challenge #6

• Sustainability principles and their application is a developing discipline in academia

• Written textbooks and materials at affordable cost for staff and students for effective teaching and learning
Challenges #7

- Sustainability principles challenges current mindset and practices in the industry.

"Real success can only come if there is a change in our societies and in our economics and in our politics."
Current Industry Practices

- Industry practices such as late David Bola An Environment Assessment Officer with Wafi/Golpu stated “I have to be balanced in my approach to the company and my people“, when he is writing reports

- Islands Petroleum in 2017 took a student for work experience ... environment inspection not faithfully done by CEPA
Industry

- Uncomfortable to engage students, critique current practices

- Further research is needed to clarify this assumption
Recommendations

- Funding for the course either as the continuation of the MOU with the DNPM, or the incorporation of the course as a recurrent cost item in the university budget.
- UPNG to recognize the course as a recurrent programme and accommodate all its resource needs – staffing and accommodation in its recurrent portfolio.
- Stakeholders - government and industry need to use the course for upskilling of their human resource stock.
- Staff need further training for effective delivery of SD courses
- Employers both in government and commerce and industry should assist with providing industry work experience places for students.
- Provincial governments to include in their development plan, sustainable Development and StaRS centre
Education is a human right with immense power to transform. On its foundation rest the cornerstones of freedom, democracy and sustainable human development.

Kofi Annan
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: HOLDING OUR WORLD IN TRUST FOR OUR CHILDREN

MICHAEL MEACHER