Economic growth with rising poverty in PNG

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Rapid growth in GDP over the past decade

Rising poverty in PNG

Puzzle of (1) with (2) – deny poverty exists!

Conclusions
PNG economy has grown rapidly over the past decade
Poverty trends in the NCD
Anthropometrics

Age = 28
Height = 182
Weight = 76
BMI = 22.9
Sex

WHO Child Growth Standards
Length/height-for-age, weight-for-age, weight-for-length, weight-for-height and body mass index-for-age

Methods and development

1 year 2 years 3 years 4 years 5 years

World Health Organization
BMI Z Scores

1996 HIES (n = 565)

2009/10 HIES (n = 2,570)
Where are the poor in PNG?
# Stunting rates by region (2009/10)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Stunting (No.)</th>
<th>Total (No.)</th>
<th>Rate (%)</th>
<th>Share(%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Highlands</td>
<td>277</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islands</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Momase</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>818</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>421</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1093</strong></td>
<td><strong>2570</strong></td>
<td><strong>43</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stunting in children as a measure of poverty

- Highlands
- Islands
- Momase
- Southern w/o NCD
- NCD
- Region

1996
2010
Exchange rate (Kina/US)
Commodity prices (US$ Index)

- Palm oil
- Coconut oil
- Cocoa beans
- Coffee

May 2003 = 100
Rising tides lifts all boats?

Can use anthropometrics to calculate poverty (SAM).

Why has poverty and GDP risen together?

Case for well targeted (via NDOH) social safety nets.
Thank you!