

Reforms in the Papua New Guinea Higher Education Sector (Update)

Albert Mellam, PhD (ANU)

Vice Chancellor, The University of Papua New Guinea

Waigani, National Capital District

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

- Our Context
 - PNG Govt. Development Plans
 - Vision 2050
 - Regional and Global Issues
- PNG Higher Education Sector and some data
- Higher Education Plan III 2014-2023 - Reform Activities
- UPNG as a Case
- Concluding remarks

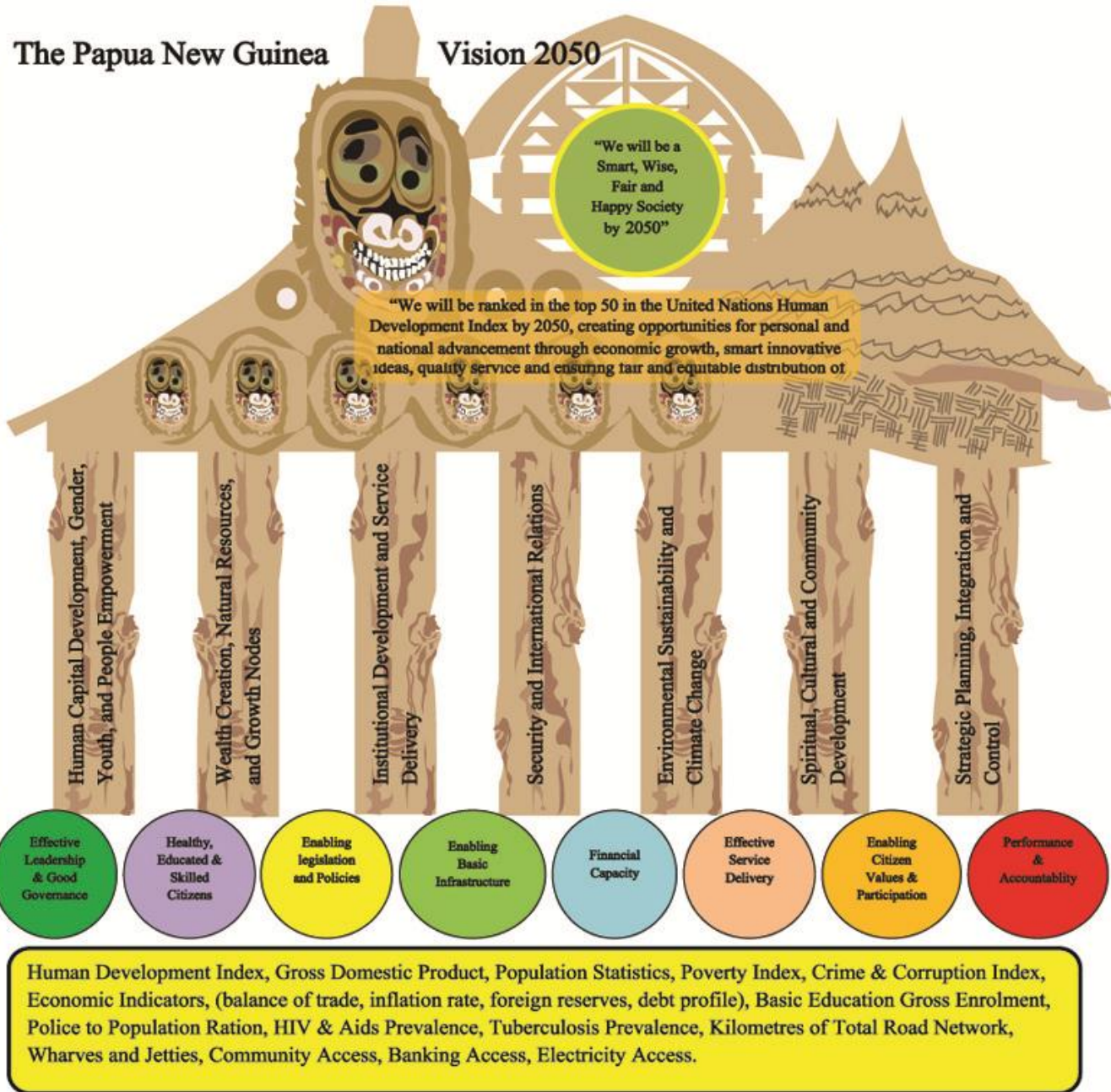
Govt.of PNG Development Plans

- Vision 2050
- Strategic Development Plan 2010-2030
- Medium Term Development Plan
- Sectoral Plans
- *Alotau Accord and Sectoral Impact Projects*
- Higher Education Plan III 2014-2023

The Papua New Guinea

Vision 2050

Where are we going?	Strategic Vision 2050
What will we do to get there?	Mission
What will make things work?	Key Pillars
How will we know if we get there?	Development Indicators and trackers



Vision 2050

- **Vision:** *'We (PNG) will be a Smart, Wise, Fair, Health and Happy Society by 2050'.*
- **Mission:** *We will be ranked in the top 50 countries in the UN Development Index by 2050, creating opportunities for personal and national advancement through economic growth, smart innovative ideas, quality service and ensuring a fair and equitable distribution of benefits in a safe and secure environment for all citizens'.*

Global Trends and Challenges

- **The Impact of Globalisation;** the Phenomena of massification which includes greater social mobility for a rapidly increasing global population.
- **Inequality in Access;** the highly competitive higher education sector, and the scarce places and scholarships in Universities.
- **Increased student mobility due to open borders** in accessing higher education either within higher educations or through the platform of ICT.
- **Teaching, Learning and Curricula innovation;** Quality Assurance, Accountability and Qualification Framework; Financing Higher education and the public-good private good debate – the private revolution of private providers of higher education
- **The Asian Century;** the challenge of creating PNG educated population with an regional and global mindset.

Higher Education Sector Pillars

- Human Capital Development, Gender, Youth and People Empowerment.

BASIC STRUCTURE OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR IN PNG

- Parliament and National Executive Council
- Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology
- Commission of Higher Education, Science and Technology
- Office of Higher Education, Science and Technology
- Universities and Colleges

Number of School Graduates by Exit Point

	2009	2010	2011	2012
Grade 8	70,591	89,340	89,681	98,983
Grade 10	47,129	54,915	63,989	74,561
Grade 12	11,600	12,621	13,733	14,942
Total	129,320	156,877	167,403	188,487

Source: Measurement Service Branch, Dept. of Education, 2013

Higher and Technical Education Graduates - 2007-2010

	2007	2008	2009	2010
University Graduates	3641	3503	3783	4208
Non-University Graduates	3730	4027	3960	3734
Total Graduates	7371	7530	7743	7942

Source: Resource Inventory Data and Annual Surveys of Higher Education, 2011

Current Reforms in the Higher Education Sector – Focus Areas

- Higher and Technical Education Bill 2013 – for an *Act*
- Changes in the *Acts* of Universities.
- Higher Education Plan III 2014-2023.

NATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION PLAN III 2014-2023

- INTENT:
- *Transforming Tertiary Education, Research and Development through Quality Assurance and Innovation.*

Higher Education Plan III 2014-2023 Strategic Goals

KEY STRATEGIC ISSUES THE PLAN SEEKS TO ADDRESS:

- Insufficient government funding to the sector, limiting opportunities to increase access.
- Poor infrastructure maintenance and development., ICT challenges, capacity to house students and pressure to enrol beyond capacities.
- Poor salaries and conditions of academic and professional staff, high turnover of staff, succession planning and aging workforce.
- Loss of confidence by stakeholders in university governing bodies, size and tenure of council members.
- Lack of robust and comprehensive quality assurance systems
- Limited research and development capacity, and
- Poor sectoral coordination.
- Governance issues – mismanagement of Universities and colleges

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS FOR THE PLAN

- Adequate finance.
- Entrepreneurial cultures that are stakeholder-focused.
- Coordinated systems and processes.
- Effective legislative policies, and
- Improved resources and capacity for innovation (human resources, infrastructure, management and administrative capacities).

Strategic Goal Areas

- Governance structure.
- Resource Management through innovation.
- Research, Science and Technology.
- Academic Programs and Quality Assurance.
- Access, Equity, Diversity and Output.
- Industry and District Alliances.
- Technical Education and Training.
- Internationalization and Global Labour Mobility.
- Monitoring and Evaluation Framework.

Case of the University of Papua New Guinea

- Located in Port Moresby, the National Capital District.
- 5 Schools or Faculties- Law, Business, Humanities & Social Sciences, Science, Medicine, and Allied Health Sciences.
- Open and Flexible Learning program with Open campuses and franchise arrangements in all provinces of PNG.
- Enrol up to 15 thousand students per year.
- Workforce of 1,700 full-time academic and administrative staff.
- UPNG's challenges
- Impact projects for 2013
 - ✓ **Academic Audit and Quality Assurance – Complete in August, 2013.**
 - ✓ **ICT roll out program – started with several phases.**
 - ✓ **Improve platforms for service delivery to students and staff**

- **TENK YU TRU (THANK YOU)**