PNG Promoting Effective Public Expenditure Project

Conducting Public Expenditure and Facility Surveys in PNG:

Reporting back from the field

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INTRODUCTION

• PEPE is made up of two components:
  – Component 1 – Analyse priorities in the national budget
  – Component 2 – Understanding how the budget is spent to improve service delivery

• Completed expenditure tracking and facility surveys across PNG

• Provide reflections on fieldwork in Gulf Province

• Andrew Mako will provide views on opportunities and challenges in Enga
EXPENDITURE EFFECTIVENESS

• PNG has experienced a rise in revenue and expenditure over the last decade

• More evidence is needed to understand if public spending increases have made a difference at the service delivery level.
PEPE SURVEY OBJECTIVES

• The Public Expenditure and Service Delivery (PESD) Survey conducted by NRI / World Bank in 2002.

• The survey covered the same schools and health facilities:
  – Southern Papua region (Gulf, National Capital District)
  – Highlands region (Enga, Eastern Highlands)
  – Momase region (West Sepik, Morobe)
  – Islands region (West New Britain, East New Britain)

• The reform areas of focus are:
  – Direct school subsidy payments;
  – Direct delivery of text books to schools;
  – Health function grants provided to the facility level; and
  – Direct delivery of medical supply kits to health centres and aid posts.
SURVEY METHOD AND PARTICIPANTS

• Key data collected:
  – school and health facility characteristics
  – the amount, timing and sources of funds
  – the use of funds and who decides how the money is spent
  – interactions with district and provincial inspectors/supervisors

• Participants from primary schools:
  – Head Teacher, Board of Management, Parent and Citizens (P&C)
  – District and Provincial Education Officials.

• Participants from health facilities:
  – Officer in Charge (OIC) of the facility, Other Health Worker,
  – Health Facility User, District and Provincial Health Officials.
SURVEY IMPLEMENTATION

• Condensed timeframe to assess the new education subsidy
• Completed over a four month period
HOW REMOTE IS REMOTE IN PNG?

Sandaun Province – Across Telefomin District
In West New Britain, survey teams visited remote parts of Kandrian and were chased by pirates in Talasea.
In East New Britain, survey teams didn’t only visit Kokopo District but spent months in Pomio facing rough seas.
In Morobe Province, survey teams walked for 20 hours straight to get to some of the inland schools.
Some reflections on carrying out the survey in Gulf Province
CONDUCTING FIELDWORK IN GULF PROVINCE

‘Never Say Die’
CHALLENGES: GEOGRAPHY
KEREMA - KIKORI

• Travelling from Kerema to Kikori is very difficult when the airstrip is not operational.

• Dinghy travel is the only option
DECAYING FACILITIES IN REMOTE AREAS

- The survey team observed a lack of schools and health facilities serving more remote populations.
OPERATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE?

- It was also common across many villages to find unfinished infrastructure projects, under the DSIP program.
OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

• Despite the challenges, opportunities for improvement exist.

• Individuals who are determined to ensure basic services persist in their communities

• There were inspiring examples of retired and retrenched teachers and health workers
FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE: ENGA

- Major challenges hindering effective flow of public services (health & education)
- Opportunities at frontline for public service delivery
MAJOR CHALLENGES AT THE SERVICE DELIVERY FRONTLINE

- Remoteness and isolation from major towns/centres in Enga
- Very poor road conditions to remote facilities
Incomplete bridges and very remote roads meant there was a lot of walking...
• This notice was posted on the door of the provincial education office.

• It mentions that all schools in Kandep District were suspended due to tribal fights so a new district had to be selected to survey.
CHALLENGES WITH ACCESSING FUNDS

• Lengthy and timely processes at provincial and district levels
• Delays spending time especially for rural and remote facilities
FINANCIAL CHALLENGES

• Capacity to manage funds and keep records were variable across schools
• There were often discrepancies between revenue & expenditure
• Community often suspects HT and BOM Chairperson colluding over funding receipt and expenditure

Summary table of Revenue and Expenditure (question from the survey)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Copy the responses from the indicated questions above</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>Note: write down the kina value from:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>a</td>
<td>b</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F63 [Total funding contribution by parents to school finances - do not include in-kind support]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Note: Question F11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F64 [Total funding contribution from school subsidies - do not include in-kind support]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Question F25b for 2011, F29b for 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F65 [Total funding from other sources - do not include in-kind support]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Question F47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F66 [TOTAL REVENUE]</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Kina Note: sum the three cells immediately above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F67 [TOTAL REVENUE plus Savings]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Question F66 plus Question F52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F68 [TOTAL EXPENDITURE]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Question F62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F69 [TOTAL REVENUE plus Savings minus TOTAL EXPENDITURE] [Note: here you have calculated how much the school has saved at the end of the year]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Question F67 minus F68 Note: Does this number look reasonable?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MAINTENANCE OF INFRASTRUCTURE

• Neglect of existing roads, schools and health facilities
OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

• Dedicated teachers and health workers
Retired but still dedicated to service
OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

• Supporting service deliverers to do their jobs
OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

• Engaging with communities that can bring about change and ensure accountable practices.
IMPROVING ENGAGEMENT WITH CHURCHES

Bringing health and education services to the most remote areas across PNG.
Next Steps

• We are finalising summary statistics to be presented at the next PNG Budget Forum.

• Disseminating findings through provinces surveyed and relevant National Departments

• This should influence public policy, including national budget allocations

• Second phase of research based on survey findings and ongoing data analysis.