



Meeting the challenge



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- Evolving evaluation processes in an AusAID funded program in Papua New Guinea -
The Australia Papua New Guinea Incentive Fund managed by Coffey International Development

50
YEARS
AN EXTRAORDINARY JOURNEY

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... Meeting the challenges

- International development and the need to show aid effectiveness (Accra Agenda for Action, 3rd high level forum for aid effectiveness September 2008)
- Ownership, harmonisation, alignment with country goals and strategies
- Use of national systems
- Changing environment for donors, aid funds management including M&E
- AusAID website – *“Australia has signed up to a new global agenda for aid reform, one that strives for a smarter approach to delivering aid. Its all about improving the way aid works to provide better results for the poor”*



Australia Papua New Guinea Incentive Fund

- Two phases, July 2000 – May 2009
- Designed to increase participation of PNG organisations in AusAID funded aid activities
- Incentive Fund appraised and Management Group agreed funding for good proposals
- New direction in Australian aid to PNG – contestability, wide range of organisations and projects



Aid effectiveness and APNGIF

- APNGIF designed with high degree of monitoring and output evaluation
- Little emphasis on showing aid effectiveness via outcome evaluation:
 - immediate evaluation against outputs included lessons learnt, organisation's management capacity, unexpected risks and issues;
 - carried out by ex-patriot Development Specialist staff not associated with the particular project.



Meeting the challenges to APNGIF

- In 2006, a review team suggested we 'retrofit' expected development outcome indicators (OI) for each project
- All completed projects to be evaluated against these OI
- Limited time given end-of-program imminent
- Lack of resources
- PNG context



Challenge – developing outcome indicators

- Read the funded organisations' proposals, objectives
- Read appraisal notes and Management Group decision criteria
- Gleaned national DOI where available
- Prepared 2-4 DOI per project
- Matched where possible to GoPNG indicators and national priorities (MTDS 2005-2010)



Challenge - resources and time...

- Needed to visit 29 completed projects with an evaluation team within 14 months: scattered, diverse, difficult travel
- 4 development specialists on staff including one evaluator
- Saw an opportunity for capacity building for local staff in evaluation methods
- Wanted *tok pisin* speakers and women as part of each evaluation team



Necessity coincides with philosophy

- 7 local staff received training (accounting, logistics, administration, project officer, Deputy Team Leader)
- Training included de-mystifying evaluation, how to ask questions, listening, protocols re culture and confidentiality, conduct etc
- Formed into teams including local staff –brainstormed target audiences, questions, methods, logistics. Local staff acted as team leaders for some evaluations.
- DNPM invited to become active partners in evaluation activities and contribute to decisions re reporting to align with DNPM requirements
- AusAID staff as observers (after APNGIF training)



Case study – how we met the challenges

World Vision North Bougainville Water and Sanitation Program

Organisation's aspirations	National development goals	Our expected immediate development outcomes
To provide access to safe water to rural communities in Buka and North Bougainville and associated hygiene and sanitation training to reduce the incidence of water borne and hygiene-related diseases in project communities	Target 14: Increase to 60 percent the number of households with access to safe water by 2010 Target 11: have controlled by 2015 and either stabilised or reversed the incidence of pneumonia, malaria and other major diseases by 2020	Reported extent of improved practical hygiene and sanitation actions in Project villages Program contributions to the health of a sample of project communities as reported by villagers, Provincial health and hospital data and Council of Women
In all 38 communities, >32,500 people affected: 91 new and 10 repaired water systems, 802 VIP toilets	2000-2010 National Health Plan, water and sanitation Vol 1 p8: disease prevention including malaria and diarrhoea	"The water supply... changes in the way food is being handled and prepared, cleanliness of mothers and children and a drop in common illnesses such as diarrhoea, typhoid and skin diseases". Village Water Committee member.



World Vision North Bougainville Water and Sanitation Program Immediate Evaluation

- Team of 3 – Incentive Fund Evaluator, ex-pat Development Specialist, female Papua New Guinea staff member (Project Assistant)
- Intensive preparation – letters to stakeholders, liaison with World Vision for village visits, development of questions, confirming roles, support and encouragement
- 4 day visit, bad to terrible roads, rivers to ford etc
- Triangulated sources of qualitative information
- Some data collected from 3 health aid posts and Buka hospital – difficult to draw any conclusions as hospital data included all Bougainville



Unexpected outcomes

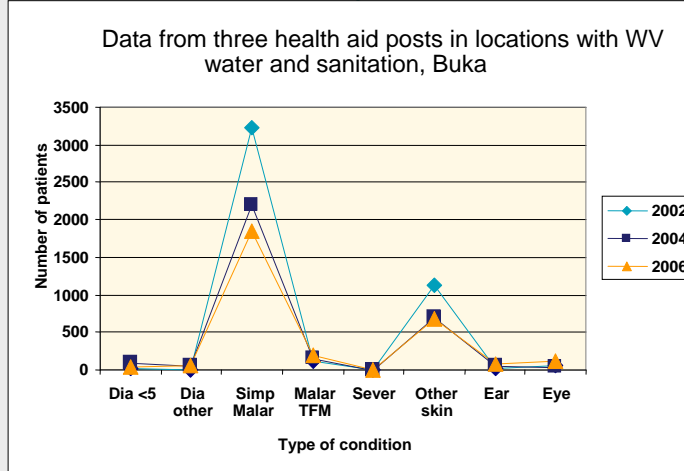
- Gender impacts
- Better attendance at schools
- Less family strife
- More money for women and families

"Before the project women were not involved in the decision making within the village. Now women are included on the committees, generally as the treasurer as women can be trusted to look after the money..." (World Vision)

"Children are more punctual at school as they have access to water and can wash more easily" (Village Water Committee member)



Reportage of a range of conditions from three health aid posts in the World Vision Project area, 2002-2004-2006



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The challenge for local staff: Introducing...Lisania Boletu Chief Financial Advisor APNGIF

SIMBU EDUCATION PHASE II & TAPINI INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS



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In-office preparation

- In-house training on M&E
 - Learnt what M&E is all about
 - Learnt processes involved in M&E
- Planning for the M&E
 - Organised staff and resource allocation
- Desk assessment
 - Know the program goals & objectives
 - Identified major stakeholders /beneficiaries of the program
 - Prepared specific questions in relation to the program objectives
 - Discussed and agreed on final questions with colleagues
 - Arranged interviews in advance



Field work – what I learnt

- Appropriate dressing
- Confidentiality explained
- Flexibility critical
- Use appropriate language
- Re-explain questions
- One-stop questions
- Listen don't make judgements
- Group interview skills
- Division of groups by gender
- Have sound knowledge of evaluation objectives



Analysis & reports

- Analysis of responses on return to the office
 - Analysis important while memory is fresh
 - Discussed methods of data analysis
 - Data tabulation by question
 - Report writing allocated

What I have learnt

- What M & E is all about
- Processes involved in M & E
- Field experience
- Gained confidence
- Analysis of data
- Contributed to report writing
- Hardships faced by Projects – lessons learnt, unexpected outcomes
- Able to do M & E
 - Planning
 - Field work
 - Report Writing

Where am I now?

- Attached to the Sub National Strategy Program (also an AusAID funded Program) as a Senior Accountant responsible for Trust Accounts
- Still carrying out monitoring of the operations of Trust Accounts in each of the provinces
- Working closely with our lead agency (DPLGA) to address issues related to the operations of PPII Trust Account in the provinces
- Recently I was involved with DPLGA in the monitoring of the PPII Provinces
- I am very much interested in development work, therefore both my experience in accounting and monitoring and evaluation have added value to the work I do



Introducing other local staff meeting the challenge



Top left: Emmanuel Wrakuale: then Deputy Team Leader APNGIF: welcome to village for ADRA Morobe water and sanitation project evaluation visit



Lower left: Evelyn Oli: Assistant APNGIF Accountant getting ready for interviewing at Alotau Hospital Upgrade Project

Below: Allan Warkia Project Officer (logistics) on the journey to Porgera for Paiam market project evaluation



Challenge: providing user friendly 'evidence'

- Formal reports completed for all 29 evaluations for AusAID and GoPNG plus an excel spreadsheet of summary data including outcomes (10 further immediate evaluations completed since then)
- Storybook as major output from APNGIF Phase 2: 28 stories built around narratives from key stakeholders and beneficiaries.
- Book objective - present human face of development aid effectiveness in accessible manner for wide audience
- As well 14 Programs visited by IF team and film crew from PoM: 4 sector DVD and 14 project DVD prepared - all shown on EMTV
- All these – plus summary project evaluation reports, pictures, lessons learnt etc are on the APNGIF website www.cidsharepoint.net/APNGIFund

