



ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2016

UNITED NATIONS - PAPUA NEW GUINEA



United Nations
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
Delivering as One

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FOREWARD



As Resident Coordinator of the United Nations (UN) in Papua New Guinea (PNG) I am pleased to present the Annual Progress Report for 2016. The report highlights progress made in delivering the goals set out in the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2012-2017.

In 2016, the penultimate year of this programme, the UN partnered with the Government on the development of the next UNDAF 2018-2022, which is aligned to the Government's Medium-Term Development Plan III and the Sustainable Development Goals. In parallel, UN agencies continued to increase the overall delivery rates for UN programmes. We recognize that the best results for development occur when government, private enterprises, civil society groups and the international community work collaboratively together to achieve joint objectives.

As a pre-election year, 2016 was critical, not only for the shaping of the political agenda by government for the next five years, but as the first year of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This year saw a consolidated effort by the UN to support the Government with setting the roadmap for integrating the SDGs into national frameworks. The UN also continued to respond to the devastating impacts of the El Nino induced drought in many communities in different parts of the country by supporting the Government's efforts.

The UN in PNG is proud to be a 'Delivering as One' Country Team and has sought to consistently improve coordination of our efforts to increase the efficiency, effectiveness and impact of our work. We are grateful to the Government of PNG for recognizing, many years ago, the advantages of 'Delivering as One' as a way of improving the impact of our joint work in the country.

On behalf of the UN Country team, I would like to thank the Government of PNG for its continued close partnership. I would also like to thank all our development partners especially the Government of Australia and the European Union. Without their critical support, many of the achievements outlined in this report would not have been possible.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge and commend the people of Papua New Guinea for their continued support to the UN System. The UN Country Team looks forward to continuing to strengthen its contribution to Papua New Guinea's development and wellbeing of all citizens.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Trivedy', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr. Hemansu-Roy Trivedy
United Nations Resident Coordinator



DEVELOPMENT TRENDS 2016

The year 2016 began optimistically, as the initial public-spending budget was the largest ever for the The Government of Papua New Guinea and the nation anticipated imminent improvements in public services. As a result of low global commodity prices, however, the Government passed a Supplementary Budget mid-year to restrict public spending plans. The forecast for annual economic growth was adjusted from 4.3 per cent to 2.2 per cent due to low global oil and gas prices, which affected revenue projections. This uncertain economic outlook impacted on budget allocations for health, education, law and order, and other services. Overall, despite a difficult political and economic outlook, the Government of Prime Minister, Peter O'Neill, maintained and consolidated its position in 2016.

Critical new enabling legislation was passed, including a new National Responsible Planning & Monitoring Act. This act established a National Service Delivery Framework and committed to producing an annual pre-budget paper that will in future link the national development plan to annual budgets. Another milestone worth highlighting is the endorsement and launch of the first National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender Based Violence (2016-2025), which was supported by the UN. The Strategy strengthens and institutionalizes the prevention of gender-based violence. It also accommodates the priorities and aspirations of the various important national government policy frameworks and legislations, including the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, and related international treaties.

The Government remains strongly committed to its 'signature policies': the provision of free primary education, subsidized health care and decentralization. The new District Development Authority Act has the potential to improve last mile service delivery. More funds are being disbursed through the District and Provincial Service Improvement Programme mechanisms and the Ward Service Improvement Programme.

Papua New Guinea is the largest of the Pacific island countries and home to nearly 76 per cent of all Pacific Islanders, leading the region on many fronts. The country took centre stage in guiding a transparent and inclusive process of defining the SDGs, as one of three representative governments from the Pacific that participated in the UN General Assembly's Working Group. It also played a leadership role on the 'Future We Want' national consultations on the Post 2015 Agenda as one of 88 countries leading the initial discussions that lay the ground for the SDGs.

On its 41st independence anniversary, Papua New Guinea is playing a vital role in shaping a 'New Pacific Diplomacy' on critical issues affecting the region (the 'New Pacific Regionalism'). At the 2016 UN General Assembly, Pacific Island State world leaders emphasized the threats due to climate change and other environmental factors. At the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting in September 2016, Papua New Guinea Prime Minister, Hon. Peter O'Neill, spoke on behalf of vulnerable Pacific Islands. He asked the World Bank to review and redefine 'state fragility', acknowledging that the "threat posed by climate change" now challenges the work of government's worldwide. In 2016, the Government of Papua New Guinea also hosted the Africa Caribbean and Pacific Summit, with 79 member states represented, as well as later in the year hosting the FIFA under-20 Women's World Cup.

Papua New Guinea is facing some significant milestones in the immediate future. In 2017, the National Elections will take place, setting the tone for this next five-year political cycle. The Government is committed to the Bougainville Peace Accord, which will require follow up before 2020. Also, further emphasizing Papua New Guinea's emerging leadership in the region and beyond, the Government will host the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit in 2018.

THE UN DELIVERING AS ONE IN PNG

Delivering as One is a UN initiative devised to bring together the in-country UN agencies as a way of enhancing efficiency, effectiveness and coherence. At the request of the Government of PNG, the UN in PNG became a Delivering as One country office in 2007.

In PNG, all UN agencies operate under five pillars:

1. **One Programme**
2. **One Fund**
3. **Communicating as One**
4. **Operating as One**
5. **One UN House**

This initiative enables the UN, the Government and our partners to coordinate more effectively to improve the quality of life for all Papua New Guineans. Its implementation has increased national ownership, and this has led to greater alignment with national priorities, resulting in an improved impact on development.

1. ONE PROGRAMME

The UNDAF 2012-2017 is the second joint programme in which the UN in PNG coordinates human and financial resources under the Delivering as One framework. The UNDAF was developed following extensive consultations with key ministries, civil society and development partners to ensure enhanced coordination and alignment with national priorities, to reduce duplication, and promote the norms, values and standards of the UN.

The UNDAF is supported by a single Action Plan and Results Matrix that integrates gender equality and a human rights-based approach as core programming principles. The structure of inter-agency task teams and joint planning processes strengthens internal and external coordination, planning, alignment and implementation. Joint annual work planning eliminates duplication of programming efforts, reduces reporting requirements for partners, and fosters inclusiveness.

In 2015, at the request of the Government of PNG, the UN extended the existing UNDAF for an additional two years through 2017. This aligned the UN Programme with the

Government Medium Term Development Plan II 2015-2017 and the political cycle in PNG.

2. ONE FUND

The functioning of the PNG UN Country Fund – the 'One Fund' – provides performance-based support to the UN's integrated policy approaches, enabling joint resource mobilization. The One Fund also contributes to the alignment of UN operational and programme activities with national plans and priorities.

In 2016, 100 per cent of resources mobilized in-country for the joint annual work plans were allocated through the PNG UN Country Fund, with the exception of core agency resources. Australia, the largest bilateral donor to PNG, channelled all financial contributions to UN programmes through the PNG UN Country Fund.

3. COMMUNICATING AS ONE

The UN's joint agency communications efforts in PNG are coordinated by the UN Communications Group, which supports the UN Country Team to increase awareness and understanding of the UN's work. Comprised of agency focal points and communications specialists, The UN Communication Group focused its advocacy in 2016 on the SDGs. The year-long campaign comprehensively targeted different stakeholders, including key decision makers, youth, journalists, private sector and the public. The planned campaign activities were implemented in partnership with the National Broadcasting Corporation, the Media Council, the National Parliament, the Papua New Guinea Olympic Committee, the European Union, as well as various youth organizations and schools. The UN secured free air time on national TV and radio, which covers over 90 per cent of the population, airing 40 SDG-focused segments.

The UN in Papua New Guinea concurrently increased the knowledge of journalists and youth on the SDGs, as they are the catalysts for distributing information. The first-ever Thomson Reuters Foundation journalist training in the country was conducted, with 15 journalists trained, measurably impacting media reporting. Furthermore, regular media discussions held throughout the year resulted in increased SDG coverage and on development issues in the media. The UN launched an

ever-green film that visually links the lives of ordinary Papua New Guineans with the SDGs. Also, a new initiative, the 'Youth Champion 4 SDGs' was launched to engage the wider public on the goals for 2017 and onwards. Other activities, such as a School Debate Competition, the UN4U school visit programme, SDGs sessions at the National Parliament, and the Papua New Guinea Athletes Event, reached over 2,000 people. The SDG campaign activities raised awareness across various stakeholders in the country during the crucial first year of the Government's commitment to the goals, and encompassed participation by the entire UN family while improving the coordination mechanism of Communicating as One.

4. OPERATING AS ONE

The Operations Management Team contributes to the strategic direction of UN operations (i.e. finances, Human Resources, procurement, Information and Communications Technology, general services and common services) at the country level. The continued progress in all identified areas of operations, for effective implementation, coordination and management, is the primary objective of this committee. It is composed of all UN Operations Managers and it implements cost-saving measures that shape how the UN conducts its activities in Papua New Guinea. For example, in 2016 the Operations Management Team, under the leadership of the UN Country Team, continued to harmonize operations. This work resulted in system-wide improved procurement practices in the areas of Travel, Vehicle Maintenance, Mobile Services, Conferencing & Accommodation, Stationary, Common Services, and Security. It also implemented significant improvements for UN staff. For example, the Operations Management Team held a Vendor Conference attended by over one hundred local vendors, resulting in the sharing of UN procurement rules and regulations and the creation of a comprehensive Vendor Roster. The Operations Management Team also networked with relevant government counterparts such as Protocol, Privileges & Immunities (Foreign Affairs), Customs, Immigration, and Transport, amongst others. Such networking further builds on existing relationships, to improve the efficiency with which the UN is administered. It also liaised with Cigna, the UN staff insurance carrier, and facilitated several webinars on insurance coverage and claim processing. The Resident Coordinator successfully lobbied for online claim submission to be enabled for staff in Papua New Guinea, reducing the cost of submitting claims through the mail as well as the reimbursement lead-time for UN staff. The UN also coordinated the first review in ten years of UN

Examining Physicians in Papua New Guinea, resulting in a new list quadrupling the options for staff in choosing quality health-care providers.

5. ONE HOUSE

Locating all UN agencies in PNG in one building – a 'UN Haus' – would further facilitate and support the implementation of joint UN operations.

UN AGENCIES, NON-RESIDENT AGENCIES, FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES OPERATING IN PNG IN 2016

- + Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- + International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- + International Labour Organization (ILO)
- + International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- + Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS)
- + Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- + United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)
- + United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- + United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)
- + United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- + United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- + United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN)
- + United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- + United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- + United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UNHABITAT)
- + United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA)
- + United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- + World Food Programme (WFP)
- + World Health Organization (WHO)

ANALYSIS OF THE UN IN PNG PROGRAMME

The Annual Progress Report is the UN's mechanism for reviewing yearly progress against the UNDAF 2012-2017.

Using the UNDAF Action Plan Results Matrix, results are defined at the inter-agency outcome level and output level. The Matrix tracks the achievements of results and their contribution towards strengthening national development efforts and reaching national objectives.

Under the UNDAF, the UN's work in PNG is divided into four clusters:

1. Governance for Equitable Development
2. Social Justice, Protection and Gender Equality
3. Access to Basic Services
4. Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management

Under these four clusters, our work prioritizes ten agreed inter-agency outcomes, covering a variety of areas where the UN has strategic knowledge and expertise:



Activities in PNG across the inter-agency outcomes include:

- + Standard-setting, promoting international norms and values, as well as strengthening national systems through the provision of technical support;
- + Support to policy planning, development and implementation; and
- + Financial contributions and capacity-development for implementing partners.

“In an increasingly performance-oriented society, metrics matter. What we measure affects what we do. If we have the wrong metrics, we will strive for the wrong things.” Jean-Paul Fitoussi, Amartya Sen, Joseph Stiglitz/ *Mismeasuring Our Lives*

OUTPUT DELIVERY RATES

Outputs are the changes in skills, knowledge, understanding and capacity of individuals or institutions, or the availability of new products and services, that result from the completion of activities within a development intervention. The output delivery rates are useful barometers of progress towards achieving development results.

In 2016, the UN focused on 54 outputs across the ten inter-agency outcomes. Each of the outputs has several indicators with annual targets that enable monitoring of progress.

By year-end 2016, for the corresponding 54 outputs, 30 per cent are complete, 59 per cent are partially completed and 11 per cent are delayed.

Year	Percentage of Inter-agency Outputs Complete or Partially Complete
2016	89%

FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND EXPENDITURE

By year-end 2016, the fifth year of the UNDAF, the expenditure rate for all ten inter-agency outcomes was 84 per cent. This represents expenditure of USD 45.4 million out of the available budget of USD 53.9 million. These figures are self-reported by agencies in-country and are uncertified. For certified figures channelled through the PNG UN Country Fund, please refer to the PNG UN Country Fund section of this report.

Year	Total Resources Available (USD)	Total Expenditure (USD)	Expenditure Rate
2016	53,919,370	45,373,914	84%

Each of the ten inter-agency outcomes benefits from varying available resources such as core, non-core and the PNG UN Country Fund. The following table illustrates the 2016 available resources per inter-agency outcome and the expenditure rates.

Inter-agency Outcome	2016 Total Available Resources (USD)*	2016 Total Expenditure (USD)*	2016 Expenditure Rate (%) **
1. Governance	3 million	2.2 million	73%
2. SDGs, Population and Aid Effectiveness	5.6 million	4.9 million	87%
3. Peacebuilding – Bougainville	3.7 million	3.2 million	86%
4. Human Rights	.686 million	.428 million	62%
5. Gender Equality & Women’s Empowerment	4.4 million	3.4 million	78%
6. Child Protection	3.6 million	3.1 million	86%
7. HIV and AIDS	.625 million	.441 million	71%
8. Health	14.4 million	11.3 million	78%
9. Education	3.6 million	3.6 million	100%
10. Environment, Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management	14.4 million	13.0 million	90%

* All figures have been rounded up/down and are self-reported by agencies (uncertified)

** Based on actual amounts, not the rounded up/down figures

CLUSTER ONE:

GOVERNANCE FOR EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT



CLUSTER OUTCOME:

By 2017, the national government will realize significant improvements in good governance, the leadership of development planning processes, budgeting and financial management of service delivery – making optimum use of available resources to attain the localized Millennium Development Goals (MDG) targets. PNG becomes a safer, more secure and stable nation upon which its citizens can make real strides towards sustainable development.

1. GOVERNANCE

Contributing Agencies: UNDP, UNCDF

Inter-Agency Outcome:	By 2017, elected representatives and key Government of PNG bodies implement good governance practices grounded in accountability, transparency, inclusive participation and equity.
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Strengthened Capacity

The UN and the National Parliament signed an agreement in 2014 for a three-year project with the overall objective of deepening democracy and strengthening the rule of law in Papua New Guinea. Unfortunately, the project has not commenced by the end of the reporting period due to the National Parliament not allocating the agreed amount of resources to start up the project. Despite this, the UN has pursued several small but important initiatives with the aim of establishing the ground work for expended implementation in the next United Nations Development Framework 2018-2022). These are in line with the key programme objectives of ensuring that the PNG Parliament has the capacity to fulfil its duties effectively through proper institutional capacity, legislative and oversight functions, provision of assistance to the Parliament representation, outreach and communication work objectives.

Two Information Communication Technology Needs Assessment Missions were conducted in 2016 at the request of the Clerk of Parliament. These provided an up-to-date report on the status of the Information Communication Technology systems in Parliament, as well as on essential processes such as transcription and Hansard recording.

Two scoping assessments were also conducted to assess the state of the Parliamentary Committee Secretariat, their committees, and what they need to function effectively. Plans are in place to address the findings in 2017.

In the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, the UN assisted with the provision of induction sessions to parliamentarians, the installation of equipment, an email system, and an information centre that will assist parliamentary research. A South-South exchange was also supported, enabling parliamentarians in PNG and Bougainville to attend a high-level meeting on parliamentary democracy and stability in line with SDG 16 on peace and governance. The meeting addressed issues and strategies that would support stability in the parliaments in the region. PNG discussed specifically the issue of the vote of no confidence and the role of members and political parties in supporting stability.

In August 2016, the National Parliament Bipartisan Committee on Referendum and the Bougainville House of Representatives Committee on Referendum met, for the very first time, in Port Moresby. The objective of the meeting was to start a dialogue between the two committees on work relating to the referendum preparations. Following this meeting, a commitment was made by the National Parliament

Bipartisan Committee on Referendum to visit Bougainville and conduct its hearings.

Financial Management Capacity

This output is supported by the Provincial Capacity Building Programme, and is funded by the Australian High Commission. It focuses on national, provincial, and district level support of the Government's finance management functions, in line with the reforms introduced on the Integrated Finance Management System and the Public Expenditure and Finance Assessment indicators. The aim is to support effective decentralized service delivery in PNG.

Training on improving quality and timeliness of mandatory financial reports: This training was conducted for provincial teams working with the Provincial Treasuries and Finance Offices and focused on enhancing quality of, and reducing the time for, processing and submission of mandatory financial reports (monthly bank reconciliation and Annual Financial Statement). This was considered an essential response measure given that, according to the Department of Finance, prior to the Programme's interventions, the aforementioned financial reports were submitted with delays ranging from six to 18 months. The late submission of financial reports on expenditures further delayed subsequent budget allocations, negatively affecting timeliness and quality of public service delivery. The impact has been a huge increase in timely reporting in 2016, as outlined below.

The intensive capacity building efforts in six target provinces have achieved significant progress. All 22 provinces have reached the international Public Expenditure and Finance Assessment standard of providing bank reconciliations within one month. A review in December 2016 found significant improvements in the timely submission of financial reports in six pilot provinces that had achieved enhanced accuracy and reliability. This progress becomes even more apparent when compared to provinces not covered by the Programme, where delays in submission of mandatory financial reports by the Treasury Offices average 14.5 months.

Transition to electronic process management through Information and Communication Technology training: The Provincial Capacity Building Programme has facilitated the creation of six computer labs in pilot provinces for the development and delivery of intensive Information and Communication Technology training. To complement the Information and Communication Technology training, the

Programme has also worked with the Bank of South Pacific to set up EFTPOS machines in each provincial treasury to facilitate the collection of revenues. These machines allow users to make payments electronically, which in turn reduces the risks involved in handling cash. As a result, the Department of Finance extended this approach to all provincial treasuries as part of their Cashless Policy.

'Problem solving' workshops and seminars: The Programme also delivered regular 'problem-solving workshops' in all provinces. The workshops addressed daily problems faced by provincial and district treasuries and administrations. They also provided targeted training on the theme of the workshop, such as procurement, claims examinations, asset management, etc. The workshops involved other relevant stakeholders, such as specialized staff from government departments or institutions.

Improving communication and information exchange on ongoing Public Finance Management reforms: The Programme also improved communication between provincial treasuries and administration. The preparation of executive reports gave a comprehensive overview of the province's financial situation that offered more information than the cash balance usually provided by commercial banks. This information informs planning and resource allocation enabling an evidence-based approach. In addition, in 2016, due to the high demand to produce specific financial reports, a special report template for the Service Improvement Programmes was produced. This report template is currently being discussed with the Departments of Implementation and Rural Development, Provincial and Local Government Affairs, Treasury and Finance. Once agreed, it will support the reporting and monitoring of these funds.

A webpage was also established to provide updated information on public financial management issues, regulations, resources/templates and news.¹ The Programme also produces a bi-weekly newsletter.

The UN continued its gradual expansion of the Provincial Capacity Building Programme. Covering already 13 provinces, it agreed to incorporate three new provinces (Oro, Southern Highlands and East Sepik) at the end of 2016. Thus, by the end of 2016, the project is working with 16 provinces and 68 districts.

New Electronic Monitoring and Evaluation tool: The Programme developed an electronic Monitoring and Evaluation tool in order to monitor and control approximately

600 government accounts from the provinces and districts. The PNG Government are mandated to produce annually approximately 7,000 financial reports (Monthly Bank Reconciliation reports and Annual Financial Statements) for these accounts.

The Monitoring and Evaluation tool has had a great impact within the Department of Finance, as it supports and facilitates enhanced and simplified monitoring of progress in the timely submission of mandatory financial reports. Updated reports are shown 'live' on large TV screens located in strategic places inside the building. So far, using this Monitoring and Evaluation tool, the results show that at the end of September 2016 all provinces, with the exception of Oro province, are submitting their mandatory reports on time. This is a substantial improvement in the timely submission of financial reports from provinces and districts. The next step is to ensure the quality of these reports, and of the information they provide. In addition, at present, there are no formal channels for communication and feedback on these reports from the Department of Finance HQ in Waigani to the respective provinces and districts.

Financial Inclusion

The overall objective of the Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme is to increase the number of low income customers who adopt formal financial services. It does this by making performance-based grants to financial service providers, conducting market research, and providing technical assistance to policy makers. The Programme is implemented through four principal work streams: 1) Regulation and Policy; 2) Financial Innovation; 3) Market Information; and 4) Consumer Empowerment.

The specific objective of the Programme is to increase financial inclusion for the low-income segment in the Highlands Region and to foster improved relations between farmers, farmers' groups and traders/processors/transporters through better access to financing. The activities of Component 2 primarily involve supporting the development of micro insurance and micro leasing, and deepening access through support to mobile and branchless banking. The aim is to create a generation of financially competent Papua New Guineans in the Highlands Region, in part by engaging and coordinating with Highlands' communities, including through local capacity building.

Based upon these aims and activities, the UN has implemented specific projects that are aligned to the objectives and mandate of the Rural Economic Development Phase 2 Component 2, specifically:

Support to the development of micro insurance and micro leasing:

The Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme, in partnership with MiBank, is piloting the Pay-As-You-Go pilot project. MiBank provides a payment channel so MiBank customers can purchase pre-paid electricity generated by solar installations in their homes. This project has significant potential to increase the quality of life for a large number of people, particularly women and children. The solar installations provide lighting that is superior to, and safer than, the current use of kerosene. The quality of life of children and women is improved, as they are able to study or work at night, with the added benefit of reducing the negative health effects of kerosene and smoke inhalation from wood fires. Studies in India have found a positive correlation between solar lighting and increased study hours and overall school performance.

With the UN's support, the British Interactive Media Association rolled out two low cost micro insurance products tailored to both urban and rural communities in PNG. Through the Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme, The UN's assistance to British Interactive Media Association, is specific to the Highlands region. The Programme's grant is helping the Association expand outreach in the Highlands, reducing delivery costs and risk, while improving customer service. The Programme is bringing much needed life and hospitalization insurance to Papua New Guineans, with a focus on the Highlands and other rural areas. The Programme's investment aimed to reach an additional 76,542 rural Papuans with low-cost life and/or health insurance within two years, of whom 50 per cent would be women and 90 per cent would be rural-dwellers. In less than six months, it surpassed this initial target and has become one of the Programme's most successful investments to-date. As of 30 September 2016, its outreach, which can be attributed to the Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme, is 256,392. Updated figures will be provided in future reports, as the outreach is monitored and further progress measured.

Deepen access through support to mobile and branchless banking:

¹ See: www.pcabii.org

The Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme has engaged with potential commercial banks, micro banks and mobile network operators towards a collaborated effort on tailored, diversified, financial service products and services to match customers' unique needs. The aim is to improve customers' usage of financial products and services, thus leading to the creation of a savings habit among Papua New Guineans. Savings will bring resilience, preparedness, and opportunities for forthcoming events, and is therefore supportive of a sustainable future.

Create a generation of financially competent Papua New Guineans in the Highlands Region:

The Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme has now partnered with two technical colleges in Eastern Highlands Province. Partnerships fostered with the Provincial Government of Eastern Highlands, the Department of Education, and the Bank of PNG, have led to the development of a pilot for financial education to integrate into the existing curriculum of these two technical colleges. The pilot project is centered around teaching basic 'money minding' to school leavers who have dropped out of the formal education system. The project aims to equip them with the basic knowledge and understanding of saving habits, and the available financial products and services they can access to enable improvement of their livelihoods.



2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS, POPULATION AND AID COORDINATION

Contributing Agencies: UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA

Inter-Agency Outcome:	BY 2017, relevant Government of PNG bodies undertake data and evidence-based participatory policy-making, planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation, and manage aid effectively to achieve MDGs with equity.
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Aid Effectiveness

In 2016, the Government made good progress in evidence-based participatory policy-making, planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation. This progress is particularly notable for the enabling frameworks, such as policies and strategies. The Government passed the National Responsible Planning and Monitoring Act 2016, enabling Medium Term Development Plans to be linked to the Annual Budgets, through the Annual Budget Framework Papers. The Act also gives further impetus to the National Services Delivery Framework that defines the minimum core services at various service delivery points. This complements the Government's decentralization agenda, particularly the District Development Authority and the increased funding for Provincial and District Improvement Programmes. Although the National Economic and Fiscal Commission has done some preliminary work on establishing district services profiles, the Government's increased funding to districts (PGK 15 million per year) is argued to be more political than evidence-based. Also, systems are not established for the collection or tracking of development data, particularly at subnational levels, apart from in the sectors of health and education that have some functional routine data collection systems. Although these are not quality assured.

The National Government is due to launch a National Monitoring and Evaluation Framework in 2017. The focus will be to localize the SDGs' targets and indicators through the Medium Term Development Plan III. It will also form the basis for various government sectors to develop their respective Monitoring and Evaluation plans to track progress on their sector's objectives, indicators and targets. This complements the PNG Strategy for Development Statistics also due to be launched in 2017. This strategy identifies all possible development data, methodology, frequency and establishes a timeframe for collection and analysis. Implementation of this strategy is very much dependant on overhauling and implementing the National Statistical Office reforms. The National Statistical Office is under-

resourced and lacks capacity to supply the critical national development data. Thus, the true status of development data in PNG is not usually known, thus hampering any evidence-based planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation. Other government departments, such as the Auditor General and Department of Implementation and Rural Development, mandated to conduct some development and financial audits, are also under-resourced. This renders them unable to provide suitable evidence to verify funding allocation, particularly through the Provincial and District Improvement Programmes.

The PNG Government also launched its National Strategy for Responsible Sustainable Development for PNG in 2016. It was part of the Government's attempt to refocus its development narrative and perspective towards preserving PNG's strategic assets, such as its vast natural resources and its endowment for sustainable use. In an age where build-up of carbon is a real threat, the Government of PNG wants to position itself as party to the provision of global solutions based upon the country's rich forest and natural vegetation. The Strategy also provides a platform upon which to diversify an economy that is currently dependent on extractives, by looking at sustainable and environmentally friendly sources of income. It also paves the way for the SDGs to be seamlessly embedded into national planning and implementation frameworks, including the Medium Term Development Plan III. While the Strategy and SDGs are largely aspirational, the current Medium Term Development Plan III will operate both strategies. The UN provided direct support to the Government on conceptualizing ways of integrating (as well as localizing) both the Strategy and the SDGs into the Medium Term Development Plan III.

Demographic Data

Demographic data is very important for evidence-based development planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation. The UN has consistently provided technical and advisory support to the Government on their demographic statistics. The UN provided direct support for the development of the

National Population Policy 2015-2025. Much of the focus in 2017 was on the development of the Implementation Plan, which is due to be released in 2017. This will provide the basis for the Government to forge partnerships with various stakeholders, facilitating and enabling implementation of the policy. Among the crucial actions for implementation are decentralization of the National Statistical Office in order to establish regional offices that will strengthen data collection, and monitoring and evaluation functions, at subnational levels. A lot of work will be required to establish and enable the functionality of regional sub-offices, as well the overall National Statistical Office reform. The UN is well positioned to provide continued strategic, technical and capacity development support towards attainment of the reform agenda.

The UN is providing direct management support to the Demographic and Health Survey, with funding from the Australian High Commission. Although behind schedule, the survey results will be crucial for establishing some of the baselines for the Medium Term Development Plan III and localized SDG indicators. It is also anticipated that conflicting data on Maternal Mortality Ratio for 733 (by the last 2006 Survey) and 220 (UN rapid assessment, 2010) should be reconciled: the current Demographic and Health Survey uses the direct sisterhood methodology relative to the indirect sisterhood method used in the last Survey, ten years ago.

In 2017, the Government launched its Development Cooperation Policy, with support from the UN. Through this policy, government narrative has changed from merely aid recipient to a partner in development. This transformation recognizes the country's economic position, its regional leadership, and the provision of foreign aid support to smaller Pacific Islands countries and territories. The Policy harmonizes development assistance by having partners work in sectors of their comparative advantage, to avoid duplication and spreading resources too thinly, and to work in line with the principles of aid effectiveness. The UN introduced a series of tools to the Department of National Planning & Monitoring such as the PNG Development Aid Database, the PNGInfo and DAISy. While scaling up the PNGInfo to province and sectors has been slow, seven provinces were trained to populate and handle data for their planning and budgeting. With the changes in management and contractual arrangements for the service providers, the above development data management tools were not populated or used to their optimal capacity. Data generated through those sources will

serve the Monitoring and Evaluation function of government, both at national and subnational levels.

The Government's Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, due to be launched early in 2017, will formalize the evidence-based development data collection, analysis and dissemination. The Monitoring and Evaluation framework is underpinned by adoption of Results Based Management tools and principles. The UN is well positioned to continue technical and advisory support to the Government in implementing the framework, particularly building national capacity on Results Based Management. The UN already received requests to provide Results Based Management training for government officers developing the targets and indicators for the Medium Term Development Plan III. This is also linked to technical support provided for the roadmap for mainstreaming the SDGs into the Government's key strategy and planning documents. Currently, the UN is providing support on localizing the SDG targets and indicators to be adapted into the Medium Term Development Plan III, due towards the end of 2017. PNG's Medium Term Development Plans are now aligned with the political cycle and so the incoming government's priorities will be harmonized and incorporated into Plan III. The UN is preparing internally to mobilize technical resources to further support government on advancing the SDGs' agendas.

Population

Sixty per cent of the PNG population are under the age 24 (2011 National Census) and youth is a population that needs more attention. According to the National Department of Education (2016), almost 25,000 Year 12 school leavers graduated last academic year, but only 7,000 managed to secure tertiary education. The number of technical and vocational institutions in PNG is limited and therefore unable to absorb any more than 7,000 out of the 25,000 graduates. Also, aside from sporadic small-scale initiatives, such as National Development Bank's entrepreneurship programmes and others by churches and non-governmental organizations, PNG lacks active national youth programmes that could provide opportunities. It is feared that any increase in disenfranchised youths will create further anti-social behaviour, such as petty crimes. Analysis conducted in 2016 identified youth unrest and lack of opportunity as a risk factor to achieving national and international development goals.

The UN has been actively supporting youth initiatives in PNG, providing direct support for the development of the National Youth Policy and technical support to National Youth

Commission. The Commission is in its embryonic stage, and the UN is working to strengthen its capacity as part of its larger technical support to the Department of Community Development, Women and Religion. The UN works directly with several youth organizations for capacity development on various topical areas such as maternal and child health issues, sexually transmitted diseases, and the SDGs. The UN worked with the youth organizations in the National Capital District and nationwide to build their knowledge and capacity on SDGs through school-based and other direct interventions. The UN worked directly with tertiary institutions on broadening their understanding of the SDGs, by giving public lectures and working with universities with SDG related courses to upgrade their course content. Dialogue was established by the UN with other interested universities on SDG related courses and will continue its partnerships.

The UN has targeted youth interventions in Bougainville for counselling and self-assessment centres, leadership development and youth parliament. The UN also implemented an entrepreneurship development project through the GameChanger Initiative brand. This project targeted young entrepreneurs with interesting business ideas to give them a platform with focused expert training to further develop their business ideas. Lessons learnt included the need for seed

capital, for on-going support, and for mentorship through established entrepreneurship centres. Although the pilot initiative was centred in Port Moresby, ideas were generated from other regions too. The UN will continue to explore opportunities to work with partners to further develop this initiative, which is linked to the Government’s Small Medium Enterprise Plan and to the decentralization agenda, and with a vision of placing entrepreneurship centres in every district. Many of the participants now run successful social enterprises. The UN will continue to support such initiatives and other interventions to explore and tap into the enormous dormant productive capacity of youths in PNG.



3. PEACEBUILDING – BOUGAINVILLE

Contributing Agencies: UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN Women

Inter-Agency Outcome:	By 2017, the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) leads post-conflict recovery and development planning and budgeting and provides a safe, secure, stable and sustainable environment in which girls, boys, women and men enjoy their rights to equitable access and utilization of basic services and their protection from violence, discrimination, exploitation, injustice and inequality.
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Since signing the Bougainville Peace Agreement in 2001, former combatants, the National Government of Papua New Guinea, the ABG and various factions within Bougainville, have jointly worked to progress sustainable peace in Bougainville. UN support is critical as the Government of PNG and ABG engage in talks aimed at advancing the implementation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement, strengthening the relations between the two governments, establishing good governance, and promoting fiscal self-reliance.

UN support played a significant role in facilitating dialogue between the ABG and the Meekamui, who were not signatory to the Bougainville Peace Agreement. The dialogue led to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding and a

Memorandum of Agreement between the two parties in 2015. The role of progressing the implementation of the arrangements within this Memorandum of Agreement fell to the Office of the Chief Secretary for ABG. Since the signing, however, there has been no progression, due to the high turn-over of the post of Chief Secretary from 2015 through to end of 2016, and lack of funding to support the arrangements. Despite these challenges, the relationship between the leadership of the Meekamui Government of Unity and the ABG has significantly improved, politically and administratively, with the ABG offering them its support.

A much-anticipated breakthrough was made during the Joint Supervisory Body meeting of May 2016. A target date of 15

June 2019 was jointly set for the conduct of the referendum. A referendum work plan was jointly endorsed and joint agreement was also achieved on the establishment of an independent agency for the conduct of the referendum.

UN support in facilitating political dialogue also led to agreements on joint key messages on the Bougainville Peace Agreement and the referendum, including the dissemination of those messages. Following this, a series of community discussions and awareness-raising activities were also supported. These resulted in a consultative process whereby people's voices were heard and communities were made aware of, and participated in, peacebuilding activities. The UN has supported capacity building for 40 members of the Bougainville House of Representative including four women MPs. This support facilitated training that enhanced knowledge and understanding of the roles and functions of parliament, the access and utilization of information and communication technology, and how to effectively serve their constituencies. Such training has contributed to more parliamentary engagement with constituents on political issues including the referendum. Training also helps to convey accurate and reliable information to communities on the Bougainville Peace Agreement and referendum which can in turn enhance the social cohesion of communities.

UN has also been advocating on gender issues, giving significance to the role of women in political decision-making and their participation in peacebuilding. The ABG's decision on the establishment of the Office for Gender Equality within the Office of the Chief Secretary, paving the way for increased attention to women's needs, is a notable achievement for the ABG in 2016. Similarly, the development of a Women's Empowerment, Gender Equality, Peace and Security Policy, and the development of the Bougainville Community Government Act of 2016 are noteworthy achievements. The latter establishes a mandatory requirement for a 50/50 male-female political composition within the community government structure in Bougainville, which will mean a significant increase in women's political participation. The year closed with the establishment of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Gender Equality, which received overwhelming support on the floor of the Bougainville Parliament. The motion to establish the committee was moved by the President during the final sitting of the Bougainville House of Representatives, from 21-23 December 2016.

Furthermore, the UN System, together with local partners, are collaboratively assisting in dealing with the continuing

psychosocial effects of the civil war on communities, especially the adverse impact it has had on family relations. The work is also helping to build the capacity of the Bougainville Government in the coordination and provision of referral and treatment for those affected by trauma. Additionally, under the leadership of the UN, the project is facilitating community dialogue sessions on gender-based violence, human rights, trauma healing and peacebuilding in the Districts of Haku in North Bougainville, and Siwai and Buin in South Bougainville. Participants in community conversations have indicated improvement in communication among husbands, wives and children, improved sharing of domestic chores between men and women, and a decrease in binge drinking and violence.

As Bougainville embraces the progress made so far, various issues remain to be resolved in regards to the implementation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement. Remaining issues include community needs regarding political engagement, socio-economic support, and the reduction of trauma and violence. The UN will continue to play a crucial role in supporting and progressing this complex peacebuilding and transition process, at both the political and community level.

Bougainville Peace Agreement

There is renewed commitment on the part of the Government of PNG to progress preparations for the referendum. The 2016 meetings of the Joint Supervisory Body and the Joint Steering Committee in May and September respectively, provided new impetus for enhanced cooperation in promoting political dialogue on important but seemingly contentious issues such as the Restoration and Development Grants and the Special Intervention Fund. The Restoration and Development Grants payment remains unresolved and negotiations between the two governments are still ongoing.

A second Autonomy Review was proposed and planned for 2016. At the Joint Steering Committee meeting of 13 September 2016, however, the Government of PNG reiterated that progress on referendum preparations should be mirrored with progress on weapons disposal and a performance review of the Bougainville constitution to inform the second Autonomy Review. The constitutional review was completed in 2016 and work on the review of the autonomy arrangements will commence in 2017, once the fiat is given by the Government of PNG. In regards to progressing the 20 joint resolutions identified in the 2013 Autonomy Review, only two resolutions have been fully implemented. The second Autonomy Review will clearly outline the progress in

implementation of all resolutions to-date. Due to sensitivities surrounding the drawdown of powers and the establishment of an eminent persons' group, this work has been referred to the Joint Steering Committee's Technical Team, and so the Joint Supervisory Body will advise further.

On 20 May 2016 a series of resolutions, one of which is the agreed joint work plans supported by the Peacebuilding Fund, giving impetus to the referendum work streams developed in 2015, were endorsed by both governments, under the leadership of the Prime Minister and the President of the ABG. This Joint Workplan focused on peace and stability, referendum decisions, electoral processes and awareness, and these succinctly capture the referendum work streams agreed in 2015. Peacebuilding Fund support is providing new impetus in making referendum preparation information available to communities across Bougainville. It is setting the stage for the establishment of the Bougainville Referendum Commission to conduct the referendum. Agreeing on the joint messages for the referendum, as well as the Bougainville Peace Agreement, and setting the target date for the conduct of the referendum at 15 June 2019, underpins both governments' requests for the UN to provide support for weapons disposal and for the referendum. In addition, the joint decision-making on messaging effectively buttresses civic awareness-raising on the referendum in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville. Parliamentarians, Civil Society Organizations, Community Based Organizations, youth and women's groups, and Bougainvilleans themselves, have all actively participated, contributing to the discourse and providing valuable feedback.

Also stemming from this outcome has been significant traction in the national parliament's contribution to referendum preparation efforts. The visit of the national bipartisan committee to Bougainville in October 2016, demonstrates the Government of PNG's continued commitment to peacebuilding in Bougainville. The bipartisan committee is also of the view that weapons disposal and good governance should be prioritized by both governments to create a safe and enabling environment for the conduct of the referendum.

The achievement of more positive results through wider consultations that would lead to policy formulation, project developments and a responsive budgetary process, is the desire of the Bougainville House of Representatives and most Bougainvilleans. Currently, only 36.7 per cent² of the

population feels positively about parliament's capacity and willingness to engage with the population.

To increase people's confidence in the Bougainville House of Representatives fulfilling its functions under the Autonomy Arrangements and the Good Governance provisions of the Bougainville Peace Agreement, the Peacebuilding Fund offered support through Information and Communication Technology infrastructure. This support has contributed to visibility, connectivity, transparency and engagement between parliamentarians and their communities. The Bougainville House of Representatives is in touch with the people of Bougainville through parliamentary outreaches to the various regions. Their other activities include parliamentary radio talk back shows, circulating Hansard transcripts across government, and establishing regional parliamentary committees in South, Central and North Bougainville.

Significant progress was made by the ABG and the National Parliament in 2016. Consultations and dialogue culminated in the visit of the Bipartisan Parliamentary Committee. This involved a weeklong visit to Bougainville to consult with stakeholders and have a report presented to the National Parliament on referendum preparations. At this stage around 42 per cent³ of the Bougainville population feel that their ABG members are champions of peace, while four per cent⁴ of the population feel that their national parliamentary members fulfil this role. The Bougainville House of Representatives, during its last sitting in September 2016, adopted a resolution that all 33 constituencies would declare themselves weapons-free and referendum-ready by 2018. The UN is currently supporting this parliamentary outreach and community feedback session on the Bougainville Peace Agreement and referendum through the Office of the Speaker.

All this progress is the result of joint efforts by both governments, reflecting a strengthened relationship of trust between the governments, and improved implementation of the autonomy arrangements and the Bougainville Peace Agreement.

Peacebuilding Dialogue

The UN's continued support under the Peacebuilding programme has significantly impacted information now available to Bougainvilleans on the implementation of the Bougainville Peace Agreement and preparations for the referendum in 2019. Through delivered trainings, support

² Anglo Pacific Research and Strategy Ltd, Research Report: UN Peacebuilding Fund Baseline Survey in Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Port Moresby, 2016.

³ Anglo Pacific Research and Strategy Ltd, Research Report: UN Peacebuilding Fund Baseline Survey in Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Port Moresby, 2016.

⁴ Anglo Pacific Research and Strategy Ltd, Research Report: UN Peacebuilding Fund Baseline Survey in Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Port Moresby, 2016.

⁵ Anglo Pacific Research and Strategy Ltd, Research Report: UN Peacebuilding Fund Baseline Survey in Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Port Moresby, 2016.

has broadened the horizon of journalists about the need for conflict-sensitive reporting. Findings from a UN supported Anglo-Pacific baseline survey revealed that there is a 17 per cent⁵ improved understanding of the provision needed for the Bougainville Peace Agreement.

UN support to both governments in holding Joint Referendum Committee meetings culminated in development of the first 23 key messages on the referendum for public information. These are reflected in two sets of factsheets on the Bougainville Peace Agreement and the referendum, which now serve as credible information within Bougainville, as the referendum preparations progress. Although the Tok Pisin version is yet to be developed, 30,000 copies of the fact sheets have been printed in English and are now widely disseminated across PNG. Reprinting 10,000 copies of the Bougainville Peace Agreement for ABG circulation had a positive impact on the availability of information as resource material for Bougainville's institutions, whose primary responsibilities are for Bougainville Peace Agreement awareness and outreach. All these products were presented to the Bougainville President on 30 August 2016. Channelling information to communities must be strategic. The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade funded Audience Research conducted in 2015 by University of Goroka revealed that most Bougainvilleans considered mass media such as radio, newspaper and TV to be trustworthy. This research has informed the reviewed ABG Awareness Strategy, passed by the Bougainville Executive Council in August 2016.

In answer to the geographically challenging environment of Bougainville, three-weekly SMS messages sent to Bougainvilleans via mobile phones, through the UN's innovative support, coupled with sustained community conversations and solicitation of feedback by Radio Ples Lain, contributed in getting key Joint Supervisory Body information to Bougainvilleans. Such information included the referendum target date and the commitment to progressing the Bougainville peace process made by both governments. Planned community cinema outreach (Ples Lain Piksa) and organized sporting activities are also part of the strategy for information dissemination. The UN partnered with the ABG to support all these initiatives. The programme has also supported the Short-Wave Radio Satellite link, enabling the ABG to reach communities across the entire region. This was complemented by the provision of 5,000 solar and dynamo wound transistors. The information centre in North

Bougainville provides Bougainvilleans with referendum-related information via print and video through an electronic billboard. This made a significant impact in 2016 and will be replicated in the other two regions.

The Bougainville House of Representatives is integrally involved in getting messages relating to the Bougainville Peace Agreement and referendum to their communities. During the parliamentary sitting in September 2016, the Bougainville House of Representatives passed a resolution that all 33 constituencies be referendum-ready by 2018. The UN is currently supporting this innovative constituency outreach strategy. It will ensure parliamentarians pass on accurate and reliable information to their constituents in an open and transparent dialogue, on decisions jointly taken by both governments regarding the referendum. Community Based Monitoring activities continue to track community feedback on SMS messages, parliament's outreach and the understanding of the Bougainville Peace Agreement by women and youth.

Community social cohesion and security

Increased community social cohesion and community security through access to trauma healing and reconciliation services cannot be fully achieved without the appropriate tools, institutions and coordinating mechanisms. In October 2016, with UN support, officers from the Family Support Centre, under the Autonomous Bougainville Government's Department of Health, scoped 20 health facilities in North Bougainville for the assessment of existing services that deal with mental health and trauma. Personnel that included Village Health Volunteers, Community Auxiliary Police, and other major interlocutors who have previously undergone mental health training in the facilities visited, were briefed and brought on board for future interventions. Community involvement was also leveraged, and interlocutors identified, to ensure that trauma related information and messages trickle down to community members. These community members will also play a crucial role in the identification of existing and potential cases of mental illness and trauma in the community. Infrastructure refurbishments and trainings are part of 2017 plans. This intervention, being piloted in North Bougainville, is considered a catalytic intervention, to be reinforced by the ABG and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The UN is also supporting the establishment of three regional integrated resource centres in Bougainville, in partnership with the ABG. A pilot is being established in Central Bougainville and the ABG has shown its commitment by granting land for the facility. The facility will provide youth, women and ex-combatants the necessary skills training in bricklaying, tailoring, carpentry and joinery. Adding value to this intervention, trauma counselling services will also be provided to the youth by trained counsellors that will be identified in Central Bougainville. Two Out of School traumatized youth self-management clinics, conducted by the UN, have already contributed to positive behaviour of youths in Central Bougainville. Eighty-six of these youths have undergone rehabilitation, sensitizing them to areas of Sexual Reproductive Health and Gender Based Violence, and significantly improving their understanding of these topics. Eighty per cent of these youths have returned to school to pursue formal education, while others have demonstrated leadership in their respective communities by initiating programmes in partnerships with non-governmental organizations. Running in parallel with these workshops was a Youth Mock Parliament hosted by the UN, in which these Out of School youths were given an opportunity to learn government protocols and given a forum to voice and debate their opinions on major issues like Reproductive and Sexual Health and Gender Based Violence.

There are low-cost interventions on trauma healing in some communities that have not previously benefited from any form of ABG or donor support, and Patupatuai in South Bougainville is one such community. The UN recently conducted a scoping mission to discern the nature of trauma healing services provided to youth and ex-combatants in South Bougainville. The work done on Healing of Memories is well acknowledged and is contributing to social cohesion. The scoping mission informed sharing of experiences between Planim Save and Healing of Memories in South Bougainville.

With continued UN support, sensitization and awareness-raising outreaches on Gender Based Violence, covering family and sexual violence, human rights, trauma, and peacebuilding were carried out, contributing to an increased number of people seeking psychosocial support services through counselling at the Buin Safe House. Whilst there is a focus on supporting community interventions in this regard, work was also done at the health facility level by training health workers on how to care for survivors of FSV. With

an initial client base of less than 30 at the inception of the project, the availability and utilization of counselling services responding to Gender Based Violence at district level health services has sharply risen in 2016 and now serves 360. The Council of Elders' planning, through trainings and inter community dialogue exchanges, is strengthening local governance responses in addressing Gender Based Violence and trauma. While community leaders are participating in their communities' conversations, additional workshops and activities have been conducted with them to develop local governance responses to Gender Based Violence and trauma. This has been achieved through the development of local by-laws, in some communities, that have led to mandatory restrictions on the production of local brew. To-date there has been significant collaboration at the Council of Elders level around the Planim Save activities: Siwai District lodged an official request for funding from the ABG headquarters to expand the outreach of the Planim Save Kamap Strongpela ('plant knowledge and grow strong') Project throughout the entire district.

Priority Plan Monitoring and Evaluation

Overall, the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, with a costed budget allocation, has been the way forward, achieving a 90 per cent delivery rate by the Peacebuilding Fund Secretariat Project. This has had a positive impact on the overall coordination of the Peacebuilding Priority Plan implementation in Bougainville. Despite recruitment delays, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms began operating in April 2016. Anglo Pacific, as an independent research entity, conducted a baseline study in Bougainville with findings that fed into the completion of the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, and contributed to the preparation of 2016 Annual Reports. The Community Based Monitoring Mechanism also stands out as an effective means of collecting data. A total of 44 data collectors were trained on basic data collection tools and the utilization of these tools in their community trainings. There were 23 females and 21 males trained across Bougainville. These were important community leaders at the constituency level, such as the Council of Elders and village authorities. The first community monitoring was conducted in October this year to feed into Annual Reporting. Project level monitoring has also been established, with the three UN-Peacebuilding Fund project officers coordinating directly with the implementing partners in Bougainville and Port Moresby.

Delivery of Basic Services

The UN undertook several initiatives under the three broad areas of education in 2016. These areas are: 1) School-related Gender Based Violence 2) Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation, and 3) Learning Standards.

Teacher education has seen capacity upskilling of 25 teachers in addressing School Related Gender Based Violence, integration of values education in lesson plans, and rollout of school programmes for all 21 teachers in two pilot schools (to benefit at least 800 students). This is to enable teachers to deal effectively with School-related Gender Based Violence.

Another initiative within Bougainville to curb the high level of student drop before they complete their basic education is the Early Childhood Policy. This was developed by ABG DOE with support from the UN to encourage school readiness and improve retention and completion of basic education.

The UN supported the health sector response to Gender Based Violence in North and Central Bougainville through the phased training of 16 health workers from 16 health facilities. This training is aimed at sensitizing health workers on identifying and appropriately responding to survivors of Gender Based Violence, as well as providing psychological first aid, treatment and referral as required. This will be followed by training on the clinical and operational guidelines and protocols for provision of the five essentials health sector services.

In addition, the UN supported the construction of a wheelchair ramp at the Buka Family Support Centre to ensure Family Support Centre services are more easily accessible by survivors with special needs.

There is unavailable data in this reporting period to assess the level of access to basic services for marginalized populations.



CLUSTER TWO:

SOCIAL JUSTICE, PROTECTION AND GENDER EQUALITY



CLUSTER OUTCOME:

By 2017, PNG progresses towards becoming a more inclusive and equitable society where all citizens enjoy political, economic, and social rights, free from discrimination and irrespective of gender, ethnicity, or geographical isolation.

4. HUMAN RIGHTS

Contributing Agencies: OHCHR, UN Habitat, UNAIDS, IOM, WHO

Inter-Agency Outcome:	By 2017, the PNG Government takes action to respect, protect and fulfil human rights for all people in accordance with its obligations.
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In 2016 the Government of PNG continued to take significant steps to respect, protect, and fulfil human rights for people in PNG, in line with its international human rights obligations. At the international level, the Government reaffirmed its strong commitment to upholding human rights through participation in the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review in May 2016, following from the country's participation in the first Universal Periodic Review cycle in 2011. Under the Universal Periodic Review, all UN Member States have their human rights record reviewed by the Human Rights Council every 4.5 years. With UN support, critical legal and policy developments were achieved in the interim years, including enhancing protection to victims of gender-based violence, strengthening the rule of law, child protection, human trafficking and responses to sorcery-related violence. However, despite positive steps taken, critical gaps in protection and the implementation of human rights standards remain a significant challenge. The UN continues to support the Government in addressing this gap through technical assistance on legislation, policy development and review, and providing capacity building training for government and civil society organizations.

International Human Rights Mechanisms

The Government's participation in the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review reiterated its commitment to upholding its international human rights obligations. The Government accepted 108 out of 161 recommendations. These recommendations related to addressing gender-based violence, including sorcery-related violence, and human trafficking, as well as strengthening gender equality, improving conditions of detention and rule of law, establishing a National Human Rights Institution, and improving access to education, healthcare, and justice services. Progress on PNG's international human rights commitments were continuously monitored through the Human Rights Forum, an inter-agency platform, co-chaired by the Department of Justice and Attorney General and the UN. The Human Rights Forum consists of key government line departments, civil society, the UN and development partners, and convenes quarterly.

The UN also supported the Government in the implementation of recommendations from the international human rights mechanisms (comprised of the Universal Periodic Review,

treaty bodies, and Special Procedures). Responding to major recommendations from the international human rights mechanisms, including the Universal Periodic Review, to address gender-based violence and strengthen protection to victims, in December 2016, the National Executive Council adopted the PNG National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender Based Violence 2016-2025. To further enrich the parliamentary inquiry report on violence against women and children conducted in 2015, the UN also provided expert analysis and recommendations to the Health and Family Welfare Parliamentary Committee to elevate the issue of violence within society at the political level.

The Government is also overdue in reporting at the international level on the steps it has taken to implement the six international human rights conventions PNG has ratified (a process referred to as 'treaty body reporting'). In a significant step to address this, in December 2016, the Government committed to establishing a National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up in 2017. It also committed to drafting initial reports on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, and developing a common core document. A National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up would critically enhance coordination in reporting and implementing the recommendations emanating from the UN treaty bodies, UN Special Procedures, as well as the Universal Periodic Review. Through capacity building training, the UN strengthened the capacity of key government line agencies to effectively engage with the committees which monitor the implementation of the international human rights conventions, also known as 'treaty bodies'.

Two public events celebrating Human Rights Day, led by civil society, with support by the UN and the Government, highlighted the international theme of "Stand up for someone's rights today". The events brought together different stakeholders working on human rights in PNG and promoted proactive actions the public can take to protect, and advocate for greater respect for human rights in the country.

Human Rights Standards

Towards enhancing the rights of the most vulnerable, the UN provided training on the right to nutrition, and provided technical assistance to strengthen legislative and policy protection for children and juveniles. The UN also engaged in advocacy for sex workers, who are subjected to stigma preventing the enjoyment of their basic rights.

Key nutrition stakeholders at the National and Provincial level were trained by the UN on the human rights-based approach to nutrition. As a result, health practitioners, nutritionists, and technical advisers, including civil society and academia, developed strategies to implement the National Nutrition Policy 2016-2026, (adopted by the National Executive Council in September 2016) using a human rights-based approach.

Through UN support on critical legislation, the foundation for child rights and protection was significantly strengthened through the certification and gazettal of the Lukautim Pikinini Act 2015 (Child Protection Act) in August 2016. Continued advocacy and technical assistance by a UN consultant based at the Department for Community Development and Religion resulted in the finalization and submission of the Child Protection Regulations and Child Protection Policy to the National Executive Council for endorsement in 2016. The existing child protection training manual and operational guidelines were also updated by the Department, with technical support from the consultant, in line with the new Lukautim Pikinini Act 2015.

The Juvenile Justice Act (2014), a new Juvenile Justice Policy, and Juvenile Justice Regulations, were also developed by the Department of Justice and Attorney General, and are under final review with technical and financial support provided by the UN. Set to be completed in 2017, these revisions will ensure that juveniles in conflict with the law are treated in accordance with international human rights standards.

The UN also continued advocacy for the decriminalization of sex work, together with the Safe Motherhood Alliance, the Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Parliamentary Committee, National Department of Health, and Members of Parliament. Comprehensive information, educational, and communications materials were compiled for distribution to members of parliament, and a bill submission will be presented in the next parliamentary sitting.

Strengthened Access to Justice

To strengthen access to justice, UN interventions worked with key law enforcement bodies, including the police and the village courts, to strengthen officials' knowledge on human rights, child protection, juvenile justice, and human trafficking. Key stakeholders were also engaged to promote continued protection of key populations at risk of contracting, or living with HIV or AIDS, including the media.

The capacity of the police to respect and protect human rights was strengthened by the UN in partnership with the Bomana Police Training College. This work was supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade through the training of 95 police officers (in the National Capital District, Western Province, and Manus Province) on 'Human rights and law enforcement'. Thirty-one national and regional training officers completed a train-the-trainers course to sustain the ongoing strengthening of the Royal PNG Constabulary on understanding and integrating human rights into their duties. The Human Rights training modules developed, by the UN, form part of a sustainable package which aims to be integrated into standardized training for all police recruits.

The UN also strengthened the capacity of the police to implement the Lukautim Pikini Act 2015, which guides the provision of protection to children. Thus in 2016, the Royal PNG Constabulary also drafted a new police protocol on dealing with child victims and children in need of protection, with technical assistance provided by the UN. The UN worked with police counterparts to ensure juveniles in conflict with the law are treated in line with international standards. Towards this, a training manual on juvenile justice, developed by RPNGC with UN support, was integrated into the curriculum of the Bomana Police Training College. It was used to strengthen the knowledge and skills of 900 new police recruits on dealing with juveniles in conflict with the law. Moreover, 22 National Capital District police station commanders and officers-in-charge were trained by the police, with UN technical support, on police roles under the new Juvenile Justice Act and the Child Protection Act. The Police Juvenile Justice Reception Center was also rehabilitated, with UN support, to enhance the treatment of juveniles in custody, in line with international standards.

As a critical institution, providing the first line of justice recourse accessible to many people, including children, UN interventions also targeted the village courts. A training module on child rights, child protection, and juvenile justice, for village courts was developed in 2016, through UN partnership with the Village Courts and Land Mediation Secretariat under the Department of Justice and Attorney General. With UN support, 22 national, provincial, and district village courts officers were trained and certified as trainers of village courts. From Simbu province, 23 village court officials also completed pilot training on the child rights, child protection, and juvenile justice modules.

To support the identification and protection of victims of trafficking, the UN also provided technical assistance and capacity building to frontline officials from key agencies. These included, the Department of Justice and Attorney General, the Royal PNG Constabulary, the PNG Immigration & Citizenship Services Authority, the PNG Customs Service, and the Department of Labour and Industrial Relations. Using a multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach, the trainings brought together law enforcement and civil society actors working in cross-cutting areas of Trafficking in Persons, such as gender-based violence and violence against children. The aim was to provide a holistic approach to the protection of victims of trafficking, in line with the recently endorsed Standard Operating Procedures. In total, 110 frontline law enforcement officers, 15 senior magistrates, and 71 civil society representatives were engaged in capacity development on addressing human trafficking in 2016.

The UN also supported the formation of a coalition of PNG non-governmental organizations to seek new funding sources for protecting the rights of key populations in accessing health services, legal assistance, and treatment. This activity reflects the changes in financial support to non-governmental organizations providing direct delivery of HIV and AIDS related services in the donor sphere. The UN brokered a partnership with the National Central District Commission and drafted a proposal for more than USD 100,000 to receive support from the NCDC for Key Population networks, and the PNG Development Lawyers Association. This would enable key stakeholders to implement critical interventions aimed at strengthening the ability of members and advocates of key populations to effectively demand the respect and fulfilment of their rights. These efforts would support building an enabling environment for the protection of key populations' rights to health, sexual and reproductive health, women rights, and access to free legal service for their peers. Initiatives to strengthen public awareness on this multi-sectoral discrimination included a UN package addressing gender and HIV, through the Media Awards Project. With the awards announced on World AIDS Day (1 December 2016), the Project aimed to improve the quality, consistency and frequency of media reporting on human rights, HIV and AIDS, and Gender Based Violence related issues in PNG amongst local media outlets by highlighting outstanding reporting by journalists.

Fundamental Economic and Social Rights

UN interventions to increase equitable access to basic services, with a focus on the most vulnerable, targeted the following: strengthening the capacity of health workers to provide protection to victims of family sexual violence; integrate gender equity and human rights into health programmes; and ensure victims of trafficking have access to services vital to their protection. The UN also continued to raise awareness on the right to equal enjoyment of human rights through the 7th annual PNG Human Rights Film Festival.

Available support for survivors of family sexual violence in two target provinces was strengthened through UN support to the National Department of Health. This resulted in 52 health facilities in Western Highlands Province and the Autonomous Region of Bougainville having at least one health worker trained to provide emergency medical care, psychosocial first aid, and referral services for survivors of family sexual violence. To strengthen access to services for victims of trafficking, the National Executive Council also officially endorsed the National Action Plan and Standard Operating Procedures on Trafficking in Persons in March of 2016. This enables the Department of Justice and Attorney General, with technical support from the UN, to implement the National Action Plan, a country-wide strategy for combatting Trafficking in Persons.



The UN also supported the Health Sector through building the capacity of 46 Senior Health Managers (23 men, 23 women) from Health Authorities in 11 provinces (five in the Southern region, and six in the Highlands region) to mainstream Gender Equity and Human Rights into public health programmes. Based on the training, 11 provincial action plans were developed to mainstream Gender Equity and Human Rights into health policies and programmes for implementation in 2017.

Under the theme, “Noken lus ting long raits bilong mi” (‘forgetting not my rights’), public awareness and understanding of critical human rights issues affecting PNG continued to be raised through the 7th annual PNG Human Rights Film Festival. In 2016, the festival reached over 5,000 people by travelling across three regions, starting in Port Moresby, and travelling to Goroka, and across the Autonomous Region of Bougainville. For the first time the festival also hosted a special one-night screening at the Bomana Correctional Institute, which was attended by 500 inmates from the prison, including female inmates. This screening was supported by the PNG Correctional Services, Ombudsman Commission, university volunteers, and the Festival committee. The UN led the organization of the PNG Human Rights Film Festival, which is coordinated by a committee comprising development partners, international non-governmental organizations, civil society, and government departments.

National Human Rights Commission

The Government continued work at the technical level to establish a National Human Rights Commission, with technical support provided by the UN. In 2016, the Department of Justice and Attorney General was assigned to take the lead role in carrying out the 2015 NEC decision, which ordered the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission through an Act of Parliament, rather than a constitutional amendment (as previously proposed). The change in lead agency is expected to expedite the legislative process of establishing the Commission, which PNG has been committed to for over a decade, and that has also been consistently recommended by international human rights mechanisms.

5. GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

Contributing Agencies: UN Women, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO

Inter-Agency Outcome:	By 2017, women, men, boys and girls have increased opportunities to access services, resources, rights and decision-making processes through equal participation and benefits from the economic, social and political development of PNG.
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Increased Capacity of National Women's Machineries

The National Council of Women has benefited from a restructure. As a result, it is beginning to function effectively, and to play its role for the advancement of gender equality and women's empowerment. Noted were the organization's success in establishing its secretariat office and securing funding from the European Union to implement its plans in 2017. Regarding the work with political parties and women candidates, the UN has worked closely with the Registrar of Political Parties and parliamentarians to prepare for the provision of support to the women candidates and for the reforms to political parties for the 2017 elections. Other work includes leading the process on temporary special measures, placing the UN as the leader and key entity in this area of work (women's political participation and representation).

Through the Organic Law on Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates, political parties are encouraged to endorse women candidates. However, political parties are instead known to endorse candidates who are likely to win the election. In 2016, with funding support from the New Zealand Government, two high level meetings were organized in Port Moresby, where most of the political parties explained the appeal that women candidates have to female voters, as a major motivation for endorsing more women candidates. Several parties appealed to the role that women can play in shaping a more transparent and less adversarial style of politics in PNG, "bringing good and fair governance to the floor of parliament", and acknowledged the work the UN is doing to promote affirmative action and temporary special measures. Through the two high level events convened by the UN, in which 25 of the 33 registered political parties were present, a broad consensus was achieved to reform the Organic Law on Political Parties and Candidates. The reform would create a ten per cent quota for women representatives in all political parties. In addition, with the UN's support for women's role in parliament, the Bougainville Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy was launched, and a

Gender Office within the administration of the Autonomous Bougainville Government created.

Laws, Policies and Mechanisms towards Leadership for Gender Equality

The UN has supported the Constitutional Law Reform Commission review of legislation. This includes, The Arrest Act, the Bail Act, the Review of Family, the Protection Act 2013, and the General Services Order 4th Edition. The Commission also began drafting Bougainville's Women's Protection Bill and Gender Equity Bill to serve as an overarching framework for all gender related legislation. The result contributed to building the capacity of four women MPs of Bougainville, which was their advocacy for the establishment of the Office of Gender Equality. This office is now being set up within the Chief Secretary's Office and implementation will begin in 2017. The engagement of youth under the Sanap Wantaim Campaign for Safe Cities project funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has supported youth who are beginning to demonstrate their leadership skills by leading campaigns towards addressing Gender Based Violence and End Violence Against Women in public spaces. One result was the successful hosting of a Sanap Wantaim Concert as part of the 16 Days of Activism event in December 2016, which aimed at promoting the 'new normal', which hopes to change behaviours around public spaces, but particularly at bus stops and in markets.

The National Gender Based Violence strategy was successfully endorsed in December 2016 by the National Executive Council after two years of work and comprehensive multisectoral responses to Gender Based Violence. This strategy aims to provide guidelines and frameworks in the country towards Gender Based Violence response and prevention. The implementation of the strategy will begin in 2017 due to the late endorsement of the policy at the end of the year. The development of the Strategy was funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Gender Sensitized Plans

Progress was made across many indicators under this outcome. The gender forum provided an important avenue for gender responsive and focused dialogue and planning. One key result of advocacy was the endorsement of the National Gender Based Violence Strategy endorsed by NEC in December 2016. When fully implemented, the formulation of the Women's Protection Bill and the drafting of the National Action Plan on Gender Based Violence 2016-2020 will allow women access to vital services for maternal and sexual reproductive health care services.

The UN played a leading role in assisting the Government to finalize and endorse the PGK 112 million National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender Based Violence 2016-2025. The endorsement of the National Strategy was agreed in December 2016. The first time PNG has had such a strategy, the National Strategy will have a major impact throughout the country over the next few years. The endorsement of the National Strategy by the National Executive Council provides the roadmap that will guide an inclusive government-led approach in implementing all legislation, policies and programmes affecting Gender Based Violence. The National Strategy strengthens and institutionalizes the work on Gender Based Violence and aims to achieve zero-tolerance towards Gender Based Violence as per PNG's Vision 2050. It impacts on the outcome progress because it prioritizes the various important national government policy frameworks and legislation, including the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and related international treaties that incorporate Gender Based Violence.

The UN accelerated the implementation of the strategy by piloting concepts at the subnational level and gaining unique entry points for political support in close cooperation with Civil Society Organizations, Faith Based Organizations, and the private sector. Pilots are now underway in four provinces, where the Family Sexual Violence Action Committees secretariats have been established. Standard Operating Procedures and Protocols have been developed and tested, using global good practice. The requests for replication in other provinces received by the UN have now been presented to the Department for Community Development and Religion to roll out in other provinces, depending on availability of funding in 2017.

To address the lack of data, through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade support, the UN developed a Gender Based Violence services database. The database captures and analyses information on Gender Based Violence cases, available across different government entities, Civil Society Organizations, Faith Based Organizations, and the private sector, at both national and subnational level. This evidence informed the development of the National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender Based Violence and will help to continually assess the effectiveness of the Strategy.

The National Education Plan (2015-2019) provides a holistic framework for an inclusive and gender integrated approach. With UN support, a total of 16 out of 22 provinces have prepared Provincial Education Plans in 2016, including strategies to gender mainstreaming, such as conducting an in-depth gender analysis in-country to identify specific gender barriers to education. These provinces included Central, Oro, Southern Highlands, Eastern Highlands, Hela, Enga, Jiwaka, Western Highlands, Gulf, Simbu, East New Britain, Manus and New Ireland, Madang, East Sepik and Sandaun. From these provincial plans the national priorities are implemented at the subnational level. The planning exercises conducted under the leadership of the National Department of Education have significantly enhanced the capacity of local education authorities, which in turn support the school boards in implementing inclusive and gender sensitive School Learning Improvement Plans. The National Department of Education has also been supported to strengthen the gender mainstreaming component, through the unpacking of the curriculum toolkit on School Related Gender Based Violence. This has been adapted to the country context and rolled out as a pilot through six selected provinces. Of this a total of 45 teachers and officers from the Department of Education have been trained on gender mainstreaming, with 68 teachers receiving orientation on the curriculum toolkit to be monitored and strengthened in 2017. These educational initiatives implemented by the UN with the National Education Department are funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. In Bougainville, the UN has signed a Programme Cooperation Agreement with Equal Playing Field to address School Related Gender Based Violence through sports. In 2017, through this partnership, there will be an integration of activities and training for students and teachers on making schools free from violence and safe places for learning.

These interventions in the education sector are supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Strengthened Legal and Social Services to Address Gender Based Violence

In the context of the Safe City HIV component, a mobile clinic has been rolled out with technical assistance from the UN and funding from the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and Gender Based Violence. The clinic will provide basic health, referral and HIV services to vulnerable girls and women in the National Capital District markets. The long pending approval of the National Capital District Commission HIV and TB workplace policy affected the targeting and sustaining of prevention, treatment and referral services within the National Capital District Commission and its supervisee agencies, as per the joint UN System and NCDC Safe City Programme. This initiative is being supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The Joint Media Awards Project, supported by the UN System, was held in December 2016, its aim to improve the quality, consistency

and frequency of good media reporting on human rights, HIV and AIDS, and Gender Based Violence related issues.

The UN continued to cooperate with the National Department of Health in 2016 to strengthen the capacity of the health sector to provide emergency medical care, psychosocial first aid and referral services for survivors of family and sexual violence, who are predominantly women and children. A total of 64 health workers from 52 health facilities in Western Highlands Province and the Autonomous Region of Bougainville were trained in clinical management of family and sexual violence cases. This cooperation has enhanced the capacity of health workers, serving a catchment population of 374,000, in providing care for survivors of family and sexual violence. Further training on clinical and operational guidelines will be conducted in 2017 for an additional 36 health managers and Gender Based Violence focal persons in the 18 health facilities in North and Central Bougainville.



BUILDING PEACE AND PREVENTING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND BOUGAINVILLE, ONE CONVERSATION AT A TIME.



Judith Manu, a 52-year-old wife of a pastor and mother of five, lives in a rural village in South Bougainville, Papua New Guinea. Like Lucy in the story, Judith is also one of the growing number of people in Bougainville working together to promote peaceful conflict resolution and prevent violence against women and girls.

Photo Credit: Julius Otim/UN Women.

Raising four boys alone, 47-year-old Lucy Kukue was especially vulnerable to the aggressive behaviours rampant in her small village in South Bougainville. While walking alone at night or at weekends, Lucy faced a constant threat of harassment by intoxicated men from nearby villages. Bougainville has high rates of violence—a remnant of the nearly decade-long civil war. The impact is profoundly debilitating to women.

Incidents of violence are beginning to change through an intervention jointly led by UN Women and the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation. The programme has contributed tremendously to the creation of peace in South Bougainville, by bringing 2,800 people from its communities together to prevent violence against women and address longstanding, conflict-ridden dynamics. The project is building capacity among community leaders by establishing 20 community counsellors like Lucy.

Trained by the project team, Lucy is working to move the community towards non-violent conflict resolution practices, so that violence is no longer the first-line tactic. With hard-earned pride, she shares the stories of the changes she has helped to realize. Lucy has a direct role in primary prevention of violence. She resolves conflicts between partners, neighbours, friends and foes using non-violent, gender-equitable techniques.

“Recently a homebrew-related fight erupted among two young men, and their relatives wanted to retaliate against each other,” Lucy gives as an example. “As a mediator, I am trained to be a neutral person in an argument, hearing both sides of the story, so I can help both parties.” She says that these days there is less indulgence in homebrew, an alcoholic drink that has plagued communities and frequently adds fuel to conflicts. She also reports less marital arguments, and an improved ability to appropriately navigate disagreements when they arise.

“Even though the community conversations focus on issues around violence against women and girls, the trainings also address what happened during the civil war,” Lucy says. The community conversations illuminate links between inequitable gender attitudes and behaviours, and issues like civil war trauma, homebrew consumption, health, pervasive aggression between young people, rape, domestic violence and marital conflicts, like polygamy. These interlocking challenges must be addressed in tandem to prevent violence against women and girls in the future.

6. CHILD PROTECTION

Contributing Agencies: UNICEF, ILO

Inter-Agency Outcome:	By 2017, children at risk of violence, exploitation and abuse will have increased access to prevention and intervention services for protection and justice to allow them to access their rights and to be supported by protective legislation and policy frameworks.
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The legal and protective framework to progressively protect, promote and fulfil the rights of children continued to improve significantly with the UN's contribution in 2016. The UN continued playing a critical role in narrowing inequities, bottlenecks and barriers in protecting children, through improving normative and policy frameworks and strengthening institutional and human resource capacities at national and provincial levels. Communication for development created a pool of role models and catalysts to protect children from all forms of violence.

Lukatim Pikinini Act

Following the unanimous endorsement by parliament of the Lukautim Pikinini Act in 2015, continued advocacy and support to the Department for Community Development and Religion by the UN contributed to the certification and gazettal of the Lukautim Pikinini Act in 2016. This provides a stronger foundation for child protection in PNG. During the year, technical advice and policy advocacy by the UN to the Child Friendly Schools Office resulted to the finalization of the Child Protection Policy and Child Protection Regulations, and their submission to the National Executive Council for endorsement. Advocacy by the UN for increasing the child protection workforce has resulted in the incorporation of one Senior Child Protection Officer for each province (22), one Child Protection Officer for each district (89), one Child Protection Officer for each Local Level Government (304), and five continuous community protected vaccination officers in each local level government (1,520) in the Child Protection Policy. A draft Competency Framework for the Child Protection Workforce was finalized in accordance with the National Qualification Standards. To facilitate the implementation of the Act and the Child Protection Policy, the Department for Community Development and Religion has recruited new staff at national level. An international Child Protection Systems Advisor from the UN is supporting the Office of Child and Family Services to lead and coordinate the implementation of the Lukautim Pikinini Act and the Child Protection Policy. The consultant has been working with the stakeholders in the development of a whole-of-government

costed implementation plan for child protection, which will be completed in 2017. Development and review of operational guidelines and a training manual to train Child Protection Officers and volunteers to fulfil their responsibilities under the Lukautim Pikinini Act have been completed. A total of 57 Child Protection Officers from 15 provinces have been trained on the operational guidelines and given delegated authority by the Director of Child and Family Services to fulfil child protection officers' duties as provided by the Lukautim Pikinini Act.

To further improve the protective environment for children in need of care and protection, technical advice and financial support has been provided by the UN to the Constitutional and Law Reform Commission. This support is for the consequential review of three pieces of child-related legislation – the Civil Registration Act, the Adoption Act, and the Wills and Probates Act – for alignment with the principles and provisions of the Lukautim Pikinini Act.

Strengthened Capacity to Deliver Core Preventative and Responsive Protection Services

With UN financial support to the National Department of Health in 2016, 52 health facilities in Western Highlands Province and the Autonomous Region of Bougainville have at least one health worker (64 in total) trained to provide emergency medical care, psychosocial first aid and referral services for survivors of family and sexual violence. This initiative has enhanced the capacity of health workers serving a catchment population of 374,000 to provide care for survivors of family and sexual violence.

After over a decade of support for the establishment and capacity development of nine Family Support Centres for provision of comprehensive medical, psychosocial first aid, and referral services for survivors of family and sexual violence, the UN System commissioned an independent informative evaluation of Family Support Centres in PNG. Overall, the evaluation found that Family Support Centres provide a unique and critical service to survivors of Family and Sexual Violence, and that Family Support Centres at

provincial hospitals were providing largely effective and efficient services. Recommendations of the evaluation have been presented to and agreed by key stakeholders, particularly with regards the following: to develop a health sector strategy for violence against women and children; to train a critical mass of facility-based health workers to care for survivors; to improve Family Support Centre services at district level; to establish an information system; and to strengthen safe-house guidelines and services for survivors. Recommendations from the study will be carried out in 2017.

As a strategy to change social norms and mobilize communities towards elimination of violence against children and women, partnerships with the Catholic Church, schools and communities have been created in four focus provinces. A total of 97 health workers and 88 religious leaders and priests in Jiwaka, Simbu and Western Highlands received training on child protection and #ENDviolence against children messages. This has led to sensitization of 108,794 children and adults in Mt. Hagen, Jiwaka and Simbu, with awareness raised on the impact of violence against children, non-violent discipline and respectful relationships through a church, school and community-based campaign. The UN also supported an #ENDviolence against children campaign during the Goroka show, reaching around 10,800 people. Port Moresby will see a sustained campaign on #ENDviolence against children in 20 highly vulnerable settlements. One thousand youth in Port Moresby have already been trained and will be mobilized to advocate with youth in the settlements, as part of this campaign. The #ENDviolence against children campaign is funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Through the partnerships with the Catholic Dioceses of Madang, Mt. Hagen and Kundiawa, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade funded positive parenting programme was launched in 2016. A total of 189 (93 female and 96 male) family life educators, Catechists and child protection volunteers obtained foundational knowledge in child development and child protection. In addition, 96 (49 female and 47 male) Child Protection Officers and family life educators completed community engagement training to mobilize parents' participation in parenting sessions. In Mt. Hagen, the CPOs and family life educators raised awareness and identified at least 20 parents from each of the five parishes taking part in the parenting programme. An assessment of parenting practices challenges and strategies, conducted by Menzies (an academic institution contracted by the UN System) together with the Catholic Dioceses, helped inform the development of key messages and content of parenting resource kits for ten pilot sites in three provinces.

The UN in cooperation with the National Information and Communications Technology Authority and Censorship Board organized a training and round table discussion on online child protection with UN financial support and technical assistance from an online child protection expert. The roundtable discussion saw the Government already undertaking major legal reforms to protect children against online exploitation and abuse.

Strengthened Capacity to Improve Access to Justice

The UN continued to support the capacity-building of law and justice sector agencies to advance access to legal remedies for children in contact with the law. Following region-wide consultations with relevant stakeholders in the law and justice sector in 2016, a new Juvenile Justice Regulations and Juvenile Justice Strategy have been drafted by the Department of Justice and Attorney General to operationalize the new Juvenile Justice Act (2014). The consultations included participatory activities among children in prison and in eight schools in the National Capital District to raise their awareness on juvenile justice and seek their inputs on the Juvenile Justice Policy, through artwork, leadership training, and student debates. The revised regulations and policy are under final review and will be submitted for endorsement by the National Executive Council in 2017.

Another justice sector consultation was held by the Department of Justice and Attorney General in 2016, with UN financial support and facilitation by a child protection consultant, to discuss the roles of justice sector agencies and priorities for action to operationalize the Lukautim Pikinini Act. Recommendations from the consultation are being fed into development of protocols and operational guidelines of respective agencies for dealing with children in need of protection. Following this consultation, the UN assisted the Royal PNG Constabulary in developing a draft police protocol on child victims and children in need of protection, in consultation with government and non-governmental organizations. The protocol will be finalized and disseminated in 2017.

A police training manual on juvenile justice, developed in the past years by the Royal PNG Constabulary with UN support, was incorporated into the curriculum of the Bomana Police Training College in 2016. As a result, 900 new police recruits in 2016, in addition to 900 police recruits in 2015, were equipped with knowledge and skills to deal with juveniles in conflict with the law, utilizing the juvenile justice training manual.

Following UN support for participation of justice sector officials in a regional Training of Trainers workshop on

treatment of child victims and witnesses in 2015, the Royal PNG Constabulary replicated the training in 2015 and 2016. As a result, 114 frontline police officers from 26 police stations in eight provinces trained on child-friendly investigations.

In addition, with UN technical support to the National Capital District Police and the Bomana Police Training College in 2016, 31 national and regional police trainers and 22 police station commanders and shift supervisors, have been trained on new police roles and procedures under the new Juvenile Justice Act and Lukautim Pikinini Act. The Boroko Police Juvenile Justice Reception Centre was also rehabilitated during the year with UN financial support, in cooperation with the Australian Federal Police.

To strengthen the first line of justice recourse for children, a module on child rights, child protection, and juvenile justice for village courts was developed in 2016. This was enabled through partnership between the UN System and the Department of Justice and Attorney General's Village Court and Land Mediation Secretariat. A total of 22 national, provincial, and district village court officers completed a Training of Trainers course for village court training, and 23 village court officials from Simbu province completed pilot training on the new module. Lessons learned and recommendations from the piloting were used to refine the training materials and activities. Trainings will be rolled-out in 2017 for all village courts in Western Highlands, Eastern Highlands, and Simbu.

In 2016, the UN System in PNG and the East Asia Pacific Region Office conducted an assessment of legislation and practice on diversion and alternative measures for juveniles in PNG in consultation with key juvenile justice stakeholders. Following the assessment, and with UN support, representatives of the Royal PNG Constabulary, the Department of Justice and Attorney General Community Based Corrections, and the Village Court and Land Mediation Secretariat participated in a regional workshop on Diversion and Alternative Measures for Children in Conflict with the Law in South East Asian and Pacific Island Countries. The workshop enabled the exchange of knowledge, good practices and ideas, with juvenile justice experts and their counterparts from other countries. Findings and recommendations from the assessment and workshop will be used to improve and model diversion services and programmes for juveniles in PNG.

To address the critical data gaps on justice for children, the RapidPro-based SMS data-reporting mechanism on justice for children indicators has been developed. It is being piloted in six provinces, in partnership with the Department

of Justice and Attorney General's Juvenile Justice Services, and the Village Court and Land Mediation Secretariat. Using RapidPro innovation, key data from the police, juvenile courts, prisons, police stations and village courts are being collected and reported on a weekly basis by juvenile justice officers and village court clerks in the pilot provinces. The RapidPro system for juvenile justice will be scaled up nationally in 2017, while the system for village courts will be scaled up and expanded from the National Capital District to other provinces. The UN System's justice for children programme is funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Birth Registration Systems

During the year, the UN continued advocacy for a decentralized registration system linked to health, education and faith-based organization services. In June 2016, the Civil Registrar was given a go ahead to model a decentralized health, education and church based birth registration system in one district. Following the clearance, the UN and the Civil Identity and Registration Office initiated the modelling of decentralized registrations in Kairuku District in Central Province. A total of 144 teachers and 24 health workers from 108 schools and eight health facilities, respectively, now have the necessary skills for birth registration. Moreover, 36 ward recorders from 36 wards have been designated and equipped with skills on the registration process. The number of civil registration system facilities in the country has increased to 14 in 2016 from eight in 2015 and one in 2014, a 14-fold increase in two years.



7. HIV AND AIDS

Contributing Agencies: UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, UN Women

Inter-Agency Outcome:	By 2017, the Government of PNG and its partners have strengthened capacity in delivering on the goals and strategic priorities of the National HIV and AIDS Strategy.
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Increased Capacity to Protect Human Rights in the Context of HIV for Most at Risk Populations

The most recent national projection exercise estimated a 0.8 per cent HIV prevalence with an estimated 40,000 people living with HIV in 2015. The estimated number of annual new HIV infections is around 2,700. This must be reduced to 500 by 2020 to stay on track in achieving the UN System's global vision of ending AIDS by 2030.

There has been a remarkable improvement on the amount of data used for estimates, particularly for the year 2015. Almost 78 per cent of data from various sites are available to enter into the Spectrum system. Nearly half of all Provinces have data of more than 80 per cent.

2015 HIV prevalence is estimated at 0.8 per cent among adults, an increase from the previous year (0.7 per cent). Data also suggests that the PNG HIV epidemic is mostly concentrated in the provinces of Highlands (1.07 per cent),

Momase (Morobe 0.77 per cent and Madang 0.60 per cent), the National Capital District (1.29 per cent) and Western province, with a prevalence of 1.03 per cent. It can be further noted that within the Highlands, four provinces recorded HIV prevalence of one per cent or more (Enga 1.75 per cent, Jiwaka 1.51 per cent, Western Highlands Province 1.30 per cent and Eastern Highlands Province 1.0 per cent).

The likely reasons for any increase in HIV prevalence and new infection at this point is difficult to explain. It has been observed, however, that the 2015 data is much more comprehensive and complete than previous estimates. In addition, in some of the high prevalence sites the HIV situation has not changed much (such as, Enga, Western, Morobe and Jiwaka), while in some cases the HIV situation is showing a concerning upward trend (the National Capital District, Eastern Highlands Province and Western Highlands Province).

Table 1. 2015 PNG Estimates: Results of key parameters in comparison with 2014 estimates

Parameters	2015 Estimates	2014 Estimates
HIV prevalence (%)	0.80	0.70
Total PLHIV	40,000	37,000
New infection (total)	2,700	2,000
New infection (0-14 years)	421	< 500
Annual AIDS Deaths	887	<1000
Mothers needing PMTCT	1,500	1,309
ART coverage (%)	53	50
PMTCT coverage (%)	33	44

While estimations of HIV prevalence provide information on the general population, the country also has a considerable epidemic among key populations – sex workers, men who have sex with men, and transgender – for which only limited data is available. A targeted Integrated Bio Behavioural Survey among female sex workers and men who have sex with men, including transgender populations, is currently ongoing, while the Port Moresby study is completed and preliminary findings have been shared. The full technical report is not yet finalized, however, and so the data cannot be reported in this period. This survey aims to improve the understanding of the extent and impact of the epidemic on these population groups by collecting several key parameters, including behavioural and biological markers.

An initiative to review and potentially address legal impediments to accessing essential services for sex workers is being supported by the following: The Parliamentary Working Group on Population and Sustainable Development, the Safe Motherhood Alliance of PNG, the PNG Development Law Association, the men who have sex with men and transgender national umbrella organizations (Kapul Champions and Friends Frangipani), together with the UN System. In 2016, the UN distributed respective information, education and communication materials for parliament. A bill submission and the law repeal for legalizing sex work in PNG is still pending for tabling at the next parliamentary sitting.

The UN System assisted Civil Society engagement through forming a PNG Non-Governmental Organizations Coalition. It supported key populations in seeking and altering the new funding sources, and brokered a partnership with the PNG Government body, and the National Central District Commission. It also drafted a proposal for more than USD 100,000 to receive National Central District Commission support to key population networks. The proposal would see the Development Lawyers Association implement key interventions. These interventions would be aimed at creating demand for service, as well as an enabling environment for the protection of the human right to Health, HIV and AIDS treatment, sexual and reproductive health, women rights, and access to free legal service for their peers.

Improved Delivery of Health Services to Reduce Mortality, Morbidity and Transmission of HIV and Other Infections

Although the output targets for 2016 were not fully achieved, reasonable progress has been made in expanding HIV coverage and antiretroviral therapy coverage among key populations.

In 2016 the national HIV programme has improved quality HIV prevention and treatment services and strengthened health related HIV strategic information and coordination. In coordination with the HIV and Strategic Information Technical Working Group, regular monthly meetings were held, organized by the UN System, to look at strategic policy directions for prevention, care and treatment, and to strengthen routine data collection. The Strategic Information Technical Working Group played a critical role in strengthening the Monitoring and Evaluation tools and in following-up the routine monthly reporting of all HIV reports, resulting in improved data collection, particularly among key populations.

The UN System is an active member of the Country Coordination Mechanism. The UN System has been hosting the Country Coordination Mechanism Secretariat and supporting its oversight committee for the last couple of years. Its expertise paved the way for a fair election process, and orientation was also provided to the newly elected members.

Among the planned three Integrated Bio-Behavioural Survey sites, Port Moresby has been completed and preliminary findings were shared among key stakeholders. The size of the key population and a full technical report is still in preparation. The Integrated Bio-Behavioural Survey sites has recently commenced at the second site in Lae.

With technical assistance from Macro International, the National Statistical Office is currently undertaking the Democratic Health Service, and the data collection is near its completion stage. Preliminary findings from the Democratic Health Service are expected to be available in March 2017.

The key population programme data collection tools of the key population Monitoring and Evaluation System have been finalized and piloted. Plans for scale up are being considered.

For capacity building of community-based organizations, the UN System provided technical assistance to Oil Search (the Global Fund Principal Recipient and provider of clinical services) and the secondary recipients of the Global Fund for building capacity of the key community-based organizations,

including Igat Hope, Hope World Wide, Catholic Health Service, and Kapul Champions. This was for the delivery of services among key populations that would include the strengthening of outreach activities and uptake of HIV testing and treatment.

The UN continues to provide technical assistance to key populations' organizations, particularly Friend Frangipani and Igat Hope, in its support for organizational capacity building for Civil Society Organizations. Support was provided to guide their board decisions of these organizations on budgets for 2016, based on the new Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade model of funding, as well as development of their safeguard tools and advocacy materials.

The UN System contributed to capacity building and to strengthening the roles and responsibilities of Civil Society Organizations in effectively representing their constituencies within the Global Fund PNG Country Coordinating Mechanism.

The UN System provided technical assistance to develop new care and treatment guidelines that reflect WHO guidelines on testing and treatment.

Although viral load testing has been piloted and scaled up to a few clinics in Port Moresby, the rolling out to other provinces is delayed due to the lack of validated Dried Blood Samples in PNG.

The UN provided technical assistance to the National Department of Health for the designing of a national HIV drug resistance survey, in the aid of Operations Research. Protocols were developed and internal and international ethical clearance has been obtained, and the survey is anticipated for rollout in 2017.

In matters of procurement and supplies management, the country reported HIV test kits to be out of stock during the last quarter of the year. However, the issue is resolved at present through Global Donors Fund procurement, and UN technical assistance to the National Department of Health in forecasting and planning procurements. Furthermore, the country received donations of antiretrovirals from the Indian Government, with supplies now in-country and sufficient for one year.

Two new officers have been trained this year to revive the PNG UN Cares Committee and continue the work of UN Cares in PNG. Quarterly meetings were held after the training to mobilize both the old and new UN Cares Committee members.

A committee of 11 members comprising the Resident Coordinator's Office, and the UN System has been formed. The advocacy for ownership and commitment has been done to the highest level at the UN Country Team meetings. All related activities are in place, including an update to the list of Post Exposure Prophylaxis Kit Custodians, replacement of stock, work planning and budgeting for 2016, and plans to roll out the UN for All core training module in the first quarter of 2017. The Post Exposure Prophylaxis protocol was reviewed and updated to suit PNG, with referral links established to mainstream services. A system for monitoring condom distribution to all UN organizations and others has been established through UN Cares and is working well. UN Cares participated with respective UN organizations in HIV related activities, such as promoting information sharing on Gender and HIV in PNG at the National Women's Leadership Forum 2016, and on World AIDS Day 2016. UN Cares conducted two trainings for Post Exposure Prophylaxis Kit Custodians in 2016, with a particular focus on newly assigned custodians.

The new and significant partnership with PNG Power Limited strengthens networking and collaboration with business houses. This partnership in the HIV response was heralded during World AIDS Day celebrations at their HQ in Port Moresby. The UN System played a big part in the two World AIDS Day events hosted by both the National AIDS Council Secretariat and PNG Power Limited at two different venues at different times on the same day.

Information, educational, and communications materials were supplied by the UN, PNG Developmental Law Association and the Consultative Implementation & Monitoring Council on HIV, human rights and gender related information, including condoms, were shared and distributed at the booth.

The Media Awards for Excellence in Reporting on HIV and Gender event was held on the evening of the 1st December 2016, directly following the World AIDS Day commemoration. The Media Award is an annual event that is supported by the UN System. This event provides the opportunity to promote in-depth and accurate reporting on HIV and Gender Based Violence. The 2016 Media Awards were honoured with the presence of UN Women Executive Director Dr Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka and her team. Dr Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka officiated the event and commended the good work and relationship the UN System has with its partners in PNG.

Global and National Reporting

The key focus of support for strategic information during 2016 has been to assist in the development, completion and submission of a number of activities. For example, the UN worked towards the Global AIDS Response Progress Report 2016, which reports 2015 data pertaining to the all the core indicators used globally to monitor national progress in responding to the HIV epidemic. In the 2016 Final PNG HIV Estimates & Projections Report, PNG's national HIV estimates are generated using an estimations and projections package. In this report estimates and projections were calculated for national, regional and provincial levels. In addition, the Joint Programme Monitoring System Report, which made use of an online portal, was prepared and submitted. This is the country report of all the UN Cosponsors following Unified Budget Results and Accountability Framework guidelines.

The timely collection, management and analysis of data enabled reports to be completed and submitted on schedule. Complete and well-timed reporting effectively contributed to building an evidence base for policy development and tracking current progress and trends. Strategic information

is a core component of a national HIV response, and so the achievement of this indicator is a significant boost to the continued work in the HIV sector.

Leadership for Gender Sensitive Programming on HIV/AIDS

There has been a delayed response from National Central District Commission regarding planned joint activities within the Safe Cities Marketplace programme. The UN mobilized Global Fund resources. In partnership with the UN, the National Central District Commission Safe Cities Marketplace programme, Anglicare, and Marie Stopes International, the UN advocated the rolling out of mobile HIV testing and related health services to the existing Safe Cities programme.

The UN System supported the development and approval of a Workplace Policy on TB and HIV that outlines the goals, objectives and actions for HIV and TB prevention, treatment and employment terms in the National Central District Commission and its respective departments. The UN is in the process of coordinating policy implementation, along with the National Central District Commission.



CLUSTER THREE:

ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES



CLUSTER OUTCOME:

By 2017, an increased number of citizens have access to quality health and education services leading to longer, healthier, and more productive lives.

8. HEALTH

Contributing Agencies: UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO

Inter-Agency Outcome:	Support given to the Government of PNG and non-governmental organizations to strengthen primary health care for all and improve service delivery for the rural majority and urban disadvantaged.
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Maternal and Child Health

Although there is no updated reliable data available locally, according to the Inter-Agency Group of Child Mortality Estimation 2015, the under-five and infant mortality in PNG was estimated at 57 and 45 per 1000 live births respectively. This is one of the highest rates in the Asia-Pacific region. The maternal mortality ration was estimated at 215 per 100,000 live births in 2015 by the UN Maternal Morality Estimation Inter-agency group. Progress has been slow due to several constraints, such as a shortage of trained health staff, frequent stock-outs of essential health commodities, poor governance and management, and a lack of operational funds. With the introduction and expansion of the Integrated Management of Severe Acute Malnutrition, however, child mortality associated with malnutrition continued to drop. The case fatality rate of Severe Acute Malnutrition in four provincial hospitals reduced on average from 24 per cent in 2015 to 16 per cent in 2016.

The Government has launched an ambitious policy to abolish user fees for primary health care at public health facilities. This policy aims for Universal Health Coverage in PNG, and to improve the coverage of maternal, newborn and child health interventions, which has remained stagnant in previous years.

The availability, access and utilization of essential MNCH services remains low. As of October 2016, the immunization coverage of pentavalent combination and measles vaccines among infants was reported at 72 per cent and 63 per cent respectively. A total of 1,398 children from 06–59 months were treated in five provinces, of which 1,194 were cured (the cure rate is 85 per cent). With a UN programme on Early Essential Newborn Care, supported by the Australian Government (through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade), a total of 82,000 newborns were reached with early essential care in 11 focus provinces.

The challenges to deliver maternal, newborn and child health services in PNG have further deepened with the impact of El-Nino, which affects over 2.2 million people (National Disaster Centre 2015). On top of severe access constraints due to remoteness and distance, the utilization of life-saving interventions is critically low, with only sluggish improvement, due to poor human resource availability and capacity, and the inadequate funding for operational costs. The deteriorating economic performance of PNG in 2016 interrupted the timely execution of the health function grant by central government.

Immunisation and Childhood Illness Management

The National Expanded Programme on Immunization has faced many challenges over the last five years. These include, to highlight a few, a lack of leadership and managerial capacity, at both the national and subnational level, shortage of funds to implement the programme, and a lack of health workers and cold chain capacity at the facilities to conduct regular sessions. The situation has been exacerbated by the suspension of the manager of the National Expanded Programme on Immunization for the last year because of financial mismanagement of funding from GAVI's Health System Strengthening. The other partners in the Expanded Programme on Immunization (the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance) could not ensure regular support for the programme in 2016. Despite those challenges, technical support was ensured to develop a comprehensive Multi-Year Plan (2016–2020) for Papua New Guinea, including conducting an Effective Vaccine Management Assessment and updating the National Expanded Programme on Immunization Policy and Technical Guidelines.

The country has switched from trivalent oral polio vaccine to the bivalent oral polio vaccine and introduced three new vaccines (the Inactivated Polio Vaccine, Measles and Rubella, and Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine) during this period. UN technical, managerial and funding support has been recognized by the National Department of Health and development partners. At least 50 per cent of provinces have achieved more than 80 per cent coverage for Measles and Rubella of children under 15 during the Strengthening Integrated Routine Expanded Programme Plus programme.⁶ Low performing provinces have been identified and UN System support has been extended at the sub national level (eight provinces) to improve the coverage by 2017. The UN supported equity-focused immunization programming in seven low performing districts through identifying bottlenecks and barriers, and supported the districts' health management teams to remove them, with the aim of improving coverage and equity. Likewise, capacity building was conducted in these districts to develop and implement microplanning to reach every child with immunization services.

The UN's continuous advocacy for more efficient and sustainable vaccines procurement and logistic systems, with

the Government's domestic resources, significantly improved the availability of essential commodities for immunization interventions. It also strengthened strategies for procuring cold chain equipment. The National Department of Health has endorsed the recommendations of the Inter-Agency Coordination Committee to procure all vaccines and cold chain equipment using the most cost-effective vendors, including UN procurement services to reduce costs and improve quality. In 2016, the UN supported the Department to procure USD 1.2 million worth of vaccines and accessories, which is almost 80 per cent of the total requirements for the year 2016.

The UN System supported the National Department of Health to Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus Elimination in 2016 towards PNG's commitment to achieve the goal of Maternal Neonatal Tetanus Elimination by 2017. Following a joint assessment of Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus Elimination in June 2016, the agenda gained momentum through the Tetanus Toxoid Supplementary Immunization Activities in the high- and medium-risk provinces and districts. The UN supported the implementation of Tetanus Toxoid Supplementary Immunization Activities, integrated with Measles and Rubella, in four high-risk provinces (Jiwaka, Hela, Madang and East Sepik). The preliminary report from Jiwaka showed high TT coverage of 86 per cent and over 90 per cent of MR, while Madang, Hela and East Sepik will continue their implementation in 2017.

In order to secure its integration into the pre-service education curriculum of medical and nursing studies, The National Department of Health has begun to introduce an Integrated Management of Childhood Illness Pre-Service Education training for all 31 institutes (midwifery schools, nursing schools and medical and health sciences faculties of the universities). In 2016, a total of 34 students from the University of PNG and Divine Word University underwent Integrated Management of Childhood Illness Pre-Service Education training for ten days in order to fully institutionalize it. With UN support, this will continue in 2017.

Due to competing priorities of the Government and lack of resources, the plan to introduce the integrated Community Case Management of common childhood illnesses (diarrhoea, pneumonia, malaria, malnutrition, and newborn illness) in two provinces has been rescheduled for 2017.

⁶ The National Department of Health, National EPI Programme.

However, Community Case Management has been integrated into other similar approaches to community-based health interventions, including community-based management of severe acute malnutrition and community newborn care. The UN has supported the National Department of Health and collaborated with non-governmental organizations and key partners, specifically the Rural Primary Health Care Project of the Department, to develop the Village Health Volunteer module. The Village Health Volunteer is a community-based human resource for health, as well as an avenue for reaching the family and community to provide basic essential health services, promote healthy behaviours and early identification and referral of common illnesses.

Preventative Nutrition Services

The UN System, with financial support from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, continued channelling its technical assistance to the National Department of Health and provincial government to introduce and expand the Infant and Young Child Feeding and Nutrition services. The national training guidelines on the Infant and Young Child Feeding counselling services have been adopted and the trainings have begun with national and regional level Training of Trainers. A total of 33 health professionals from provincial health offices, hospitals and nursing schools were trained on counselling as trainers. They in turn will train the community health workers from health sub-centres and community health posts, who will then conduct further counselling sessions both at health facilities and at village and community level. One participant from each of the 29 of 89 districts received the counselling training. The national Infant and Young Child Feeding policy 2014 was disseminated to all 29 districts, linked to the adaptation process of trainers' materials that provided guidance for implementing the activities, including training and counselling services.

A review and overhaul of the existing 'PNG Baby Feed and Supplies Act 1984' started in May 2016 to strengthen the legislation and to improve its regulation on the international code of marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes. The act has not yet been transformed into law because the drafting instructions and the draft bill for the State Solicitor's Office has not yet been finalized for their review and endorsement, which has to happen before it can be submitted to the National Economic Council for approval.

To contribute to the eradication of micronutrient deficiencies, national level training on collecting data on the fortification of imported rice and salt into PNG took place, including collection of samples for testing. Urine and salt samples collection in school children is on-going in the nearly cut-off Karamui district (Simbu province) where there is suspected cretinism. National policy to address anaemia in women of reproductive age (15-49 years) is integrated into the multi-sectoral national nutrition policy 2016-2026. This policy supports micro-nutrient supplementation for adolescent girls in school.

Curative Nutrition Services

Assisted by sustained high level advocacy from UN agencies, PNG became the 57th member of the Scaling-UP Nutrition global movement in April 2016. Capitalizing on this momentum, five provincial governments expanded the integrated management of severe acute malnutrition with the promotion of infant and young child feeding practices and multiple Micro-Nutrient Powder supplementation. The budget re-allocations to nutrition interventions for 2016, with USD 1 million for procuring the essential nutrients, including therapeutic food, was the result of strong commitment of the Government to combat malnutrition.

With the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's financial support, in 2016, the UN continued its technical assistance to the National Department of Health and to provincial governments to expand Severe Acute Malnutrition management, with a focus on quality and continuity of care. Severe Acute Malnutrition management capacity building was expanded to district and sub-district (Local Level Government) level hospitals and health centres in 29 districts under five provinces (Enga, Madang, Morobe, National Capital District and Simbu). These now have 568 trained health workers for early detection, treatment and referral of children with Severe Acute Malnutrition. Currently, a total of 84 health facilities (15 provincial hospital and 69 health centres) are providing Severe Acute Malnutrition management services. As a result of these efforts, there has been a significant reduction of Case Fatality Rate among four provincial level general hospitals (Kimbe, Kundiawa, Wabag and Port Moresby). For three years in a row, these four hospitals have reduced the average Case Fatality Rate from 25 per cent in 2014 to 24 per cent in 2015, and to a further 16 per cent in 2016.

The UN System assisted with needs assessment for management of Severe Acute Malnutrition, conducted Training of Trainers, to develop a team of 71 trainers, and subsequent health worker trainings. The training was followed by on-job coaching and mentorships, backed up by text mentorship messages, through the Rapid-Pro project. The UN supported the procurement and delivery of 100 per cent of the country's requirements of therapeutic food bought using government funds (USD 1 million), leveraged through advocacy. This resulted in the improved availability of therapeutic foods without any stock-outs. The continued advocacy has gained the country's allocation for the purchase of supplies for 2017. Further support from the UN secured the update and standardization of the Severe Acute Malnutrition management protocol, nutrition equipment, capacity building and mentorships for both routine programme and humanitarian response.

Family Planning

There has been greater improvement the way the rural health staff manage their reproductive health commodities. There was no stock-out in the last six months of at least five Rimbunan Hijau commodities in the 86 per cent of health facilities, while 75 per cent of health facilities have at least two long lasting family planning methods. Increasing numbers of rural health staff are now trained in family planning, particularly in long acting methods. Many national parliamentarians and provincial leaders are becoming more aware of the importance of family planning.



Maternal and Newborn Care

The year 2016 focused on improving the quality of Early Essential Newborn Care that expanded from three to 11 focus provinces, with establishment of mechanisms and approaches to introducing community-based newborn care. The key focus of UN support was to identify and develop a core team of mentors to work with hospitals and health facilities. More midwives are now trained and midwifery schools enhanced with continuous learning through lectures delivered at these schools. The provinces are now able to easily report, respond and monitor maternal and perinatal deaths. Support was provided to the National Department of Health and PHA/PHOs to develop a core team of 93 trainers and 425 Early Essential Newborn Care providers, enabling the expanded delivery of Early Essential Newborn Care services from 32 health facilities in 2015 to 175 health facilities in 2016. This essentially covers 56 per cent of the total health facilities (312) in the 11 focus provinces.

Adolescent Health Services

The students at the University of PNG were trained in peer education. These students provided counselling and mentoring services to other students. They participated with Young Women's Christian Association on weekly radio programmes dedicated to adolescent sexual reproductive health programmes. There was training for Out of School youths on sexual reproductive health and also on family planning. Special attention was paid to youths on Bougainville.



CHILDREN BY CHOICE



Marie Stopes Port Moresby Clinic Manager Esther Nelson believes Papua New Guinea's future could be brighter if women had better control over their fertility to reduce the pressure of a rapidly growing population.

Photo credit: Alice Plate / UNFPA

Papua New Guinea's population is expected to almost double in the next 15 years, projected to reach 13 million by 2032. This rapid population growth and struggle for resources is already visible at 6-Mile, one of the overcrowded outskirts suburbs of Port Moresby where Esther Nelson, the Marie Stopes PNG Clinic Manager, lives. Every day, she sees Papua New Guineans rushing to get on public buses, children roaming the streets begging, and many people living in shanty settlements.

"I witnessed a lot of women delivering babies when I worked as a midwife at Port Moresby General Hospital. Many of them do not know about family planning. This motivated me to work with Marie Stopes, to be able to give information on what contraceptive methods are available so clients can decide for themselves," she said.

The UNFPA partners closely with Marie Stopes and the National Department of Health to strengthen the delivery of family planning services and the supply of contraceptives. Esther believes that if women had better control over their fertility, thus reducing the pressures created by a rapidly growing population, the country's future could be brighter.

Through the UNFPA's support, the clinic extends its services to around 400 women a month, most of whom have no regular income or employment. The clients are either subsistence farmers from surrounding provinces or women who have moved into the city from other provinces and live in settlements. Most of the women who are accessing the family planning services prefer to use the implants, as these provide four-five years of protection from unwanted pregnancies.

"The family planning service has helped women space out their children," says Esther, smiling at the group of women waiting in the clinic, "and this in turn helps reduce their living expenses. With family planning, women are able to have their desired family size, and are able to feed, clothe and send their children to school. It also means that the mother is healthier and productive."

Communicable Diseases

TB Control

Implementation of the national TB strategic plan is in progress. The 30 priority Basic Management Units reporting 75 per cent of the TB cases were focused, and significant progress is being made. The treatment success rate of bacteriologically confirmed cases increased to 70 per cent, and loss to follow-up rate among all new bacteriologically confirmed TB cases declined to 16 per cent. The supportive supervision system for TB control is standardized and systematized. This can bring about significant improvement at all levels of management facilities, by improving TB related indicators and strengthening overall accountability in the health systems.

Malaria Control

There is significant achievement in reduction of incidence of malaria per 1000 persons over the last five years; reduced from 205 per 1000 people (in 2010-2011) to 48 per 1000 people (in 2013-2014). Likewise, there has been a gradual increase in both the testing of suspected malaria cases with Rapid Diagnostic Tests or Microscopy, and subsequently in the receipt of first line antimalarial treatment, as per national guidelines. Significant improvement has been made in the field of Multi-Drug Resistant TB. A multi-disciplinary Central Programmatic Management of Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis Emergency Team, under the leadership of the Deputy Health Secretary, provided direction on addressing this emergency situation in the three provinces of the National Capital District, Western and Gulf. Intervention was established on September 2014 and functioned successfully in combating the Multi-Drug Resistant situation. Eighty-eight percent of all retreatment cases were tested for resistance to first line drugs. Treatment success in Multi-Drug Resistant cases improved from 14 per cent in 2011 to 39 per cent, and some of the hot spots, such as Daru, are reporting zero loss to follow-up.

Health Systems Strengthening

The revised supervision checklist was rolled out in North Bougainville District. All three districts in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville are now using the integrated supervision checklist. The checklist has been updated to an excel version for roll-out in 2017. Human resources for

health were data compiled in 11 provinces for government run health facilities, 13 provinces for church agencies' health facilities, and nine provinces for private healthcare providers.

Essential Drugs Programme

PNG still relies on a 'push system' for medical products. A standard list of supplies, called the "100% Medical Kit", is distributed to health facilities. The kit has been used over the past several years to ensure adequate supplies of essential medicines. However, this also resulted to continuous stock-outs and over-stocks of products where consumption varies according to local needs. The over-stocks also lead to increased costs in waste disposal, creating another challenge.

The UN is supporting the National Department of Health to transition from the 'push system' to a more demand driven system. Through collaboration with development partners', efforts are ongoing to improve the quantification methods used for procurement and to strengthen the Department for better distribution according to local needs. The introduction of the mSupply system in the mainstream medical stores and major health facilities has been a milestone achievement in PNG. Currently available in over 30 locations, the UN System will work with the Department to gradually roll out mSupply to all districts over the next two to three years. The UN is also supporting the utilization of the information generated through mSupply for evidence-based decision-making on issues pertaining to the pharmaceutical supply chain.

The UN System is supporting the Pharmaceutical Services Standards Branch in a wide range of regulatory system strengthening activities, including selection of medicines, registration, inspection, quality assurance, pharmacovigilance, and others. With UN support, the Medicines and Cosmetics Act, and Medicines and Cosmetics Regulation 2002, are currently under review. Three rounds of stakeholder consultations have resulted in a draft law which is in-line with international standards and the needs of the country, as reflected in the National Medicines Policy 2014. The National Medicines Quality Control Laboratory is currently under establishment, with technical assistance provided for laboratory refurbishment, procurement of equipment and instruments, and building capacity of laboratory staff. Establishment of the laboratory quality assurance system is supported by the United States Pharmacopeial Convention and is currently in progress.

A system for provisional registration of pharmaceuticals has been developed and scaling up to full registration is currently underway. The pharmaceutical Compliance, Licensing and Inspection Unit is reviving technical support on verification of manufacturers' adherence to Good Manufacturing Practice requirements and market control functions throughout the supply chain. In addition, training has been provided to inspectors and pharmacy staff in provincial hospitals on visual inspection for screening of Substandard, Spurious, Falsely labelled, Falsified and Counterfeit products. Minilabs are being deployed to sentinel sites for screening suspicious products and the laboratory would conduct further testing on any medicines that fail the Minilab screening.

The national action plan on combatting anti-microbial resistance has been drafted in line with the WHO Global Action Plan. Through a series of consultations with key stakeholders, an operational plan is being developed for the period of 2017-2020. A multi-sectoral steering committee has been established, co-chaired by the relevant departments of

government – namely, Health, Agriculture and Livestock, and Environment. A reporting system for adverse drug event monitoring has been established and PNG is an associate member of the WHO International Programme for Adverse Drug Event Monitoring. Pharmacovigilance is being supported to strengthen linkages with existing disease programmes, such as TB and EPI, to capture any adverse events that may arise, especially during the introduction of new products, or during immunization campaigns.

Non-Communicable Diseases

The Multi-Sectoral Plan for the prevention and control of Non-Communicable Diseases in PNG was endorsed by government in 2016. Around 14 health facilities were assessed on their capacity to manage NCDs. Further, a screening survey will be done in 2017. The Tobacco Control Act was approved by parliament. An operational plan for implementing provision of the Act will be developed during the first quarter of 2017.

9. EDUCATION

Contributing Agencies: UNICEF, UNESCO

Inter-Agency Outcome:	By 2017, sufficient capacity exists within the Department of Education and the Department for Community Development & Religion, together with cognate departments and provincial divisions of education and community development, to formulate and implement policies and programmes to achieve inclusive universal basic education, holistic Early Childhood Care and Development and alternative pathways to learning.
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Implementation of the Universal Basic Education Plan

The National Education Plan (2010-2019) provides a holistic framework for an inclusive and integrated approach. Community engagement through the School Board of Management provides an excellent opportunity to improve access and quality of education at local level. With UN support and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's funding, a total of 16 out of 22 provinces have prepared Provincial Education Plans in 2016. These provinces include Gulf, Central, Oro, Southern Highlands, Eastern Highlands, Hela, Enga, Jiwaka, Western Highlands, Simbu, East New Britain, Manus New Ireland Province, Madang, East Sepik and Sandaun. From these provincial plans the national priorities are implemented at the subnational level. The planning

exercises conducted under the leadership of the National Department of Education have significantly enhanced the capacity of local education authorities, which in turn supports the school boards in implementing their inclusive School Learning Improvement Plans.

To generate evidence for investment needs in the education sector the Department, with UN support, has initiated a study to establish the unit cost to educate a child from elementary to secondary (including vocational stream) school in PNG. The study will establish expenditure areas in operating schools using Tuition Fee Free funding, based upon the basket of goods and services costs in different school locations. The findings of the study will suggest how much it would cost for one student to be educated considering the following five domains: teacher salaries and allowances, teacher training,

infrastructure, school operations, and administration. Once established, the unit cost measure can be used to develop a comprehensive strategy that will enable recovery of costs by charging fees, as well as estimation of future costs, and comparisons across different levels of education and across countries. So far, a total of eight provinces have undergone the completion of domains one and two.

Recommendations from a Gender Programme Review conducted in 2016 have been incorporated into the 2017 joint workplan with the National Department of Education. Some of the activities include rolling out and monitoring the implementation of School Related Gender Based Violence tool kits in selected provinces, and conducting School Related Gender Based Violence tool kit orientation for teachers and the Board of Management. This will strengthen gender programming – a country priority positively impacting the capacity of duty bearing educators at different levels.

Out of School Children Accessing Informal Education are Integrated into Formal Education

A draft profile of Out of School Children who had never attended school, or have dropped Out of School before finishing their formal education, has been generated by the National Department of Education. Initial findings suggest a total number of 533,688 (23 per cent) children (six to 17 years old) are not enrolled in school. The Technical Team on the Out of School Children Initiative at the Department of Education and the Education Management Information System is engaged in developing comprehensive profiles of children, including data on dropout rates, by using innovative statistical methods. The Education Management Information System (2015) and the national Household Income Expenditure Survey (2009/10) produce information through analysing data that encompasses pre-primary and primary-age Out of School Children, primary students at risk of dropping out, and lower secondary Out of School Children, and students at risk of dropping out.

A national workshop on Out of School Children (supported by the UN), involving 45 government and Civil Society Organization representatives, has identified addressing social, cultural, school-based, government, political and financial barriers to tackling exclusion and the high rate of Out of School Children. The resulting analysis will feed in to the development of a national report, as well as into recommendations to mainstream all Out of School Children. Further to this, with the support of the UN, the National Department of Education has established a cross sectoral

national Steering Committee, tasked with identifying essential policy reforms and applying targeted interventions based on the information used from data profiling.

The Gender Programmatic Report commissioned by the UN in PNG in 2016, suggests student issues such as abuse, bullying and lack of facilities, especially for girls, are seldom discussed in school assemblies or in board meetings. To strengthen and empower the demand, and to mainstream Out of School Children Initiative, two partnership programmes have been developed in 2016. The partnership with the literary centre in Jiwaka (a remote province) has resulted in enrolment of 50 Out of School Children at the flexible learning centre, and partnership with the Ginigoada foundation is working towards the mainstreaming of primary age Out of School Children Initiatives in Central province. These children are supported through learning materials and teacher training. Learning from these initiatives will be valuable to the scaling up of similar initiatives in PNG.

The European Union is planning to support the technical and vocational education programme in PNG, which will help to create opportunities for vocational education for Out of School Children, especially those who are too old to enrol either in primary or early secondary education.

Early Childhood Care and Education

The findings from the facility-based research for validating data on Early Childhood Development has contributed to the development of the Early Childhood Development



Scales minimum operating standards and Early Childhood Development policy recommendations. For the first time, PNG validated its Early Learning Standards for children aged three, four and five years. The Elementary Teacher Training Content guidelines incorporated Early Childhood Development Standards in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville.

The Early Childhood Development curriculum, developed with UN assistance, for ages four to five has been piloted in 150 centres across seven provinces (Eastern Highlands Province, Madang, Milne Bay, Central, the National Capital District, Sandaun), plus the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, benefiting around 7,500 children. The curriculum has incorporated issues of peace education, values and life skills, providing a foundation for addressing violence against children within and outside schools. To further advance Early Childhood Development goals, 500 teachers have been trained in the same seven provinces. Three-thousand more elementary teachers from community-based centres across 13 districts have been trained during in-service week by the Autonomous Region of Bougainville using the UN supported Training of Trainers guide. The institutionalization of the Elementary and Early Childhood Development Teacher Training will begin in 2017. This achievement enables research-based evidence to be integrated and reflected in the development of teacher training, which is a positive contribution towards the sustainable orientation of a PNG National Education System that is built upon research and evidence. The PNG Education Institute (a body to train teachers) has formed the Course Writing Team, comprised of lecturers and National Department of Education staff.

To promote inclusive education, the UN has supported the establishment of 70 inclusive Early Childhood Development centres in four provinces (Milne Bay, Central, National Capital District and the Autonomous Region of Bougainville) through programme partnership with Cheshire disAbility Services. Training on early detection, assessment and screening of children with disabilities was given to 351 Early Childhood Development, elementary and primary teachers. There were 9,889 children from ages three to 15 assessed within the school divisions in four provinces. Different forms of disability were identified in 306 children attending an Early Childhood Development, elementary or primary schools.

Under South-South collaboration, members of the multi-sectoral committee attended the high level Early Childhood Development policy forum in Malaysia. Formation of this multi-sectoral committee is a step towards engaging all

focal government departments in reviewing Early Childhood Development policy and revising it to a multi-sector response approach. The interventions supported by the UN in Early Childhood Development were made possible by funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Child Friendly Schools and Disaster Risk Reduction

A study visit to Thailand on values education has enhanced the perspectives of a 24-strong mixed group of influencers and change makers, including policy makers, curriculum writers, teachers and provincial education directors, towards the value of education. Subsequently, the national curriculum is working on the integration of values education, to improve the quality of learning standards so that they incorporate values such as responsibility, respect, care, and conservation of the environment. At the local level 638 school teachers from the Wabag town school cluster, including from four schools in Jiwaka and the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, have undergone in-service training in 2016. Trained school teachers and provincial educational directors have revisited the lesson plans and school programmes for 638 schools, reaching out to 18,000 primary school students in three provinces. In addition, 68 primary school teachers and Standard and Guidance Officers from eight provinces received training to address School Related Gender Based Violence, adapting the training module developed by multiple partners in the East Asia and Pacific region. As a result of a partnership with a local non-governmental organization, sports is being used as a medium to address gender-based violence in 40 schools in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville. Non-stereotypical gender roles are being promoted through engagement of girls and boys in different activities in school clubs.

As a result of training on climate change adaptation, 50 primary schools have developed disaster management plans for their schools to improve the resilience and preparedness in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville. Together with gender, disaster risk reduction and management, climate change adaptation, inclusive education, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in schools, and values education, 100 schools can be promoted as child friendly schools.

As part of a larger strategy for Child Friendly Schools, 68 teachers from eight provinces have been trained to address issues of gender-based violence. Fifteen master facilitators have improved skills on Community/School Led Total Sanitation and 60 teachers on participatory hygiene education training. Around 300 school Board of Management members,

parents and influential community members were mobilized, using Community Led Total Sanitation, and Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation. In Bougainville, 50 local artisans, carpenters and builders (trained through UN support), can build low cost improved toilets in surrounding schools. This has resulted in an increased demand from school boards, teachers and parents to improve Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in schools. Working on the demand side of school improvement is a core element of the UN approach to ensuring better service delivery, enhanced opportunities and a focus on improved access to facilities that meet minimum basic quality standards.

At the upstream level, for the first time ever in PNG, a multisector Technical Advisory Committee on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in schools, co-chaired by the Deputy Secretary of Education and Deputy Secretary of Health, has

been instituted. The committee is guiding the partners to implement the policy in schools, in line with the strategies outlined within it. To strengthen coordinated response in emergencies, the UN successfully advocated the appointment of a dedicated senior government official as National Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Coordinator in emergency situations.

The child friendly school components, addressing gender aspects, safe school environment, values, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in schools, etc., implemented in 2016, were DFAT supported. In 2017, the UN will support implementation of the National Quality School Standard Framework. This framework was developed with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's support to the National Department of Education, and recently endorsed by the Government. The National Quality School Standards Framework covers all dimensions of child friendly school and more.



BOREHOLES PROVIDE CLEAN WATER FOR THOUSANDS



Grade six student, Bevelyn Moses, happy to be back in class after the prolonged drought.
Photo Credit: Noreen Chambers/UNICEF

The devastating effect of the El Nino weather system reached its peak in Papua New Guinea around June 2016. The prolonged drought, experienced since May 2015, had taken a visible toll on food crops, water sources and subsequently the education of thousands of school children.

Sixteen-year-old Bevelyn Moses was amongst thousands of school children who lost up to 200 hours of learning in 2016. Numerous schools around the country faced the same predicament, including St. Anselm Primary School in Jiwaka Province, where Bevelyn is now a grade six student. "Our teachers sent us home every day at lunch time because there was no water in our school. Our water tanks dried up and our teachers also had no water. It was sad for us to miss school but we had no choice," says Bevelyn, who has high hopes of becoming a nurse when she completes her education.

Fearing an outbreak of communicable diseases like typhoid, cholera, diarrheal and waterborne diseases, St. Anselm Primary School Head Teacher, Steven Nagombi, sent over 1,000 students home at noon on a daily basis between June and early December 2016. "We lost two and a half hours of learning time every day by sending students home at noon, but we couldn't keep them here because the only other water source we have is a river near the school. But that was contaminated by the people living upstream at the time when water levels were very low. The risk for disease outbreak was too high for us to keep students in school for a whole day and exposed to contaminated water," Steven stresses.

In August 2016, UNICEF, in collaboration with the divisions of Education and Health, installed eight boreholes in eight schools in Jiwaka Province to ensure a continuous supply of clean water, so as not to disrupt their learning. St. Anselm Primary School was one of the schools selected for this project. Up to 1,400 students, 37 teachers and their families, and close to 3,000 people who live in nearby communities around the school, now access clean water supplied by the borehole.

"We thank UNICEF for this support. The eight schools we chose for this project met two important criteria. One was the large number of students, and the second was the school's proximity to health facilities who could also have access to clean water, as they were also seriously affected by the drought," says Sister Kolly Bang, a Health Superintendent from the Jiwaka Provincial Administration. For Bevelyn, she is happy the school has a borehole. "Thank you, UNICEF, for the borehole. Now we don't have water problems and we can go to school properly," she adds.

CLUSTER FOUR:

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT



Environment, Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management

CLUSTER OUTCOME:

By 2017, the Government and civil society have enhanced their capacity to implement biodiversity conservation, low carbon and climate resilient development initiatives for environmental sustainability and improved community livelihoods to reduce the vulnerability of women, girls, men and boys to disaster risks.

10. ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

Contributing Agencies: UNDP, FAO, UNFPA, UNICEF, WFP, WHO, UNHABITAT, IOM

Inter-Agency Outcome:	By 2017, the Government of PNG and civil society have enhanced their capacity to implement biodiversity conservation, low carbon and climate resilient development initiatives for environmental sustainability and improved community livelihoods to reduce the vulnerability of women, girls, men and boys to disaster risks.
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Institutional Capacity Building for Sustainable Natural Resource Management and Biodiversity Conservation

In 2014, the Government recommended translation of the National Protected Area Policy into legislation, as well as an implementation plan. This led to the UN's financial and technical assistance to government in 2015 to design the draft Protected Areas Implementation Plan that was completed in 2016. This plan provides the overall implementation framework on protected area establishment and management in the country.

Another important milestone of UN's assistance was formulation of the Protected Areas Bill in 2016, which is now ready for submission to the National Executive Council in 2017. Once the Protected Areas Bill is approved by parliament, it will provide an enabling regulatory framework

for the establishment and management of protected areas.

With the completion of the Protected Areas Policy, and the Protected Areas Implementation Plan and Protected Areas Bill underway, the Government promptly completed its Species Information Management System hosted by the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority in 2016. This included support on biodiversity information for PNG with the development of the national registry on protected areas, an online system for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, as well as on wildlife species. Additional support was extended to the Government on the establishment of Satellite Land Monitoring System, which will provide real time monitoring of forests.

This improved database recorded PNG as having 1.6 million hectares of terrestrial and marine areas established through

protected areas management arrangements. Almost 30 per cent, or half a million hectares of this land under protection is directly supported by the UN. This result is due to ongoing community driven conservation interventions that contributed 259,860 hectares by obtaining formal endorsement from respective Local-Level Government councils as new Protected Areas. These areas included Lake Hargy (1,860 ha) in West New Britain, the expanded area of Arabam, Raigel and Managi wards (58,000 ha) in the Baining Mountain of East New Britain, and the Torricelli Mountain Range (200,000 ha) in East and West Sepik Provinces.

UN support to the Conservation and Environment Protection Agency's institutional reform, in line with its new mandate and functions, saw the recruitment of 37 management positions, expanding its capacity to support protected areas management in PNG. Further work to establish a sustainable financing mechanism resulted in the UN mobilizing an allocation of USD 12.6 million from the Global Environment Facility. The formulation of the new project will commence in early 2017 for the establishment of a 'Biodiversity Trust Fund' which will provide an 'accountable and transparent mechanism' to administer diverse sources of funding for the protected area network in PNG.

Promote Low Carbon Growth and Climate Resilient Economic Development

The UN provided critical support for the Office of Climate Change and Development's transition to the Climate Change and Development Authority, focusing on institutional sustainability and strategic climate change framework. This will give Climate Change and Development Authority the mandate to create a sustainable financing mechanism for national climate change investments, including pooling of international funding and cost recovery schemes.

The UN's additional technical advice on climate change adaptation and mitigation contributed to the Implementation Act of Paris Agreement (October 2016) and the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions, which are required for signatories to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Enactment of the Paris Agreement provides the legal framework for PNG to address climate change, while the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions outline a plan of action that countries have identified to implement locally based on a country's domestic circumstances and

capabilities. These circumstances and capabilities include adaptation to climate change impacts, and what support they need from, or will provide, to adopt low-carbon pathways and to build climate resilience.

In line with the Implementation Act of Paris Agreement (2016) and the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions, further work on development of a National Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) Strategy received substantive technical assistance from the UN to complete the Issues and Options Paper in 2016. This paper sets out the overall framework for REDD+ in PNG and aims to initiate national dialogue on priority policies and measures to address the drivers of forest cover change. This is significant progress for PNG's readiness phase to establish a national REDD+ Mechanism. The UN strongly advocated and supported this through inclusive participatory processes coordinated by Climate Change and Development Authority that have improved the following: (i) inter-agency collaboration with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, Civil Society Organizations, the private sector and donors on REDD+; (ii) fully functioning Technical Working Groups on National REDD+ Strategy, and Social and Environmental Safeguards; and (iii) recommendations for the establishment of a National REDD+ Steering Committee.

Following UN led REDD+ Academy trainings, a total of 80 representatives from national government agencies, civil society organizations and the private sector are now a part of the national pool of experts in this field. The training consisted of a combination of presentations and group exercises to improve participants' knowledge and understanding of: (i) basic principles of REDD+; (ii) key differences between REDD+ in the voluntary market and under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; (iii) elements of the Warsaw REDD+ framework; and (iv) the nature of a REDD+ Strategy/Action Plan and how these link with the existing structures and capacity within PNG. Overall, participants considered the training events to be useful, with over 84 per cent scoring it five out of five as 'highly valued'.

Another interesting analysis on REDD+ safeguards concluded with a roadmap and recommendations for the design of a safeguards information system in PNG. This will allow PNG to adopt Country's Approach to Safeguards to meet REDD+ safeguard requirements as stipulated under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and other

relevant initiatives and institutions (Safeguards Assessment, 2016). In addition, gender considerations, including full and effective stakeholder engagement practices, are under development, in tandem with the primary REDD+ objectives to meet PNG's targets for Greenhouse Gas emissions and goals for sustainability.

The UN's emphasis on accelerating national efforts on climate change adaptation across sectors in development and budgetary planning processes was supported by the completion and testing of a national training module on mainstreaming climate change adaptation in 2016. This has resulted in the enhanced awareness of key departments and policy makers about the importance of mainstreaming climate change adaptation into development planning. It enhanced understanding of department heads and policy makers in the pilot provinces about the practical realities of mainstreaming climate change adaptation into development planning and budgeting. In addition, it equipped policy makers and department heads in the pilot provinces with the ability to develop and implement climate sensitive policies and plans.

In terms of flood early warning systems, the UN advocated for the establishment of a roadmap following completion of the assessment on coastal and inland flood early warning systems in PNG. Thus, a flood early warning system is being piloted in Bumbu River in Morobe Province. The UN has worked to strengthen institutional capacities at national and subnational level to integrate climate change related risks into sectoral policies and arrangement practices.

Sustainable Livelihoods and Community Empowerment for Environmental Governance

With the UN's support and advocacy to develop capacity of civil society organizations, two local partners (Tenkile Conservation Alliance and Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program) have leveraged an increase in international finance to support communities in the following: the development and/or update of their protected areas management plans, demarcation of boundaries, and the trial development of alternative livelihoods in areas containing globally and nationally significant biodiversity elements.

To-date, 90 villages are engaged in income generating activities in the YUS Conservation Area, Torricelli Mountain Range and the Baining Mountain. Community groups are

implementing income earning opportunities. These range from rice production and rice mill, fish and rabbit farming, production of Moringa oil, powder and soap, to the production and export of green coffee beans. The Woodland Park Zoo/ Tree Kangaroo Conservation Programme reported that the production and demand for YUS coffee beans has increased from two tons to 22 tonnes, with shipments made to Seattle and to Melbourne. Marketing for sustainably-produced cocoa is being explored for YUS, with an initial 567 kg of cocoa sold to Queen Emma Chocolates.

From 15 community-based climate change adaptation projects initiated with non-governmental organizations, a total of 5,000 people benefited from provision of water tanks, training in health and water sanitation, resilient agriculture practices and flood conservation methods. In Madang and New Ireland provinces, community mangrove management plans were developed for selected communities, which included engagement of women in climate change adaptation measures. A total of 1,459 women were engaged in the implementation of various project activities (225 women were trained in food processing and preservation and 18 were trained in first aid). This figure includes over 1,000 people trained in mangrove conservation and protection that contributed to the establishment of 13 community nurseries to improve community resilience to climate related coastal flooding.



Effective and Inclusive Disaster Risk Management

The UN continued to strengthen institutional capacities at national and subnational level to integrate climate change and disaster related risks into sectoral policies and practices. At the structural level, the UN worked with the National Disaster Centre to identify critical entry points for mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management into multi-sectoral development planning processes at the national and subnational levels. This will be supported by the multi-hazard risk assessment, planned for five pilot provinces in the country.

The mainstreaming was further underpinned by integrating training of Local-Level Government public servants by the Institute of Public Administration. At the subnational level, work included review and revision of two provincial disaster risk management plans. The UN also established a new partnership with the University of PNG through the signing of a Letter of Agreement. This involved the enhancement of the existing Comprehensive Hazard Assessment and Risk Management course and the development of a new diploma course on Comprehensive Hazard Assessment and Risk Management to further advance the professionalization of Disaster Risk Management practitioners in PNG.

Most of the capacity building interventions at the national level (with the National Disaster Centre) and some of the provincial level work have been supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, as well as the Adaptation Fund and USAID.

Enhanced Governance for Disaster Risk Management

To enhance recovery planning, together with the National Disaster Centre and key government stakeholders, the UN has initiated the process of developing a National (Early) Recovery Framework. The Framework is expected to clarify roles and responsibilities for recovery, and provide an overarching tool to plan recovery following disasters.

To enable accurate tracking and monitoring of disaster events in PNG, the UN worked with the National Disaster Centre on establishing a disaster information management system through a mapping of existing information about management gaps, and identifying information management solutions, based on global and regional best practices.

Supported by a disaster risk information expert, the UN has initiated the establishment of an information system (a disaster loss database), which will be linked to the global disaster database (DesInventar).

In a humanitarian capacity, the UN continued to jointly convene the interagency Disaster Management Team and provided strong leadership from the international community, especially during the 2015/2016 El Nino. This included full-time secretarial support to the Disaster Management Team, comprising the coordination of interagency humanitarian responses and technical support to humanitarian clusters, as well as establishing strong linkages across the humanitarian community. Of note, the UN supported the formulation of a USD 37.57m Disaster Management Team El Nino Response Plan, of which USD 14.5m was successfully raised (39 per cent). This included successfully accessing a USD 4.75m UN Central Emergency Response Fund grant for drought response. These have collectively facilitated successful execution of emergency food and nutrition intervention to reach approximately 230,000 beneficiaries across four highly impacted provinces in PNG, while effectively coordinating food security interventions through the establishment and support of an interagency food security cluster.

Following El Nino, the UN also supported the NDC in coordinating the country-wide joint interagency Post Drought Assessment and analysis, while coordinating preparedness activities in case of a potential El Nino event at the end of 2016. The UN, together with the PNG Government, also hosted the visit of the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy for El Nino and Climate in June 2016.

The UN also established a PNG-specific information sharing portal to host operational information, tools and reports of all humanitarian actors in relation to the 2015/2016 El Nino response. The UN also facilitated the introduction of a data collection and analysis platform called Kobo, where primary data collected from field assessment was seamlessly collated into a database with a built-in automated analysis function. This platform was applied during the whole-of-country interagency post-drought assessment led by the National Disaster Centre.

The UN supported the development of Standard Operating Procedures and disaster risk reduction strategies at the provincial level, and delivered trainings on Common Operative

Recovery Essentials and Community Based Disaster Risk Management. Another key outcome of the 2015/2016 El Nino response was the establishment and functioning of the interagency food security cluster to coordinate food security interventions.

Disaster preparedness and response plans, including standard operating procedures for disaster management and early warning, were developed as part of the comprehensive provincial disaster management plans for East Sepik and New Ireland provinces. In addition, ten community-based flood preparedness and response plans have been developed to benefit 4,323 people, which will greatly improve local capacities to proactively manage climate related flooding. This will enhance understanding of the roles and responsibilities of government and communities, including the capacity to access funding opportunities under climate change in relation to emergency management.

The Common Operative Recovery Essentials training was delivered in October 2016 and was further adapted to suit the context of PNG, and to include more information on Disaster Risk Reduction – an element that was considered missing from the first Common Operative Recovery Essentials training in 2013. During this training, only participants from the National District Capital and Provincial District Capitals were included (in the 2013 training, non-governmental organizations had also participated). The UN delivered a total of 12 Training of Trainers sessions on Community Based Disaster Risk Management, attended by 360 participants identified by respective government departments. The Provincial District Capitals were responsible for identifying the non-governmental participants. This was important in selecting the right candidates for the training, as these are persons who had prior engagements with the Provincial District Capitals on disaster matters. All participants were subsequently brought together for five days of residential training. The facilitation team comprised of local facilitators (from the community), one government official and three UN staff. Other participants who were involved included church representatives and Red Cross volunteers.

Disaster Risk Management by Communities

In 2016, the UN has scaled up its support to government, civil society organizations and the private sector to enhance rural communities' capacities to effectively manage risks due to climate related disasters. This was evident from

engaging with 18 communities in East Sepik, Madang, Morobe and New Ireland provinces, where 15 (communities) participated in climate change adaptation initiatives. Only ten communities, with a population of 4,323 that included the active participation of 1,459 women, completed their community flood preparedness and response plans. These plans included establishment of ten community river bank protection measures and ten rain catchment systems installed in nine communities and one school.

The subsequent establishment of 15 community disaster management committees, trained in emergency management, promoted the establishment of nine ward disaster management committees. These committee members were trained on disaster risk management and climate change adaptation to further enhance their capacities on coastal and inland flood preparedness and response. Further training for field epidemiologists contributed to the qualification of local experts in collecting data and responding to emergencies. Earlier trained field epidemiologists compiled data on El Nino's effects on health and education. A total of nine females and six males graduated as field epidemiologists. Overall, the sector saw increased investment on upgrading health facilities to meet Water, Sanitation and Hygiene standards as part of El Nino response. These trainings were achieved through community awareness sessions, billboards, radio, print and television messages and drills undertaken at the district level and within schools, reaching 42,356 individuals in 75 communities. The approach engages grassroots structures in Disaster Risk Reduction for tangible results.

The UN conducted workshops bringing together technical agencies, the NDC and the NBC to review and develop the Disaster Risk Management awareness materials for publication and dissemination. Consultations and meetings are currently ongoing with partners in Port Moresby. Findings from the ongoing consultations are expected to feed into the recovery framework and plans at the national and provincial level respectively. In addition, a recovery-focused review of El Nino is being finalized. Recovery framework/guidance and the Post Disaster Needs Assessment were conceptualized.

PAWA MERIS OF PARI REHABILITATE THEIR COASTLINE TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE



Pari Women's Development Association President, Geua Kevau Sasala, stands at a mangrove site near their village which local women volunteer their time to rehabilitate.

Photo credit: Nick Turner/UNDP

Geua Sasala is what Papua New Guineans would describe as a 'Pawa Meri', a Tok Pisin term defining a woman who is strong and powerful, and not afraid of ruffling a few feathers. Geua Kavau Sasala, the President of the Pari Women's Development Association, is a champion for gender equality, women's empowerment and environmental sustainability in her coastal village of Pari, which is a short drive from the nation's capital, Port Moresby.

In early 2015, the Association realized that marine food resources were becoming scarce, and set about establishing the Pari Community Mangrove and Reef Rehabilitation and Sustainable Livelihood Alternatives for Women Project.

Thanks to funding from UNDP in Papua New Guinea, via the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme, the women of Pari are shaping a sustainable future for the community's once degraded coastline.

"The best thing about the project is that it is led by women," Geua says. What would traditionally have been the role of the men in Pari, it's the women of the small community who are leading the way to ensure that their livelihoods are sustained, after years of overfishing, waste disposal and the effects of rising sea levels and climate change. "My husband jokes that I must be important because I've got two phones!"

"Early on in the project we would leave in the morning and often come back with nothing to show for our day's work. The men go out and fish and come back with something, but for us it was a struggle," says Geua. However, things are starting to change for the better thanks to the fantastic results achieved through the mangrove and reef rehabilitation project. The 6m² site has paved the way for a healthier ocean ecosystem, with the Association replanting mangroves and coral. The project is developing the community's awareness of the need to look after its mangrove and coral reef population. At the same time it increases their knowledge of the significance that mangroves and coral reefs play within the coastal ecosystem.

"The water is now much cleaner, we have around 30 women involved with the project, the mangroves continue to grow and we are starting to plant more coral," Geua says. In the future, she hopes to see more fish returning to the waters of Pari, allowing women in business to sell their goods at local markets and in turn provide an income for their family.

THE PNG UN COUNTRY FUND

OVERVIEW

The PNG UN Country Fund allows the UN in PNG to move towards a single financing method for development and provides a means for further harmonization of the UN funding mechanisms in PNG.

To minimize transaction costs for partners, the UN jointly mobilized the required additional resources and developed a single report for the Government of PNG and donors to provide an annual update on UN contributions to development results.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT

The Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office in New York has been appointed by Participating Organizations as the administrative agent of the PNG UN Country Fund. As per the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between participating UN organisations and the administrative agent, the responsibilities of the administrative agent include:

- the receipt, administration and management of contributions from donors,
- disbursement of such funds to the participating UN organisations in accordance with the approved programmatic documents,
- provision to the Resident Coordinator of consolidated reports, based on individual programme reports submitted by the participating UN organisations, on the PNG UN Country Fund. These reports are then submitted to the UN Country Team, the Government of PNG - UN Programme Steering Committee, and to each donor.

The Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office maintains the GATEWAY website (mptf.undp.org), an online portal providing transparent fund management in real-time. This online site also includes a section dedicated to the PNG UN Country Fund. The GATEWAY includes extensive, real-time information on contributions to the PNG UN Country Fund; on transfers made to Participating Organizations; and on annual expenditure data and all key documents relating to the PNG UN Country Fund.

GOVERNANCE

The governance arrangements of the PNG UN Country Fund ensure national ownership and alignment with national priorities through the Government of PNG's co-chairing of

the UN Programme Steering Committee. The management responsibilities are divided between the Resident Coordinator, the Government of PNG - UN Programme Steering Committee and the UN Country Team.

The Resident Coordinator is responsible for the strategic leadership of the PNG Country Fund. This involves:

- engaging in joint resource mobilization for the PNG UN Country Fund,
- ensuring the allocation process is documented,
- ensuring consolidated PNG Country Fund level reporting in collaboration with the administrative agent and based on submissions received from participating UN organizations.

The Government of PNG - UN Programme Steering Committee is responsible for:

- monitoring the overall results of the UNDAF,
- outlining programmatic priorities,
- allocating resources at the inter-agency outcome level.

The UN Country Team is responsible for:

- monitoring the overall delivery of joint UN country strategy results,
- mediation of disputes in case of disagreements on allocations, utilization or management of the PNG UN Country Fund,
- outlining programmatic priorities,
- allocating resources at the inter-agency outcome level.

The UN Budgetary Committee:

- advises the Programme Steering Committee on resource allocations and governance arrangements of the UN Country Fund (for example, revisions of allocation criteria).

ALLOCATION PROCESS

As a general rule, donors to the PNG UN Country Fund are encouraged to contribute un-earmarked resources. Besides the preferred un-earmarked method, donors may earmark thematically by inter-agency outcome in the UNDAF. In addition, donors may earmark per agency, where earmarked funds are specifically attributed to agency staffing cost or activities within the joint annual work plans.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The financial information in the tables included below has been provided by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office in its capacity as the Administrative Agent of the PNG UN Country Fund and it includes multi-year funding. The net transfers as of 31 December 2016 are not limited to the budgeted expenditures for 2016 and, in some cases, also include allocations against budgeted expenditures for future years. Expenditure data is consolidated based on financial reports submitted by participating UN organizations' headquarters to the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office. Due to rounding, totals in the tables may not add up. All amounts in the tables below are in USD.

Table 1 | Financial Overview

The below table provides a financial overview of the PNG UN Country Fund as of 31 December 2016, highlighting the key figures as well as the balance available, both with the Administrative Agent and with Participating Organizations.

	Annual 2015	Annual 2016	Cumulative
Sources of Funds			
Contributions from donors	32,603,989	13,254,960	90,890,202
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	9,216	6,611	46,769
Interest Income received from Participating Organizations	1,114	-	28,796
Refunds by Administrative Agent to Contributors	-	-	-
Fund balance transferred to another MDTF	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-
Total: Sources of Funds	32,614,319	13,261,571	90,965,767
Use of Funds			
Transfers to Participating Organizations	31,174,347	14,234,688	85,676,952
Refunds received from Participating Organizations	(47,571)	-	(53,645)
Net Funded Amount	31,126,776	14,234,688	85,623,307
Administrative Agent Fees	326,040	132,550	908,902
Direct Costs: (Steering Committee, Secretariat...etc.)	-	-	4,348,231
Bank Charges	248	59	401
Other Expenditures	-	-	-
Total: Uses of Funds	31,453,064	14,367,296	90,880,841
Change in Fund cash balance with Administrative Agent	1,161,254	(1,105,726)	84,927
Opening Fund balance (1 January)	29,398	1,190,652	-
Closing Fund balance (31 December)	1,190,652	84,927	84,927
Net Funded Amount	31,126,776	14,234,688	85,623,307
Participating Organizations' Expenditure	8,378,491	18,630,850	53,765,092
Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations			31,858,214

Table 2 | Donor Contributions

Two donors contributed to the PNG UN Country Fund in 2016. From 1 January through 31 December 2016, donor contributions to the PNG UN Country Fund amounted to USD 13,254,960. In prior years, USD 77,635,242 was contributed, resulting in a cumulative contribution to the PNG UN Country Fund as of 31 December 2016 of USD 90,890,202.

Contributors	Total Commitments	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2015 Deposits	Current Year Jan-Dec-2016 Deposits	Total Deposits
AUSTRALIA, Government of	58,912,595	42,936,844	13,254,960	56,191,804
Australian Agency for Int'l Development	25,212,449	25,212,449	-	25,212,449
Colgate-Palmolive (PNG) Ltd	36,950	36,950	-	36,950
Delivering Results Together	800,000	800,000	-	800,000
Expanded DaO Funding Window	4,244,000	4,244,000	-	4,244,000
NEW ZEALAND, Government of	3,805,000	3,805,000	-	3,805,000
Population Services Intl.	600,000	600,000	-	600,000
Grand Total	93,610,993	77,635,242	13,254,960	90,890,202

Table 3 | Received Interest at the Fund and Agency Level

Interest income is earned in two ways:

- on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent ('Fund earned interest'), and
- on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organizations ('Agency earned interest') where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest to the Administrative Agent. (Many UN agencies have revised their financial rules relating to interest refunds and, as a result, no interest income was received from Participating Organizations in 2016.)

As of 31 December 2016, Fund earned interest amounted to USD 46,769 and interest received from Participating Organizations (considering prior years) amounts to USD 28,796 bringing the cumulative interest received to USD 75,565. Details are provided in the table below.

This amount has been, and continues to be, an additional source of income for the PNG UN Country Fund and increases the amount of funds available for allocation.

Interest Earned	Prior Years as of 31-Dec 2015	Current Year Jan-Dec 2015	Total
Administrative Agent			
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	40,158	6,611	46,769
Total: Fund Earned Interest	40,158	6,611	46,769
Participating Organization			
UNDP	26,313		26,313
UNWOMEN	2,483		2,483
Total: Agency earned interest	28,796		28,796
Grand Total	68,954	6,611	75,565

Table 4 | Transfer of Net Funded Amount by Participating Organizations

From 1 January to 31 December 2016, the PNG UN Country Fund had funded approved projects/programmes for a net total of USD 14,234,688. The distribution of approved funding by Participating Organizations is summarized in the table. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2016, a total of USD 85,623,307 had been net transferred for funding projects/programmes.

Participation Organization	Net Funded Amount		
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2015	Current Year Jan-Dec-2016	Total
FAO	49,500		49,500
IOM	1,155,859		1,155,859
OCHA	1,017,988		1,017,988
OHCHR	844,252		844,252
UNAIDS	16,799		16,799
UNCDF	1,573,772		1,573,772
UNDP	18,172,250	5,063,450	23,235,700
UNEP	118,909		118,909
UNFPA	2,311,794	7,392,808	9,704,603
UNHCR	129,361		129,361
UNICEF	26,230,257	1,192,032	27,422,289
UNWOMEN	7,176,129	370,506	7,546,635
WHO	12,591,750	215,891	12,807,641
Grand Total	71,388,619	14,234,688	85,623,307

Expenditure Tables

During the reporting period, 1 January to 31 December 2016, a total of USD 18,630,850 was reported by Participating Organizations as expenditure. The cumulative total expenditure since 2009 amounts to USD 53,765,092 as of 31 December 2016. This is the equivalent of 63 per cent of the total approved funding that was transferred to Participating Organizations as of 31 December 2016. The net transfers as of 31 December 2016 are not limited to the budgeted expenditures for 2016, and in some cases include allocations against budgeted expenditures for 2017. The delivery rates in the tables provide the percentage of actual expenditures against the total net transferred amounts. All expenditure reported for the year 2016 was submitted by the headquarters of the Participating Organizations through the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office's Financial Reporting Portal and consolidated by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office. The below tables provide different cuts on this expenditure data.

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed upon categories for harmonized inter-agency reporting. Effective 1 January 2012, the UN Chief Executive Board modified the original six categories. Therefore, all expenditures reported from 1 January 2012 are presented in the new eight categories. The old and new categories are noted below in Table 6.

Table 5 | Expenditure by Sector within Country

Country / Sector	Expenditure				Delivery Rate %
	Net Funded Amount	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2015	Current Year Jan-Dec-2016	Total	
Change Management	100,000	109,597	231	109,828	109.83
CLU 1 2012 Governance	11,779,596	4,709,018	6,953,306	11,662,324	49.52
CLU 2 2012 Just, Protect, Gen	14,792,306	5,639,418	3,562,951	9,202,369	58.46
CLU 3 2012 Basic Services	24,945,002	6,066,548	7,339,430	13,405,978	50.87
CLU 4 2012 Environment	1,476,407	386,944	768,385	1,155,329	73.09
Foundations for human development	7,534,065	7,534,065		7,534,065	100.00
Gender	867,796	844,982	7,779	852,761	98.27
Governance and Crisis Management	6,635,757	6,680,651	(1,216)	6,679,435	100.66
HIV/AIDS	2,583,649	2,581,379	71	2,581,450	99.91
Sustainable livelihoods and Po	399,337	316,345	(88)	316,257	79.20
UN Communication and Advocacy	197,705	188,383		188,383	95.29
UN Operations	77,000	76,913		76,913	99.89
Grand Total:	71,388,619	35,134,243	18,630,850	53,765,092	62.79

Table 6 | Expenditure by Standardized UN Development Group Budget Categories

Category	Expenditure			
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2015	Current Year Jan-Dec-2016	Total	Percentage of Total Programme Cost
Supplies, Commodities, Equipment and Transport (Old)	603,703	-	603,703	1.20
Personnel (Old)	4,257,805	-	4,257,805	8.46
Training of Counterparts (Old)	896,568	-	896,568	1.78
Contracts (Old)	1,900,870	-	1,900,870	3.78
Other direct costs (Old)	1,448,803	-	1,448,803	2.88
Staff & Personnel Cost (New)	7,396,820	4,068,687	11,465,508	22.78
Suppl, Comm, Materials (New)	388,605	304,304	692,909	1.38
Equip, Veh, Furn, Depn (New)	467,733	334,383	802,116	1.59
Contractual Services (New)	3,998,259	2,433,397	6,431,656	12.78
Travel (New)	2,392,761	2,223,477	4,616,238	9.17
Transfers and Grants (New)	3,755,281	4,021,432	7,776,713	15.45
General Operating (New)	5,337,135	4,093,941	9,431,076	18.74
Programme Costs Total	32,844,343	17,479,621	50,323,965	100.00
Indirect Support Costs Total	2,289,899	1,151,228	3,441,127	6.84
Total	35,134,243	18,630,850	53,765,092	

Cost Recovery

The cost recovery for the PNG UN Country Fund is guided by the applicable provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organizations, and the Standard Administrative Agreements concluded between the Administrative Agent and Donors. Cost recovery, as of 31 December 2016, was as follows:

- a) The Administrative Agent fee: One percent charged at the time of donor deposits and is charged for the entire duration of the PNG UN Country Fund. As of the end of the reporting period (31 December 2016), the Administrative Agent fee amounted to USD 908,902 (USD 15,950 in 2009, USD 40,689 in 2010, USD 125,642 in 2011, USD 40,836 in 2012, USD 115,867 in 2013, USD 111,329 in 2014, USD 326,040 in 2015 and USD 132,550 in 2016).
- b) Indirect costs of Participating Organizations: As per the PNG UN Country Fund Memorandum of Understanding and Standard Administrative Agreement, Participating Organizations may charge 7 percent indirect costs on approved programme costs. As of the end of the reporting period (31 December 2016), indirect costs across all programmes and projects amounted to USD 3,441,127.
- c) Direct costs: As per PNG UN Country Fund Memorandum of Understanding and Standard Administrative Agreement, the Programme Steering Committee may request any of the Participating Organizations to perform additional tasks in support of the PNG UN Country Fund not related to the Administrative Agent functions. Such costs are to be charged as direct costs to the PNG UN Country Fund.

In 2016, no direct costs were charged. Since 2009, the total cumulative direct costs amount to USD 4,348,231.

Accountability and Transparency

To effectively provide fund administration services, and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office has developed a public website, the Gateway (<http://mptf.undp.org>). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the Gateway has become a standard setter for providing transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating Organizations, as well as interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office portfolio and extensive information on individual funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge-sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

CHALLENGES IN 2016

The ten Task Teams of the UN in PNG are supporting a varied range of development interventions across numerous sectors. Identifying common cross cutting challenges faced, and mitigation strategies used, is a core component of the annual progress reporting process. The identification of common challenges and response strategies feed into lesson learning that is applied to existing programmes and built into the planning process for new ones. Below, some of the key common challenges faced in 2016 are highlighted, along with the mitigation strategies used to surmount them or reduce their negative impact.

CHALLENGE	STRATEGY
Resource and capacity constraints within Government Departments impede timely delivery and implementation of projects. In addition, where the capacity of Department staff is addressed, high turnover of development partner and Government staff slows down progress.	Several strategies are required in the UN's partnership with the Government to mitigate this challenge. For example, continued efforts to communicate regularly between all partners should be built into UN activities. Joint activities also need to allow time and resources for capacity building. Efforts should also be increased to reduce staff turnover and ensure that good handover arrangements are in place where needed. Joint resources may also be mobilized to increase dedicated capacity support.
Across several thematic areas, the UN has experienced that competing Government priorities have an impact on the initiation and timely implementation of activities, causing undue delays.	In the UN's recent experience, Government partner agencies must be engaged during the activity or project design phase to generate increased ownership and leadership of the implementation process. Formal agreement such as through appropriate Memorandum's of Understanding can assist in establishing clear roles, responsibilities and implementation plans. This requires better coordination, planning, and scheduling of activities with partners at the start of the year and in follow up work.
Staffing gaps within some UN agencies also affected timely implementation of some of the activities, and were on occasions compounded by poor handover to colleagues taking on inter-agency coordination of thematic areas.	The UN will strengthen its arrangements to ensure timely recruitment as well as ownership by agency staff for their contributions to inter-agency coordination. For example, the UN agreed that inter-agency tasks should be included in staff personal performance goals and reflected in annual appraisals of staff.
Joint activities often times require both the Government and the UN to contribute financially. Delays in the release of the Government's funding has affected the ability to implement joint activities in a timely fashion.	To enable better decisions on how to expend available funds, mid-year budget reviews should be included as part of the overall monitoring process. There are good opportunities in PNG to increase public-private partnerships, particularly in light of the SDGs, but these need to be planned and prepared in good time.



ACRONYMS

ABG	Autonomous Bougainville Government
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
HIV	Human Immuno-Deficiency Virus
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights of the United Nations
PNG	Papua New Guinea
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
TB	Tuberculosis
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDSS	United Nations Department of Safety and Security
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

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