

‘Pawa Meri’ contribute to village development

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Evaluating empowerment and participation of women for community development and social change: a comparison of mining-affected and non-affected communities in Papua New Guinea (PHD topic).



Lealea – Central



Kugmumb – Western highlands

Overview

Introduction

Background and context
framework

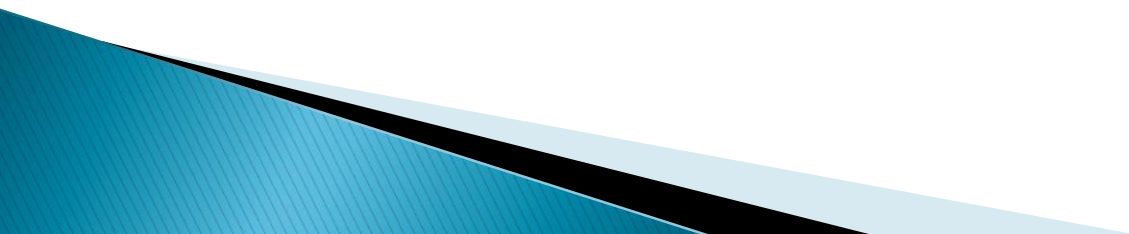
challenges

community Development

Pawa meri

Case Study / findings

conclusion





In the southwestern Pacific, encompasses the eastern half of New Guinea and its offshore islands

POP; 7.321 million (2013), approx. 85% live in Villagers, 800+ languages,

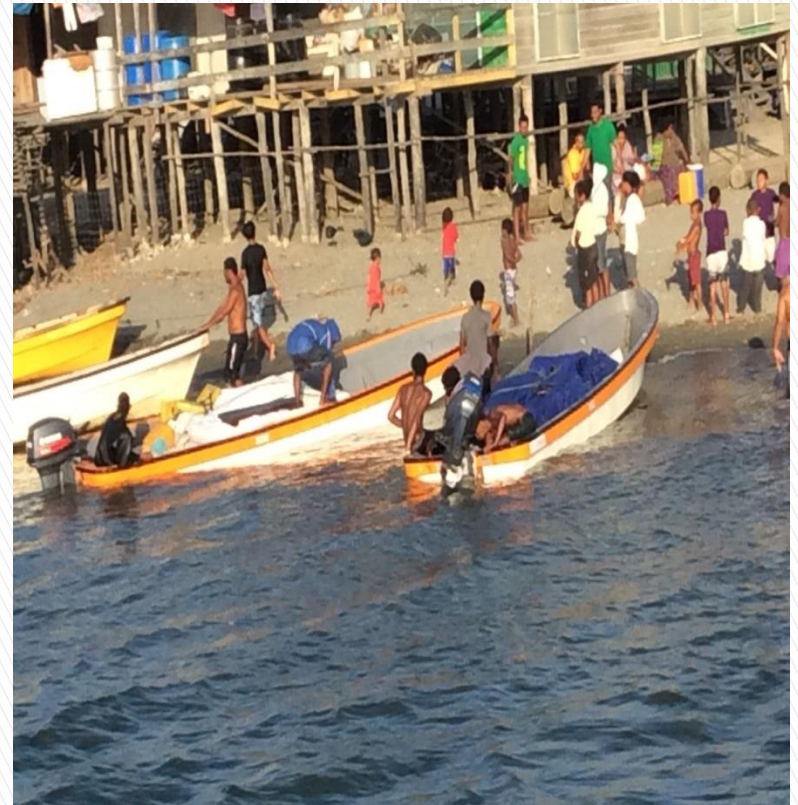
Context/villages



Village livelihoods



Subsistent gardening –
Kugmumb



Fishing – Lealea

Village infrastructure



Lealea



kugmumb

Framework

- ▶ The capability approach originated from Amartya Sen's: "Development as Freedom" ([1999b](#)) and has been developed into practical approaches for different sectors.
- ▶ The capability approach is a framework for assessing and evaluating social activities and the state of a society like standard of living, well-being and quality of life ([Comim, 2001](#)).

- ▶ The capability approach places emphasis on the social aspect of the human being which goes beyond economic development previously considered more important.

Challenges

- ▶ The socio economic environment of Papua New Guinea village women systematically limits empowerment for community development



- ▶ *How many times have we heard stories like this: 'I sent my child to school for 6 years but he has not learned anything'. 'He cannot find a job and is causing trouble in the village'. 'Last year he went to Moresby to look for a job and ended up in jail'. It seems schools are not fulfilling the expectations of many parents . . .'* ([Matane, 1991, pp. 139–145](#))

community Development

Picture from 'The Papua New Guinea Bilum'



Pawa meri







case study

Ata

- ▶ divorced
- ▶ barren
- ▶ Married to married man
- ▶ Beaten and abused by community
- ▶ Does a lot of gardening
- ▶ Sells makes money

impact

- Looks after two orphans
- Looks after an abandoned child
- Works hard to feed them
- Puts to school i

- ▶ *‘staying in the village and doing nothing was getting stressful and challenging so I had to do something to help these children who didn’t have anyone to raise them. I know I not have been to school and do not have money ’ I felt I needed to help these children and give tem a better life because life comes from God’ Ata*





- ▶ ‘ these young people don’t get into formal jobs so they cause a lot of trouble drinking homemade alcohol, We were tired so we prayed and marched around the village urging tem to stop so they did’ Rori from Lealea





PNG young women in the village



Carrying water



Laundry and swim in the river

Conclusion

- ▶ Kabeer ([1999](#)) argues that empowerment of women takes place where there is access to resources like education and money.
- ▶ However, there are other means of being empowered like the church which contributes to community development as shown by some women in the two villages where I did field work.

Community Development for PNG



Tanikiu
Olgeta