DevNet 2016: 'Pacific Currents, Global Tides'

CID member talking points

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Building and Maintaining Relationships of Trust: Lessons from Caritas' Engagement with Tangata Whenua of Aotearoa (Caritas)

This session reflected on how Caritas' work with the Tangata Whenua of Parihaka has affected the way the agency views its relationships and its approach to development, particularly in indigenous contexts. Charissa Waerea, a member of the Parihaka community who has partnered with Caritas, explained the importance of being able to engage in partnership on their terms and under their tikanga, especially given the historical betrayals of trust that have affected the people of Parihaka. Teneora Tunoho Ryall and Murray Shearer of Caritas commented on how their engagement with communities in Parihaka has changed the agency's approach to relationship-building, and the way they view their agency's international development work, and highlighted the need for humility in these relationships. Finally, researcher Gretchen Leuthart, drawing on interviews with tangata whenua representatives and Caritas staff, presented a set of recommendations for developing methodologies for evaluating that most elusive, but most vital, of outcomes – trust.

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When Acts of God Strike: Faith-based Responses to Natural Disasters in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands (Alice Banfield, Tearfund)

In this presentation, Alice Banfield shared some key questions raised by humanitarian practitioners with respect to the role of faith in responding to natural disasters in two Melanesian countries. These questions arose out of interviews with national and

international practitioners working in Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands, and revolved around two key areas:

1) Understanding the influences of spiritual beliefs on responses to natural disasters; and

2) The role of faith-based organisations in disaster response, including their strengths, limitations, motivations and effectiveness.

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Disability-inclusive Emergency Responses in the Pacific (Linabel Hadlee, cbm)

Linabel Hadlee presented some of the tools that cbm has developed to guide disability inclusive humanitarian action, as well as highlighting some of the challenges persons with disabilities and their families faced in the emergency response to Tropical Cyclone Winston in February 2016. These challenges included a lack of access to distribution points, a lack of information provided in accessible formats, and the destruction of mobility aids. Linabel highlighted that persons with disabilities can be active participants in development and disaster preparedness activities as well as emergency responses, if these activities are designed to be inclusive and persons with disabilities are involved from planning right through to implementation.

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National capacity and international support: The experience of Save the Children Fiji

Tropical Cyclone Winston response in Fiji (Iris Low-McKenzie, Save the Children Fiji) This session shared the experience of Save the Children Fiji, a small national office which was suddenly confronted with a huge scaling-up of its activities in the aftermath of Tropical Cyclone Winston in February 2016. From a small staff of just 7 people, none of whom had humanitarian experience, Save the Children Fiji suddenly had to recruit 35 extra staff and quickly establish new offices, in order to lead the education response in half of the affected area. Iris explained how, with the support of other Save the Children offices globally, they were able to rise to the challenge and share some of the important lessons learned in the process.

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Strengthening family planning uptake in South Tarawa, Kiribati (Eliza Raymond, Family Planning)

Allowing people to choose how many children to have and when is one of the most cost-effective ways of achieving sustainable development – and the un-met need for family planning in the Pacific is among the highest in the world. In this presentation, Eliza explained the four key barriers to family planning uptake, as found in a qualitative and quantitative study conducted in South Tarawa, Kiribati. Key barriers included: 1) A disinterest in family

planning, whereby options are only discussed once problems arise, and interest among youth is particularly low; 2) Personal, family and social barriers, including concern regarding side-effects, the perpetuation of myths regarding contraceptive methods, the influence of religious attitudes to contraceptives in a majority catholic country, and a fear of raising the issue of family planning with spouses; 3) Knowledge gaps, particularly around specific methods of family planning; and 4) Accessibility and confidentiality issues around service delivery settings.

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Project Learnings: How do we use them and share them in International Development. Learnings from NZ INGOs. (Honour Musuku FairTrade ANZ)

This brief survey looked at programme MEL practices in NZ INGOs. Honour's main findings were:

• Most respondents spend 20-40% of their time on MEL

• Generally, the programmes and leaderships teams have access to and use MEL data while other teams sometimes have access to it

 • Only donors and programme partners tend to have access to MEL data outside of most organisations meaning that other NGOs and the public don't tend to be able to access this data easily (in some form)

 • A paper definition of learning is 'the use of data and insights… to inform strategy and decision-making', but in practice most NZ INGOs find it difficult to make the most of their data for their own operations, let alone for sharing externally with very few organisations having a systematic process to share their programme learnings.

• Sharing of learnings has been ad-hoc and while there is no formal way of doing this within the NZ development sector everyone surveyed would like to be able to do this.

Fairtrade ANZ has acknowledged the need to improve their MEL processes. They are in the process of developing an organisation-wide MEL system to integrate all the monitoring and evaluation work they do into our organisation-wide strategy. This will enable data and learnings to be more easily accessible to any team internally. Their next step is to think about how we can share learnings better with partners, beneficiaries, 20 donors, businesses and other INGOs.

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The Key determinants of the successful CBHP implementation: A reflective story from SURFAID projects. (Endah Setyaningsih SURFAID PhD student)

This presentation looked at successes around 'going local' in a project around high mother and child mortality in Indonesia. Endah spoke of markedly reducing infant mortality using a cascading scheme which transferred knowledge in a supportive and inclusive way. EHWOU - a seed that grows. Great presentation - worth getting it off her if you have interests in this area.

A concept of Community Based Health Programme (CBHP) has been implemented by various Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) in order to accelerate health outcomes in remote villages of Indonesia. However, in the implementation, many NGOs have failed to consider some crucial aspects of CBHP, such as embracing the local values. As a result, sustainability of the project is questionable. In order to improve maternal and child health in some remote areas of Indonesia, SURFAID has implemented CBHP in four undesired areas, such as in Mentawai Island, Nias Island, Bima, and Sumba. These four projects have been expanded and duplicated since it started in 2000. Endah's paper examined examine some key factors that influence the sustainability of SURFAID projects. Reflective approach is implemented in this study. Latest reports from each programme combined with reflective stories from Health Promotion Officers in four different projects were analysed. The results show embracing local context, such as empowering social capital and localising existing national policies and strategies were found as the dominant contributions to the successful CBHP implementation in these four areas.

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Possibilities for transformation or more of the same? Ethnic health system development in Shan State, Myanmar. (Sharon Bell, Circuit International PhD student)

Sharon looks at how an INGO approaches in health, partnering with non-state armed groups, ethnic capacity and possibilities of transformation in Myanmar. Her research shows how INGOs will build capacity of the state in post conflict and conflict areas but the paths to aid in areas with ongoing armed groups becomes a fuzzier. This is a fantastic piece of research and throws up a lot of questions especially for those entering Myanmar.

Myanmar has endured over sixty years of conflict. The state has failed to provide healthcare services, leading to extremely poor health outcomes. Health system development in conflict-affected areas has received attention on the ways international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) can build the capacity of the state. Less is known about INGO engagement with non-state armed actors and the possibilities for transformation these relationships offer. The research is based on qualitative fieldwork in a community on the border between Thailand and Myanmar. It addresses a gap in understanding ethnic health system development in Shan State, a continued locus of conflict between the military and various ethnic groups. The case study explores the approaches that an INGO takes to train young, rural Shan people as medics. This paper offers three conclusions about possibilities for transformation of the ethnic health system. First, despite engaging community

capabilities, transformation is limited by the INGO's technocratic approach. Second, a major shift in international funding away from cross-border work jeopardises capacity development of ethnic organisations. Third, the partnership between the INGO and armed ethnic organisation holds legitimate transformative potential as it supports ethnic desires for decentralisation of its health system rather than convergence with the government's health system

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Oxfam Panel Discussion: It's our Business! Why we need to talk about climate change…..

An interesting, thought provoking and action orientated session on why and how the development community needs to act on climate change. Now!

Paula Feehan led an excellent panel looking at how INGOs fit with climate change. The panel included top climate scientists, Caritas, Generation Zero and the Pacific Island Climate Action Network (PICAN) who were skyped in from Suva. The session introduced CID's election 2017 campaign which was warmly received.

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The SDGs Panel convened by CID and Sarah Morris. Short-term polices vs long-term development: How to get action on the SDGs

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been signed up to by New Zealand and 192 other countries. Their aim is to end poverty, fight inequality and tackle climate change by 2030. For the Goals to be reached, everyone needs to do their part: governments, the private sector, civil society and people like you. But how do we talk and make the SDGs a reality here in the Pacific? A high-level and provocative panel of lobbyists, private sector people, economists and development experts argued how to land the SDGs. A lively panel – with the opening by the enthusiastic and captivating PIANGO CEO, Emele Duituturaga, who was at the signing of the SDGs in New York. The session was chaired by Victoria's Jonathan Boston and the room was packed highlighting interest in the 2030 global policy platform – the SDGs.

CID's Darren Brunk-convened panel. The hangover: After the UN Security Council, what did NZ do and what comes next? A fast talk format with great panellists and good discussion after.

For the past two years, New Zealand has held a rotating seat on the United Nations Security Council, the world's preeminent decision-making body for collective security. In that time, the world has seen tremendous upheaval, with ongoing or escalating violence in Syria, Yemen, Libya, South Sudan, the Great Lakes region of Africa, Iraq and elsewhere. These crises have challenged many of the basic norms and rules underpinning the international order, including international human rights and humanitarian law, resulting in a crisis of civilian suffering and displacement not seen since the end of the Second World War. With

the New Zealand tenure coming to an end in December 2016, the timing is right to ask ourselves - how did we do? Towards answering this question, this panel will bring together experts from government, civil society and academia to offer a variety of perspectives on New Zealand's Security Council tenure. They will examine New Zealand's signature accomplishments and failures in the areas of peace processes, protection of civilians and institutional reform, and consider where and how New Zealand can best use multilateral levers to continue to play a constructive role on these vital issues after its time on the Council is done. The panel will follow a 'fast talk' format, with each of the panellists having earlier exchanged written responses to four common questions: 1. What was New Zealand's greatest success during its 2014-2016 Security Council term? 2. What was New Zealand's greatest failure during its 2014-2016 Security Council term? 3. Of the issues New Zealand championed during its Security Council term, which can and should New Zealand advance once its term expires? 4. How can New Zealand effectively advance these priorities through other institutional channels and platforms within the UN and wider multilateral system?

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Abstracts from some others CID members

Nick Borthwick (Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand) Cross-sector cooperation in development delivery: lessons from a programme to support Rural Training Centres in Solomon Islands

In this session, the first hour is comprised of short reports from each of the participants listed below, and 30 minutes of open discussion time with session attendees. START (Strengthening Technical and Agricultural Rural Training in Solomon Islands) is a Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand-led project within the NZ Aid Programme's Partnerships Fund (administered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade). It aims to strengthen and support the quality of rural teaching, administration, leadership and infrastructure across Solomon Islands. Our main partner is the Solomon Islands Association of Vocational and Rural Training Centres (SIAVRTC). Other key partners in the Solomon Islands include the Anglican, Catholic, South Sea Evangelical and United Churches. The programme is implemented in collaboration with the Solomon Islands Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development (MEHRD), Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL), and Ministry of Development, Planning and Aid Coordination (MDPAC). The NZ-based partners are Learn.fast Pacific, Taratahi Agricultural Training Centre, Waikato Institute of Technology (Wintec) and Salvation Army NZ.

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Shona Jennings (ChildFund New Zealand) and Rikiaua Takeke (Kiribati Local Government Association) Improving Local Government-led development through NGO partnerships: Examples from Kiribati

The Executive Officer of The Kiribati Local Government Association (KiLGA), Rikiaua Takeke, will explain the challenges of local government and the value of, lessons learned from, and opportunities to be found when Local Government partners with NGOs. KiLGA supports Kiribati's 23 Island Council Mayors to lead the development of their communities. The organisation assists the councils to develop strategic plans that link with country/sector plans, and strengthens their ability to deliver by providing technical support and capacity building opportunities. Partnerships with NGOs –and others–are crucial to this support. This will be illustrated by the partnership recently established with ChildFund New Zealand. One aspect of this partnership is to trial a holistic community development model in one community which can be used for learning across the Councils, and can be adapted for use elsewhere in Kiribati.

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Anna Robertson-Bate and Martin de Jong (Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand) From recipients to collaborators: reframing of partnership through advocacy research

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand's environmental justice work over the last three years has transformed the nature of Caritas' partnership with Pacific communities. This has enabled a shift from a traditional donor-recipient relationship to a more equitable relationship of collaboration in the mutual struggle for environmental justice. Partners in places like Kiribati contribute to Caritas' advocacy and research work, and see and hear their voices and stories about rapid environmental change in their communities shared on a wider stage. Caritas carried out an initial scoping visit to Kiribati in early-2014 –the same year Caritas' foundational environment report, Small yet strong: Voices from Oceania on the environment, was launched. From the beginning, our partners in Kiribati have engaged with us through a range of avenues. As well as supporting projects for youth and women, Caritas' interaction with the Church in Kiribati has led to a rich source of stories from individuals and groups of environmental changes. Most recently, Caritas has supported the Catholic Bishop of Tarawa and Nauru in reviewing proposed legislation by the Government of Kiribati on deep sea mining. In October 2016, Caritas released its second 'State of the Environment for Oceania' report –a collaboration between three Caritas agencies in the region –Aotearoa New Zealand, Tonga and Australia. To gather stories for its reports, Caritas is participating in a growing network of people across the Pacific who share concerns about the rapid environmental changes being experienced within our region. From the perspective of a researcher, the on-going nature of relationships between Caritas and its partners facilitates mutual sharing of information, feedback to participants, and a deeper sense of solidarity as we work together to protect and restore our common home

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'Volunteering & Development I & II'

Session I: Anna Ravendran (Volunteer Service Abroad) This session will look at how volunteering can contribute to the SDGs and what VSA is doing to promote them in our work, both internally and externally.

Session II: Mattie Geary Nichol (Volunteer Service Abroad) Volunteer Service Abroad's Programme in Bougainville As a learning organisation committed to best practice development and as a recipient of government funding, Volunteer Service Abroad (VSA) undertakes a range of monitoring and evaluation activities. In the last three years this has included an in-depth review of a single country programme; first in Timor-Leste, second in Solomon Islands, and most recently in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville. This session will explore some of the outcomes of that review and explore some of the challenges of undertaking reviews like this and incorporating them into the overall monitoring and evaluation framework. The session will also look at the challenges of incorporating recommendations of such reviews back into everyday practice and programme operations within a busy organisation to ensure continuous improvement.

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Janice Dowle (Rotary Birkenhead NZ) Partnership for disaster relief: The case study of Rotary re-development efforts in the Ambrym Island, Vanuatu

Much of Rotary's work, globally, focuses on using community development as a tool to addressing wider social issues. As such the community becomes the place of partnership and harnessing skills to improve the well-being of groups in need. In March 2015, Cyclone Pam left a devastating imprint on Vanuatu, a South Pacific country comprising an archipelago of islands. It was classified as the worst natural disaster to have ever hit Vanuatu. Amongst the most affected areas was Ambrym Island which suffered major loss of vegetation, buildings, and sanitation and water systems. One of the main schools for the island was destroyed which further impacted the educational needs of the children. Rotary Birkenhead Auckland partnered with Rotary Santo, Luganville Vanuatu to facilitate a series of projects that would enhance the well-being of those living on Ambrym Island. This presentation aims to show: -The mechanisms involved in creating international partnerships towards disaster relief in the Pacific, drawing on the case study of Ambrym Island. -The process of working with communities via a bottom-up approach that allows the community to identify their prioritized needs, the resources available and how best they can contribute to the re-development process. -The role of policies/ guidelines in informing rebuilding efforts, for example, Vanuatu's "Build Back Better" policy. -The lessons learnt that continue to shape the subsequent phases of the re-development effort.

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And former CID member participants with interesting research…

Jo Spratt (Australian National University) People, Purpose, Power: What you need to change NZ Aid Policy How do domestic actors, ideas and rules interact to create change in New Zealand's development cooperation policies?

International development scholars have not explored this question. Yet civil society, multilateral and private sector entities expend considerable resources attempting to influence aid policy –either to promote change or to defend the status quo. To thoroughly analyse how aid policy changes, and what domestic factors are involved, I used insights from policy studies and applied them to two cases of aid policy change in New Zealand. My findings suggest that key to policy change are actors behaving entrepreneurially, connected to an ideas-based network that cuts across society and government. The types of ideas involved are deep: ideas about the national interest, the relationship between development cooperation and other foreign policy objectives, and power and control within government agencies. These findings are useful for actors wishing to influence development cooperation policy, and for scholars who want to examine development cooperation policymaking and change elsewhere.

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Pedram Pirnia (Victoria University of Wellington) A new Definition for Ownership.

The principle of ownership and the idea that development aid should be owned by recipients has emerged within the last two decades in key statements from a series of international meetings between major donors and partners, most prominently since the 2005 Paris Declaration when country-ownership of development aid became the first Principle of Aid Effectiveness. The principle was applauded particularly by the governments of rich donor states, but also by their specialist aid agencies and representatives of civil society. However, despite the endorsement and praise of this principle, confusion and lack of clarity remains as to what exactly 'ownership' of development aid by the project beneficiaries means especially in terms of policy and practice in the work of civil society organisations and in light of the Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030).

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Junior Ulu (Victoria University of Wellington) Folauga mo A'oaoga: Migration for education and its impact on Samoa's development as a 'nation'.

This doctoral research will contribute to a Marsden Grant funded project on "Educating for Emigration? Searching for Appropriate Education Policy in the Pacific Islands". The three elements for this research are education, migration and development with connections

generally drawn between only two of the three elements. Yet, there is a lack of comprehensive understanding of how all three might work in combination. Conventional wisdom suggests that the relationship between education and development is positive. However, in certain geographical contexts and sectors this may not necessarily be a valid assumption. For the Pacific Islands region, this issue is particularly pertinent, given the high rates of migration and the strong emphasis placed on education as a basis for development. In order to better understand the complex relationships between education, migration and development, this research aims to discover and systematically observe the dynamic interconnection between the three elements. It does so through the lens of three case studies of women and their families. The central question for this research is 'how has education and migration shaped, and been shaped by, the development of Samoa and Samoan people?' This research will also explore Samoa and its two constructions of place and of people: the first is Samoa as a land-mass and geo-politico-legal jurisdiction that is centred on the land and is vital in acknowledging roots and a place of identity. However, due to globalisation, migration and technology, Samoan people can no longer be confined to the geographical location of Samoa. Samoa is connected by sea and a growing Samoan transnationalism has emerged that incorporates migration for education and development of people and nation. By looking at these women and their families, I will explore how the markers of education, migration and development combine to define Samoa as an idea, and to discover the ripple effect that the journey of these three women might have both on families (the mainstay of Samoa) and on Samoa's development journey as a 'nation'

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