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Apiianga no te oraanga akapuapinga e te taporoporo i te ipukarea

Education as Sustainable Development: Mangaia, Cook Islands

A dissertation presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Development Studies

Massey University
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New Zealand.

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Abstract

Sustainable development (SD) and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) became prominent in the 1990s. Problematically, these western centric constructs have sometimes been used to justify greater economic growth despite concern about the environment. Simultaneously, greater awareness of the pivotal role culture plays in development has demanded the rethinking of SD in terms of culturally responsive and contextually relevant ‘alternatives to’ development.

Using the case of Mangaia in the Cook Islands the aim of this research was to draw out Mangaian own visions for SD and their consequent expectations for the type of ESD delivered to students in the classroom. Situating the research within a hopeful post-development framework a culturally responsive, open ended, critical research methodology was used to gain an understanding of what constitutes a Mangaian SD worldview. Using participatory semi structured interviews underpinned by Mangaian ururu manako (reflective problem solving) preliminary frameworks for Mangaian SD and ESD were co-constructed.

This thesis highlights that to Mangaian people SD is complex and multi modal consisting of an indigenous development centred on oraanga Mangaia and alternative modernities, embedded in culture, operating at the margins of the global economy. This Mangaian view of SD, interacting with externally driven development, is continually reinvented by the Mangaian people using both indigenous and western knowledge, in response to issues of sustainability.

The study argues that current western centric ‘Education about’ and ‘Education for’ SD programmes do not reflect the cultural and contextual reality of SD in the Global South. Instead, Education as Sustainable Development (EasSD) is presented as a novel concept, which embraces learning taking place within culture and is able to respond to the context and dynamism of hopeful post-development settings: it is argued that this approach would provide students with the knowledge to be able to fashion community-based sustainable futures. An EasSD approach would expose students to a broader range of livelihoods options and have the ability to strengthen a student’s language, culture and identity while potentially improving their academic outcomes. A strength based implementation that draws on the support of all development and education stakeholders offers the best chance of actualising EasSD and so empowering students with the ability to participate in, and lead, their own communities’ SD.
Dedication

This thesis is dedicated to my Mum and Dad.

June Stark French Beumelburg who sacrificed so many things for her children. You instilled in me my love of learning, academia and life. You sparked my interest in development studies.

Colin Beumelburg you encouraged me to challenge myself. You always encouraged me to do well and always backed me to succeed. You always supported my endeavours.

Your enduring love stays with me. This thesis is for you both. I know it would have made you both proud.
I would like to thank the aronga mana, kavana and ni rangatira for welcoming me onto Mangaia and supporting my research. I am honoured by the trust that you have placed in me to highlight Mangaian culture and provide research that supports improved education on Mangaia. In addition, I am humbled by the blessings and welcome of the various church Ministers and government officials on Mangaia who all gave their backing to my research aims.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the entire Mangaian community for your friendly welcoming nature and the never ending support you showed me during my time on Mangaia. You accepted me into your community and encouraged me to participate in your daily lives. You opened your homes to me. Through countless uriuri manako, you provided me fascinating insights into oraanga Mangaia and Mangaian culture and the links to living sustainability. As proud Mangaians, many of you asked for the opportunity to be interviewed during my three stays on Mangaia. Many of you viewed the research as your opportunity to support better education on Mangaia and promote the Mangaian culture to the outside world.

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Na te rima uruuru tena I rave
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_E kai venevene te tuatua a te monomono korero_

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_Tangi ke tangi ke_

_Te akamaitaki nei an i te iti tangata Mangaia, no ta kotou tauturu mai anga iaku._

_Kia manaia_

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List of Acronyms

AS - Achievement Standard
CBA - Cost Benefit Analysis
CITTI - Cook Islands Tertiary Training Institute
DESD - Decade of Education for Sustainable Development
EasSD - Education as Sustainable Development
EFA - Education for All
EfS - Education for Sustainability
EIA - Environmental Impact Assessment
EMP - Education Master Plan
ESD - Education for Sustainable Development
GDP - Gross Domestic Product
HRD - Department of Human Resources Development
IDG - International Development Group
IK - Indigenous Knowledge
IUCN - International Union for Conservation of Nature
JCfD - Joint Commitment for Development
MDGs - Millennium Development Goals
MFAT - New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
MIA - Mangaia Island Administration
MIRAB - Migration, Remittances, Aid and Bureaucracy
NCEA - National Certificate of Educational Achievement
NGO - Non Government Organisation
NSDP - National Sustainable Development Plan

NZC - New Zealand Curriculum

NZQA - New Zealand Qualifications Authority

NZQF - New Zealand Qualifications Framework

PACC - Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change

PEDF - Pacific Education Development Framework

PESDF - Pacific Education for Sustainable Development Framework

PICI - Pacific Islands Conservation Initiative

PRIDE - Pacific Regional Initiatives for the Delivery of Basic Education

RPEI - Rethinking Pacific Education Initiative

RPEIPPP - Rethinking Pacific Education Initiative for and by Pacific Peoples

SD - Sustainable Development

SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals

SIDS - Small Island Developing States

SWAps - Sector Wide Approaches

TEK - Traditional Ecological Knowledge

UNCED - United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation

USP - University of the South Pacific

SLEP - Sustainable Livelihood and Education in the Pacific

JBTE - Joint Board of Teacher Education

LLEE - Live and Learn Environmental Education

UCSIS - University Consortium of Small Island States
Glossary of Mangaian terms

_Akapapaanga_ – Genealogy

_Akaperepere_ - To care for

_Akaputuputu taokotai_ – Collaboration

_Akari_ - Mature coconut

_Akarongo Kirittiano_ – Christianity

_Akatamanako_ – Thinking

_Akan_ – Reef

_Akono_ - Care for

_Akonoanga enua_ - Using your skills and knowledge to utilise the resources from the land and sea to provide food and shelter

_Anua Enua_ - The original name for Mangaia meaning a terraced or raised island

_Aarikianga_ – Hospitality

_Aroa taeake kai_ - The sharing of food amongst extended family members

_Aroa taeake_ - The gifting and sharing of resources

_Aroaaroa_ – Love and sharing

_Aronga Mana_ - Mangaia’s traditional leaders

_Araiki_ - Mangaian Spiritual home also called Hawaiki

_Avarua_ - The capital of the Cook Islands and central administrative centre located on Rarotonga.

_Ei_ – Necklace

_Ei pupu_ - Necklace made from shells of pupu (a small snail found in the makatea)

_Etene_ - A non-Christian person

_Ika_ – Fish

_Ivirua_ - Village located on eastern side of the island

_Kainga_ - A taro garden located inland. The garden can contain other crops as well.

_Kaikai_ – Eating

_Kairanganuku_ - Old name for ui rangatira (traditional leaders on Mangaia)

_Kakaro I te puaka I te puania I te moa_ - Tending pigs, goats and chickens

_Kauraro_ – Respect
Kavana - A transliteration for governor used in reference to chief of a puna. Also known in olden times as a pava

Keia - One of the six puna on Mangaia

Kete – Basket

Kimi i te oraanga meitaki/ matutu/ rangarangatū no te Mangaia whilst akono akaperepere ma te tāporoporo i te ipukarea - Mangaians SD

Kimi ravenga - Critical thinking (problem solving)

Kimi uga - Hunting land crabs

Kimi’anga Pu’apinga - Enterprise studies

Kimianga puapinga no te ipukarea - Small business based on culture

Kite peu karape - Mangaian knowledge

Kite peu karape ou - New knowledge

Ko’atu – Stone

Kopu tangata - Extended family

Maire - The name of a plant used to make a popular leaf necklace

Makatea - The raised coral reef that encircles the island of Mangaia

Mamio – Taro

Mango – Shark

Manioto – Arrowroot

Maroiroi - physical and mental strength

Maro-itiki - Popular Mangaian design used in carving and tattoos representing a legend where two brothers who fought side by side

Mātemātika – Mathematics

Manuha – Mountain

Moa – Chicken

Ngakau akaaka – Humility

Noi noi apinga – Greedy

Nonu - Fruit juice believed to have health properties

Nui - Drinking coconuts

Nīmangātini - The traditional name for the King or Queen of Mangaia

Onera - Village located on western side of the island. Administrative capital of the island.
Ora’anga ‘Ii-tangata - Social Studies Curriculum
Ora’anga ë te Tupu’anga Meitaki - Health and Physical Well-being Curriculum
Oraanga Mangaia - Traditional life on Mangaia

Pa enua - Most commonly refers to any of the 14 outer islands of the Cook Islands excluding Rarotonga.

Pakoti rouru - Haircutting ceremony
Parau – Pearl
Pare – Hat
Paua – Clam

Pava - Traditional chief of a puna

Peu angaanga - Cultural activity
Peu inangaro - Cultural beliefs

Peu oire tangata - Cultural community

Peu Ora’anga - The Arts
Peu puapanga - Cultural values

Peu ni tupuna - cultural traditions

Piineti – Business

Puaka – Pig
Pyanio – Goat

Puapinga pu - Mangaian values

Pui puaka - Hunt pigs

Puna - District, one of six major wedge-shaped land divisions in Mangaia

Purumu kikanu - Coconut brooms

Rangarangatu - Commanding respect and loyalty through knowledge and wisdom

Rangatira - Leader on Mangaia

Rarotonga - Main island of the Cook Islands consisting of capital and international airport.

Raui - Traditional adaptive management of land and sea resources

Reo Mangaia - Mangaian language

Ropa – Making

Ropa kete - Making a basket
Rapa are - Building houses

Taïeni – Science

Takoekoe - Bamboo (often used to refer to a bamboo fishing rod)

Takuru mataiti - New Year’s village feast

Tamarua - Southern village on Mangaia

Tanga'eo - Mangaian kingfisher

Tamutanu - Planting crops

Tapere - Sub-district, a lesser land division within a puna

Taporoporo – protect

Ta’unga - Knowledge person

Te au peu enua - Mangaian culture

Te ipukarea ia rangarangatu - Specific Mangaian customs connected to religion, culture, language, epistemologies, traditions, ways of living, reciprocal obligations, land tenure systems and relationship with nature.

Te peu Maori - Cook Islands culture

Te reo Maori Kuki Airani - Cook Islands Maori language

Te Toki Purepure a Mangaia - Mangaian adze

Tekinorot – Technology

Tiotio - Small reef fish

Tipene - A type of flower

Tiriara - Largest lake on Mangaia

Tironi - Smashed cooked taro

Tinaerae - Mangaian quilt

To tatou ai tupuna - Our ancestors

Toitoi toki - Carving adzes

Tu inangaro – Relationship

Tuitui – Sewing

Tunumanga – Cooking

Ui paanga pukuru - Traditional Mangaian New year’s village meeting

Ui rangatira - Leaders (plural)
Ungakoa - Small crab

Uriuri manako - Problem solving often in a group

Veitai - One of six puna on Mangaia

Umukai - Feast