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IS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT A FACELESS RHETORIC? AN ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY AT THE PORGERA MINE,

PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

A THESIS PRESENTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT FOR THE REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY

(DEVELOPMENT STUDIES)

AT MASSEY UNIVERSITY, PALMERSTONE NORTH

NEW ZEALAND

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March 2011

Abstract.

Mining development has no doubt contributed immensely to the local and national economies throughout the world and has transformed many developing countries to be developed. In Melanesia especially Papua New Guinea, a number of large scale world class mines occur in remote, isolated locations where the local communities are often vulnerable, poor, illiterate and do not have access to basic government services (for many years). When mining operations arrive in their locality, local people see and recognize mining as the only development opportunity and hope for improved livelihoods.

However, the social and environmental impacts and disruptions of livelihoods from those large scale mines are often severe and can last a life time. Many local people do not realize these consequences in the first instance. In a bid to help maintain people's livelihoods, the package of mine benefits for local communities typically includes sustainable development projects and programmes devised by companies. Most of these benefits are corporate gestures colorfully written up in company sponsored reports in contrast to the realities experienced in the communities. There is little literature written on the realties and impacts of mine benefits on the livelihoods of local people and their experiences from their perspectives. This research attempts to address these issues in the context of the education sector and explore experiences and perceptions of locals in view of post mining.

This study looks at the education sector within the Porgera gold mine in Enga Province in PNG. The focus is on landowner communities and stakeholders' attitudes and commitments towards enhancing the education sector from a sustainable development perspective for the local people. Qualitative research methods were used for this study, mainly semi-structured interviews and obtaining information from the key stakeholders involved within the Porgera community education system. The findings from this study indicate that, although substantial benefits and resources appear to be available, the education sector has not been given adequate support in a systematic and coordinated manner which has led to the future of the education sector being uncertain and unsustainable in light of preparations towards mine closure.

Dedication

This thesis is dedicated to my two girls whom I owe much for being away from them for two long years; Meagan Chachu Java and Nakita Isako Java and to my wife Triphina. Importantly, I salute and dedicate this thesis to a man who always had the strength and faith in the wonders of education and believed that that one day I could pass through that journey and that he could bear witness, which he did. Dad you're an inspiration all along and I want to say thank you. It was through your faith, perseverance and endless prayer that I obtained the benefits of education. This is for you Mr. Java Loluave. God Bless your heart and I remain thankful in a million ways.

Finally, to those from remote and isolated communities though rich in mineral wealth, yet struggling, education is surely the way forward. Education is really life and so much important as life itself. Education is redemption in all its forms. Embrace it and invest more and continue to invest more. It is not a wasted effort. It pays insurmountable dividends well into the future. It is my prayer that Multi-National Cooperation's, all levels of governments and Land Owner Associations give landowners educational development a great more development priority, more than any other development programmes for communities around resource development areas especially in Papua New Guinea.

Acknowledgement

This study was made possible with the support of many people, both in New Zealand (NZ) and Papua New Guinea (PNG). Foremost, this reveals another testimony of the fulfillment of Gods own plan for my life and I wholly thank him for his blessings upon my life. In addition, firstly, the staff from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS): my supervisors, Associate Professor Glenn Banks for all your valuable comments and time using your vast knowledge and experience of the mining industry in PNG to assist me greatly and special thanks to Dr. Maria Borovnik for all your critical comments, feedback and support and Professor Regina Scheyvens for all the support over the two years at IDS, Massey. I thank my family for their support, especially my elder brother James Yaru. I wouldn't have excelled without you. You have been very supportive all alone in my educational journey. I also acknowledge the support of my wife Triphina who has been so good and supportive. Your support has enabled me to complete my studies.

I extend my gratitude to the staff of Porgera Joint Venture Community Planning and Development Section (CPD) who assisted me greatly during my field research: Namely; Ken Egan, Kelly Taila, Timothy Andambo, Yamis Gigimat, Patewane and all other staff whom I have met. Importantly I thank all the research participants (all the key stakeholders (refer to table 4.2) who were directly involved in the research. Thank you for all your time and insights and perceptions about educational issues within Porgera. Thank you so much indeed. Importantly, I acknowledge the support of NZAID for providing me with a graduate development scholarship to come and study at Massey University. Thank you. I also thank IDS Graduate Research Fund for its support for the field research undertaken. My special thanks to Karin Bruckner and Liuvaie Sunlou for support given in editing and proof reading my drafts. Lastly, but not the least, I acknowledge the support given by the PNG Palmerstone North community, Raula Galewa in particular for the support and the IDS class of 2010: Joshua, Jacklyn, Xincha, Aaron, Ed and Kate Abel. It was a fantastic journey made possible by you all. Thank you all.

God Bless you all.

Bruce Java Loluave

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Figure 6-1 Source: (Barrick, n.d). 131

ACRONYMS

AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
ADB	Asian Development Bank
CODE	College of Distance Education
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DODL	Department of Open and Distance Learning
DFID	Department for International Development
EIA	Educational Institutional Administrators
EFA	Education for All
EPG	Enga Provincial Government
IDS	Institute of Development Studies
IHD	Integral Human Development
JICA	Japanese International Cooperation Agency
LLG	Local Level Government Council
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MNMC	Multi National Mining Corporations
MTDS	Medium Term Development Strategy
NEP	National Education Plan
NDOE	National Department of Education
NZ	New Zealand
NZAID-	New Zealand Agency for International Development
PDA	Porgera Development Authority
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PJV	Porgera Joint Venture
PG	Provincial Government

PLA	Porgera Landowners Association
PDWA	Porgera District Women's Association
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SD	Sustainable Development
SLA	Sustainable Livelihood Approach
TCS	Tax Credit Scheme
UNESCO	United National Educational and Cultural Organization
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
WB	World Bank

Table Clarifying Research Participants Coding and Acronyms

Institution/Organization	**Code**
Educational Institutional Administrators (Includes headmasters, coordinators, principals, managers of key educational institutions within Porgera).	**EIA**
Key Mine Stakeholders includes management and key staff from Porgera Joint Venture, Porgera Development Authority, PLA, PDWA, Porgera District Education, Porgera Local Level Government Council, Provincial and National Government.	**MKS**
Porgera Landowner Youths, Landowner Parents Landowner Elites	**LOY** **LOP,** **LOE**
Catholic Church and the Seventh-day Adventist Church clergies	**CL**

NB: *Numbers attached to codes infer more than one institution or individuals. For instance, EIA1, refers to school one, school two has EIA2 and so forth.*

Prologue

I have seen mines around the world. I have seen the effects they have on the lives of people who live in the vicinity of the mine. I have seen the lives of those people after the gold, silver, copper, oil and gas is gone.

A couple of years ago I travelled across the United States by train and by car. That was a long journey. Over 3000 miles and even on good roads that were long and endless. I saw a lot of things on that trip. I met a lot of people. I went to a lot of places, but the one place that impressed me more than any other was a small town in Nevada called Virginia City.

You know back in the 1800s, Virginia City was right at the heart of one of the world's largest silver mines in the world. At that time Virginia City was really a bursting city. It had at one time in the late 1800s, it had the highest per capita income of any City in the United States, which means it has the highest per capita income of any city in the world. Imagine that!

Virginia City was the richest place in the world. But what is it today? Today it is what Americans called "ghost" town. It is a town full of ghosts of people who were once rich but who died poor and destitute. Today almost no one lives in Virginia City; they just go there to open the shops for the tourists who want to see what a real Wild West boom town looks like. But Virginia City is dead. All millions, the billions of dollars that went through that town made no difference in the long-run.

Source: (Sir Julius Chan (November 2009): Article retrieved from the Sunday Chronicle, Port Moresby).