

# Broadening Opportunities: Assessing the Needs of Papua



## Project Information Sheet

Project Number:  
0013070

Project Title:  
Papua Needs Assessment (PNA)

Executing Agency:  
National Development Planning Agency  
(BAPPENAS)

Project Status and Duration:  
Ongoing, 1 year (2004 - 2005)

Proposed Project Budget:  
US\$ 490.000

Donors:  
UNDP

Coverage:  
Papua & West Irian Jaya Provinces

## Why Papua?

Papua is home to over 250 different ethnic groups making it one of the country's richest regions in cultural diversity. Well-endowed with natural gas, gold and other resources, Papua has much to offer. The region is also home to approximately 60 percent of Indonesia's biodiversity, as well as the planet's largest mangrove forest and nearly half the world's hard coral species.

Despite this wealth in resources, this eastern-most province remains one of country's least developed areas. Even though its population comprises only 1 percent of Indonesia's total population, over 40 percent of Papua's residents live below the national poverty line.

The richness of its resources, the poverty of its people and the diversity of its environ-

ment make Papua a leading development challenge to Indonesia. However, facts about Papua are scarce and data is often outdated. This makes it difficult to determine what is most urgently needed to reduce poverty and advance human development.

UNDP, in collaboration with the central and local government, undertook a needs assessment to develop an understanding of the Papua situation. The assessment looked at: 1) local government capacities, 2) civil society and community-based organizations' activities, 3) community conditions and livelihoods needs, 4) gender, the environment, governance and public finance.

## What did we find?

Data collected on local government and civil society capacity offers a much richer picture of the issues affecting delivery of basic services to Papuan people. Profiles of the districts provide current information on the effects of Special Autonomy, granted to Papua in 2001, including on the agencies that have been established, their policies and the numbers and qualifications of personnel, as well as information on absenteeism.

The assessment confirmed and highlighted gaps between the welfare of local Papuan people and other residents. It also highlighted the gap between government policy, regulations, plans, and budgets on the one hand, and local realities and needs in health, education, and livelihoods on the other hand.

Examples were found of where development initiatives have caused social tension in villages. However there were also incidences where individuals were able to motivate people to tackle the problems that they encounter. Thus a range of lessons has been learned and there is now greater understanding of historical, cultural and ecological factors that need to be accommodated in future development activities.

## A Development Framework for Papua

A multi-stakeholder group including representatives from local parliament (DPRD),

## The Assessment: Who did what?

*The Papua Needs Assessment operated as an inclusive, multi-stakeholder consultation. UNDP established an office in Jayapura and worked with the Regional Planning Authority (BP3D), as well as with other local stakeholders and an advisory board with key government representatives. 2 local universities, University of Cenderawasih and State University of Papua (UNCEN & UNIPA), undertook assessments of local government capacities in 17 districts. 4 local NGOs undertook assessments of civil society and community-based organizations' capacity throughout Papua. The NGOs assessed community conditions and needs, using the Sustainable Livelihoods Analysis approach. Specialist consultants looked at gender, the environment and fiscal developments identifying ways these crosscutting issues pertain to poverty in Papua. The PNA forms the basis for long-term programme of support to Papua and provides a baseline for its programming.*

provincial government, civil society organizations (religious, non-government, and *adat*), academia, and sector-specific resource persons worked during March and April 2005 to synthesize and validate the results of the PNA studies. The draft synthesis document and ideas for a development framework for Papua were shared widely and discussed during a seminar on 28 April in Jayapura. All feedback was taken into account for the review of the synthesis document and the draft development framework. These are being used as core input to the development of government's 'Basic Framework' and Regional Development Plan. UNDP's future programme of support to Papua will assist in achieving human development objectives in those plans.

