

The European Union's Non Aid  
Development Policies in Solomon  
Islands:  
Partnerships, Capacity and Livelihoods?

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# Outline of paper

- The impact of EU trade agreements and wider development programmes in Solomon Islands
- Part of a broader project considering the roles of a range of international actors in Pacific and impact on livelihood securities, and security more broadly, as part of what can be termed a new global aid regime (Lacey & Ilcan)
- Discourses of partnership, capacity building and broad conceptions of security, including livelihood security, human security and regional security
- EC's 10<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund and Interim Economic Partnership Agreements – using term 'non-aid' to describe trade-related development assistance
- Theoretical framework:
  - employing a governmentality framework



# Governmentality framework

- Allows for identification of diverse programmes or schemes that seek to direct and shape the actions of the peoples of Solomon Islands
- How an emerging rationality of governance works within and through diverse policy programmes
- Dean (1999): 'an analytics of government'

# Biopolitical governance and governance exercised through 'non-aid'

- Biopolitical security – the centering on the capacity and potential of individuals and the population as living resources that may be harnessed and managed by governing regimes (Ong)

# Solomon Islands and the new global aid regime

- pertinent case study of development aid NGOs and the new global aid regime
- new global aid regime:
  - characterized by contemporary advanced liberal forms of governance
    - poverty reduction efforts that are shaped by partnership, self-responsibility, and market-oriented activities

# EU Fisheries Partnership Agreement with SI

- Echoes main focus of EU cooperation with Solomon Islands:
  - rural development through furthering activities in agriculture, fisheries, transport, forestry;
  - human resource development; and
  - infrastructure programmes
- Fisheries Partnership Agreement – allowing EU vessels to fish in territorial waters in return for support for fisheries sectoral policy and resource management
  - SI is part of the richest tuna fisheries catchment area

- Effects of this 'rural development' approach – emphasis on market-capacity, at same time as loss of development aid funding resources to education and women specific programmes of the past
- Trade agreements are necessitating emphasis by EU on infrastructure projects



# Governance States

- EU as one actor in SI – a governance state (Duffield)
  - Post-colonial states deemed 'fragile' where international development organizations and donor actors operate with the state and its populations through diverse and complex development aid arrangements
- A linking of security and development
- Little notice of local particularities