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# MONOGRAPH 16

## TRADITIONAL CONSERVATION IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA: IMPLICATIONS FOR TODAY

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Editors

Proceedings of a conference organized by the Office of Environment  
and Conservation and the Institute of Applied Social and Economic  
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## Preface

We present here the proceedings of a conference held in Port Moresby in October 1980. In organizing this volume we have followed the order in which papers were presented at the conference. The subject matter of each day's proceedings was as follows:

- Day 1. Opening and overview
- Day 2. Land resources: soil, vegetation and minerals
- Day 3. Land resources: wildlife and forests
- Day 4. Water resources: freshwater and marine
- Day 5. General issues.

Conference papers were in three forms. Main review papers were presented in the morning sessions, as were shorter case studies related to the main papers. In addition a number of people and institutions were invited to prepare short background papers which were circulated at the conference but not spoken to. These background papers are printed at the end of the proceedings of each day. Some of the short and background papers were originally in Pidgin or a vernacular but are here given in an English translation.

The afternoon sessions of the conference were devoted to the discussion of issues raised in the mornings and were led by discussants. A one-page summary of these discussions is included after the main and short papers on each day. Plates relevant to the topics on Days 2, 3 and 4 are included on those days.

In our editorial overview we have tried to draw together the many and diverse strands of discussion at the conference. Where possible we have attributed ideas to those who contributed them, either in papers or in discussion. It is inevitable that our review is not totally comprehensive. To those who feel that their contributions have been neglected or unfairly treated, we apologize.

At the end of the volume we include in an abbreviated form three papers that were not strictly part of the conference. They were presented at an evening seminar organized by the Environmental Sciences Committee of the University of Papua New Guinea and designed to coincide in time and theme with the conference.

There are many names in this volume for animals, birds, fish, trees and plants. They appear in either Latin, English, Pidgin or a vernacular. Words in Latin and Pidgin are both italicized (e.g. *Casuarina*, *kapiak*), it being our view

that readers would be able to distinguish one from the other. Words in a vernacular are printed in sanserif (e.g. kombea). We are grateful to John Lynch, Professor of Language at the University of Papua New Guinea, for checking that vernacular spellings are consistent with accepted orthographies. Cross-references within this volume are given in the form 'Heaney, this volume', and details of other references can be found at the end of each paper. Technical definitions are given where necessary when terms are first mentioned. Thereafter the reader is referred to the earlier place for the definition.

We should like to express our thanks to the many people who have helped us produce this volume: to all the speakers, discussants and other participants, to the five chairmen, to the organizing committee and to those who made plates available. We have received much support from the Institute of Applied Social and Economic Research, the Office of Environment and the University of Papua New Guinea. We are most grateful to Claus Winkler of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) in Western Samoa for securing funding for us from GTZ so that we were able to include plates in the volume. Special mention must be made of our conference executive officer, Helen Cory, and our manuscript editor, Lulu Turner, for their hard work and inexhaustible good will. To all of you, our thanks. We hope the volume is worthy of your efforts.

*L.M., J.P., W.H.*