

SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT

UN-REDD
PROGRAMME



National Programme Annual Report Solomon Islands

UN-REDD Programme

11 March 2013

1. National Programme Status

1.1 National Programme Identification

Please identify the National Programme by completing the information requested below. The Government Counterpart and the designated National Programme focal points of the Participating UN Organisations will also provide their electronic signature below, prior to submission to the UN-REDD Secretariat.

Country: Solomon Islands Title of programme: SOI-UNREDD PROGRAMME	Date of signature¹: 3rd May 2011 Date of first transfer of funds²: May 2011 End date according to National Programme Document: 31 June 2012 No-cost extension requested³: No cost extension to be approved until March 2014 (to be proposed at next PEB meeting in February 2013).
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Implementing partners⁴: Solomon Islands Government (Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology and Ministry of Forest and Research)

The financial information reported should include indirect costs, M&E and other associated costs.

Financial Summary (USD) ⁵			
UN Agency	Approved Programme Budget ⁶	Amount transferred ⁷	Cummulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2012 ⁸
FAO	0	0	0
UNDP	550,000	550,000	127,564
UNEP	0	0	0
<i>Total</i>	550,000	550,000	127,564

Electronic signatures by the designated UN organization ⁹			Electronic signature by the Government Counterpart
FAO	UNDP	UNEP	
			
Type the date and name of signatories in full:			
02/04/2013 Ms. Mette Loyche-Wilkie Principle Officer	03/04/2013 Akiko Suzuki	02/04/2013 Thomas Enters	03/04/2013 Frank Wickham

¹ Last signature on the National Programme Document

² As reflected on the MPTF Office Gateway <http://mptf.undp.org>

³ If yes, please provide new end date

⁴ Those organizations either sub-contracted by the Project Management Unit or those organizations officially identified in the National Programme Document as responsible for implementing a defined aspect of the project. Do not include the participating UN Organizations unless Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) is being applied.

⁵ The information on expenditure is unofficial. Official, certified financial information is provided by the HQ of the Participating UN Organizations by 30 April and can be accessed on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/CCF00>)

⁶ The total budget for the entire duration of the Programme, as specified in the signed Submission Form and National Programme Document. This information is available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY: <http://mptf.undp.org>

⁷ Amount transferred to the participating UN Organization from the UN-REDD Multi-Partner Trust Fund. This information is available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY: <http://mptf.undp.org>

⁸ The sum of commitments and disbursement

⁹ Each UN organisation is to nominate one or more focal points to sign the report. Please refer to the *UN-REDD Programme Planning, Monitoring and Reporting Framework* document for further guidance

1.2 Monitoring Framework

The table below requests reporting on cumulative achievements (against the expected targets in the Monitoring Framework included in the National Programme Document) and achievements gained in the reporting period (against the expected targets in the annual work plan). If there is no data to be reported in the reporting period, please mark N/A. Please add additional rows as needed. For information on means of verification, responsibilities and risk and assumptions, please refer to the Monitoring Framework in the National Programme Document.

Note: The Indicators for the programme are based on the National Programme Document and the Inception Report which reviewed the SOI UNREDD Programme in 2011. Note that indicators in terms of timeline are based on the initial expected start date 2011. The Solomon Islands programme however actually started in July 2012 when the PMU was established, therefore the timeframe for the indicators means that they were not achieved as expected but progress towards their achievement is currently ongoing.

Expected Results (Outcome or Output)	Indicators	Baseline	Overall progress (Cumulative achievements)		Progress Against Annual Targets (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
			Expected Targets (According to the National Programme Document)	Cumulative Progress Towards the Overall Target (Outcome or Output)	Expected Annual Target (According to the annual work plan)	Achievements of the Annual Target (Outcome or Output)
From Results Framework	From Results Framework	<p>Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme</p> <p><u>Baseline for all indicators:</u></p>	<p>The desired level of improvement to be reached at the closing of the National Programme according to the National Programme Document</p>	<p>The actual level of progress reached towards the overall National Programme targets. Please provide a substantive assessment of the achievements of target to date, no more than 100 words per output.</p> <p><u>An achievement is made when a goal is completed or attained successfully.</u> Examples of achievements are published reports or an operating monitoring system. Drafting Terms of Reference is <i>not</i> an achievement.</p> <p><u>For each achievement please specify:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What</i> was achieved • <i>Who</i> was involved • <i>When</i> the achievement was made <p>For each product please provide links if available.</p>	<p>The desired level of improvement to be reached at the end of the reporting period according to the National Programme Annual Work Plan</p>	<p>The actual level of performance reached at the end of the reporting period. Please provide a substantive assessment of the achievements of target to date, no more than 100 words per output.</p> <p><u>An achievement is made when a goal is completed or attained successfully.</u> Examples of achievements are published reports or an operating monitoring system. Drafting Terms of Reference is <i>not</i> an achievement.</p> <p><u>For each achievement please specify:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What</i> was achieved • <i>Who</i> was involved • <i>When</i> the achievement was made <p>For each product please provide links if available.</p>

Expected Results (Outcome or Output)	Indicators	Baseline	Overall progress (Cumulative achievements)		Progress Against Annual Targets (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
			Expected Targets (According to the National Programme Document)	Cumulative Progress Towards the Overall Target (Outcome or Output)	Expected Annual Target (According to the annual work plan)	Achievements of the Annual Target (Outcome or Output)
Outcome 1: REDD+ readiness supported by effective, inclusive and participatory management processes REDD+ readiness Roadmap;	REDD+ readiness roadmap completed	No roadmap process currently in place	A roadmap ready after 10 months	The programme was established behind scheduled starting only in July 2012. Since then progress has been made with the establishment of a National REDD+ Taskforce (TF) and Technical Working Groups (TWGs) to provide input for the development of the Roadmap. The Taskforce also provided an opportunity for a multi-stakeholder approach in the development of the roadmap.	The National REDD+ TF and TWGs established and a meeting schedule in place	This annual target was fully achieved. The TF was officially established through a cabinet decision in November 2012 following initial multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder consultation meetings in August 2012 and October 2012 to promote their active participation in the national REDD+ readiness process.
Output 1.1 A broad-based multi-stakeholder national REDD+ working group	Working group formed within two months and meets on a quarterly basis as required.	No multi-stakeholder working group on REDD+ in place	A Broad based multi-stakeholder working group in place and meeting on a quarterly basis.	The TF and TWGs established with initial meetings held in August 2012, October 2012 and November 2012 and the quarterly schedule of meetings developed.	The National REDD+ TF and TWGs established and a meeting schedule in place	This annual target was fully achieved. National REDD+ TF was officially established through a cabinet decision in November 2012 following initial multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder consultation meetings in August 2012 and October 2012 to promote their active participation in the national REDD+ readiness process. The first meeting of the TF after cabinet approval occurred in mid November 2012.
Output 1.2 Policy and sectoral analyses to inform the development of map Roadmap	Monitoring and oversight process in place within four months Report produced within 10 months	No sectoral analysis for REDD+ undertaken	Policy and sectoral analyses for addressing drivers of deforestation and forest degradation completed within the specified timeframe. Clear strategies and approaches for ensuring effective stakeholder engagement, safeguarding policies and measures and putting in place an effective MRV system identified within the specified timeframe.	The national policy advisor is currently finalizing baseline studies that will be used to support policy and sectoral analyses by TF and TWGs, which will be completed by the second quarter of 2013. The quarterly meetings of the Taskforce supported by the PMU will provide an oversight function for this process.	An international policy advisor recruited to initiate baseline studies. General strategies and approaches for stakeholder engagement, safeguards and MRV Identified by TF and TWGs.	This target was fully achieved. The international policy advisory was recruited, and initial background information collection began in October 2012. Baseline studies and initial discussions on strategies and approaches on stakeholder engagement, safeguard and MRV were initiated with the initial meetings of TF and TWGs in November 2012.

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			Expected Targets (According to the National Programme Document)	Cumulative Progress Towards the Overall Target (Outcome or Output)	Expected Annual Target (According to the annual work plan)	Achievements of the Annual Target (Outcome or Output)
Output 1.3 A REDD+ readiness Roadmap and policy guidelines on REDD+	Roadmap in place after 10months	No Roadmap	National REDD+ Roadmap together with specific guidelines on stakeholder engagement, safeguards and MRV in place.	Roadmap will be developed through work of the TF, TWGs. The policy advisor is already recruited and collecting baseline information to support the Roadmap process by TF and TWGs.	NA (no activity was planned in 2012)	NA (no activity was planned in 2012)
Outcome 2: REDD+ stakeholders have a comprehensive understanding of the potential benefits and risks associated with REDD+	Empowered stakeholders by end of initial programme	Stakeholder have very limited understanding of REDD+	Stakeholders are empowered by end of initial programme	The current REDD+ readiness process includes broad range of stakeholders from the private sector, civil society groups and government agencies. An initial plan for education and awareness-raising was developed but only covered an initial period of implementation and awareness-raising. The Roadmap will include a detailed section on awareness-raising, and guidelines on stakeholder engagement will suggest key strategies.	Stakeholders have an understanding of REDD+ and are fully participating in a multi-stakeholder working groups (REDD+ Taskforce and Technical Working Groups)	This has been partially achieved and is currently an ongoing process. Two provincial awareness raising and consultation events in Choiseul and Western province were undertaken in October 2012 focused on key stakeholder groups at the provincial level. Initial stakeholder mapping conducted by the international policy advisor and validated within workshop in November 2012.
Output 2.1 A constituency -based education and awareness raising programme	A constituency -based education and awareness raising plan developed within 4 months; Programme delivered by the end of initial programme	Very limited understanding of REDD+ at constituency level	A programme in place for education and awareness raising for various constituencies All stakeholders at various level understand what is REDD+ and the processes involved	An initial plan for education and awareness-raising was developed but only covered an initial period of implementation and awareness-raising. The Roadmap will include a detailed section on awareness-raising, and guidelines on stakeholder engagement will suggest key strategies. Understanding of REDD+ has increased amongst key constituents within Government and civil society following a number of REDD+ related meetings and two TF and awareness -raising meetings on safeguards and stakeholder engagement in November 2012. More communication materials, including a national REDD+ website will be developed in the first half of 2013.	An awareness-raising framework and materials for consultation and collection of data from stakeholders through discussions prepared and implemented.	This target was achieved as the following results were achieved without a clear framework for the awareness-raising work. Initial awareness raising material in the form of two page leaflet providing an overview of REDD+ developed, printed and distributed to key stakeholders. Two provincial awareness raising and consultation events in Choiseul and Western province were undertaken in October 2012 focused on key stakeholder groups at the provincial level. Initial stakeholder mapping conducted by the international policy advisor and validated within workshop in November 2012

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Output 2.2 A process to ensure the right of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) for actions to be undertaken on REDD+	Plan developed within four months; programme delivered by the end of initial programme	No FPIC process in place	Clear and nationally appropriate approach to FPIC outlined as part of Roadmap and stakeholder engagement guidelines.	Baseline data collection on relevant stakeholder groups and how existing mechanisms for stakeholder engagement have been conducted.	Baseline information collected, and stakeholder consultation on FPIC process initiated.	This target was fully achieved. Initial stakeholder mapping and data collection conducted along with initial awareness-raising on FPIC as part of the stakeholder engagement and safeguards workshop in November 2012.
Output 2.3 Promoting social and environmental benefits whilst reducing the risks from REDD+	Awareness and discussion on formulation of nationally appropriate safeguards mechanism	No current approach to or analysis of safeguards for REDD+.	National REDD+ guidelines on Safeguards promote social and environment benefits whilst reducing the REDD+ risks	Initial awareness raising, consultation and baseline studies to inform the development of guidelines are currently being undertaken by the international policy advisor as part of the baseline assessment of safeguards. The programme is also currently in the process of recruiting a national stakeholder engagement and safeguards consultant.	Materials for consultation and baseline data gathering on social and environmental benefits and risk of REDD+ prepared and used to collect information.	This target was only partially achieved. Initial baseline data collection, awareness raising and consultation on safeguards undertaken by the international policy advisor in November 2012 and corresponding workshop on safeguards and stakeholder engagement. As yet no materials have been developed.
Outcome3: Preliminary capacity developed for REL formulation and MRV	Costed plan for REL/MRV	No REL/MRV System or capacity in Solomon Islands	Plan for REL/MRV in place	Initial capacity assessment undertaken and utilized to develop ToR for MRV/REL consultant to develop more detailed assessment and further outputs.	Collect baseline information and initiate process of recruiting an International MRV expert	Baseline information and assessments has been undertaken with recruitment process for the International MRV expert currently in progress.
Output 3.1 REL and MRV capacity assessments	Needs assessment report	No national REL and MRV capacity assessment	An MRV capacity assessment report that will inform the national REDD+ readiness Roadmap	Initial capacity assessment undertaken and utilized to develop ToR for MRV/REL consultant to develop more detailed assessment and further outputs.	Initial capacity assessment on MRV/REL initiated by an international consultant. Liaise and collaborate with partner agencies.	This target was achieved. A workshop on MRV / REL held in September 2012 and attended by thirty participants from various stakeholders. The MRV training t provided both training and acted as an initial capacity assessment of key stakeholders. Information also used to complete development of MRV/REL consultant ToR. Advert for an international consultant position issued in November 2012.
Output 3.2 Assessment of potential for	Regional cooperation opportunities	Regional approach not well defined	A will defined process for collaboration with regional partners and countries	A clear collaborative framework agreed with regional agencies such as SPC-GIZ and FAO regional center to strengthen collaboration and	Effective processes for coordination with regional organization	Two meetings were held with SPC –GIZ on the potential for regional cooperation. One meeting was held with Program Manager in

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regional cooperation on MRV	report			information sharing.	and agencies	Choiseul province in October 2012 followed by discussions in Fiji when the UNREDD Programme Manager attended the regional workshop late October 2012.

1.3 Financial Information

In the table below, please provide up-to-date information on activities completed based on the Results Framework included in the signed National Programme Document; as well as financial data on planned, committed and disbursed funds. The table requests information on the cumulative financial progress of the National Programme implementation at the end of the reporting period (including all cumulative yearly disbursements). Please add additional rows as needed.

Definitions of financial categories:

- *Commitments*: Includes all amount committed to date. Commitment is the amount for which legally binding contracts have been signed and entered into the Agencies' financial systems, including multi-year commitments which may be disbursed in future years.
- *Disbursement*: Amount paid to a vendor or entity for goods received, work completed, and/or services rendered (does not include un-liquidated obligations)
- *Expenditures*: Total of commitments plus disbursements

PROGRAMME OUTCOME	UN ORGANISATION	IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS			
		Amount Transferred by MPTF to Programme (A) US\$	Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2012		
			Commitments (B)	Disbursements (C) US\$	Total Expenditures (D) B+C US\$
OUTCOME 1: REDD+ readiness supported by effective, inclusive and participatory management processes.	FAO				
	UNDP	102,804		57,848.89	57,848.89
	UNEP				
Sub-total					
OUTCOME 2: REDD+ stakeholders have a comprehensive understanding of the potential benefits and risks associated with REDD+					
	UNDP	238,318		26,805.82	26,805.82
	UNEP				

	Sub-total				
OUTCOME 3: Preliminary capacity developed for REL/RL formulation and MRV	FAO				
	UNDP	121,495		6,403.73	6,403.73
	UNEP				
	Sub-total				
Project Management	UNDP	51,402		28,618.6	28,618.6
GMS	UNDP	35,981		7,886.99	7,886.99
	FAO (Total):				
	UNDP (Total):	550,000		127,564.03	127,564.03
	UNEP (Total):				
	Grand TOTAL:	550,000		127,564.03	127,564.03

1.3.1 Co-financing

If additional resources (direct co-financing) are provided to activities supported by the UN-REDD National Programme, please fill in the table below:

Sources of co-financing ¹⁰	Name of co-financer	Type of co-financing ¹¹	Amount (US\$)
UNDP UN-REDD Tier 2 Asia-Pacific Regional Readiness	UNDP	Cash	50,000.00
FAO Targeted Support: Development of a Regional Monitoring and MRV Support Structure for Pacific Island Countries	FAO	Cash (partial)	100,000.00

1.3.2 Additional finance for national REDD+ efforts catalyzed by the National Programme

Name of financer	Description	Amount (US\$)
UNDP/GEF	Integrating Global Environment Commitments in Investment and Development Decision-making through REDD+ Readiness	935,000.00

2. National Programme Progress

The questions in section two are intended to capture advancements and challenges that the National Programme has faced during the reporting period. It also aims to collect information on inter-agency coordination, ownership and development effectiveness, and communication. Please provide your answers after each question.

2.1 Narrative on Progress, Difficulties and Contingency Measures

The questions below ask for a brief narrative describing progress on the implementation of activities, generation of outputs and attainment of outcomes. It also asks for a description of internal and external challenges to National Programme implementation, as well as the contingency actions planned to overcome them.

2.1.1 Please provide a brief overall assessment of the extent to which the National Programme is progressing in relation to expected outcomes and outputs. Please provide examples if relevant (600 words).

The Programme has made significant progress since the Programme Management Unit (PMU) was established in July 2012 with strong support from the Solomon Islands Government. For outcome one (establishment of a multi-stakeholder working group), the National REDD+ Taskforce was formally endorsed by the Solomon Islands cabinet and launched in November 2012 by the Minister for Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) and the Minister for Forests and Research (MFR) during a formal reception at the Mendana Hotel, Honiara. The objective of the National REDD+ Taskforce is to coordinate the preparation of a National REDD+ Readiness Roadmap for the Solomon Islands.

¹⁰ Indicate if the source of co-financing is from: Bilateral aid agency, foundation, local government, national government, civil society organizations, other multilateral agency, private sector, or others.

¹¹ Indicate if co-financing is in-kind or cash.

The focus of the National REDD+ Taskforce is to assess and deliver recommendations on the following:

- Effective institutional arrangements for the implementation of REDD+ and actions for capacity development;
- Strategies to address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation based on analysis of the past, present and future trends; ,
- Strategies to promote effective participation of all relevant stakeholders in this process and supporting the development of adequate safeguards to ensure strategies to address REDD+ do no harm and indeed promote multiple benefits, such as improved livelihoods or ecological functions;
- Steps needed to develop an effective system to develop a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system (NFMS) and a forest reference emission level and/or forest reference level (REL/RL) – key elements to a national REDD+ architecture requested by the Conference of the Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

There is also ongoing dialogue and consultations between stakeholders on REDD+ and its implementation in the Solomon Islands. Examples include a national awareness meeting on REDD+ in September 2012 with over thirty national stakeholders participating in the meeting. In November 2012, a stakeholder engagement and safeguards workshop and training was facilitated by the UN-REDD international policy advisor.

The National REDD+ Taskforce first met in November 2012 to review its mandate and formulate technical working groups (TWGs) to support the development of the Solomon Island REDD+ Readiness Roadmap. These resulted in three TWGs being formulated as follows:

1. Drivers and Strategies;
2. Stakeholder engagement and Safeguards; and
3. NFMS and REL.

These TWGs will provide additional support to the Taskforce in developing specific approaches to REDD+ and gathering information on the forest and landuse sectors. They will also represent an important forum for information sharing and capacity building, helping to build a cadre of people with a clear understanding of REDD+.

For Outcome Two, a national REDD+ awareness workshop was organized in September 2012 with the support of the FAO regional technical advisor. The national REDD+ awareness workshop resulted in discussions on opportunities and risks for REDD+ implementation in the Solomon Islands. In addition, a number of awareness meetings were organized in Choiseul and Western Provinces, with the support of a high level team consisting of the Programme Manager, Director Climate Change, and Undersecretary for MECDM and the Undersecretary MF visiting the two provinces in October 2012. The UN-REDD Programme Manager also participated in a regional meeting on carbon rights in Melanesia held in Fiji in October 2012 and held discussions on the potential legal implications for REDD+ implementation in the Solomon Islands. Discussions focused on access and rights to land resources, an important issue relating to the development of appropriate Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes for REDD+ in Solomon Islands. The programme is currently in the process of recruiting a national consultant for stakeholder engagement to support the International Policy Advisor. Both of these consultants will play a key role in the delivery of the Roadmap and practical REDD+ guidelines for Stakeholder Engagement, Safeguards and MRV.

For Outcome Three, a national training on NFMS and RELs/RLs for REDD+ was held for national stakeholders in September 2012. The training led participants through the background of REDD+ under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and its emergence as a prominent climate change mitigation opportunity for developing countries. This was followed by a review of the UNFCCC decisions on National Forest Monitoring Systems and the functions of monitoring and Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV). The MRV/REL is required to follow the Guidance and methodologies of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). These

were further reviewed to guide participants through the processes of national greenhouse gas inventory compilation and reporting to the UNFCCC Secretariat. Over twenty five participants attended the two-day event. The programme is in the process of recruiting an International NFMS and RELs/RLs expert who will play a key role in undertaking capacity assessment and development activities relating to this technical area.

2.1.2 Please provide a brief overall assessment of any measures taken to ensure the sustainability of the National Programme results during the reporting period. Please provide examples if relevant. (250 words)

There is ongoing dialogue between UNDP and the national REDD+ focal points at the MECDM and MFR to ensure the Government's ongoing commitment to the Programme. These discussions relate to the strategic direction, coordination and collaboration with internal and external partners and operational issues related to the implementation of the Programme.

There are also on-going discussions to ensure the sustainability of key outcomes beyond the life of the National Programme. One of the ideas is to improve coordination among national institutions and development partners to establish linkages with existing and future initiatives that are relevant to the national REDD+ process to support the implementation of the Roadmap and technical guidelines. Meanwhile, the Government will continue pursuing, with support from FAO and UNDP, two potential GEF projects, which are designed to support the national REDD+ Readiness efforts.

2.1.3 If there are difficulties in the implementation of the National Programme, what are the main causes of these difficulties? Please check the most suitable option.

- UN agency Coordination
- Coordination with Government
- Coordination within the Government
- Administrative (Procurement, etc) /Financial (management of funds, availability, budget revision, etc)
- Management: 1. Activity and output management
- Management: 2. Governance/Decision making (Programme Management Committee/National Steering Committee)
- Accountability
- Transparency
- National Programme design
- External to the National Programme (risks and assumptions, elections, natural disaster, social unrest)

2.1.4 If boxes are checked under 2.1.3, please briefly describe any current *internal* difficulties¹² the National Programme is facing in relation to the implementation of the activities outlined in the National Programme Document. (200 words)

It took some time for the PMU staff to fully understand the concept of REDD+ and how the programme would support the REDD+ Readiness process in the Solomon Islands. This was an internal challenge that also affected the manners in which the project was delivered in terms of effective planning, monitoring and evaluation in 2012. Understanding REDD+ is critical to the delivery of quality outputs through the UNREDD Programme. The support from the regional advisors and commitment from UNDP Honiara sub-office, however, quickly brought the PMU to speed.

Administrative issues relating to procurement remains a challenge for the programme. The procurement processes for the consultants in particular have been very slow, and it has caused delays in delivering certain activities requiring specific inputs for the consultants.

¹² Difficulties confronted by the team directly involved in the implementation of the National Programme

2.1.5 If boxes are checked under 2.1.3, please briefly describe any current *external* difficulties¹³ (not caused by the National Programme) that delay or impede the quality of implementation. (200 words)

Coordination within the government remains a challenge in the implementation of the UN-REDD Programme. Many of the activities, outputs and certain administrative components require close coordination with the government. The limited capacity in terms of available personnel and issues of inter-government coordination has led to delays in the delivery of certain activities. The issue of coordination within the Government however is endemic to the whole Government machinery in the Solomon Islands and is not unique to the implementation of the UN-REDD Initial National Programme. The UN-REDD Programme nevertheless enjoys a very high level of support from the Government with very senior officers giving priority to UN-REDD Programme activities.

External difficulties include weak political governance which directly affects institutional and systemic arrangements within government. The most important for the UNREDD Programme is the government's inability to appoint a Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM). This has resulted in a certain level of uncertainty in the decision making processes for the programme and lukewarm response from the government.

Other external difficulties relates to the developing country context of the Solomon Islands. Examples include regular power outages, faulty office air conditioning which takes up a month to repair as there are no spare parts in the country. A further example is the internet outage over the Christmas break which affected the ability of the programme to communicate effectively with stakeholders.

2.1.6 Please, briefly explain the actions that are or will be taken to eliminate or manage the difficulties (internal and external referred to in question 2.1.3 and 2.1.4) described in the previous sections. (250 words)

The issue of coordination within Government remains a challenge that is beyond the scope of the programme. The programme has therefore taken the partnership approach to strengthen its relationship with the respective Government agencies. This approach emphasizes a common purpose that advocates for sustainability in the natural resources sector, in particular the forest and environment sector. Critical to this relationship with the Government is having contact points in respective Government agencies. Their continuous engagement in programme activities and keeping up regular communication with them on the progress of implementation to ensure that ownership of the programme remains. As a result, the programme enjoys a high level of support from the Government and key stakeholders from NGOs, private sector, women's groups and community groups.

2.2 Inter-Agency Coordination

The aim of the questions below is to collect relevant information on how the National Programme is contributing to inter-agency work and "Delivering as One".

2.2.1 Is the National Programme in coherence with the UN Country Programme or other donor assistance framework approved by the Government?

Yes No

If not, please explain:

¹³ Difficulties confronted by the team caused by factors outside of the National Programme

2.2.2 What types of coordination mechanisms and decisions have been taken to ensure joint delivery? Please reflect on the questions above and add any other relevant comments and examples if you consider it necessary:

While ensuring that the programme's contribution to UNDAF Outcomes Two and Four, FAO and UNDP have demarcated outputs to deliver and will jointly lead the realization of outputs each is responsible for. UNEP provides support from the distance, if and when requested.

At the national level, the National Climate Change Policy under MECDM was launched by the Prime Minister and formally endorsed by the Cabinet. The policy was developed with support from the Ministry of National Planning and Aid Coordination, Ministry of Finance and Treasury; and the Office of the Prime Minister. This policy strongly emphasizes the need for a better coordination mechanism to address mitigation activities and reflects on the need for the Solomon Islands to participate in REDD+ activities. The Government has shown strong commitment in terms of national ownership and supporting the PMU to coordinate REDD+ Readiness activities.

The programme through the MECDM established the National REDD+ Taskforce, which consists of stakeholders from the private sector, NGOs and Government and is the main coordination forum to facilitate REDD+ Readiness. The REDD+ Taskforce was formulated as a sub-committee to the Mitigation Working Group established by the National Climate Change Policy. The Taskforce was endorsed by the Solomon Islands cabinet and officially co-launched by the Minister for Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology and Minister of Forestry and Research at an event at the Mendana Hotel, Honiara in November 2012.

2.2.3 Are the recommendations of the HACT assessment being applied in the implementation of the National Programme by the three participating UN organisation?

Yes No

If not, please explain, including which recommendations from the HACT assessment have or have not been applied:

Initial plans to undertake a HACT assessment on several government ministries including the MECDM in late 2012 was delayed. The UN-REDD National Programme will continue to work with the UNDP Sub-Office in Honiara in monitoring progress in this area. Nevertheless, the implementation modality is compliant with HACT guidelines. In the absence of the HACT micro-assessment, a high risk scenario has been assumed and the cash transfer arrangement is direct payment. Once the micro-assessment is completed, any necessary adjustments based on the HACT recommendations will be made in the current delivery modality.

2.3 Ownership¹⁴ and Development Effectiveness

The questions below seeks to gather relevant information on how the National Programme is putting into practice the principles of aid effectiveness through strong national ownership, alignment and harmonization of procedures and mutual accountability.

2.3.1 Do government and other national implementation partners have ownership of the implementation of activities and the delivery of outputs?

No Some Yes

Please explain:

The Government and other implementation partners have shown support by providing information and participating in the activities relating to REDD+. For example, the Government provided financial support towards the National REDD+ Taskforce launch event in November 2012. Important

¹⁴ Ownership refers to countries exercising effective leadership over their REDD+ policies and strategies, and co-ordination of actions.

partnerships have also been developed with regional agencies such as SPC-GIZ on their regional Pacific REDD+ project. The PMU staff also forged a strong partnership with Live and Learn Environmental Education (LLEE), who are implementing a community approach to REDD+. The education and awareness materials they have produced will provide guidance in the development of the Roadmap and REDD+ guidelines. Developing partnerships and collaborations was endorsed by the PEB in 2012, in particular for implementing demonstration activities.. There is ongoing discussion on how demonstration activities for REDD+ can be implemented in the Solomon Islands.

2.3.2 Are the UN-REDD Programme’s Guidelines for Stakeholder Engagement and Operational Guidance Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Other Forest Dependent Communities been applied in the National Programme process?

No Partially Fully

Please explain, including if level of consultation varies between non-government stakeholders:

The guidelines have been considered in the current process of the programme in developing a national guidelines for stakeholder engagement and FPIC processes. This is an ongoing process currently being formulated by the UN-REDD Policy Advisor.

2.3.3 What kind of decisions and activities are non-government stakeholders involved in?

Policy/decision making
 Management: Budget Procurement Service provision
 Other, please specify

Please explain, including if level of involvement varies between non-government stakeholders:

Non-Government stakeholders play an important role in the REDD+ Readiness process and have shown a high level of commitment towards the programme. The PEB now includes three non-government organizations, Live and Learn Environmental Education (LLEE), Laura Land Conference of Tribal Community (LLCTC) and Kolombangara Indigenous Community Conservation Association (KIBCA). The National REDD+ Taskforce also includes a number of environmental NGOs such as The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Solomon Islands Community Conservation Partnership (SICCP), private sector representatives from financial institutions and plantation companies and women’s groups such as the National Council of Women who will be contributing to the development of the REDD+ Roadmap.

2.3.4 Based on your previous answers, briefly describe the current situation of the government and non-government stakeholders in relation to ownership and accountability¹⁵ of the National Programme. Please provide some examples.

The Government and Non-Government stakeholders have taken ownership of the programme since July 2012 after the PMU was established. This is reflected in their commitment to participating in the initial meetings that led to the formation of the REDD+ Taskforce and Technical Working Groups. Many of the programme activities in 2012 were led by both Government and Non- Government stakeholders. Government and Non-Government organization perceive the UN-REDD Programme as an opportunity for collaboration in developing a National REDD+ Roadmap and technical guidelines for the country. Live and Learn and SPC-GIZ, who are undertaking REDD+ related activities, are both members of the PEB and have been actively engaged with the programme in discussing the potential for collaboration on REDD+ demonstration activities and information sharing and determination at the sub-national level.

¹⁵ Accountability: Acknowledgment and assumption of responsibility for actions, products, decisions, and policies and encompassing the obligation to report, explain and be answerable for resulting consequences.

3. General Programme Indicators

This section aims to aggregate information on results for the six work areas of the UN-REDD Programme defined in the Programme's Strategy (2011-2015), delivered through the Global and National Programmes. Information is to be provided cumulatively. If the information requested is not available at this stage of Programme implementation, check the "does not apply" box.

3.3.1 Number of MRV and monitoring related focal personnel with increased capacities:

Women Total No 7
 Men Total No 23

Comments:

The MRV Training was conducted by the FAO Regional Advisor for national stakeholders over two days in September 2012 in Honiara.

3.3.2 Does the country have a functional MRV and monitoring system in place?

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

The country currently lacks any functional MRV and monitoring system in place. Forest monitoring activities to date have been undertaken on an ad hoc basis by the government.

3.3.3 Does the country have nationally owned governance indicators, developed through a participatory governance assessment?

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

Further research is being undertaken on these as part of the background document for the UN-REDD Programme.

3.3.4 Was a participatory governance assessment supported by the UN-REDD Programme and incorporated into the National REDD+ Strategy?

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments, including if the assessment was supported by another initiative:

3.3.5 Does the National REDD+ Strategy include anti-corruption measures, such as a code of conduct, conflict of interest prohibitions, links to existing anti-corruption frameworks, protection for whistleblowers or application of social standards?

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

The anti-corruption measures for the Solomon Islands are being reviewed by the international policy advisor as part of the background document for REDD+. These will feed into the development of the REDD+ Roadmap and guidelines.

3.3.6 Number of Indigenous Peoples/civil society stakeholders represented in REDD+ decision making, strategy development and implementation of REDD+ at the national level:

Women Total No. 4
 Men Total No. 3

Comments:

The REDD+ Taskforce and Technical Working Groups have broader representations from various civil society groups including community groups, indigenous groups and women's organization. The National Council of Women is represented on the National REDD+ Taskforce and TWG with organization also having women participants. They will be involved in the Development of the National REDD+ roadmap and Guidelines.

There are three indigenous organizations represented on the PEB, the decision making body for the UN-REDD Programme in the Solomon Islands. These three organizations are; the Kolombangara Indigenous Community, Biodiversity Conservation Association (KIBCA); the Laura Land Conference of Tribal Community (LLCTC) and Natural Resources Development Foundation (NRDF). All three organizations have Men as head organizations and therefore reflected in the representations.

3.3.7 Number of consultation processes (Meetings, workshops etc.) underway for national readiness and REDD+ activities:

At least 16

Comments:

At least 16 consultations/workshops/meetings have been undertaken; The following is a list of the consultations undertaken to date:

Activity	Date	Number of Meetings
1. Consultations and Meeting with Director Climate Change	September 2012	1
2. National Awareness Workshop on REDD+ (more than 25 participants)	September 2012	1
3. Consultation meeting with Undersecretary for Forestry and Director Planning for Forestry.	October 2012	1
4. Choiseul provincial consultation meeting with; SPC-GIZ in Choiseul, Choiseul Provincial Government, Laura Women’s Association and Provincial Forestry Office.	October 2012	4
5. Western provincial consultation meeting with local NGO, Natural Resources Development Foundation(NRDF), Western Women’s Council and Western Provincial Government.	October 2012	4
6. Consultations with SPC-GIZ	October 2012	1
7. Consultation meeting with Deputy Commissioner Forest development, reforestation and research.	November 2012	1
8. National workshop on safeguards and Stakeholder Engagement facilitated by the UNREDD Policy Advisor	November 2012	2
Total Number of Meetings		16

3.3.8 Grievance mechanism established in order to address grievances of people alleging an adverse effect related to the implementation of the UN-REDD national programme:

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

The national governance structure established provides the opportunity for people with grievances to raise them with representative members of the Technical Working Groups, National REDD+ Taskforce and Programme Executive Board.

3.3.9 Country has undertaken to operationalize Free Prior and Informed Consent for the implementation of readiness or REDD+ activities that impact Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' territories, resources, livelihoods and cultural identity:

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

The UN-REDD Programme will support the development of technical guidelines on stakeholder engagement, which will have a component on FPIC. Due to the programmer's time and resource limitations, the operationalization of FPIC will not be supported directly. However, upon completion of the guidelines, there will be training of government institutions and non-government partners to roll out the guidelines through their existing and future initiatives.

3.3.10 Country applying safeguards for ecosystem services and livelihood risks and benefits:

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

There exist safeguards for ecosystem services and livelihood risks and benefits embedded within some of the laws and legislation relating to natural resources development and governance in general. An example is the Environment Impact Assessment process in the Environment Act 1998. Baseline research is currently being undertaken to identify these safeguards and how effective they are.

3.3.11 Application of the UN-REDD Programme social principles and criteria:

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

This is currently being formulated by the international policy advisor and also will be the responsibility of the technical working groups for stakeholder engagement and safeguards.

3.3.12 REDD+ benefit distribution system contributes to inclusive development¹⁶, with specific reference to pro-poor¹⁷ policies and gender mainstreaming¹⁸:

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

The Roadmap process will assess the current capacities in those areas and recommend options.

3.3.13 Country adopting multiple benefit decision tool kit:

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

¹⁶ Inclusive development is development that marginalized groups take part in and benefit from, regardless of their gender, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, disability or poverty. Inclusive growth implies **participation** and **benefit-sharing**. On the one hand, it ensures that everyone can participate in the growth process, both in terms of decision-making for organizing the growth progression as well as in participating in the growth itself. On the other hand, it makes sure that everyone shares equitably the benefits of growth.

¹⁷ Pro-poor policies are those that directly target poor people (i.e. benefit the poor more than the non-poor), or that are more generally aimed at reducing poverty. There is also a general consensus that pro-poor policy processes are those that allow poor people to be directly involved in the policy process, or that by their nature and structure lead to pro-poor outcomes. For some, the aim of pro-poor policies is to improve the assets and capabilities of the poor.

¹⁸ The overall intention of gender mainstreaming with regard to environment and energy is to ensure the inclusion of gender equality considerations in planning systems at all levels, and to expand both the access of women to finance mechanisms and the direction of that finance to areas that will benefit women. Gender mainstreaming tools include gender analysis, sex-disaggregated data and participatory approaches that explicitly consider women.

The Roadmap process will assess the current capacities in those areas and recommend options.

3.3.14 National or sub-national development strategies incorporate REDD+ based investments as means of transformation of relevant sectors¹⁹:

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

3.3.15 Investment agreements supported or influenced so that they take advantage of the REDD+ as a catalyst to a green economy:

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

4. Government Counterpart Information

The aim of this section is to allow the Government Counterpart to provide their assessment, as well as additional and complimentary information to Section 1-3 which are filled out by the three participating UN organizations.

Comments by the Government Counterpart:

The Solomon Islands Government is committed to the Programme as reflected in its initiative to establish the National REDD+ Taskforce (Taskforce) and other Technical Working Groups. The Government will continue to support the UNREDD programme through towards National REDD+ Readiness Roadmap for Solomon Islands. The government is looking forward to the development of the National REDD+ roadmap and the guidelines and would like to commend the UNREDD programme for the continuous commitment to deliver those.

5. Other stakeholders (non-government) Information

The aim of this section is to allow non-Government stakeholders to provide their assessment, as well as additional and complimentary information to Section 1-3 which are filled out by the three participating UN organizations. Please request a summary from existing stakeholder committees or platforms.

Comments by other stakeholders (non-government):

Most of the outcomes stated in 1.3 has been carried out and funds used under each activities been utilized in which resulted in the advancement of the REDD+ Solomon Island program to a certain level. As such we believe that the continuous contributions and support from the 3 UN organizations will bring us to a stage we aim for at the end of the period whereby their support will lapse. This will put Solomon islands to a comfortable stage in preparation for the implementation of a national REDD+ program.

We are pleased with the wide dissemination of information that we receive from the UN-REDD+ Program office. Only by raising the level of REDD+ understanding across diverse stakeholder groups can the Solomon Islands begin to tackle the challenges of carbon credit schemes within customary lands in any meaningful way. The participatory workshops and meetings organized by the Program Management have been effective so far – [e.g. detailing the implications of REDD+ for Community Based Organization in Solomon Islands.]. That said, we would have liked to see more participation in the taskforce working group by key community-based stakeholders such as the Tetepare Descendants Association (TDA) and Kolombangara Island Biodiversity Conservation Association (KIBCA) the latter is a member of the taskforce at present). Such participation would provide a much clearer sense of community level understanding and capacity, as well as potential avenues for success from the perspective of resource owners.

¹⁹ Relevant sectors denote those that are related to forests and land use, e.g. including energy, agriculture, mining, transport and land use planning.