









National Programme Semi-Annual Report PAPUA NEW GUINEA

UN-REDD Programme

September 2013

1. National Programme Status

1.1 National Programme Identification

Country: Papua New Guinea

Title of programme: UN-REDD Papua New Guinea

National Programme

Date of signature¹: 16th June 2011

Date of first transfer of funds²: 23rd June 2011 **End date according to National Programme**

Document: 31 December 2013

No-cost extension requested³: Yes, approved to

31 December 2015

Implementing partners⁴:

PNG's Office of Climate Change and Development (OCCD)

PNG Forest Authority (PNGFA)

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.

1.2 Monitoring Framework

The table below requests reporting on achievements during the reporting period, January to 30 of June 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.

Outcome 1: Readiness management arrangements in place						
Expected Results (Output 1.1): Management arrangen	nents between GoPNG and stakeholders strengthened					
Indicators:	 Assist the OCCD in liaising with other REDD+ initiatives, in particular the PNG-Australia Forest Carbon Partner and World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Assist OCCD in carrying out PEB and PMC meetings Strengthen institutional capacity at OCCD across relevant sectors. e.g. support in organizing and conducting a NGO and whole-of-government workshops, support to TWGs, etc. 					
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	Baseline for all indicators: - GoPNG liaises with donors through the Ministry of Forestry and Climate Change (FCC) - REDD+ whole-of-government workshop conducted in 2010					
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)						
- At least 2 PEB meetings held in 2013, one in Q1, second in Q4 - Establishment of an inclusive national REDD+ "network" (Govt Depts, NGO's, CSOs private and developmental partners)	 Achievement of Annual Target 1st PEB meeting was held on 21st March, informing all executive board members on AWP 2013; a proposal for programme extension was endorsed and official request for non-cost extension submitted to the UN-REDD Secretariat by PMU on June 14th 2013. The signed minutes of the meeting are available. A Technical Working Group on Social and Environmental Safeguards (TWG-SES) was established and a first meeting was held to develop its Terms of Reference 					
Expected Results (Output 1.2): National Programme Ir	nplementation strengthened					
Indicators:	 Implementing the National Programme, incl. capacity building of key partners (OCCD, PNGFA) Establishing the PMU and building its capacity Facilitate knowledge sharing with UN-REDD countries including other regional and international experiences 					
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	Baseline for all indicators: - No National Programme					
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)						

 Achievement of Annual Target First and Second Quarterly Work Plans (QWPs) were submitted and approved with some delay The International Programme Manager was recruited, and arrived in PNG and commenced his duties Three shortlisted national candidates for the position of Communications Officer were interviewed; recruitment is expected in next quarter 						
 No progress was made to establish a permanent and safe PMU office within OCCD Contributions were made to the Intra-UNDP Pacific Climate Change Roundtable discussions UN-REDD PNG knowledge and planned activities for Milne Bay Province with concerted with UN-REDD Solomon Islands activities and integrated in the ongoing SPC/GIZ 'Climate Protection through Forest Conservation in Pacific Island Countries' project and provided feedback for its proposed regional 'Climate Protection through Conservation in Pacific Island Countries' project 						
rmation System developed						
 Field test safeguards Design the system structure and functions Develop a national database Develop a WEB-GIS interface Training of PNG operators 						
Baseline for all indicators: - PNG has no REDD+ information system						
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)						
Achievement of Annual Target						
 No progress on safeguards; a draft SSFA between UNEP and OCCD was prepared and sent by UNEP for signing by OCCD in May 2013 A TWG-SES was established that will guide the development of SES Guidelines and the hiring of national and international experts Three national consultants hired in February 2013 and familiarized with the FAO Open Foris software family, in preparation for remote sensing analysis to begin in the second half of 2013 						

Indiantaus.	1. Establish as apparational well to wall systems based as establish assessed as assigned at					
Indicators:	1. Establish an operational wall-to-wall system based on satellite remote sensing data					
	2. Design a methodological approach to support the implementation of REDD+ at sub-national scale					
	3. Provide training in forest land monitoring methodology					
	4. Develop a near real time monitoring system					
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the	Baseline for all indicators:					
start of the National Programme	- Fragmented use of GIS systems in GoPNG departments, often relying on outdated data					
	Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)					
Expected annual Target	Achievement of Annual Target					
 Establish land monitoring system laboratory in OCCD 	Establishment of land monitoring system laboratory initiated					
 Training delivered on forest land 						
monitoring and national land use						
assessment methodology using open-						
source software						
National land use assessment initiated						
Expected Results (Output 2.3): Multipurpose national	I forest carbon inventory developed					
Indicators:	1. Develop measurement protocols and sampling design for a national forest carbon survey, building on the existing					
	permanent sampling plot system. System design is driven by UNFCCC reporting requirements					
	2. Assess institutional capacity needs					
	3. Establish adequate institutional capacity to undertake regular forest carbon monitoring and reporting consistent					
	with REDD+ information needs					
	4. Provide training in forest inventory methodology					
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the	Baseline for all indicators:					
start of the National Programme	- FIMS, FIPS and Persyst in use by PNGFA with limited data on carbon					
	Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)					

Expected annual Target	Achievement of Annual Target						
 NFI methodology design finalized Capacity needs assessment completed Training programme on new NFI designed Species identification training delivered to botanists of NFI field crews Piloting of new NFI methodology in 2014 scheduled and adequate logistical operations put in place 	 Second national NFI design workshop delivered in February 2013, attended by approximately 50 participants from government (including PNG Forest Authority, PNG Forest Research Institute, Office of Climate Change and Development), academia (including PNG University of Technology and the University of PNG), NGOs and international organizations Consensus reached among relevant stakeholders on NFI data collection methodology and first draft of NFI Master Document produced 						
Expected Results (Output 2.4): National GHG Inventor	y for REDD+ established						
Indicators:	Develop institutional capacity Provide training on IPCC GHG inventory methodology						
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	Baseline for all indicators: - Preparation of Second National Communication (SNC) underway with support from UNDP						
	Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)						
Expected annual Target Achievement of Annual Target							
No target for 2013	• N/A						
Expected Results (Output 2.5): Technical advice, capac	city building and implementation support provided						
Indicators:	Provide technical advice and support covering the activities outlined above for the institutions involved in the national MRV system Provide support through international technical assistant for OCCD Director MRV & National Communication Develop capacity enabling stakeholders to independently review the outputs of MRV system						
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	Baseline for all indicators: - Limited and fragmented capacity for elements of a MRV system in GoPNG and non-government stakeholders						
	Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)						

Expected annual Target	Achievement of Annual Target						
 Three backstopping missions completed by FAO forestry and operations officers Technical support and training delivered to stakeholders through workshops and technical working group meetings 	 Two missions by two forestry officers and an operations officer completed in February (D. Mollicone) and March (J. Scriven and A. Sobey). Technical support delivered to government counterparts on forest monitoring, forest inventory and REDD negotiations under the UNFCCC at 1) an NFI design workshop in February and 2) a meeting of the MRV Technical Working Group. 						
Outcome 3: Establishment of REL/RL supported							
Expected Results (Output 3.1): Historical drivers of de	forestation assessed						
Indicators:	Assess past drivers of deforestation Test and refine MRV methodology (Outcome 2) using available historical emission data Review methodologies for establishing REL and national reference emission levels Compile data to support development of REL						
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	Baseline for all indicators: - Preliminary assessment of drivers of deforestation and GHG emissions						
	Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)						
Expected annual Target	Expected annual Target Achievement of Annual Target						
 Assessment of historical land use changes initiated 	 Establishment of monitoring system laboratory (purchase of equipment) and hiring of three national operators. 						
Expected Results (Output 3.2): National circumstances	s assessed						
Indicators:	1. monitoring and implementation concepts for key abatement levers						
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	Baseline for all indicators: - priority abatement levers identified; only limited experience in implementation						
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)							
Expected annual Target	Achievement of Annual Target						
None planned	• N/A						

Outcome 4: Monitoring of abatement concepts su	pported						
Expected Results (Output 4.1): Capacity for monitori	ng and implementation of priority abatement levers developed						
Indicators:	Develop and deliver comprehensive training (training of trainers) for PNGFA and pilot concessions Support piloting of abatement levers, including pilot implementation and monitoring and verifying results Baseline for all indicators: Priority abatement levers identified; only limited experience in implementation						
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme							
	Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)						
Expected annual Target	Achievement of Annual Target						
Initiation of land-use monitoring work	 Establishment of monitoring system laboratory (purchase of equipment) and hiring of three national operators. 						
Outcome 5: Stakeholders engaged in PNG's REDD	+ readiness process						
Expected Results (Output 5.1): Framework for stake	nolder engagement processes in place						
Indicators:	Develop and agree on guidelines for stakeholder engagement including the formal agreements for technical, advisory and public consultation levels Facilitate a constructive and reciprocal dialogue between national multi-stakeholder groups, OCCD/GoPNG and development partners						
	3. Carry out independent monitoring of the consultative and stakeholder awareness process						
Baseline: Baselines are a measure of the indicator at the start of the National Programme	Baseline for all indicators: - Consultation Workplan for 2011; 4 provinces consulted in 2010						
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)							

Expected annual Target

- Framework for Stakeholder Engagement Process in Place, e.g. development of National Guidelines on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)
- Studies on Benefit Sharing Distribution
 Systems (BSDS) initiated and national and international experiences reviewed
- REDD+ Training material developed and preparations made for implementation of awareness raising in pilot provinces (East Sepik, West Sepik, Manus, Milne Bay, WNB)

Achievement of Annual Target

- Strengthening and review of the draft National Guidelines on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) on the basis of current literature, field studies and comparative analysis based on field visits was completed; a mission report of the regional Safeguards Expert from Bangkok is available
- A MoU between OCCD and FORCERT (a leading NGO on SFM) was signed to study proposed BSDS mechanisms based on experiences in PES. Further development of the proposed methodology to fit within internationally recognised standards is scheduled for Q3
- Changes to existing REDD+ Training material were made and a new draft was produced; expert review to upgrade from a project to a planning approach is scheduled for Q3/Q4

1.3 Financial Information

In the table below, please provide up-to-date information based on the Results Framework included in the signed National Programme Document (For programs that have had a substantive revision please include a footnote or reference using the agreed language); 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

			Cumulative Expenditures as of 30 June 2013				
Programme Outcome (Reference: National Programme Document)	Part. UN Org.	Approved Budget/Amount Transferred (USD) A	Commitments B	Disbursement C	Total Expenditures (B+C) D	% Delivery (total expenditure/Budget) D/A	
	FAO	-	=	-	-	-	
Outcome 1	UNDP	250,000.00	-	290,071.06	290,071.06	116%	
	UNEP	-	-	-	-	-	
Sub-total Outcome 1		250,000.00	0	290,071.06	290,071.06	116%	
	FAO	1,411,889.00	190,164.00	144,425.00	334,589.00	24%	
Outcome 2	UNDP	200,000.00	-	1,725.52	1,725.52	0.8%	
	UNEP	107,000	0	0	0	0%	
Sub-total Outcome 2		1,611,889.00	190,164.00	156,260.00	346,424.52	21%	
	FAO	80,000.00	0	0	0	0%	
Outcome 3	UNDP	100,000.00	=	15,039.87	15,039.87	15%	
	UNEP	-	=	T.	T	=	
Sub-total Outcome 3		180,000.00	0	15,039.87	15,039.87	8%	
Outcome 4	FAO	175,000.00	0	0	0	0%	
	UNDP	75,000.00	=	2,829.30	2,829.30	4%	
	UNEP	=	=	-	-	=	

Sub-total Outcome 4		250,000.00	0	2,829.30	2,829.30	1%
Outcome 5	FAO	-		-	-	
	UNDP	139,020.00	=	116,544.46	116,544.46	84%
	UNEP	=		•	-	
Sub-total Outcome 5		139,020.00	0	116,544.46	116,544.46	84%
Total Programme cost per Agency (all outcomes):	FAO	1,666,889.00	190,164.00	144,425.00	334,589.00	20%
	UNDP	764,020.00	-	426,210.21	426,210.21	56%
	UNEP	107,000		0	0	0%
Total Indirect Support Cost (7%)	FAO	116,682.23	-	10,110.00	10,110.00	9%
	UNDP	53,481.40	-	19,700.95	19,700.95	37%
	UNEP	-	-	-	-	-
Grand Total (total Programme + indirect support cost)		2,601,072.63	190,164.00	600,446.16	790,610.21	30%

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

In the sections below provide a brief narrative describing progress on the implementation of activities, generation of outputs and attainment of outcomes, as well as the contingency actions planned to enhance 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 and the opportunities and challenges. Please provide examples if relevant (300 words).

Following a period of slower than expected implementation during 2012, implementation of activities under the NP has been enhanced over the course of 2013. This is a result of a stabilized political (and institutional) climate as well as the influence of a Programme Management Unit that became operational in January 2013.

The Annual Work Plan was amended to a more realistic planning schedule and was approved by the Programme Executive Board in March 2013. Immediately after, a comparative analysis based on field visits led to a first review of the draft Guidelines on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). Comments were obtained from FORCERT and the Department of Lands and Physical Planning, which were the basis for a first draft of the revised document.

Effective stakeholder engagement and awareness raising activities are integrated with the various outputs of the UN-REDD Programme and require input from international and national experts. Delays in recruiting these experts caused actual delays of programme implementation. However, based on the amended work plan, the specific terms of references were prepared and advertised in the course of May and June. Effective input is only expected after September.

From the shortlist for the Communications Officer a candidate was selected and offered a contract. Due to delays in the medical clearance the candidate was not able to take up responsibilities in this first half year. Based on the revised implementation schedule for 2013, Terms of References were prepared for National and International Consultants for the BSDS Study, the preparation of Social and Environmental Safeguards, and for preparing REDD+ Training material. Input is scheduled for Q3 and Q4 of 2013.

A Small Scale Funding Agreement (SSFA) for establishing the Safeguards Information System (SIS) was prepared by UNEP and sent to OCCD for signing in May 2013. Unfortunate delays saw signing of the document only in September 2013.

The work on land-use monitoring and assessment began in earnest in April 2013 with the hiring of two remote sensing experts and an IT manager as national operators of the monitoring system, marking the initial steps towards the establishment of a remote sensing and GIS laboratory with the OCCD and partial completion of annual activities under Outcome 2 of the programme. Training events in the second half of 2013 will build the technical capacity of the operators and a national land use/land use change assessment will begin before the end of the year. Activities under Output 2.3, on the National Forest Inventory, were also progressed, through a second technical workshop in February and the development of a first draft Master Document that details the approach and measurement protocols for PNG's new forest inventory.

Nevertheless, some challenges remain for 2013. Political turmoil during most of 2012 caused a severe delay in implementation of Programme activities. Establishment of the PMU office was deferred until OCCD would move into a new building. This is yet to happen. Progress on the implementation of FAO-led activities was impeded by the protracted hiring process of the Technical Specialist officer (selected in February 2013). The government clearance and visa granting process proved to be the major obstacle and was still in progress in early September.

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. (200 words)

As a result of aforementioned political turmoil during most of 2012, actual implementation of the Programme was severely impeded. Together with a slow start in 2011, most of the planned activities had not begun at the beginning of 2013, while the budget for these activities was still entirely available.

To allow full implementation of the activities as envisaged at the launch in 2011, resulting in building a stronger capacity in the government, and to ensure achieving the original objectives of the Programme, a request for a No-Cost Extension was made in May 2013.

3. Government Counterpart Information

This section is dedicated to the Government Counterpart to provide their assessment, as well as additional and complementary information to Sections 1-2 which are filled out by the participating UN organizations.

Comments by the Government Counterpart:

The first half of 2013 saw the beginning of real progress with the engagement of the National Programme Manager and recruitment of a National Communications officer thus progressing establishment of the PMU personnel and development of the work plan.

The PMU also progressed a number of activities including the FPIC Guidelines field visit to input to the review process.

On the FAO component progress on implementing the FAO_ PNGFA LOA on National Forest Inventory with the running of the NFI workshop and establishment of the NFI Technical Working Group.

FAO also progressed an LOA with OCCD in terms of finalizing the agreement.

UNEP and OCCD progressed the first SSFA on Safeguards by developing the agreement, however there were delays on OCCD's part in signing the agreement.

In general progress was markedly improved compared to 2012 and 2011.

Issues still exist concerning effective 'delivery-as-one'. Whilst the process of expenditure through UNDP is clear and OCCD is involved on a daily basis through approval of expenditures, concerns with decisions taken by FAO on funds outside of the LOAs, if any, remain as there is no real clarity there. With UNEP due to a small allocation it is easier to understand and follow.

Level of coordination between UNDP and UNEP have improved, however we still are concerned with the lack of integration and coordination with FAO.

4. 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 complementary information to Sections 1-3 which are filled out by the three participating UN organizations and the government counterpart. Please request a summary from existing stakeholder committees or platforms.

Comments by other stakeholders (non-government):

NGOs have been a key member of the UN-REDD and that has been reflected in our continuous participation in organized meetings. The UN-REDD Programme is also the catalyst for promoting effective stakeholder engagement. We believe that the UN-REDD programme is a key program that can set the pace for the government's other mitigation and adaptation measures and initiatives.

The NGOs noted the delay in the timely implementation of the program due to the National Elections that took almost 6 months and also the difficulties encountered in the process of recruitment of key staff. The UN Systems stringent recruitment process can be counterproductive in

a sense that while we tried our best to recruit the best, our work got delayed as we have experiences, and are wondering there is a way we could fast tract recruitment processes in the future. Since this was not the doing of the staff, NGOs supported the application for a non-cost extension as reflected in the minutes of the Policy Executive Board meeting.

In general, we noted the commitment by the OCCD staff and the National Forest Service. We were also desirous that other key departments like lands, and agriculture were also committed and fully engaged in the UNREDD programme.

Capacity building has been focused on the government officers and institutions. The question still remains as to what is there for such trainings made available to NGOs and other stakeholders. We need to look for ways to address this issue as well. At the same time we applaud the agreement signed between OCCD and FORCERT.

In general we are in agreement with the Semi Annual Report.