

UN-REDD
PROGRAMME



**National Programme
Annual Report
PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

UN-REDD Programme

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 31st Dec 2015)

No-cost extension requested³: Yes (approved to 31st Dec 2015)

Implementing partners⁴:

Office of Climate Change and Development (OCCD)

PNG Forest Authority (PNGFA)

Financial Summary (USD) ⁵			
UN Agency	Approved Programme Budget ⁶	Amount transferred ⁷	Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2013 ⁸
FAO	4,520,750.00	1,666,889.00	879,665.00
UNDP	1,707,634.00	817,501.00	758,013.33
UNEP	160,500.00	100,000	6,863,43
Programme Cost	6,388,884	2,584,390	1,637,678
Indirect Support cost (7%)			
Total			

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

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:			

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

Outcome 1: Readiness Management Arrangements in Place	
Progress towards outcome:	
<p>At the end of January the International Programme Manager arrived, implementing pending programme activities, immediately preparing the 2013 AWP and budget and organizing the PEB meeting. Based on the work plan, terms of reference for the international and national experts for the various activities for the programme components were prepared. Recruitment of the Communications officer started in Q2, recruited in Q3. Support was given to the preparation of the FCPF-RPP, while management arrangements with OCCD and PNGFA were strengthened. Activities of the three UN partners to the Programme targeting specific government support were reviewed and harmonized contributing to improved and more efficient approach towards National REDD+ Readiness. A no-cost programme extension was prepared and successfully obtained.</p>	
Expected Results (Output 1.1): Management arrangements between GoPNG and stakeholders strengthened	
Indicators:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthened institutional capacity at OCCD across relevant sectors, e.g. support in organizing and conducting annual NGO and whole-of-government workshops, support to TWGs, etc. 2. OCCD liaises with other REDD+ initiatives, in particular the PNG-Australia Forest Carbon Partnership and World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) 3. The National Programme implemented, incl. capacity building of key partners (OCCD, PNGFA)
Baseline:	<p><u>Baseline for all indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GoPNG liaises with donors through the Ministry of Forestry and Climate Change (FCC) - Initial REDD+ awareness and network building through workshops for NGO and whole-of-government conducted in 2010

Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
<p>Expected annual Target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of an inclusive national REDD+ “network” (Govt Depts, NGO’s, CSOs private and developmental partners) - REDD+ is integrated with concurrent other donor initiatives - At least three (2) PEB and PMC meetings held in 2nd - 4th quarters 	<p>Achievement of Annual Target</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the direct directive of OCCD a Technical Working Group on Social and Environmental Safeguards (TWG-SES) was established with core members of the REDD+ TWG and targeted stakeholders with interest and expertise. Three meetings were held in 2013, the first developing its actual Terms of Reference. The TWG-SES will guide the process of developing a full set of National Guidelines on SES. • Assistance to OCCD in preparing the World Bank FCPF-RPP document to be submitted for approval. A minimum overlap with the UN-REDD Programme was secured with emphasis on furthering the social and environmental safeguards work initiated under the UN-REDD Programme. • Third Programme Executive Board (PEB) Meeting held in Q1, in which the PMU was instructed to prepare request for a no-cost Programme extension. • OCCD was financially and technically supported in organising a Climate Change Open Day, targeting the public in Port Moresby, with special focus on school children. • In September a first comprehensive and integrated multi-stakeholder (NGO/whole of GoPNG, private sector) REDD+ Awareness Building Workshop with particular emphasis on REDD+ mechanism, FPIC and BSDS was held. The event was attended by up to 80 participants.
Expected Results (Output 1.2): National Programme implementation strengthened	
Indicators:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fully operational PMU 2. Efficient and effective support to implementing the National REDD+ Programme, incl. capacity building of key partners (OCCD, PNGFA) 3. Facilitate knowledge sharing with UN-REDD countries including other regional and international experiences
Baseline:	<p><u>Baseline for all indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is no National Programme for REDD+
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
<p>Expected annual Target:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Timely preparation, submission and approval of Quarterly Work Plans, Budgets, Reports, ToRs, etc. - Establishment of operational PMU office - PNG is internationally participating in REDD+ discussions and knowledge sharing activities 	<p>Achievement of Annual Target</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First, Second and Third Quarterly Work Plans (QWPs) were submitted and approved with some delay; Q4 Work Plan was not submitted and coincided with 2014 AWP • The International Programme Manager was recruited, and arrived in PNG and commenced his duties in January. • The position of Communications Officer was filled and the incumbent began work in the third quarter • The UN-REDD PNG Programme is part of the Intra-UNDP Pacific Climate Change Roundtable discussions • OCCD, PNGFA and the UN-REDD PNG Programme participated in the 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

Outcome 2: National MRV system developed	
Progress towards outcome:	
<p>The activities to develop a National Safeguard Information System (SIS), including National Guidelines were delayed and deferred to 2014. Programme extension until the end 2015 and the option to have an improved linkage to related FPIC and REDD+ awareness-raising activities justified this decision. Preparations to establish an effective team of international and national experts were successfully initiated.</p> <p>Following initial delays in the implementation of this outcome and delays in the recruitment process related to the issuance of a work visa, in October 2013 an FAO/UN-REDD Technical Advisor began work in-country to manage the day-to-day implementation of FAO-led activities. This has greatly enhanced the rate of implementation of activities under this outcome. It is expected that this rate of delivery can match the requisite level for completion of activities within the programme lifetime. Output 2.3 was the one most advanced during 2013; though internet connectivity and cost issues have proven to be important barriers to implementation effectiveness.</p>	
Expected Results (Output 2.1): National REDD+ Information System developed	
Indicators:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare a national set of social and environmental safeguards as part of the SIS 2. Design the system structure and functions 3. Develop a national database 4. Develop a WEB-GIS interface 5. Training of PNG operators
Baseline:	<p><u>Baseline for all indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No defined REDD+ safeguards - No REDD+ information system - No national database - No WEB-GIS interface - PNG operators are not trained
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target	Achievement of Annual Target
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National and Regional Stakeholder Consultation workshops have been held • Documentation on Social and Environmental Safeguards and REDD+ Strategy has been developed • Safeguard consultations held in five pilot areas • Three national operators have been hired • Training has been delivered to national consultants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of Reference outlining the responsibilities of, and outputs by one international and two national experts on social and environmental safeguards prepared. • Long listing and short listing of experts completed and National experts on social and environmental safeguards hired. • Gap analysis and field testing/stakeholder consultation workshops are deferred to 2014 and will be integrated with final work delivered on FPIC. • 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.

Expected Results (Output 2.2): Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS) set up	
Indicators:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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:	<p><u>Baseline for all indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fragmented use of GIS systems in GoPNG departments, often relying on outdated data - No methodological approach to support sub-national REDD+ implementation - No specific training provided on forest monitoring for REDD+ - No real time monitoring system
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target	Achievement of Annual Target
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land monitoring system laboratory has been established in OCCD • Training has been delivered on forest land monitoring and national land use assessment methodology using open-source software • NFMS Action Plan has been developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A preparatory land monitoring system laboratory was established in OCCD. • Consultation meetings were held by OCCD on PNG's NFMS Action Plan in September and October 2013 and document drafting was delegated and initiated by government officers.
Expected Results (Output 2.3): Multipurpose national forest carbon inventory developed	
Indicators:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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:	<p><u>Baseline for all indicators:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FIMS, FIPS and Persyst in use by PNGFA with limited data on carbon. - No national forest inventory in place. - No comprehensive assessment of institutional capacity needs. - Limited training provided on forest inventory.

Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NFI methodology design has been finalized First phase of NFI implementation (remote sensing based) has been initiated Capacity needs assessment has been completed Training programme on new NFI has been designed Species identification training has been delivered to botanists of NFI field crews Piloting of new NFI methodology in 2014 has been scheduled and adequate logistical operations put in place 	Achievement of Annual Target <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutional capacity needs were assessed by PNGFA in January 2013, with the support of FAO, prior to the second national methodological workshop in February. A second NFI methodological design workshop was delivered in February 2013 by PNGFA, with participation from FAO, US Forest Service and James Cook University, among others, resulting in the decision to adopt a two-phased methodology (the first phase being based on remote sensing; the second phase being based on ground inventory). Botanical/species identification training was delivered by PNG Forest Research Institute to 32 forestry officers in August 2013 in order to investigate and build up their levels of capacities, and identify the needs of further trainings. Estimated about 10 officers can identify at least about 80% of all plant species and more than 20 foresters throughout PNG are considered capable to identify more than 80% of tree species in their respective regions. Training on the first phase of the NFI methodology was delivered by FAO to 15 PNG government officers and university staff in September 2013. Follow up trainings were conducted in October and November with the software (Collect Earth) being upgraded and more number of officers start participating the assessment. In total, 36 people including government officers, recent university graduates and university staff were trained and became capable to conduct Collect Earth land use RS/GIS assessment and most of them participated to the first phase NFI assessment. The first phase of the NFI began implementation in October 2013 by PNGFA and the two national monitoring system FAO consultants. About 50% of assessment have been completed by end of 2013.
Expected Results (Output 2.4): National GHG Inventory for REDD+ established	
Indicators:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Develop institutional capacity Provide training on IPCC GHG inventory methodology
Baseline:	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited institutional capacity to carry out GHG inventory. Preparation of SNC underway with support from UNDP.
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target <p>No activities planned for 2013¹⁰.</p>	Achievement of Annual Target <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A
Expected Results (Output 2.5): Technical advice, capacity building and implementation support provided	
Indicators:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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.

¹⁰ Following the revised work plan and monitoring framework for the two-year no-cost extension of the Programme.

Baseline:	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 By the end of 2013, FAO/UN-REDD Technical Advisor in place and at least three technical backstopping missions carried out by FAO/UN-REDD regional and HQ staff.	Achievement of Annual Target <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FAO/UN-REDD Technical Advisor posted in-country in October 2013. • Backstopping missions by FAO/UN-REDD regional and HQ staff carried out in February, March and September.
Outcome 3: Establishment of REL/RL supported	
Progress towards outcome: Although no activities were planned for the implementation of this Outcome in the reporting period (following the revised work plan and monitoring framework for the two-year no-cost extension of the Programme), assessment of historical land use change was conducted as part of the first phase of NFI. These data would contribute to establishment of REL/RL.	
Expected Results (Output 3.1): Historical drivers of deforestation assessed	
Indicators:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess past drivers of deforestation 2. Test and refine MRV methodology (Outcome 2) using available historical emission data 3. Review methodologies for establishing REL and national reference emission levels 4. Compile data to support development of REL
Baseline:	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - Preliminary assessment of drivers of deforestation and GHG emissions - No review of methodologies available - No data available to support REL development
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of historical land use changes initiated 	Achievement of Annual Target <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring system laboratory established (purchase of equipment) and three national operators hired that will support the land use change assessment. • Assessment of historical land use changes were initiated through the first phase of NFI. Over 30 government officers and experts in other sectors were trained to carry out land-use change assessment using Collect Earth, which is Google Earth plugin developed in FAO for forest sampling analysis in synchronism with Google Earth Engine.

Expected Results (Output 3.2): National circumstances assessed	
Indicators:	1. Comprehensive assessment of national circumstances related to REDD+ completed
Baseline:	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - Existing land tenure and macro-/socioeconomic research and studies with limited assessment of impacts on REDD+ and emissions
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target No activities planned for 2013 ¹¹ .	Achievement of Annual Target • N/A
Outcome 4: Monitoring of abatement concepts supported	
Progress towards outcome No achievements made in 2013	
Expected Results (Output 4.1): Capacity for monitoring and implementation of priority abatement levers developed	
Indicators:	1. Develop and deliver comprehensive training (training of trainers) for PNGFA and pilot concessions 2. Support piloting of abatement levers, including pilot implementation and monitoring and verifying results
Baseline:	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - Priority abatement levers identified; only limited experience in implementation
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target • Land-use monitoring work has been initiated	Achievement of Annual Target • N/A

¹¹ Following the revised work plan and monitoring framework for the two-year no-cost extension of the Programme.

Outcome 5: Stakeholders engaged in PNG's REDD+ readiness process	
Progress towards outcome:	
<p>The draft National FPIC Guidelines have been updated with the assistance of the Stakeholder Engagement Specialist from the UNDP APRC in Bangkok. Field visits in 3 provinces provided substantial feedback to prepare a second updated draft. This second draft was successfully validated through an Expert Workshop in Port Moresby, resulting a final draft version. This version was ready at the end of 2013 and will be field-tested in conjunction with SES.</p> <p>The REDD+ Awareness & Training activity was launched and an International Expert prepared an updated version of the existing Training Manual. Comments have been condensed in a final version at the end of 2013. In 2014 this will be further developed under auspices of OCCD.</p>	
Expected Results (Output 5.1): Framework for stakeholder engagement processes in place	
Indicators:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and agree on guidelines for stakeholder engagement including the formal agreements for technical, advisory and public consultation levels 2. 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:	<u>Baseline for all indicators:</u> - Consultation Workplan for 2011; 4 provinces consulted in 2010 -
Progress against target (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
Expected annual Target:	Achievement of Annual Target
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third draft National FPIC Guidelines were prepared, reflecting inputs of stakeholders at the local and national levels. • Increased awareness with related interest in REDD+ and its projected outcome (in time and result), and renewed or instilled commitment of the various stakeholders to support REDD+ Readiness in PNG. • Studies prepared on PES by FORCERT (a Papua New Guinean based, not for profit company) have been discussed with OCCD and will serve as example for the Benefit Distribution Sharing System to be developed under UN-REDD. • A revised REDD+ Training Manual to train the trainers and generate overall REDD+ awareness at the different levels has been prepared and field-tested in Manus Province. The updated version was completed in December 2013, and will be further improved by OCCD and consecutively further validated through 4 remaining provincial workshops under UN-REDD. Gradually the training method using the manual will be integrated in the provincial consultation work OCCD is undertaking.

1.3 Financial Information

PROGRAMME OUTCOME	UN ORGANISATION	IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS			
		Amount Transferred	Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2013		
		(A)	Commitments	Disbursements	Total Expenditures
			(B)	(C)	(D) B+C
Outcome 1. Readiness management arrangements in place	FAO	0	0	0	-
	UNDP	250,000.00	0	516,698.90	516,698.90
	UNEP	0	0	0	-
Sub-total		250,000.00	-	516,698.90	516,698.90
Outcome 2. National MRV system developed	FAO	1,411,889.00	0	822,117.20	822,117.20
	UNDP	200,000.00	0	4,938.05	4,938.05
	UNEP	100,000	93,136.57	6,863.43	100,000.00
Sub-total		1,711,889.00	93,136.57	833,918.68	927,055.25
Outcome 3. Establishment of REL/RL supported	FAO	80,000	0	0	-
	UNDP	100,000.00	0	15,039.87	15,039.87
	UNEP	0	0	0	-
Sub-total		180,000.00	-	15,039.87	15,039.87
Outcome 4. Monitoring of abatement concepts supported	FAO	175,000.00	-	-	-
	UNDP	75,000.00	-	2,829.30	2,829.30
	UNEP	-	-	-	-
Sub-total		250,000.00	-	2,829.30	2,829.30
Outcome 5. Stakeholders engaged in PNG's REDD+ readiness process	FAO	-	-	-	-
	UNDP	139,020.00	-	168,978.85	168,978.85
	UNEP	-	-	-	-
Sub-total		139,020.00	-	168,978.85	168,978.85
Indirect support cost	FAO	116,682.23	-	57,548.20	57,548.20
	UNDP	53,481.40	-	49,593.95	49,593.95
	UNEP	7,000.00	6,519.56	480.44	7,000.00
Sub-total Indirect support cost		177,163.63	6,519.56	107,622.59	114,142.15

1.3.1 Co-financing

Sources of co-financing ¹²	Name of co-financer	Type of co-financing ¹³	Amount (US\$)
Other multi-lateral agency	PNG UN Country Fund	cash	500,000.00 (inclusive of 7% service costs)

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

Name of financer	Description	Amount (US\$)
EU	Implementation of PNG's NFI (to be implemented by FAO)	10,000,000

2. National Programme Progress

2.1 Narrative on Progress, Difficulties and Contingency Measures

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.

Following a slow start to implementation owing to political instability and delays in the hiring of staff, the implementation of activities accelerated markedly in 2013. Due to these delays, the Programme Executive Board (PEB) requested a two-year extension until end-2015.

In addition to the arrival of the International Programme Manager in January, the PMU became further effective with the recruitment of the Communications Officer. The PMU found office space within the old building of OCCD awaiting the move to a new building. However, investments in office furniture, equipment and security measures were deferred to the actual time of moving, yet to happen. Procurement of vehicles were delayed by a (then) non-presence of FAO in the country and moving from local to international procurement.

The Programme made a start with redrafting the existing National Guidelines on Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). This document will now be presented to the public for final comments (in 2014). The Programme also advanced in REDD+ Awareness and Training. A training document was further developed and training of trainers took place at regional and local levels.

The Programme also recruited 2 National Experts for the study on Social and Environmental Safeguards, employed by the National Research Institute (NRI). Through a direct contract between OCCD and NRI old and loose ties between these organisations are rekindled and strengthened. The International SES Expert was identified but actual contracting was deferred to January 2014. Budget for the SES activity will become available through a Small Scale Funding Agreement (SSFA) between UNEP and OCCD, which was signed in August 2013. By the end of 2013, UNEP had not received a request for the first payment.

The UN-REDD Programme has started cooperation with parallel and/or related external initiatives related to REDD+. With the USAID/LEAF initiative the Programme will review the current Forestry Act and will integrate

¹² 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.

¹³ Indicate if co-financing is in-kind or cash.

REDD+ aspects (i.e. safeguards) in this document. Furthermore, UNDP (through UN-REDD) has agreed to become the Delivery Partner for the FCPF-RPP initiative of the World Bank. As MRV is well-taken care of under UN-REDD, particular focus is on furthering social and environmental safeguards. Signing the actual agreement between OCCD and UNDP is awaiting final acceptance of a balanced budget for all activities by all parties.

Of FAO/UN-REDD's activities under the National Programme, it was work on developing and implementing PNG's national forest inventory (NFI) that was most advanced in 2013, with the delivery of a methodological workshop in February, delivery of botanical training and initiation of the first (remote-sensing based) phase of implementation. Implementation of the project activities relating to PNG's REDD+ information system, satellite land monitoring system (SLMS) and national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory remain limited. One reason for this was the delay in the initiation of the project, which led to project-trained staff taking up positions outside of the project. Nevertheless, a further important activity initiated in 2013 was the development of PNG's National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) Action Plan document, which will set out all of the necessary actions the country needs to take to operationalise its NFMS for REDD+ implementation. A working group was formed, coordinated by OCCD, training was provided by FAO and drafting was initiated. Activities on the Action Plan slowed towards the end of the year due to participation of key government officers in the UNFCCC negotiations and the holiday season.

After two rounds of recruitment, an in-country FAO/UN-REDD Technical Adviser was hired for the project and posted in Port Moresby in October 2013. An FAO/UN-REDD in-country presence immediately had a positive effect on the implementation of activities as well as regular communication with and feedback from government counterparts.

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, these can include the establishment of REDD+ institutions expected to outlive the programme, regulations, or capacities that will remain in place after the completion of the programme. (250 words)

In producing the various National Guidelines (FPIC and SES) and the REDD+ Training Manual, care is taken to have OCCD take full ownership of the process. Staff is directly involved and subsequently trained in preparing the document, incorporating stakeholder feedback and ultimately producing a GoPNG document.

With respect to the National Guidelines on Safeguards, it was deliberately chosen to have a contract signed between OCCD and NRI, to get local involvement, direct ownership of the process by different Papuan New Guinea parties and strengthen ties between 2 national institutes operating in (partially) the same field.

Sustainability of FAO-led activities have been ensured through 1) providing follow-up training through remote means, to reinforce training and ensure methods are followed appropriately; 2) coordinating the hiring of two monitoring system FAO consultants closely with the government, such that they are based in the offices of OCCD and their positions have been earmarked for government funding following the ending of the programme; and 3) customization of the land-use assessment software to national circumstances, including country-specific forest sub-categories and parameters of use to PNG stakeholders.

One remarkable example of the strong ownership of the programme was shown at the first phase (remote sensing) of NFI assessment. Apart from the software development and amendment, all the activities were implemented by PNGFA and even significant development and improvement of the assessment such as including Bing Map, creation and application of google earth compatible files of logging concession, vegetation map and RapidEye images were all suggested and implemented by PNGFA. It makes the assessment very reliable and robust. This also indicates that remote sensing assessment software (Collect Earth) developed by FAO was very user friendly and enhanced participation of PNG counterparts.

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
- Absence of technical capacities and expertise nationally
- Difficulty to draw international technical capacities and expertise
- 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* difficulties¹⁴ the National Programme is facing in relation to the implementation of the activities outlined in the National Programme Document. (200 words)

Implementation of FAO-led activities were slowed considerably through the delayed hiring and posting process for the Technical Advisor, including undergoing two rounds of recruitment and a protracted visa application and granting process.

A further coordination challenge faced by the implementers of this project has been coordination between two government agencies (PNGFA and OCCD). In the case of FAO-led activities, this has been overcome by the Technical Advisor splitting his time between the offices of the two agencies and convening regular meetings to bring counterparts together to discuss implementation. Given the busy work schedules and high demands on government staff, this has been a critical gap to bridge.

The cooperation and sharing of information on REDD+ activities, as well as agreeing on the role of responsibilities of each, can be improved between the two implementing government parties, OCCD and PNGFA. This is related to the relatively new approach targeting overall REDD+ Readiness and opening-up traditional fields of work. A better explanation of roles, accountability and possible overlap of responsibilities will progress and will better assist the Programme. However, a trend in improvement and understanding of mentioned bottlenecks is definitely discernible.

2.1.5 If boxes are checked under 2.1.3, please briefly describe any current *external* difficulties¹⁵ (not caused by the National Programme) that delay or impede the quality of implementation. (200 words)

Understaffing and internal reorganisation process within OCCD to a certain extent slowed efficient guidance and management from the government. Implementation of operational activities, including the procurement of project vehicles, has been slow due to the inherent challenges in shipping equipment to PNG.

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)

In late 2013, FAO posted a permanent staff member in Port Moresby, as a precursor to the establishment of a country office, in due course. The presence of this officer in-country has already borne fruits in terms of facilitating procurement processes and providing operational support to the FAO/UN-REDD Technical Advisor.

2.2 Inter-Agency Coordination

The aim of the questions below is to collect relevant information on how the National Programme is

¹⁴ Difficulties confronted by the team directly involved in the implementation of the National Programme

¹⁵ Difficulties confronted by the team caused by factors outside of the National Programme

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 and what are the measures to address this (150 words):

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 (100 words):

No particular mechanisms have been put into place to promote “Delivering as One”. Through the joint Annual Work Plan the activities of the three UN Agencies are coordinated and results integrated. The UN-REDD Programme provides differentiated support to the two national implementing (government) partners (with a particular emphasis on technical support to PNGFA), but ensures exchange of information at the PMU level, joint-meetings with government officials and through workshops and technical training sessions to which staff of all UN agencies are invited.

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:

2.3 Ownership¹⁶ and Development Effectiveness

2.3.1 Are the national implementing partners and UN-REDD focal points involved in the planning, budgeting and delivery of the National Programme?

No Some Yes

Please explain what measures are in place to ensure national ownership:

- Sr. Management of national implementing partners are timely informed, and asked to provide input and comments on Programme work plans, activities and budgets
- Staff of the national implementing partners are involved in the preparation of guidelines, consultation workshops, evaluation of results, taking the lead of further implementing activities with direct support of the UN-REDD Programme
- Senior GoPNG staff (including at Minister level) are invited to National and Regional Workshops and Presentations, having them to make the Opening Address, Closing remarks, inviting them to presentations and discussions
- Guidelines and Manuals are produced under the responsibility of the national implementing partners, ensuring the GoPNG logos are clearly visible, having the MD/ED’s prepare a foreword or introduction, etc.
- Regular updates (in writing and verbally) to Sr. Management of OCCD and PNGFA
- There is no UN-REDD website in PNG, but is (or is in preparation to be) part of the OCCD website on REDD+ and Climate Change

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 applied in the National Programme process?

No Partially Fully

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

¹⁶ Ownership refers to countries exercising effective leadership over their REDD+ policies and strategies, and co-ordination of actions.

The National FPIC Guidelines fully take into account the (process of) engagement of local stakeholders (including traditional forest-dependent communities and indigenous peoples) through a detailed and step-wise consultation and information dissemination process, and complete with elaborate grievance mechanism. The Guidelines on Social and Environmental Safeguards will do the same, building on FPIC recommendations and approach, and furthering detail of involvement of, and accountability to, said communities.

Finally, and using guidelines and findings of both aforementioned initiatives under the UN-REDD Programme, the Benefit Sharing and Distribution System (BSDS) will differentiate its approach to, and maintain transparency of, proposed benefit distribution while differentiating between the different levels of stakeholders (national, regional, provincial and local).

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:

Involvement of non-government stakeholders is mostly limited to being informed and providing feedback on policies and decisions. Stakeholders are informed by the national implementing partners of initiatives and planned activities, but actual influence on decision-making is limited to the opportunity of giving feedback and comments on documents (including policies and acts) and proposed activities. Technical Working Group meetings provide the stakeholders the opportunity to be directly involved in discussions and give input to service provision.

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 accountability¹⁷ of the National Programme. Please provide some examples.

Because of some misconceptions on responsibilities and diversification of tasks between the players in the field of REDD+ in PNG, ownership sometimes is limited to a review on how the Programme inter-changes with each own set of activities and field of interest, limiting the scope for fruitful interactions and cooperation, sometimes having adverse impacts. Good communication and respect of the various responsibilities and niches in which to operate of each will positively forward REDD+ Readiness process. Positive signs in this direction are clearly visible and accountability for one’s role and responsibilities is gaining ground.

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 focal personnel with increased capacities on MRV and monitoring:

- Women Total No 5
- Men Total No 40

Comments:

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

- Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

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

¹⁷ 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.

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

Comments:

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:

Not yet, but this matter will be given consideration, cross-linking it with other UNDP activities in this field and establishing a better relationship with e.g. Transparency International, PNG Office.

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.

Men Total No.

Comments:

Unknown at this moment; the term "Indigenous Peoples" is particularly difficult to interpret in the context of PNG.

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

Total No. 12

Comments – indicate critical issues that have come out of these processes:

This includes four regional and five Provincial consultation and validation workshops for SES, FPIC and REDD+ Awareness and Training, combined. Furthermore, a set of National Workshops addressing the integrated set of activities are planned. Some have taken place in 2013, however, most will occur in 2014.

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: Under way, to be established in 2014

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: Draft National FPIC Guidelines are in the final stage, to be validated and finalised in 2014

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

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

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

Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

3.3.12 REDD+ benefit distribution system contributes to inclusive development¹⁸, with specific reference to pro-poor¹⁹ policies and gender mainstreaming²⁰:
 Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

3.3.13 Country adopting multiple benefit decision tool kit:
 Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

3.3.14 National or sub-national development strategies incorporate REDD+ based investments as means of transformation of relevant sectors²¹:
 Yes Partially No Not applicable at this stage

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

4. Key lessons

In the context of promoting REDD+, advertising the merits and the benefits to the stakeholders, including the indigenous peoples, it has become most apparent to tell the right, and foremost consistent story. All information should build on the same source of information, giving the right perspective. Too often expectations are rising beyond reasonable repair. Managing expectations is important, but sometimes very hard. Communication, using the same means and conveying the same and consistent message is of utmost importance for a successful REDD+ process in PNG.

As described in Section 2.1.2 above, the first phase (remote sensing assessment) of NFI was fully implemented by PNGFA with assistance from the programme. Critical inputs to improve the accuracy and reliability of the assessment were made by PNGFA. PNGFA has the capacity to continue to generate national forest activity data (land use assessment). A further lesson is the appropriateness of the software developed by FAO under the Open Foris Initiative for developing countries to monitor their forests. Continuous efforts need to be put into developing and improving appropriate and internationally standardized monitoring tools and methodologies.

¹⁸ 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.

¹⁹ 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.

²⁰ 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.

²¹ Relevant sectors denote those that are related to forests and land use, e.g. including energy, agriculture, mining, transport and land use planning.

5. Government Counterpart Information

Comments by the Government Counterpart:

After 2 years since inception, this year saw great progress compared to the previous. With the Programme Manager fully onboard there was significant progress on Components 1 and 4 as outlined in detail in preceding sections. The FAO –led components also progressed well as reported. Some challenges which OCCD felt surrounding irregular communication and interaction with FAO were addressed with the recruitment of the Technical Advisor.

Overall coordination collaboration was improved between the three UN agencies and with the national implementing partners of OCCD and PNGFA.

6. Other stakeholders (non-government) Information

Comments by other stakeholders (non-government):

The report correctly reflects the status (work plan, budget and expenditure, and achievements) of UN-REDD program for PNG.

However some observations are highlighted here:

1. This program is time bound to deliver on the objectives. We are concerned at the slow progress of the program. We have had one extension already. Let's ensure we don't have another extension.
2. Key stake holders including NGOs are concerned that some of the key positions in OCCD were filled by inexperienced people under the recent restructuring of the organization. This will cause further delay the progress, hence allowing for more engagement of expat technical advisors which we see will absorb program costs hence poor attainment of deliverables.
3. Key outputs such as having RL/REL, FPIC manual etc must be accomplished and driven by OCCD.

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