

**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
PAPUA NEW GUINEA COUNTRY OFFICE**



MISSION REPORT SUMMARY

Date: 1st November, 2013

Name Gwen Maru – Programme Analyst	Unit Energy & Environment	Tel No. +675 321 2877	Travel Authorization #s: Yes
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Approved Mission Itinerary: Port Moresby-Lae-Wewak-Port Moresby	List of Annexes: N/A
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(From) Inclusive Travel Dates (To) 22-26 October, 2013	Key counterpart (s) in each location:
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<p>Mission Purpose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represent UNDP Resident Representative at the handover of assets to UNDP/AF/OCCD Climate Change Adaptation Project’s two pilot provinces being East Sepik and Morobe; • Represent UNDP Resident Representative at the swearing-in of the East Sepik Provincial Climate Change Committee • Review progress of work since March 2013 Project Steering Committee Meeting. 	<p>Morobe Province – Provincial Administrator and Deputy Provincial Administrator, MPG Environment Office and members of Morobe Provincial Climate Change Committee</p> <p>East Sepik Province - Provincial Administrator and Deputy Provincial Administrator, Planning Division Staff, Deputy Governor, members of the East Sepik Provincial Climate Change Committee</p>
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Brief Background and Summary of Mission Findings:

Background:
East Sepik and Morobe Provinces are two out of the five selected pilot provinces under the UNDP/AF/OCCD climate change adaptation project entitled ‘*Enhancing Adaptive Capacity of Communities to Climate Change related Floods in the North and Islands Region of PNG*’ to establish Provincial Climate Change Committees also referred as Provincial Implementation Committees outlined in the project document as part of the project management arrangements. The PCCCs’ main objective is to oversee, coordinate and assist implementation of the climate change initiatives in the provinces. This is aligned to the Ministerial decision to establish PCCCs in all provinces in PNG. To facilitate the implementation at the provincial level, the project provided few assets and stationery for the provincial focal points who currently serve as the Provincial Climate Change Coordinators. Participation at the swearing-in and handover of project items was jointly undertaken by OCCD and UNDP.

Summary of Mission:
The Morobe Provincial Climate Change Committee (MPCCC) was formerly established with the swearing-in of members in July 2013. The MPCCC is made of representatives from public and private sectors including academic and research institutions as well as civil society organizations. During the handover of assets ceremony, Morobe’s Acting Provincial Administrator acknowledged the continued interest and support provided by the OCCD with its partners and stated that there has not been any significant progress at the provincial level since the establishment of the PCCC and training of key government officials. The Administrator reiterated the importance of mainstreaming gender, youth and children issues in decision-making processes to implement climate change adaptation measures. MPCCC members highlighted that there are many climate change initiatives in the province however there was a general consensus that these interventions are not well coordinated through the provincial administration.

The East Sepik Provincial Climate Change Committee (ESPCCC) swearing-in on 24th October, 2013 officiated by the Deputy Governor marked its formal establishment. This committee is comprised of representatives from government agencies and women’s groups who have some or no experience in implementing climate change initiatives. The Acting Provincial Administrator noted the province’s vulnerability to climate change and pointed out that not all stakeholders in government agencies, private sectors, civil society organizations and local communities are fully aware of the long-term implications if not managed well. One of immediate action that the Administrator proposed was to improve awareness and educational activities on climate change in the province. The Administrator stressed the importance of capacity building of key provincial government agencies in order to be equipped with the necessary knowledge and tools to support the operation of ESPCCC to coordinate implementation of climate change initiatives in the province.

UNDP/OCCD noted leadership and commitment shown by the two provinces as demonstrated in the establishment of their respective Provincial Climate Change Committees (PCCCs) out of the five pilot provinces. The provinces were reminded of the national government’s commitment through the OCCD and its partners to support provinces to address climate change issues. OCCD concluded in assuring provinces of more opportunities other than on climate change adaptation for further collaboration through the PCCCs.

Mission Findings:
The findings include:

- There has been no progress since the inception workshop in 2012 followed by the March 2013 project steering committee meeting;

- Lack of awareness as well as limited knowledge and skills sets available in provinces to address climate change impacts particularly for adaptation measures.
- There is weak capacity that does not allow sectors to capture programming work beyond their organizational corporate mandates therefore action on climate change becomes a low priority.
- Few or no opportunities to share science based analysis on climate change knowledge across the different agencies/sectors resulting in poor data sharing to establish baselines for decision-making in planning, budgeting and implementation of development interventions.

Follow-up actions:

Distribution: (Copies to)

UNDP/OCCD agreed that there are opportunities for the provinces under the AF support for:

Advocacy/Awareness/Education: Provincial focal points to liaise closely with OCCD and Project Management Unit to expedite awareness and advocacy activities;

Capacity Development: Facilitate capacity building opportunities for provinces.

Mainstream Climate Change Adaptation: Identify options for mainstreaming interventions the across sectors in provinces.

Coordination: Guidance to Provincial Focal Points to ensure PCCCs function effectively.

ESP and Morobe provinces are encouraged to align the AF support to their provincial climate change plans and initiatives for presentation to the Project Steering Committee at the December meeting for further discussions, guidance and approval to utilise the available resources for implementation in 2014.

- OCCD Executive Director and Adaptation Division
- Morobe Provincial Climate Change Committee
- ESP Provincial Climate Change Committee
- UNDP Programme Team