



TREE KANGAROO CONSERVATION PROGRAM - PNG

5th Street Professionals Building

PO Box 360, Lae 411, Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea

PNG Office: +675 472 7226 | PNG Fax: +675 472 7856

mikal.nolan@treekangaroo.org

www.zoo.org/treekangaroo

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Hemansu-Roy Trivedy
UNDP Resident Representative
UN House, Deloitte Tower, Level 14
Douglas Street
Port Moresby, NCD
Papua New Guinea

Dear Mr. Trivedy;

Co-Financing for GEF-5 Project for Papua New Guinea “Strengthening the Management Effectiveness of the National System of Protected Areas”

The YUS Conservation Area (YUS CA) is situated on the Huon Peninsula, in the north-east corner of Papua New Guinea. The YUS Landscape covers an area of 158,271 hectares, which encapsulates the human and environmental elements, rising from the reefs of Bismarck Sea to altitudes exceeding 4,000 meters thus supporting an incredible biodiversity as well as a deep cultural diversity. . Encompassed within the boundaries of YUS landscape are 78,729 hectares of nationally gazette core-protected area which have voluntarily been pledged by local landowners for indefinite protection of the wildlife and habitat. This has significant importance as nearly all of the land in YUS, and approximately 97% of land nationally, is locally owned by clan groups. Given this it is vital that local people must be the drivers of any sustainable conservation effort.

The Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program – PNG (TKCP-PNG) is a registered NGO in Papua New Guinea supporting conservation and community livelihood development. TKCP-PNG strives to harmonize the co-existence of human activity and habitat protection for endemic and endangered wildlife within the YUS CA. As the YUS CA represents the first, and currently only, nationally recognized conservation area in PNG since the establishment of the Conservation Areas Act of 1978, a large learning curve has ensued over the years as TKCP-PNG has endeavoured to promote a collaborative and holistic program, forging long term partnerships with local landowners, PNG government, science and research institutions, civil society, and the public sector to ensure sustainable management and continued protection of wildlife and ecosystems.

The YUS CA is the first and only protected area of its type in PNG – landscape scale, wholly owned by local people, with the support of the PNG Government for long-term protection, and pushing boundaries in many ways, including: community-based ecological monitoring; sustainable financing through a non-sinking conservation endowment; landscape scale management and planning; scientific research and international collaboration; and community development. TKCP-PNG welcomes the opportunity to be a Responsible Partner for implementation of the GEF-5 funded project “Strengthening the Management Effectiveness of the National System of Protected Areas”.

Funding from this program and collaboration with its stakeholders will undoubtedly prove valuable in addressing gaps and building upon successes to ensure longevity of YUS CA.

Under the agreement of co-financing, TKCP-PNG identifies the following resources for investment into the project for its duration:

- Grants and other external funding sources \$500,000
- In-kind: Technical assistance for livelihoods, community development, ecological monitoring, and organizational strengthening \$50,000
- In-kind: Use of land and maintenance for YUS field offices (4), workshop venues, community space, coffee/cocoa storage \$160,000
- In-kind: Scientific research and knowledge to inform management and decision making for YUS CA \$40,000

Total co-financing from TKCP-PNG for the 5-year duration of this project is \$750,000.

Sincerely,



Mikal Eversole Nolan
TKCP-PNG Program Manager