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Annual Progress Report to the FCPF for Papua New Guinea

for the period 1 January –
31 December 2015

United Nations Development
Programme


Approved by:

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UNDP

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Date

Date


18/5/2016

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, UNDP offers global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.

The Participants Committee (PC) at its ninth meeting in June 2011 approved UNDP to serve as Delivery Partner under the Readiness Fund. The Participants Committee approved the UNDP as the Delivery Partner under the FCPF for Cambodia, Central African Republic, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Papua New Guinea, and Suriname. Transfer Agreements were signed between the World Bank, acting as the Trustee of the FCPF, and the UNDP on August 9, 2012.

To ensure a uniform set of safeguard standards, the Common Approach to Environmental and Social Safeguards for Multiple Delivery Partners was also approved at the ninth FCPF PC meeting. The Common Approach is designed to provide the World Bank and the Multiple Delivery Partners with a common platform for risk management and quality assurance in the REDD+ Readiness Preparation process which is substantially equivalent to the World Bank's applicable policies and procedures on environmental and social safeguards, disclosure of information, and grievance and accountability mechanisms.

The report has been prepared by UNDP, based on materials prepared by the Papua New Guinea FCPF Programme Management Unit. It solely reflects the perspectives of UNDP as a Delivery Partner.

Summary

Country:	Papua New Guinea
Project Title:	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility REDD+ Readiness Project
Implementing Partners:	Climate Change and Development Authority (former Office of Climate Change and Development)
Responsible Parties:	PNG Forest Authority
Implementation Modality:	National Implementation Modality (NIM)

Project Timeline			
FCPF PC Resolution Approving R-PP	PC/14/2013/4	Transfer of Funds to Country Office	USD 3,800,000 12 May 2015
Preparatory Grant	-	Inception Phase	Official launch: March 2015 First PEB Meeting: 04 June 2015 PMU staffed: August 2015 (Recruitment of Project Manager and Start-up Advisor)
Project Appraisal Committee	28 October 2014	Mid-term Review	
Project Signature	18 March 2015	No-Cost Extension:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Duration of Project	March 2015 – March 2018 (48 months)	New End Date:	

2015 Results

1. Achievements

The Annual Progress Report provides an overview of the performed activities and the results achieved within the FCPF REDD+ Readiness Project in Papua New Guinea (PNG) since its launch in March 2015. The project aims to contribute to the development of PNG's capacity to design a sound national REDD+ strategy, develop and sustain national readiness management arrangements, develop the REDD+ implementation framework, and assess potential social and environmental impacts from REDD+ so that, by 2018, PNG is ready to implement policies and measures to reduce emissions enhance removals of GHGs from its forests under the UNFCCC REDD+ mechanism.

The official launch of the FCPF REDD+ Readiness project was marked by an Inception Workshop held on March 25 2015. The workshop reviewed the project strategy and to update it to reflect national developments since its conception. It also endorsed the first project annual work plan and budget (Please see Annex 2 Minutes of the Inception Workshop). The following outcomes were achieved:

- Improved understanding and agreement of project objectives, results framework, management and oversight arrangements;
- Agreement on the project implementation modalities including for demonstration activities
- Agreement on the composition of the Project Executive Board; and
- Consensus reached on the multiyear work plan and budget.

Since the inception workshop the project has focused on establishing a staff team and project management unit (PMU) as well as recruiting consultants to undertake targeted assignments in partnership with government agencies. The results from these assignments and the ongoing work of the PMU will be fed into work during 2016 and move towards the development of the national REDD+ strategy.

The project has also focused on capacity building of key stakeholders to ensure they can effectively contribute to the development of the National REDD+ Strategy and facilitate inter-agency cooperation on REDD+. The first training was held in Alotau, Milne Bay province with participation of 26 representatives from different governmental institutions, civil society and private sector. The second training was held in Madang, Madang province with participation of 29 stakeholders, of which about 40% of the participants had attended the Alotau training. The Madang training covered key differences between REDD+ in the voluntary market and under the UNFCCC, elements of the Warsaw REDD+ framework, and the nature of a REDD+ Strategy / Action Plan and how these link with the existing structures and capacity within PNG. Overall participants identified both events as being very useful with over 84% scoring it 5 out of 5 for value. The combination of presentations and group exercises were also seen to provide a good basis for learning.

The project has also provided ongoing technical advice and support to the OCCD in the development of the Climate Change Management Act which was approved by the Government in November 2015.

a. Progress on how the project activities are being coordinated with other REDD+ related initiatives, included those funded by others.

The FCPF REDD+ Readiness Project builds upon the results of UN-REDD National Programme (NP) by aiming to support the Government of PNG to further progress its efforts towards REDD+ readiness. The UN-REDD NP consisted of five outcomes: Readiness Management Arrangements in Place; National MRV system developed; Establishment of REL/RL supported; Monitoring of abatement concepts supported; and Stakeholders engaged in PNG's REDD+ readiness process. The NP was implemented jointly with the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and UNEP in close conjunction with CCDA and PNG FA. The UNDP component of the UN-REDD NP was completed at the end of 2015. The NP started in 2011 with an anticipated duration of three years. However, due to delays in the first two years, such as political unrest, the effective implementation period was reduced to one year. Thus, the project was extended until the end of 2015. Nevertheless, based on remaining work left, the FAO component has requested, and obtained, approval for extension until the end of 2016. The UNEP component of the NP is still considering if it will initiate some relevant work regarding spatial mapping of environmental safeguards in PNG.

In terms of coordinating with other REDD+ related initiatives in the country, the FCPF project continues collaboration with the JICA funded project "Capacity Development for Operationalization of PNG Forest Resource Information Management System (NFRIMS)", directed to reinvigorate the capacity of PNGFA to update and manage forest coverage and stocks data on GIS, establish an efficient forest monitoring system, improve inter-agency coordination and technical capacities for REDD+ reporting, and develop appropriate training programs.

Another ongoing REDD+ initiative which the project has been actively collaborating with is the National Forest Inventory (NFI) project funded by EU to support the PNGFA to implement a continuous and multipurpose NFI as part of a National Forest Monitoring System that will fulfil the UNFCCC Cancun and Copenhagen decisions. The project is being implemented by FAO in close conjunction with PNGFA and PNG University of Technology (UNITECH). It is implemented in the context of the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA), supported by the European Commission and in the context of FAO-led activities under Papua New Guinea's National UN-REDD Programme. The project will contribute to the GCCA programme's climate mitigation policy and in particular to the REDD+ component.

Moreover, the FCPF Project provided support to the Technical Working Group (TWG) on REDD+, comprised of different representatives from the relevant government departments, civil society and private sector in PNG. The REDD+ TWG is led by CCDA and was held on August 11, 2015 in order to inform REDD+ TWG members of the Draft National REDD+ Policy and recently endorsed Climate Change Management Act by PNG Parliament. During the meeting, participants were also able to discuss the FCPF project and importance of the working group in technical discussions of REDD+ related initiatives.

In partnership with the UN-REDD Programme, a national REDD+ lessons learned workshop was conducted from the 4-5 of November 2015 to take stock of the status of REDD+ readiness in PNG against the overall international framework under which REDD+ is operating, identify the achievements to date in PNG, and collectively determine the next steps that will be undertaken. Lessons learned would feed into next steps that the country will take towards REDD+ implementation. The workshop was organized around different thematic sessions: presentations provided an update on the progress made in PNG in relation to international developments on REDD+ and in relation to the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ (WFR). Progress was reported and critical questions were raised as to whether the approach taken was appropriate, challenges faced and areas for improvement. These questions fed into discussions during the break out groups, and ultimately into the wider reviewing of the REDD+ readiness process in PNG, and the outlining of next steps. The key lessons

that came out of this workshop were structured in the context of the four REDD+ design elements reiterated under the WFR.

b. Any important changes in the technical design or approach related to the project activities

While reviewing the project baseline and indicators, it was found that the objective-based indicator was about submitting all required documents under the WFR which includes two other REDD+ design elements such as National Forest Monitoring System and Forest Reference Emissions Level. Since the development of these two components is not being supported by FCPF, the main focus of the FCPF REDD+ Readiness Project will be directed towards the National REDD+ Strategy and Safeguards and Safeguards Information System (SIS). These changes were reflected in Inception Report.

2. In Focus

Although 2015 was an inception phase for the FCPF project, the following were achieved:

Outcome 1 - Capacities exist for effective and efficient management of REDD+, including full and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders:

- Terms of Reference for National REDD+ Steering Committee were drafted in August 2015 following discussion with key government bodies. As yet they remain in draft form awaiting further feedback from government partners and the establishment of the CCDA Executive Board, which is mandated to establish such a committee.
- Two-day capacity building training events were conducted in Milne Bay and Madang Provinces. The first training event was held on the 24th-25th June 2015, in Alotau, Milne Bay Province. 26 participants attended the training representing different government departments (both from national and provincial level), the private sector and NGOs. Feedback from the participants revealed a need for follow-up training to provide stakeholders with a better understanding of REDD+ and the processes required for full implementation leading up to results based payments.
- A similar training was held from 9th-10th November 2015, in Madang. The training targeted the same participants from previous training held in Alotau to build on the REDD+ knowledge base. 29 participants attended, of which about 40% of the participants previously took part in Alotau training.
- The primary objectives of the two (2) training events conducted were to produce a pool of REDD+ experts in the country to take the leading role in the development and implementation of REDD+ in PNG. The events covered the core elements of REDD+ and aimed at providing a strong basis for government staff and other key stakeholders for onwards further engagement in REDD+ development.
- The event followed an outline process of a full REDD+ development and implementation process, utilizing existing information on direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (which were partially based on the study on the National Circumstances currently conducted by WCS) to initiate proposals on policies and measures (PAM). The stakeholders were invited to think about where and how PAMs can be tested, who would be the key stakeholders to be engaged, what safeguards would be relevant, what cost implications the process would have, and what key benefits and challenges would become available to the forest owners. The different sessions built towards a common understanding of REDD+ development initiative in the country. The presentations were alternated with Q&A and group discussions and exercises.

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- The REDD+ communication plan remains in draft form but efforts were made to establish capacity to implement the plan including recruitment of a Communications Officer for the PMU and a website developer to establish a national PNG REDD+ Website.
 - A gender-sensitive participation and stakeholder engagement consultant team was recruited to conduct a stakeholder mapping exercise and to identify effective means for engagement and consultation of all relevant stakeholders.

National REDD+ strategy

- An assessment of national circumstances and drivers of deforestation was undertaken as part of the UN-REDD programme in 2015 and the final workshop was held in February 2016. Work on the drivers of deforestation has also been undertaken under the FAO component of the UN-REDD National Programme. The FCPF project plans to support this work by looking at a subset of drivers linked to commercial agriculture.
- Training materials were developed on REDD+ Safeguards. Further work is needed to decide the specific nature of training materials required. The Gender Sensitive Consultation and Participation consultancy assessment will also look at key stakeholder groups' capacities and areas that need further support and training.
- A REDD+ Safeguards consultant team (a national and an international) to stocktake REDD+ safeguards and Safeguards Information Systems (SIS), identification of information and capacity needs as well development of country approaches to safeguards was recruited.
- Terms of References (ToR) were developed and recruitment of experts initiated for an assessment of Forest Sector Financial Flows, an Assessment of Agricultural commodity certification and Development of an Issues and Options Paper for REDD+.

3. Describe progress in addressing key capacity issues (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this project. (300 words)

In accordance with UNDP Rule and Regulations, an FCPF project manager was recruited in August 2015, a Admin/Finance Officer was transferred from UN-REDD to FCPF REDD+ Readiness project at the end of 2015, an International Technical Advisor was recruited in the mid of December 2015 and recruitment of a Communications Officer and Stakeholder engagement officers initiated.

Following the initial start-up phase, the UNDP PNG Country Office contracted an International Start-Up Advisor to lead the initiation of project activities, work planning and other activities related to FCPF project start-up.

During the capacity building events and meetings with government stakeholders it was suggested that the FCPF REDD+ Readiness project, while hiring International Consultants, should also contract national experts to strengthen their technical capacities. This recommendation was considered by the project in the course of hiring International experts on safeguards and other project related assignments.

Another successful approach undertaken by the project was creating a pool of national experts in the country through keeping same stakeholders engaged in capacity building events on REDD+.

4. Describe progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the project. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach? Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach? (300 words)

A Social and Environmental Screening Assessment was undertaken as part of the project development and inception process and in line with the Common Approach, with the project being identified as medium risk. Actions identified within the assessment have been undertaken including development of a capacity development plan for key stakeholders and the development of work on REDD+ safeguards to include both the development of a national safeguards framework and the building of capacity for stakeholders to both implement the framework and claim their rights within it.

This work is ongoing and will increase in focus as the project moves from the planning and strategy development phase towards implementation of pilot activities.

5. Describe the progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, and disclosure of information and the FGRM, related to this project (300 words)

Ensuring national ownership of project and initiatives is central to the approach used by FCPF project and is essential to ensure the sustainability of results. Partnerships both with national and international development partners, including with the government, has started to lead to a high level of ownership amongst partners.

As such, throughout all project activities, consistent coordination, consultation and information sharing mechanisms, together with the participation of stakeholders and implementing partners remains a priority. This includes consultations, promoting active engagement and participation of national stakeholders in the discussions on REDD+ priorities and the execution of related activities involving coordination and collaboration with national stakeholders.

6. In Numbers

	Year 1 (2015)	Year 2 (2016)	Year 3 (2017)	Year 4 (2018)
Number of civil society organizations actively engaged in different aspects of the programme (please indicate when possible Men/women ratio)	15			
Number of people trained on REDD+ and climate change (please indicate when possible Men/women ratio)	55 (35 Men/20 women)			
Number of people trained on the four WF elements (please indicate when possible men/women ratio)	26 (18 Men/9 women)			
Number of national consultation workshops held.	1 (Inception Workshop) 2 (Trainings) 1 (REDD+ TWG meeting)			

7. Financial Data

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The table below provides up-to-date cumulative financial progress of the R-PP implementation on planned, committed and disbursed funds, at the end of the reporting period and including all cumulative yearly disbursements.

IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS				
OUTPUTS	Amount Transferred by UNDP	Cumulative Expenditures up to 31 December 2015		
		Commitments	Disbursements	Total Expenditures
				(D) = B + C
Output 1 - Capacities exist for effective and efficient management of REDD+, including full and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders	1,301,000	0	90,105.50	90,105.50
Output 2- National REDD+ Strategy	1,543,000	0	245,566.66	245,566.66
Project Management	956,000	0	116,552.45	116,552.45
Sub-total	3,800,000		452,224.61	452,224.61

Picture and caption



FCPF Inception Workshop, 25 March 2015



REDD+ Expert Training in Madang



Work Group Discussions, November 2015



Field visit, Alotau, June 2015



Field visit, Alotau, June 2015



Joint FCPF-UN-REDD Lessons Learned Workshop

Annex 2: Agenda and Minutes of the Inception Workshop

Inception Workshop of the FCPF REDD+ Readiness Project in Papua New Guinea

AGENDA

Date: 25 March 2015

Time: 08:30

Venue: Conference Hall, Grand Papua Hotel

Time	Activity	Lead Person/Agency
SESSION ONE: SETTING THE CONTEXT		
08:00 am	Registration of Participants	OCCD/UNDP
08:30 am	Welcome, Introduction of Workshop Participants and Opening Prayer	Gwen Sissiou (OCCD)
08:45 am	Welcome Remark Opening Remark Opening Remark	Varigini Badira (OCCD) Hon. John Pundari (MP) Sukhrob (UNDP)
9:00 am	Workshop Objectives and Expected Outcome	Gwen Sissiou (OCCD)
9:15 am	Progress on recent International Development of REDD+	Dr. Joel Scriven (UNDP, Bangkok)
9:30 am	Overview of UN-REDD in PNG and update on related initiatives by national/regional partners	Gwen Sissiou (OCCD)
10:00 am	Morning coffee/tea Break	
10:15 am	Lessons learnt from OCCD PNGFA REDD+ Initiatives	Joe Pokana (OCCD) Goodwill Amos (PNGFA)
10:45 am	Discussions/Questions/Responses/Answers	Gwen Sissiou (OCCD)

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Time	Activity	Lead Person/Agency
SESSION TWO: PRESENTATION OF FCPF REDD+ READINESS PROJECT		
11:00 am	Project Scope, Results Framework and 2015 Annual Work Plan	Joe Pokana (OCCD)
11:30 am	Project Management Arrangements, Staffing and Monitoring and Evaluation Framework	Arther Neher (UN-REDD Prog)
12:00 pm	Questions/Answers	Gwen Sissiou (OCCD)
12:30 pm	LUNCH	
SESSION THREE: GROUP DISCUSSIONS		
2:00 pm	Discussion in breakout group Group 1 Group 2	Gwen Sissiou (OCCD) Joe Pokana (OCCD)
3:00 pm	Breakout group debriefs	Group 1 rapporteur Group 2 rapporteur
3.45 pm	Questions/Answers	Gwen Sissiou (OCCD)
4:00 pm	Summary of the results of the workshop/Next Steps and wrap up/Closing Remarks	Gwen Sissiou (OCCD)

**Inception Workshop of FCPF REDD+ Readiness Project
in Papua New Guinea**

List of participants

Date: 25 March 2015

Time: 08:30

Venue: Conference Hall, Grand Papua Hotel

No	Name	Organization	Designation	Phone	Email
1	Watanabe	JICA Project			twatanabe@pngfa.gov.pg
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7	Julie Hulama	USAID	Development Specialist	7109500	jhulama@usaid.gov
8	Hitofumi Abe	UNREDD	Forestry Advisor	7205116	Hitofumi_abe@fao.org
9	B Ken	WCS	REDD Policy	532 3494	bken@wcs.org
10	Gibson Pitz	Lands	Policy Officer	301 3205	
11	Kelly Kalit	TNC	Director	72553088	kkalit@tnc.org

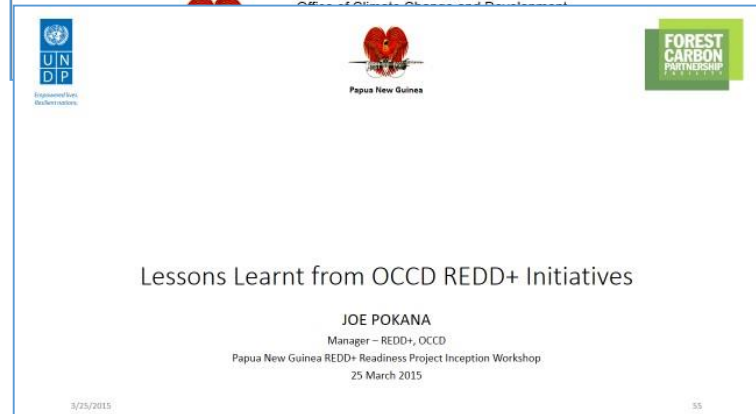
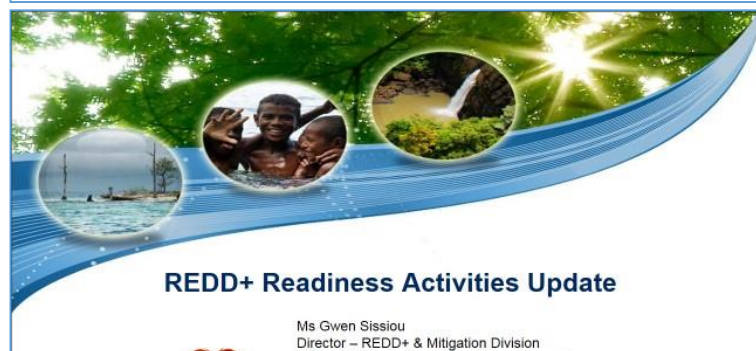
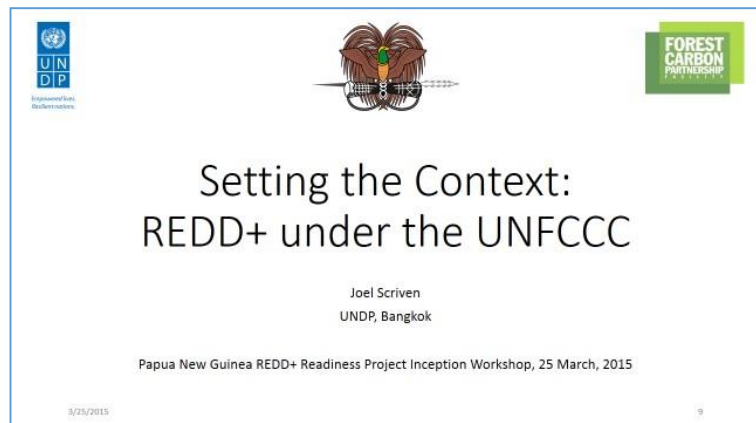
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31	Deborah Meana	OCCD	REDD+ Officer- Trainee	72470904	Dmeana14@gmail.com
32	Maino Virobo	CEPA	Director-Policy and Evaluation		

Minutes of Inception workshop

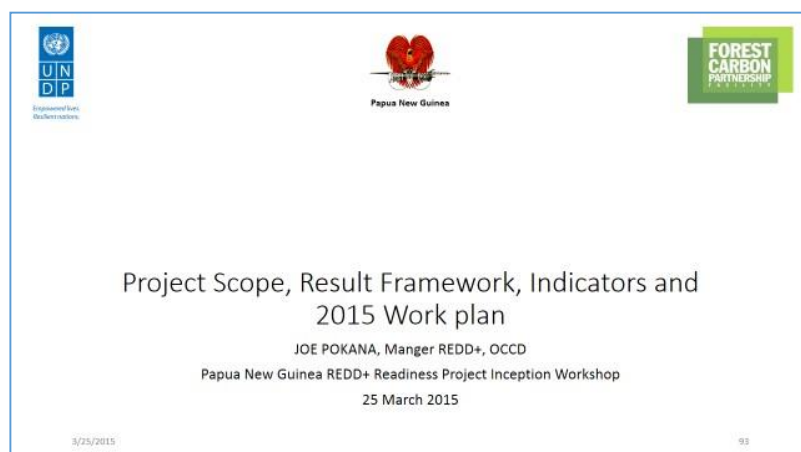
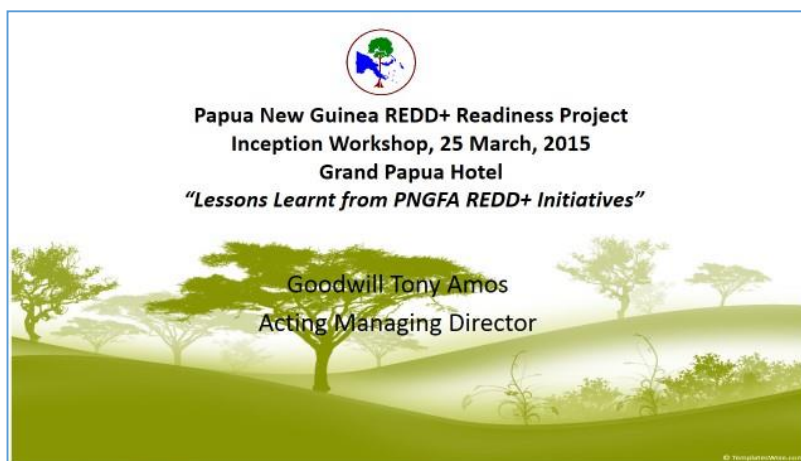
Presentations

1. Short Various relevant stakeholders were invited to the inception workshop to witness the opening of the program. Mr. Varigini Badira, Executive Director, Office of Climate Change and Development (OCCD), while officially welcoming the invited stakeholders stresses the need of working together to address the climate change issues in PNG. How the GoPNG has taken the initiative to formulate various policies and measured (PAMs) with the support of various stakeholders and the donors like UN-REDD programme and now with World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF).
2. During the opening, the Minister for Environment and Conservation and Climate Change, Honorable John Pundari, MP, gave remarkable and provoking speech. Encouraging all key stakeholder to work together by reducing the National Government efforts in reducing its greenhouse gas level. He was also very vocal on the way donors' support were solicited, pointing out the by-passing governments processes by certain donors is very dangerous and needs to be stopped. He was supported by a short and sharp speech by the UNDP Deputy Country Representative, Mr. Sukhrob Khoshmukhamedov.
3. There were several formal presentations conducted during the morning session, starting off with Dr. Joel Scriven, UNDP Bangkok, and Ms Gwen Sissiou, Director REDD+ and Mitigation, Office of Climate Change and Development. Dr. Joel Scriven, UNDP Bangkok gave a short presentation on the UNFCCC context and the type of support developing countries or Parties need to start mitigating climate change. Moreover, Ms. Gwen Sissiou, Director REDD+ and Mitigation, OCCD, briefed stakeholders on the GoPNG efforts and progress regarding the REDD+ national demonstrations and actions.
4. Follow-up update presentations were done by OCCD REDD+ team and key stakeholder and supporting implementing partner, Papua New Guinea Forest Authority (PNGFA).
5. The two presentations showed that through the UN-REDD Programme funding and technical support PNG has



been able to build capacity to do deal with REDD+ both nationally and internationally. Mr. Joe Pokana, Manager REDD+, OCCD, updated stakeholders what OCCD has done in terms of REDD+ Policies and Measures and Demonstrations.

6. Mr. Goodwill Amos, Acting Managing Director, PNG Forest Authority, one of the key stakeholders presented to the participants national REDD+ Activities and their lessons learnt.
7. More specific presentations by Mr. Joe Pokana, Manager REDD+, OCCD and Mr. Arthur Neher, Programme Unit Manager, national UN-REDD Programme on the specificity of the national Forest Carbon Partnership Facility program as outline in the signed Project Document. Mr. Pokana presented Project Scope, Result Framework, Indicators and 2015 Work Plan. After that, Mr. Neher presented Management Arrangement.



Management Arrangement of FCPF Project

- Recognized by UNDP as the National Implementation Modality means sign with implementing partners in this case OCCD work together with PNGFA for effective implementation of the REDD+ programs.
- Thus accountable for the disbursement of the funds to reach objectives according to workplan.
- UNDP is the oversight.
- Expenditure indicated in the work plan and budget are certified and approved.
- Monitoring and Report are relevant based on the inputs and the outputs according to the workplan.
- FCPF interventions must be coordinated so that there are no discrepancies or colliding initiatives on the ground.

- Need to prepare and hire national and international experts according to TOR.
- Report to UNDP on actual Projects Delivery and the Impacts. Also to spend on the budget allocated for this year 2015.

UNREDD

- Need a Project Program Executive Board. Consist of UNDP, OCCD, PNGFA and representatives from the private sector, NGO, academic and research.
- Co-chairs by UNDP and OCCD and meet twice a year if necessary than request for more meetings.
- For the activities, look at annual work plan and the budget and make an approval so that the programs progress and move.
- Monitor and safeguard consistency with international requirements so that no conflict shall arise.
- Shall take care of oversight and monitoring of progress, financial managements, problems and queries and etc.
- Monitor the effectiveness of the project implementation and look into the evaluations.
- Shall appoint a National Project Director (NPD) which is the director REDD+ and Mitigation of OCCD, will be the same for FCPF.
- Deputy National Project Director for the daily administering of the project together with the National Program Manager and the staff of the PMU on the daily management of the program.

8. The afternoon session started off with a group discussion though it was intended for the two breakout group discussion discussing two questions and reporting back. The two questions as outline in Figure 9 were; 1) Capacities exist for effective and efficient management of REDD+ in PNG and 2) The National REDD+ Strategy. But due to the decreasing number of stakeholders after lunch.



9. Two discussion groups were supposed to discuss two outcomes but it end up being one group. The outcome questions were "capacity exist for effective and efficient management of REDD+" and "the national REDD+ strategy".
10. The rest of the afternoon were spend on the project activities, indicators and outcomes.
11. At the end of the workshop, Ms. Sissiou acknowledged everyone participation and contribution thus advised to look at refining the indicative activities.
12. **Action Item:** Process shall be started once the project document is signed and hopeful to present a report in the next quarters of the TWG meeting as well as the implementation plan or action plan for the delivery of the project.

