

DRAFT REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet

COUNTRY: PAPUA NEW GUINEA

April 2014

1. R-PP Preparation and FCPF Readiness grant

- PNG has requested the United Nations Development Programme to act as Delivery Partner.
- R-PP assessed by FCPF PC at PC14 (March 2013).
- A revised R-PP, addressing PC and TAP comments, has been submitted.
- UNDP undertook a mission in April 2013 to initiate its due diligence process. However, due to uncertainties over budgeting of some components of the R-PP, the grant agreement will not be signed by 31 May, 2014.

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- In April 2013 GoPNG officially assigned a new Executive Director to lead the Office of Climate Change and Development (OCCD).
- GoPNG through the Project Executive Board approved the request for extension of the UN-REDD Programme up to 2015
- UN-REDD recruited a Programme Manager (January 2013), a Communications Officer (June 2013), and an MRV advisor (October, 2013) to make progress on outstanding activities.
- Under the 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 TWG-SES will guide the process of developing a full set of National Guidelines on SES

3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

- UNDP consulted four communities in three provinces obtaining on-the-ground information to support the review of the current draft National FPIC Guidelines.
- 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
- OCCD organised 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 BSDES was held. The event was attended by nearly 100 participants

4. REDD Strategy Preparation

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- The UN-REDD Programme has prepared an updated approach outlining the close integration of the various REDD+ components leading to a National REDD+ Strategy.
- PNG has prepared a final draft Climate Change Policy Bill (April 2013) with direct implications on REDD+ initiatives in the country and is currently reviewed by all stakeholders.

5. Implementation Framework

- Free, prior and informed consent has been applied at several demonstration project sites; UNDP undertook a mission in May, 2013 to derive lessons to be used in the development of national guidelines.
- The third draft of National FPIC Guidelines was 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
- A study has been undertaken on the issue of carbon rights.
- Technical Working Groups are being established.
- 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

6. SESA

- UN-REDD is undertaking a study on social and environmental safeguards for REDD+ in PNG.
- Four regional consultation workshops on a system of safeguards will be held in April/May, 2014.
- The SESA will aim to identify and integrate the key environmental, social, legal and policy dimensions into the REDD + Strategy.

7. Development of a Reference Scenario

- Data available: satellite imagery and permanent plot data.
- Reference scenario would be a combination of historical data and future projections
- Remote sensing based national forest assessment was completed, assessing historical land use change of 25,000 plots across the country. The data set is currently being cleaned and information will soon be available of land use change since 1999.
- A Satellite Land Monitoring System will be established by end of the year will be tested with historical emission data.
- JICA supported a forest base map project which also provides some historical land use change

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8. MRV

- A MRV Roadmap has been prepared.
- The MRV system will be based on assessment of forest area change through the use of both satellite imagery to estimate forest cover and field research on carbon pools in different forest types as well as through ground truthing and surveys.
- FAO is supporting the development of a web-based National Forest Monitoring System
- FAO is also implementing an EU-funded programme to strengthen the NFI
- 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

9. Other

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