Completeness Check by the FMT on the revision of the Papua New Guinea Readiness Preparation Proposal

Papua New Guinea (PNG) submitted a Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) to the Facility Management Team (FMT) in February, 2013, which was reviewed by the Technical Advisory Panel (TAP), a working group consisting of Participants Committee (PC) members established for this purpose, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

In Resolution PC/14/2013/4, the PC requested PNG to consider the issues identified in the TAP's R-PP assessment as well as those raised by the PC at this meeting during readiness preparation. The following table identifies the key issues that PNG needed to address before entering into a Readiness Preparation Project Document with UNDP as the Delivery Partner.

It is the view of the FMT that Papua New Guinea has satisfactorily taken into account the requests provided by the PC.

PC request	Revisions in R-PP submitted December 9, 2013
1. Provide further background information on experiences with community forest management in the country and on plans to promote this type of management as part of the REDD+ Strategy.	The following text has been added on pages 43-44: *The PNG Forest Authority has an Eco-forestry Programme established in 2006 which promotes sustainable forest management at the community level. This programme is managed through the Eco-forestry Branch[1] . At the same time the PNG Forestry and Climate Change Policy Framework for Action emphasizes the need for a multi stakeholder approach to community forest management and REDD+ programming that engages customary landowners at the local level. The Interim Action Plan on Climate Compatible Development also identifies conserving forests through community REDD+ action as an abatement option.* *In terms of implementation though some NGOs have implemented some activities related to community forest management. Activities include forest resource assessment, forest management decision making processes, and decisions on development options.* *FORCERT[2] for example has been promoting and implementing activities supporting communities to sustainably manage their land and forest through certified small scale tree harvesting linked to the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). The income however is too small to compete with income from*

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[1] http://www.forestry.gov.pg/site/page.php?id=33
[2] www.forcert.org.pg

	commercial logging or oil palm plantations therefore FORCERT has embraced payment for ecosystem services as a potential additional income stream for the communities, including REDD+ as an option[3]. The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) in its community based project out in Manus island have completed a community mapping and consultation exercise and have plans for training communities on changes in the land laws/regulations as well as training in technical aspects such as identifying drivers of deforestation and community forest inventory[4]. *PNGFA is also pursuing a proposal with the ITTO on Community Forest Management: Enabling customary land owners to participate effectively in CFM and REDD schemes within these four pilot areas. This project will aim to design community based land ownership mapping and forest resource assessment systems that support CFM and REDD schemes.[5]* *With the current REDD+ pilot activities including those led by the PNGFA their success will depend on the ability and success to fully engage the respective communities in the planning , decision –making and implementation processes linked to the management of their forest resources.*
2. Update the R-PP to reflect the latest developments towards the establishment of a national MRV system and the national REL for REDD+.	The following text has been added to page 90: *Papua New Guinea (PNG) readiness efforts to establish a National MRV System is currently supported by United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) regional program in Bangkok, Thailand and Rome, Italy. Through its National UN-REDD Programme, it has slowly but surely realizing it. On the outset PNG has adopted the Brazilian Monitoring System called TerraAmazon as the software system they will build upon. Training of its national monitoring experts has already been done in 2012 in both Brazil and Italy to understand the software and actually track changes on spatial maps at different time series. The National UN-REDD Programme has so far set up its Programme Management Unit which is now house at the Office of Climate Change and Development (OCCD) and runs the National Programme and the its National MRV System. The National MRV System will use the three-phase approach that REDD+*

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[3] FORCERT, Project brief for PES Trial Project, submitted UNDP and OCCD for funding in 2013
[4] From presentation to the REDD+ TWG and discussions with Bensolo Ken, Programme Officer WCS
[5] http://www.forestry.gov.pg/site/files/CFM-REDD%20Project%20Brochure_27-2-2013.pdf

	has adopted through the COP Decision 1/CP 16. Currently, a write-shop has been organized to draft the National Forest Monitoring System Action Plan that will be workshop and then the final draft endorsed by the National Executive Council over a period of three months. Additional, capacity has been delivered by the Papua New Guinea Forest Authority (PNGFA) on the first of two phase approach on the National Forest Inventory that will be supported by the European Union and FAO. Other support is coming from the 2011 PNGFA/JICA Project and AusAid National Program under 2008 Australian/PNG Forest Carbon Partnership. The following text has been added to page 84: *The Government of Papua New Guinea's approach on reference emission levels and reference levels for REDD+ will be implemented after the National Forest Inventory (NFI) has been carried out in 2014 onwards with the collaborative support of the PNG's UN-REDD Programme for MRV and the European Union (EU) and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UN-FAO) for NFI. In the interim, through the support of the PNG UN-REDD programme, capacity building is currently being carried out, along with NFI pre-assessment with the use of Collect-Earth using the Open source Google Earth and Goggle Engine to do a desktop assessment of its forest cover change and land use change. Using mostly a 4 x 4 Km grid sampling, PNG can already realize numerous unanswered questions like carbon stocks, conservation, land use, etc. This exercise can already help PNG to also realize its REL for REDD and RL for the plus. The full realization of PNG's REL/RL will be calculated after the ground truth, National Forest Inventory, has been conducted starting 2014. If the workplan currently in-place is implemented properly, PNG should realize its REL/RL in 2018.*
3. Provide further detail on how SESA and the national safeguards information system will be designed and implemented, including related capacity needs at the national level.	The following text has been added on pages 77-81: *A multi-stakeholder REDD+ sub-technical working group (sub-TWG) on Social and Environmental Safeguards has been established and held its first meeting in May, 2013. Members include representatives of DLPP, OCCD, PNG-EFF, PNGFA, Rural Industries Council, Transparency International PNG, TNC, UN-REDD, and WCS. Several members of the sub-TWG attended the Social Inclusion FCPF Regional Workshop on Capacity Building held in Bangkok, Thailand from the 30th of April to the 3rd of May, 2013. A report on the workshop was circulated among all Sub-TWG members to integrate knowledge obtained at the workshop into the work of the sub-*

	TWG.
	A team consisting of an International Expert on Social & Environmental Safeguards, a National Expert on Social Safeguards and a National Expert on Environmental Safeguards has been recruited to undertake a systematic gap analysis of existing relevant policies, plans, programmes, processes and practices against the Cancun safeguards and other safeguard frameworks, leading to the development of National Guidelines on Social and Environmental Safeguards, and ultimately a national safeguard response process.

The team will undertake the following specific tasks:

1. ***Strengthening the institutional framework on safeguards***
   - *Identify the needs of the national Safeguards Information System (SIS) under development by FAO, and prepare appropriate data sets for this system.*
   - *Provide technical leadership contributing to wider perspectives on REDD+ safeguards in PNG, allowing multi-sectoral approach and integration of national objectives across the contributing sectors, e.g. by support of and feeding into other TWG's under the responsibility of OCCD.*

2. ***Gap analysis and consolidation of existing tools***
   - *Review existing international literature on REDD+ social and environmental safeguards and relevant aspects of the major multilateral safeguard frameworks (SEPC, SES, SESA).*
   - *Explore national safeguard policy response processes and experiences from other countries, particularly those within the region, and draw on these experiences to enhance the current safeguard system in PNG.*
   - *Conduct a gap/weakness analysis, to identify and map the extent to which existing policies, laws and regulations currently demonstrate safeguard compliance. A review should be made of, but not limiting to, the following:*
     - a. *the legal system – what laws and regulations are prevailing in PNG that directly impact the social and environmental security of local communities and which have a direct impact on cross-sectoral programmes supporting REDD+, and how is its enforcement practiced?*

	b. *policies – what is codified in national strategies and what is part of international conventions and agreements with regards to social and environmental safeguards in all REDD+ related sectors (i.e. forestry and land use)?*
	c. *programmes – what social and environmental safeguard provisions are made in national target programmes contributing to REDD+?*
	d. *plans – what provisions are made to safeguard social and environmental risks in sectoral or sub-national master plans and planning processes?*
	e. *processes – what other relevant and currently on-going processes could contribute to a national safeguard response (e.g. FSC certification process)?*
	f. *practice – how are the above laws and regulations, policies, programmes, plans and processes actually implemented on the ground; to what extent can practices be improved?*
	• *Produce a concise draft action plan of recommended policy-to-practice actions that would guide national government and non-government stakeholders in PNG in a phased national safeguards response by filling gaps and strengthening weaknesses, while meeting compliance with:*
	a. *the Cancun Agreements on safeguards of the UNFCCC;*
	b. *potentially emerging funding options (notably the FCPF Carbon Fund); and*
	c. *relevant aspects of other major safeguard initiatives and frameworks (such as the REDD+ SES, SESA, etc.).*
	• *Analyze potential environmental and social benefits and risks, and adapting existing frameworks and tools (e.g. UN-REDD SEPC[6]) to fit PNG's context.*
	3. Draft National Guidelines and validate results
	• *Corroborate initial findings with other groups working on activities related to safeguards (e.g. FPIC and BSDS activities) to ensure an integrated approach on SES and consolidate the results.*
	• *Consolidate findings to prepare the draft National*

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[6] The Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria (**SEPC**) of the UN-REDD Programme

Guidelines on Social and Environmental Safeguards to be validated through consultation with stakeholders during four Regional Stakeholder Consultation Workshops.

- *Prepare the outline for, and provide technical support to the preparation of the four Workshops producing adequate feedback to the draft National Guidelines on SES.*

4. ***National Guidelines on Social and Environmental Safeguards in PNG***
- *Prepare the outline for, and provide technical support to the preparation of the National Stakeholder Consultation Workshop.*
- *Contribute to and provide technical leadership in the organization of the National Stakeholder Consultation Workshop.*
- *Corroborate and consolidate outcomes with the National experts on Social and Environmental Safeguards to prepare the final National Guidelines on SES.*
- *Prepare the final National Guidelines on Social and Environmental Safeguards.*

Thus, activities under section 2, above will identify capacity gaps that need to be addressed in the development of a national system of safeguards and safeguards information system. Activities under sections 3 and 4, above, will begin to address these gaps. FCPF funding will be used to address remaining gaps. In doing so, the tools and approaches enshrined in SESA will be followed. The activities required for SESA include:

- *Training to line agencies and all key stakeholders on the SESA process*
- *In-depth analysis of current regulations relating to EIA, SIA, and SESA and constraints to the implementation*
- *Analysis of REDD+ safeguard options, based on international guidance and nationally appropriate activities*
- *Development of framework of social and environmental indicators, monitoring requirements, management, and recourse mechanism in consultation with key stakeholders and civil society*
- *Initiate integration of basic social and environmental safeguards into existing REDD+ demonstration*

	activities, including pilot indicators and monitoring, in order to determine if the safeguards identified are appropriate and can be monitored effectively.
	
	• *SESA of the candidate REDD+ Strategies performed under Component 2b.*
	• *Development of a ESMF or equivalent that is both nationally appropriate and complies to international standards, including:*
	    – *capacity building requirements*
	    – *triggers of when different assessments are required*
	    – *a effective recourse mechanism*
	    – *how the implementation framework will be operationalised – e.g. institutions responsible at national level and subnational if appropriate*
	• *Consultation on the proposed ESMF*
	• *Capacity-building on the ESMF*
	• *Application of the ESMF to all R-PP activities*
	• *Legal reform, if necessary, to institutionalize the national REDD+ safeguards within the REDD+ implementation strategies*
	• *SESA of National REDD+ Strategy under Component 2b*
	• *Monitoring of social and environmental impacts under Component 4b.*
	
	The REDD+ Safeguards Information System will provide open access to information through a web portal. The information will be freely provided over the internet, and act as the entry point for any stakeholder or otherwise interested party seeking information on REDD+ in PNG.
	
	The REDD+ Safeguards Information system will be developed and hosted by an independent agency with a specific focus on REDD+. The OCCD is the most suitable agency to take on this role. An independent, multi-stakeholder committee will provide guidance on the REDD+ Safeguards Information System's implementation. Under this guise, the role of the OCCD is proposed to be:
	
	• *Develop a web interface to make information on REDD+ safeguards freely available;*
	• *Collect geospatial, social, ecological and governance data and information for web interface;*
	• *Upload and update data and information on the web interface when it becomes available.*

The Data Management Unit within the MRV Steering Committee (see Figure below) should provide land use and land use change monitoring data.