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| UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMEBDP/EEG - MISSION REPORT SUMMARY Date: 1 May 2013 | | | | UNDP_Logo-Blue w TaglineBlue-ENG.png |
| Name: Tim Boyle, UN-REDD | | **Tel No.** +66819005402 | |
| **Approved Mission Itinerary:**  BKK-Singapore-Port Moresby -BKK | | **List of Annexes**: | | |
| Inclusive Travel Dates: | | **Key counterpart(s) in each location:** | | |
| 6 – 13 April 2013 |  | * UNRC-O (David McLachlan-Karr) * UNDP CO (Carol Flore) * OCCD (Varigini Badira, Joe Pokana, Rensie Panda) * PNGFA (Kanawi Pouru) * PMU (Arthur Neher, Lydia Bobola) | | |
| **Purpose/Objectives of Mission**  To support implementation of the UN-REDD Programme and to assist in further processing of the R-PP | | | | |
| **Context**  PNG has been implementing its national UN-REDD Programme for 18 months, but progress has been slow, largely due to political upheavals and frequent changes in staffing and status of the OCCD. A Programme Manager, Arthur Neher, has recently been recruited, and much of the first half of the mission was designed to support his emerging capacity. Meanwhile, PNG’s R-PP was finally approved at PC14 in Washington, in March 2013. UNDP has been asked to be the Delivery Partner, and the mission was also to support activities required to make progress in this area. | | | | |
| **Summary of Mission Activities/ Findings**  **The meeting schedule was:**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Date** | **Meeting** | | Mon 8 Apr | Meeting with UN **Resident Coordinator** and **Deputy Resident Rep**. | | Meeting with **Mr Arthur Neher & Ms Lydia Bobola**, UN-REDD PMU | | Meeting with **Mr Varigini Badira** Executive Director, OCCD | | Meeting with **Mr Kanawi Pouru**, Managing Director, PNG Forest Authority, | | Tue 9 Apr | Meeting with **Mr Arthur Neher & Ms Lydia Bobola**, UN-REDD PMU | | Discussion with **Tony Prescott** and **PMU**: Anti-Corruption and REDD+ | | Meeting with **Mr Robert Tate**, Executive Director, PNGFIA | | Meeting with **Tony Prescott**, and **DRR** | | Wed 10 Apr | Meeting with **Clement Bourse**, Attaché, Rural Dev, Delegation of the EU | | Meeting **Mr Joe Pokana**, Sr. Policy Analyst MRV and National Consultation | | Discussion and working arrangements **Rensie Panda**, Policy Analyst | | Thu 11 April | Meeting with **Nige Kaupa & Lydia Butut-Dori**, AusAID | | Fri 12 April | Meeting with **Mr Thomas Paka**, EFF |   **Work planning**  A substantial amount of time was spent with Arthur Neher and Lydia Bobola, reviewing the processes of work-planning ,and the budget and proposed ToR for activities in the 2013 Q2 budget. In response to a request from FAO, it was also emphasized that, although hired under UNDP contracts, responsibilities of PMU staff lie with all three agencies. FAO have hired a staff person to sit in the OCCD and to assist with UN-REDD planning and implementation, as well as with other FAO initiatives in PNG. The major other initiative is the €6M support to the national forest inventory.  **PMU size and structure**  Discussions were held with the current PMU staff and with Head of OCCD, concerning the fact that (as noted in the previous mission) this is a small PMU for such a large programme, and consideration should be given to hiring additional staff. A communications officer has been recruited and will be starting work soon, but it was noted that a national programme coordinator and a stakeholder engagement specialist are really required, and consideration should also be given to a finance and procurement assistant. Head of OCCD was open to these suggestions.  **Technical issues**  In identifying opportunities for more rapid progress on the UNDP component of the programme, the following issues were discussed.  FPIC (and a project-based approach). Draft FPIC guidelines have been prepared, which a review by UNDP HQ specialists suggested to be problematic. Some of the concerns identified in the current guidelines related to the assumption of a project-based approach to REDD+. Regional stakeholder engagement specialist will undertake a mission in early May to review on-the-ground experiences with various projects in PNG, as the basis for subsequent development of national guidelines.  Corruption. Regional anti-corruption advisor was visiting PNG at the same time as this mission, in relation to a $4M regional programme in collaboration with UNODC to support ratification and implementation of the UNCAC. PNG is considering establishing an AC body, and UNDP may assist with advocacy on this. AusAID support to a forest sector-based approach to anti-corruption measures should be investigated.  Safeguards. UNEP’s negotiation of a SSFA is now almost complete, meaning that recruitment of consultants for the joint work on social and environmental safeguards can proceed.  **FCPF/R-PP**  Steps involved in further processing of documents for release of FCPF funding were described with OCCD staff, Joe Pokana and Rensie Panda. A proposal was developed for an approach to deal with the three issues identified in the PC resolution approving the R-PP.  However, discussions then stalled on the issue of budget revisions for implementation of the R-PP. Rensie Panda was adamant that because of the very intensive process of stakeholder consultations that went into finalization of the R-PP, the GoPNG did not feel empowered to make any modifications. On the other hand, UNDP’s view is that it cannot take accountability for implementation of the SESA when no budget has been assigned for this purpose. It was agreed with OCCD would consult further internally on the budget issue. | | | | |
| Follow up actions:  * PMU to ensure work planning following required procedures from now on * TB to follow up with OCCD on PMU staffing * Further action on the R-PP depends on OCCD response | | | **Distribution List:**   * Tim Clairs, UN-REDD UNDP PTA | |

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