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| 1. Practice area: BDP/EEG  |   |
| 2. Mission period (incl. of travel days)<br>From: 5 to: 12 July  |   |
| 3. Type of mission: Technical backstopping   | 4. Clients<br>OCCD – Danny Nekitel, Gwen Sissiou, Joe Pokana<br>UNDP CO – Gwen Maru<br>PMU – Lillian Bago |
| 5. Purpose of mission<br>To provide technical assistance to Office of Climate Change and Development (OCCD) to ensure timely and coordinated progress, as well as the delivery of a finalized national FPIC guideline for endorsement by the PNG National Executive Council (NEC) (Cabinet).   | 6. Documents, materials, resources  |
| 7. Mission member<br>Celina Yong   | 8. Costs<br>UNDP/UN-REDD global programme budget  |
| 9. Brief summary of the mission  |   |
| <p><i>9.a Background</i></p> <p>The draft National FPIC Guidelines had undergone significant revisions after field scoping missions (May 2013), received technical guidance from the Technical Working Group on Social and Environmental Safeguards (May 2013), and an FPIC Expert Group workshop (August 2013), subjected to several regional consultations (November 2013 – June 2014), and an online public comment period (April – May 2014) that was extended to June 2014. The last of two missions, it specifically focused on final preparations for, and facilitating sessions during the National FPIC Validation Workshop on 9 July 2014; and consolidated next steps for endorsement by the NEC.</p> <p>In spite of extending time for the public comment till end of June 2014, some comments were still sent up to a day before the workshop. As a result, it was not entirely possible for OCCD to fully incorporate these last minute feedback. Therefore, the objectives of the workshop had to be slightly revised: from validating guidelines to validating the consultation processes to date, response matrix and next steps. General feedback from the workshop was positive, although the Department of Lands and Physical Planning (DLPP) was noticeably absent. In response to a wide call to test the guidelines, PNGFA offered their current REDD+ pilot sites for this exercise.</p> <p><i>9.b Main Findings</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Validation Workshop, 9 July 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Welcome remarks by the Executive Director of OCCD, Varigini Badira, and the opening speech by the DRR of UNDP, Sukhrob Khoshmukhamedov, sent a strong message of close collaboration between OCCD and UN-REDD Programme to workshop participants. Varigini alluded to a potential decision regarding the Climate Compatible Development Policy which had finally been tabled at a NEC meeting.</li> <li>○ There was all around strong support for the guidelines, which had been termed as a ‘working final’, to allow room for improvement based on findings and recommendations from the field tests prior to endorsement by the NEC.</li> <li>○ Break-out groups deliberated and provided further guidance on proposed responses for two key issues: revised definition of ‘landowners’ that differentiated customary landowners from other stakeholders; and separating the guidelines in two documents, with a priority for Section B: Operational Framework.</li> <li>○ Priorities in the coming months will be to test section B and prepare a manual incorporating lessons from the tests; and canvas for support from the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Hon. Minister John Pundari, prior to tabling it at NEC meeting.</li> <li>○ OCCD needs to continue building alliances with key national agencies, provincial authorities and the civil society, who will be willing to champion the guidelines. The current review of the Forestry Act, supported by USAID LEAF project, provides an avenue to strengthen institutionalization of the guidelines, specifically in reference and by building on Forestry Administration’s 34-steps to apply for a timber permit. OCCD will endeavour to attend a national consultation workshop on 25 July to present the initial findings and recommendations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |   |

- The management from April-Salumei FMA promoted their CCBA gold standard in biodiversity, and deemed it ready for the voluntary carbon markets, which to date, remains without a buyer. However, upon further investigation, it has only been validated, but was unable to be verified by auditors who were prevented from visiting the sites. This was not highlighted by the management present at the workshop.
- Preparation for the workshop
  - Even though a participants' list had been finalized during the last mission, invitations were still sent less than 3 working days prior to the workshop. As a result, a few key stakeholders such as DLPP and some CSO were not present. While it did not adversely affect the results from workshop, it would have been useful to obtain their support for the guidelines.
  - Background advocacy work was also poorly managed: the Hon. Minister John Pundari had not been briefed because the Executive Director of OCCD, Varigini Badira had been unavailable; the idea of a press note, to be developed by OCCD with help from the PMU, to create publicity for the event and guideline, was not followed through.
  - Part of the challenge lies in the division of roles and responsibilities between Danny and the REDD+ unit. While tasked to develop the guidelines since 2011, his main work portfolio is low carbon growth. His mandate to continue with this work area needs to be reinforced by clear and substantive support from the REDD+ unit, particularly in administrative and logistical work. OCCD also needs to determine how they will utilise the MoU with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), particularly as WCS has practical experience through their Village REDD+ project in Manus.
- Field Test of Guidelines
  - Brief discussion between Gwen Sissiou, Joe Pokana, Danny Nekitel, Goodwill Amos, Gwen Maru and Thomas Enters, agreed to test the operational steps in Central Suau, one of the five pilot REDD+ areas. The initial plan for RIL had been set aside in favour of conservation activities because the government had built roads through the villages. This was initially a key negotiation point for the 24 villages in Central Suau. An initial Development Option Studies (DOS) had been carried out, but further consultation can build on the proposed operational steps for FPIC.
  - To guide OCCD in selecting and prioritising other test sites in the future, the UN-REDD regional team will develop a set of criteria.

#### 9.c Bilateral Discussions

- Grace Dom, WCS
  - Funding for the Village REDD+ project is expected to terminate by end of 2014, and WCS is assessing potential donors to continue this work. This could be explored under the FCPF budget.
- Gwen Maru
  - Proposed a side event at the upcoming UNFCCC COP to promote the FPIC guidelines.
  - Utilise the Organic Law on Provincial and Local Level Governments as entry points to concretise support for the guidelines.
  - Arrange for more meetings between OCCD's ED and DRR to create more support for the guidelines.

#### 9.d Expected Output

- Revised working final of guidelines.

#### 10. Key counterparts

- OCCD – Danny Nekitel, Gwen Sissiou, Joe Pokana
- UNDP CO – Sukhrob Khoshmukhamedov, Gwen Maru
- PMU – Lillian Bago

#### 11. Follow up action matrix

| Action to be taken   | By whom              | Expected completion date |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Prepare selection criteria for test sites  | Celina               | 18 July                  |
| Determine available remaining funds to support testing                                 | Arthur, Gwen, Celina | 25 July                  |
| Draft action plan and estimate costs for field test                                    | Danny, Celina        | August                   |
| Develop supporting documents for field test in Central Suau based on findings from DOS | Celina, Danny        | July - August            |
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|  |                      |                          |

#### 12. Distribution list

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