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**Title** Regional Stakeholder Engagement Specialist

**Date submitted** 9 November 2015

1. Practice area: BPPS / Sustainable Development and Resilience Cluster

2. Mission period (incl. of travel days)

From: 1 to: 7 November

3. Type of mission: Technical backstopping

4. Clients

OCCD – Joe Pokana, Terence Barambi, Danny Nekitel, Gwen Sissiou

PNGFA – Ruth Turia

UNDP CO – Gwen Maru

PMU – Arthur Neher, Peter Katapa

5. Purpose of mission

To provide technical assistance to Office of Climate Change and Development (OCCD) to

a) Document and analyse the results from the FPIC Guidelines field testing

b) Support the National REDD+ Lessons Learnt Workshop as closure to the UN-REDD National Programme

6. Documents, materials, resources

Time line

7. Mission member

Celina Yong

8. Costs

UNDP/UN-REDD global programme budget

9. Brief summary of the mission

*9.a Background*

In collaboration with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and ForCert, OCCD field tested sections of the working final of the National FPIC Guidelines for REDD+ in May and June respectively. In October, a third unplanned field test in Goroka, Eastern Highlands through PNG Conservation Forum was conducted against the advice of the regional specialist. Revisions to the working guidelines have not been done because not all the field reports have been completed, nor analysis of these results compiled.

In the meantime, UNDP is expected to conclude its activities in the UN-REDD National Programme, and a national workshop was organised from 4 – 5 November to document lessons and recommendations for the future. A workshop on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation was also held on 6 November. A brief review of the on-going FCPF-funded activity to develop a gender responsive consultation and participation plan was also conducted.

*9.b Main Findings*

- Uneven application of the consultation, participation and consent process as outlined in the Working Final of the National FPIC Guidelines for REDD+ during the adoption of the Climate Change Act marred OCCD's reputation
  - Widely recognised by the civil society, the process to develop the guidelines has set a new benchmark for transparency and accountability in OCCD. However, it runs the risk of being derailed due to unclear delegation of remaining tasks within OCCD, and a lack of feedback to partners (WCS and ForCert) for the field tests conducted.
  - Discussions were held with Joe Pokana to delegate remaining tasks: OCCD reports for field tests in ForCert's Tavalo and PNG Conservation Forum's Akameku, and analysis of the 3 field tests to Terence Barambi. Final revision of the guidelines will still be done by Danny Nekitel, now expected to be completed by end of January 2016. In a separate discussion, Terence agreed to provide an update to, and share the revised timeline, and the analysis report with WCS, ForCert and PNG Conservation Forum.
  - Criticisms were levelled at OCCD for not following through with its initial indication to circulate the Climate Compatible Development Management Policy based on the steps outlined for national consultation section of the guidelines. The civil society sees this as a breach of trust, especially since the Policy has been adopted by NEC as soon-to-be gazetted Climate Change Act. Although the Policy was a 2-year work in progress, it was the short and rushed final consultation period, and lack of feedback regarding how comments are reviewed and acted upon that caused the friction. A key lesson is to ensure UNDP provides firm direction to design and implement the consultation process for the REDD+ Policy.

- The Act has also introduced the term “landholders”, and a consent threshold of 85%. If the former were to be adopted by the guidelines, further care should be taken as the definition of landowners and resource owners provided by the guidelines is more comprehensive and inclusive.
- A representative from the Ministry of Mining has expressed interest in the guidelines and will informally review to ascertain differences and/or similarities between approaches.
- Key lessons identified from the workshop need to be owned and acted upon by OCCD as it transforms into the Authority on Climate Change and Development
  - One of the key lesson is the transparent and accountable process to develop the FPIC guidelines, as well as its intention to provide clear steps that will ensure the rights of landowners and resource owners to information, participation, decision-making in general. This was widely recognised by the civil society, although there was disappointment that this event was an anomaly instead of a norm.
  - The civil society had intended to stage a walk-out in protest of the manner the Climate Change Act was tabled and adopted by the NEC. While the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Climate Change, Hon. John Pundari’s presence during the closing ceremony pre-empted this, the civil society, under leadership of Eco-Forestry Forum, will proceed with its position paper on REDD+, to determine who, which areas and how it will continue to engage with OCCD.
  - In the meantime, OCCD needs to determine how it can effectively utilise opportunities to engage in the consultation for the draft national land-use policy prepared by the Department of Lands and Physical Planning, as well as Department of Agriculture and Livestock’s plan to develop its own Act.
  - Other lessons include the effectiveness of TWGs: broadening mandate and responsibilities; as well as genuine inter-agency coordination and collaboration needed to position REDD+ more strategically, vis-à-vis a standalone option for socio-economic development.
- FCPF activity on gender responsive consultation and participation plan
  - Given the fact that the national consultant has just been recruited, a no-cost extension till end of February 2016 has been requested for the international consultant.
  - Based on the work plans submitted by the international consultant, more frequent and decisive guidance will need to be provided by the regional specialist and PMU.

9.c Bilateral discussions

- Ruth Turia
  - There is a risk that if PNGFA is not treated by OCCD as a genuine partner in REDD+, the former may choose to develop its own response to REDD+. There have already been indications whereby PNGFA has sought to position REDD+ solely within the forestry sector. This is an accumulation from years of political wrangling, lack of genuine communication and opposing leadership.
  - Tentative agreement to design a consultation, participation and consent process based on the FPIC guidelines for potential follow-up activity in Milne Bay between OCCD and PNGFA.

9.d Expected Outputs

- Revised timeline
- Annotated table of contents for field test analysis report
- Table of summary for field tests activities, results and recommendations

10. Key counterparts

- OCCD – Joe Pokana, Terence Barambi, Danny Nekitel, Gwen Sissiou,
- PNGFA – Ruth Turia
- UNDP CO – Gwen Maru
- PMU – Arthur Neher, Peter Katapa

11. Follow up action matrix

Action to be taken	By whom	Expected completion date
Revised timeline, annotated table of contents, table of summary	Celina	9 November
Revise sections of the guidelines	Danny, Celina	January 2016

12. Distribution list

UNDP UN-REDD

Completion Dates for Testing of FPIC Guidelines (Apr - Dec 2015)				
No	Activity	Outputs	Responsible	Completion date
1	Prepare field testing work plans including composition of team members, roles and responsibilities, and budgets	ForCert work plan and budget WCS work plan and budget	ForCert WCS	1-May-15
2	Review field record and field report templates	Revised field record and field report templates	ForCert WCS OCCD, with assistance from UN-REDD	1-May-15
3	Adapt field records and other observation sheets based on detailed activities proposed by ForCert and WCS	Customised field records and other observation sheets	OCCD, with assistance from UN-REDD	11-May-15
4	Field test in Manus by WCS		WCS OCCD	25 – 29 May 2015
5	Informal review of legitimate representatives, ILG and LOC by legal experts	Legal context of legitimate representatives	Danny	13-Nov-15
6	Finalise field reports	2 field reports of testing in Manus	WCS OCCD	5-Jun-15
7	Field test in Tavolo by ForCert		ForCert OCCD	Early to mid-June 2015 (TBC)
8	Finalise field reports	2 field reports of testing in Tavalo	ForCert OCCD (Lead: Terence - Sonia & Leilani)	19 June 2015 OCCD - 13 Nov 2015
9	Field test in Goroka by PNG Conservation Forum and Eastern Highlands Provincial NR and Environmental Division	2 field reports of testing in Akameku	PNG Conservation Forum OCCD (Lead: Terence - Sonia & Leilani)	6 November 2015 13 November 2015
10	Analyse field test reports	Analysis of reports and recommendations	OCCD (Team leader: Terence) Support: Danny & Celina	11-Dec-15
11	Share field test analysis with WCS, ForCert, PNG Conservation Forum		OCCD (Team leader: Terence)	18-Dec-15
12	Revise sections of guidelines	Revised guidelines	OCCD (Team leader: Danny) UN-REDD	15-Jan-16
13	Endorsement by NEC		OCCD (Joe Pokana)	Jan - Mar 2016
14	Incorporate in REDD+ Policy		OCCD (Joe Pokana)	TBC