

## **PNG and Solomon Islands**

### **Background**

- We are all IPs and we call ourselves Resource Owners and own 97% of land.
  - Fiji – maybe different (Indians and Natives)
  - REDD+ (UN-REDD)
1. Indigenous Peoples/Resource Owners/Landowners Participation
    - a. Awareness Raising by gov't and NGOs
    - b. 2 REDD Pilots in PNG involve local communities/resource owners/landowners.
    - c. Existing Laws in place to support IPs or LOs participation because they have to consult. We need to harness this and build the synergies. Any Plans needs to synergize the laws and principles for effective REDD+ Implementation.
    - d. Strong customary laws – we can use that for effective participation.
    - e. Plans? Drafts of Stakeholder engagements strategy/ILGs/Benefit Distribution Strategy etc distributed.
  2. Capacity –
    - a. REDD+ - No but the concept has been practiced by our local people for centuries
    - b. People do not have the capacity and resources to engage among themselves due to isolation and diverseness and also mountainous. Thus presenting their collective views can be quite a mammoth task. Therefore, NGOS and CBOs have become their mouth piece.
    - c. Currently there is no direct representation at the National Level discussions under REDD+ implementation. There are opportunities for IPs or landowners to represent themselves by law (Forestry Act) as is the case with other specific resource development like the forestry sector (National Forest Services), but currently there is no Climate Change or REDD policy/law.
  3. MAIN Point
    1. We have strong laws that can promote IP/RO/LO participation. We need to harness and synergize those.
    2. Capacity building and Resource support needs to be made available for Los through their existing institutions such as the Incorporated Land Groups (ILGs)