

SOLOMON ISLANDS UN-REDD NATIONAL PROGRAMME

Minutes of the National REDD+ Taskforce Meeting on the 15th August 2012, 10AM– 2PM

Kairos Conference Centre, 1st Floor Hyundai Mall, Honiara

Minutes Summary

The National REDD+ Taskforce initial meeting seeks to bring all members as recommended in the Programme Executive Board (PEB). The meeting was chaired by the Permanent Secretary (Supervising) Mr. Chanel Iroi of the Ministry of Environment , Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology. A majority of the tentative National REDD + Taskforce members invited were able to attend and thus the meeting proceeded with presentations from chairman, PMU, and Live and Learn giving brief background and the information on the REDD+ Programme. The TOR was also discussed with the Chair requesting that all tentative National REDD+ Taskforce members to confirm their membership.

Meeting Decision and Action

The meeting realised the need for the formal appointment of the REDD+ Taskforce before the TOR can be finalised. Therefore a cabinet paper will be prepared by the Chair for the formal appointments to be made. The next meeting will be organised after the formal appointments in which each of the taskforce members will be assigned to a working group.

Members in attendance

Chair: Mr Chanel Iroi – Permanent Secretary (supervising) Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology

Secretariat: Mr Fred Patison – UNREDD Programme Manager, PMU
Mrs Jennifer Kilua – Programme Assistant, PMU

Members present: Ms Stephanie Price – Public Solicitor’s Office
Ms Martha Manaka– Public Solicitor’s Office
Mr Adam Beeson – Public Solicitor’s Office (Gizo)
Mr Jude Devesi – ARR (P)UNDP
Mr Valentine Turairajah – Program Manager, SEMRICC
Mrs Agnetha Vave- Karamui– MECDM
Mrs Lorio Waitara Sisiolo – General Secretary , SINCW
Ms Mary Ramosaea – Programme Assistance , SWoCK
Ms Rose Murray – Bank South Pacific
Ms Roselyn Rauna– Solomon Forest Association
Ms Alvina Erekalu – UNWOMEN
Ms Barbara Tutu – Solomon Islands Visitors Bureau
Mr. Katalulu Maepioh – Eagon Pacific Plantation
Mr. Gideon Bouro – SPC/GIZ

Mr. Ferguson Vaghi – Kolombangara Indigenous Biodiversity Community Association
 Mr. Marion Kuve – Natural Resource Development Fund
 Mr. David Salt – Kolombangara Forest Plantation Limited
 Mr. Bill Apusae – Live and Learn
 Mr. Johnson Fangalasuu – Live and Learn
 Mr. Shepherd Lapo – Transparency Solomon Islands
 Mr. Gavin Pereira – Director, Corporate Carbon
 Ms. Gloria Suluia – UNDP, Environment Analyst
 Mr. Joshua John Kera – Gold Ridge Mining Limited
 Ms. Claudine Watoto – Kastom Garden Association
 Mr. Douglas Yee – MECDM

Members Apologies: Mr Rence Sore – Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification

Mr Thomas Enters – UNEP
 Mr. Martin Jaiki – Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
 Mr. Barnabas Bago – Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination

Meeting starts: 10:10 AM

National REDD+ Taskforce Meeting Agenda

Time	Activity	Presenter/Facilitator	Remarks
9:30 AM	Opening and Welcome Remarks	Taskforce interim chair (MECDM)	
9:40 AM	Introduction to REDD+	MECDM	
10:00AM	Introduction to the UNREDD Global Programme and Solomon Islands	UNREDD Programme	
	Live and Learn REDD+ Project: A Community Approach	Live and Learn	
	Discussions and Questions		
10:30 AM	Tea Break		
11:00 AM	The REDD+ Taskforce TOR	UNREDD/Chair	
11:20AM	Discussions		

11:30 AM	Working Groups Listing/Initial Meeting	UNREDD/Chair	
11:40AM	Way Forward and Next Meeting	UNREDD/Chair	
12:00 Noon	Lunch		
Meeting Closed			

Welcome and Opening Remarks:

The meeting started with each member to introducing themselves and briefly explaining their understanding on what REDD+ is. This was followed by the opening remarks by the UNDP Assistant Resident Representative (Programmes) Mr. Jude Devesi. He welcomed all the members and stressed that REDD+ is not a standalone issue but has linkage to other sectors and thus stressed the need for coordination and collaboration in the implementation of the REDD+ Project. Mr Chanel Permanent Secretary (Supervising) of MECDM on behalf of the Government welcomed all tentative National REDD+ Taskforce members, and thanks them for making the time to attend the meeting.

Agenda Item 1 Introduction to REDD+

The Chair Mr. Chanel Iroi made an introductory and background presentation on what REDD+ is. The presentation outlined the initial establishment of REDD+ under UNFCCC and provided an overview of importance of implementing REDD+ activities. Furthermore, the presentation identified the International Guidance on REDD+ under Cancun Agreements. Mr. Chanel also stressed that the idea of REDD+ is basically to reduce the amount of emission through deforestation and degradation.

Discussions

- Mr. Katalulu enquired whether the presentation will be made available to members for reference and information.
- Fred affirmed materials will be made available to each tentative member once they confirm their membership to join the taskforce.

Agenda Item 2 Introduction to the UNREDD Global Programme and Solomon Islands

The Chair then asked UNREDD Programme Manager Mr. Fred Patison to present the next agenda item to make an introductory presentation on the background of UN-REDD. Mr Fred Patison states the UN-REDD Programme is a United Nations (UN) initiative and was established in year 2008 by FAO, UNEP and UNDP. For the Solomon Islands, the UN-REDD Programme has been approved by our Government in 2010 and was signed by the Government early in year 2011. Fred Patison further identified the key partner's agencies which include the Government, NGOs and other regional and donor agencies such as SPC/GIZ, JICA, Live and Learn and TNC.

Agenda Item 3. Live and Learn REDD+ Project : A Community Approach

The Co-chair Mr. Chanel Iroi invites Live and Learn representative to make a present based on their REDD+ Project implementations. The presentation provided a clear understanding that Live and Learn is working on

community based REDD+ approach on two pilot sites at Choiseul province is Sasamongga and Vorabare. Customary land tenure has been identified as one of the major challenges in getting the community involved.

Discussions

- Mr. Katalulu of Eagon Plantation Ltd enquired on what actions the Government is doing despite land issues and ownership of natural resources.
- Ms. Alvina Ereka of the UN Women stated that it is based assumptions and further enquired whether customary landownership has a clear link to corruption, as had been shown on the live and learn presentation
- Mr Gideon Bouro from SPC/GIZO wants to know the Government policy in terms of reduction on emissions. According to his knowledge deforestation is occurring in a much marginalized areas and steep areas at 400 meters above sea-level.
- The Chair, Chanel Iroi stated that Ministry of Land & Housing would be the right Ministry to answer Ms Alvina and Mr. Katalulu's question, however due to their unavailability we would try as much to have them attend our next meeting. He further stated that the Ministry of Lands & Housing currently have a Land Reform program in place. Regarding Gideon Bouro's question Ministry of Forestry would be the right Ministry to answer however according to his understanding there is a reforestation policy or strategy in place.
- Mr Katalulu of Eagon Plantation Ltd stated that due to land communal ownership this tends to hinder organizations when they want to implement this sort of project.
- Mr Fred Patison stated that with regards to UNREDD Programme each landowner has to have consent and being registered, if we have the consent then we have the opportunities.
- Mr Ferguson of KIBCA further enquired on how UN-REDD can compete with degradation and deforestation.
- Mr Fred Patison explained that REDD+ is meant to compliment the protected area and that REDD+ process will lead to protected area, therefore it does not compete but it compliment the protected areas.
- Mrs. Agnetha Karamui of MECDM further adds on stating that protected areas act is a legal document that we can use to establish any protected area.
- Mr Adam Beeson of Public Solicitor Office (Gizo) stated that due to the fact that majority of the people are protecting their own land, therefore UNREDD has to work extra hard.

Agenda Item 4. Review REDD+ Taskforce TOR

The chair, Mr Chanel Iroi then welcomed all the taskforce members after a short tea break and introduced the final agenda item which is to review the REDD+ Taskforce TOR. After much intensive discussions all members agreed that the REDD+ Taskforce member needs to be formally appointment by the Minister of Environment. After the formal appointment, then each working groups can be established.

Discussions

- Mr Fred Patison enquired whether there should be any formal appointment of all the members by the Minister of Environment.
- Ms. Stephanie Price from Public Solicitors Office made a comment that each members present has to seek approval from the organization if they agree to be part of the taskforce.
- Mr. Adam Beeson enquired on the duration of taskforce and the timeframe of the roadmap.
- There was consensus that cabinet approval is required for the formal appointment of the taskforce.

- In respond the Chair, Mr. Chanel Iroi states that the Taskforce will assist in the duration of this project.
- Mr. Johnson further enquired whether there is a clear indication of the duration in phase 1.

Closing Remarks

- The Chair, Mr Chanel Iroi on behalf of the Government thanked each member for their constructive ideas and comments. He will also ensure that a cabinet paper is being prepared for the next meeting.
- Mr. Johnson Fangalasuu closed the meeting with a closing prayer and blessing of the food.
- Lunch

Next Meeting

Next National REDD+Taskforce meeting is scheduled for September, 2012.

The meeting was closed at 1:10PM

Annex 1; Meeting Photos



