
UNREDD Study Tour to Fiji TOR

Background

The UN-REDD Programme is the United Nations collaborative initiative on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries (REDD+). The Programme was launched in 2008 and builds on the convening role and technical expertise of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

The Solomon Islands joined the UN-REDD Programme in February 2010, and the Initial National Programme Document (INPD) was signed in May 2011. The Initial National Programme (INP) is designed to support broad-based, multi-stakeholder consultation and engagement, analysis of drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and capacity development for national forest monitoring and measurement, reporting and verification (MRV). While the INP is implemented by the Government of the Solomon Islands, the INP will work closely with all relevant international, national and local development partners.

As part of efforts to increase awareness of REDD+ and capacity to develop a national approach within the SI the INP intends to organise a study tour for government and civil society representatives to increased their understanding of REDD+ at a national level. It is proposed that Fiji be chosen for this field trip due to the close proximity of the country, similar socio and economic conditions as well as their existing progress in developing a national REDD+ policy.

Objective of Study Tour

The overall objective of the study tour is to:

Increase awareness of the potential national level REDD+ architecture, how this can be developed and what challenges need to be overcome.

More specifically it is hoped that the study tour will help key stakeholders understand a number of key policy and operational areas including:

- How to balance interest project level voluntary market interests and approaches to REDD+ at the national level
 - What structures are appropriate for managing interest in voluntary carbon initiatives?
 - How can pilot sites inform national policy development?
 - How to ensure a project developer is a genuine business?
- How structures and systems for monitoring a national framework of safeguards can be developed and maintained

- How has a system of safeguards been developed?
- Which agencies are responsible for it?
- What linkages exist with other initiatives/sectors?
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- How to develop approaches to REDD+ that are able to work with customary landowners
 - How to arrange benefit sharing and cost sharing with landowners in REDD+ development?
 - How to balance landowner interest in logging with interest in forest carbon?
 - How to address forest carbon rights and landowner rights?
 - What are grievance mechanisms in place or to be developed?

Activities and Proposed Schedule

It is proposed that a small delegation of 11 people be taken to Fiji to meet with key stakeholders within the country and possibly observe a landowner consultation workshop. A proposed itinerary for the study tour would look as shown in Table 1. Exact details will, however, need to be finalised with REDD+ officers in Fiji.

Day	Activity	Person in Charge
1.	➤ Arrive in Fiji	➤
2.	➤ Initial briefing with members of Fiji REDD+ Steering Committee	➤ Fiji REDD+
3.	➤ Half-day workshop between delegation and members of the Fiji REDD+ Steering committee to present country programmes, progress and key challenges / opportunities ➤ Meetings with key technical officers working on REDD+	➤ SPC
4.	➤ Attendance of a Landowner consultation meeting	➤ SPC
5.	➤ Meetings with key representatives from private sector and civil society in	➤ SPC
6.	➤ Debrief with members of Fiji REDD+ Steering committee to discuss lessons learned and observations as well as to raise final questions.	➤ SPC
7.	➤ Return to Solomon Islands	➤

Proposed Composition of Delegation (To be confirmed)

It is proposed that the delegation be made up of members of the REDD+ Technical Working Groups with a focus on technical representatives nominated by government, key decision makers and a representative selection of civil society groups. An example list could include:

	Institution	Representative	Position
Government			
1.	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM)	Chanel Iroi	Undersecretary - MECDM
2.	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology	Douglas Yee	Director – Climate Change Division
3.	Ministry of Forestry and Research	Gordon Konairamo	Undersecretary Ministry of Forest
4.	Ministry of Forest and Research	Terence Titiulu	Assistant Commissioner of Forest – Planning
5.	Ministry of Lands	Genesis Kofana	Director – Land Reform, Ministry of Lands
6.	Office of the Prime Minister	Derrick Vaghi	
Civil Society			
7.	Representative of Landowners group	Mr.Ferguson Vaghi	KIBCA Coordinator
8.	Representative of a governance and rights focused NGO	LALSU rep	
Programme Management staff			
9.	UNREDD Programme Manager	Fred Patison	
10.	UNREDD Programme Assistant	Jennifer Kilua	
11.	UNDP Honiara sub-office representative	Gloria Suluia	Env Programme Analyst

It is anticipated that this list will be further modified when a final agenda for the trip has been agreed to ensure that the skills of those engaged fully match the topics under discussion.