

Government of
Papua New Guinea

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

ON HOW UNFCCC REDD+ SAFEGUARDS
ARE BEING ADDRESSED AND RESPECTED





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Abbreviations

CC	Climate change
CCDA	Climate Change and Development Authority
CCDMP	Climate Compatible Development Management Policy
CCMA	Climate Change Management Act (2015)
CEPA	Conservation and Environmental Protection Authority
DLPP	Department of Lands and Physical Planning
FA	Forest Authority
FCA	Forest Clearance Authority
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FMA	Forest Management Agreements
FPIC	Free, prior and informed consent
FRIMS	Forest Resource Information Management System
FRIP	Finance and Investment Plan
FRL	Forest Reference Level
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GoPNG	Government of Papua New Guinea
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
ILG	Incorporated Land Group
LULUCF	Land use, land-use change, and forestry
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
MTDPs	Medium Term Development Plans
NCCB	National Climate Change Board
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NFI	National Forest Inventory
NFMS	National Forest Monitoring System



NRS	National REDD+ Strategy
NRSC	National REDD+ Steering Committee
OLPLLG	Organic Law on Provincial and Local Level Governments
PaMs	Policies and Measures
PCI	Principle criteria and indicators
PLRs	Policies, Laws and Regulations
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PNGFA	Papua New Guinea Forest Authority
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries
RFIP	REDD+ Finance and Investment Plan
SABL	Special Agricultural Business Leases
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SLMS	Satellite Land Monitoring System
SIS	Safeguard Information System
SOI	Summary of Information
StaRS	Strategy for Responsible and Sustainable Development
TWC	REDD+ Technical Working Committees
UNDRIP	UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Foreword



Papua New Guinea has consistently made progress in implementing its obligations to the various decisions of the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and since its adoption in 2015, the Paris Agreement.

In 2007, PNG played a significant role in securing recognition of tropical forests, previously excluded under the Kyoto Protocol for purposes of reducing emissions to help fight climate change through an incentive mechanism called REDD+. This culminated with the inclusion of article 5 in the final text of the Paris Agreement in 2015 which recognised REDD+ as a standalone article given its importance

The ensuing years saw development of guidance and rules by the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC to support the establishment of REDD+. Countries were requested to develop with adequate support from the international community and with respect to national circumstances and capabilities four elements that would make them eligible to participate in a REDD+ mechanism. These elements include a National REDD+ Strategy or action plan, a national forest reference level, a robust and transparent national forest monitoring system to monitor the identified drivers of deforestation, forest degradation and forest cover change and finally a system for providing information on how the safeguards identified by the UNFCCC and known as the Cancun Safeguards are being addressed and respected through the implementation of the REDD+ activities.

Since 2014 the Climate Change and Development Authority has been coordinating a stakeholder process to develop the four elements. The National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) was developed and established within government linking monitoring systems of the PNG Forest Authority with new remote sensing technology. Using the NFMS for assessing forest cover change over time to estimate greenhouse gas emissions from forest and land use change, a national Forest Reference Level (FRL) was developed in 2015. Through further and thorough stakeholder consultation and engagement, a National REDD+ Strategy (NRS) was developed and approved in 2017. The NRS identified the major drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and outlined the key policy and measures to be undertaken to reduce emissions and to enhance carbon stocks. A Safeguards Information System (SIS) was put in place in 2020.

This first Summary of Information (SOI) presents how the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected in line with national policies, laws and regulations and relevant international treaties and conventions. The SOI also provides key indicators for gathering relevant information on how REDD+ safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout the implementation of REDD+ activities. The respective stakeholders and agencies or processes responsible for information and action related to each safeguard are also identified in the report.

I wish to thank all the government officials, industry members and non government players who have contributed to this report and for their continued support in future for the implementation of the safeguards information system.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ruel Yamuna'.

RUEL YAMUNA, LLB
Managing Director
Climate Change and Development Authority



Introduction

In accordance with the decisions established in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) regarding policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (REDD+), hereby the first Summary of Information (SOI) is presented on how safeguards listed in decision 1/CP.16 appendix I, are being addressed and respected in accordance with decisions 12/CP.17, 12/CP.19, 17/CP.21.

The Government of Papua New Guinea (GoPNG)'s first SOI is structured as follows:

Part I National circumstances for addressing and respecting the REDD+ safeguards

This section provides a clear overview of the national circumstances relevant to addressing and respecting the safeguards, including which REDD+ activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16 paragraph 70 are included in the summary of information.

Part II GoPNG's REDD+ safeguards approach

This section presents how the GoPNG is ensuring that the implementation of REDD+ activities is consistent with the Cancun Safeguards. In the final series of decisions on REDD+, agreed in Paris at COP 21, Parties to the UNFCCC developed some further guidance "on ensuring transparency, consistency, comprehensiveness and effectiveness when informing on how all the safeguards referred to in decision 1/CP.16, appendix I, are being addressed and respected." As part of this guidance, the COP "strongly encourages" developing country Parties, when providing the summary of information on how the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected, to include, inter alia, "[a] description of each safeguard in accordance with national circumstances."

In accordance with the above, this section provides the description of the Cancun safeguards according to the national context and presents the design framework for the Safeguard Information System (SIS).

-
1. As per UNFCCC Decision 17/CP.21 paragraph 5'a'
 2. As per UNFCCC Decision 17/CP.21 paragraph 4
 3. Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 63 that states: 'Agrees that, regardless of the source or type of financing, the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, should be consistent with the relevant provisions included in decision 1/CP.16, including the safeguards in its appendix I, in accordance with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties;'
 4. UNFCCC Decision 17/CP.21, see also UN-REDD brief on summaries of information
 5. Ibid, paragraph 5(b) see also UN-REDD brief on summaries of information for further analysis



Part III How have the safeguards been addressed and respected?

This section is divided into two subsections in accordance with the indicators adopted for demonstrating how safeguards are being addressed and respected:

3.1. Addressing safeguards

This section presents information in relation to the indicators adopted to demonstrate the Cancun safeguards have been 'addressed'. Understanding that 'addressing' safeguards requires anchoring the Cancun safeguards to the existing governance arrangements (e.g., policies, institutions, information systems), this section outlines all relevant legal and institutional frameworks in place to ensure REDD+ actions are implemented in accordance with the Cancun safeguards.

3.2. Respecting safeguards

As this is the GoPNG's first SOI, this section presents the set of indicators the GoPNG has adopted for demonstrating the Cancun safeguards are 'respected'. It is therefore anticipated that subsequent SOIs will provide information in relation to these indicators.

Part IV Operational mechanism to receive and address complaints

This section outlines the GoPNG's dedicated REDD+ Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) which will serve to receive, and address concerns and complaints associated with the implementation of the REDD+ actions.

Annex I Stakeholder Engagement

This annex outlines the participatory processes carried out to prepare this SOI.



NATIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES FOR ADDRESSING AND RESPECTING THE REDD+ SAFEGUARDS

This section provides a clear overview of the national circumstances relevant to addressing and respecting the safeguards⁶, including which REDD+ activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, are included in the summary of information⁷. The section is structured as follows:

- **Section 1.1.** provides an overview of the commitments undertaken by the GoPNG in terms of climate change including the role of forests and the land sector in the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement.
- **Section 1.2.** provides an overview of the National REDD+ Strategy.
- **Section 1.3.** provides an overview of the REDD+ activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70 that are included in the summary of information for purposes of results-based payments.

6. As per UNFCCC Decision 17/CP.21 paragraph 5'a'

7. As per UNFCCC Decision 17/CP.21 paragraph 4

8. GoPNG (2016) Nationally Determined Contribution – available at http://unfccc.int/files/focus/ndc_registry/application/pdf/png_indc_to_the_unfccc.pdf

THE COMMITMENTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE GOPNG IN TERMS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Papua New Guinea (PNG) is the eastern part of the world's second largest island land mass in the tropical West Pacific. It is one of the most underdeveloped regions in the world with low per capita income and serious health and social problems. A large proportion of its population of more than 7 million people live a lifestyle that has remained little changed for millennia, with extremely low use of fossil fuels and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. In the last decade or two the situation in PNG has been changing and there has been considerable physical infrastructure development in the main urban areas due to proceeds from the development and sale of the country's rich natural resources, including minerals, oil and gas. There have been, however, significant challenges in managing and utilizing these resources sustainably and ensuring that suitable sustainable development goals and plans are in place to guide the needs of the present without comprising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. In terms of climate change, PNG's economic growth has produced a concurrent increase in GHG emissions, as also seen in countries all over the world.

In October 2009, the Government launched a 40-year development strategy: PNG Vision 2050⁹. The intention is to transform the nation's mind-set and attitude and align the people, institutions and systems into educated, healthy and prosperous society. Vision 2050 is underpinned by seven Strategic Focus Areas: 1. Human Capital Development, Gender, Youth and People Empowerment; 2. Wealth Creation; 3. Institutional Development and Service Delivery; 4. Security and International Relations; 5. Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change; 6. Spiritual, Cultural and Community Development; and 7. Strategic Planning, Integration and Control.

This vision has been translated into more direct goals and indicators within the country's Development Strategic Plan 2010-2030 and successive Medium-Term Development Plans (MTDPs)¹¹ that provided

more specific targets and priorities to guide sector development plans and annual budgets.

The current theme of this new development road map is to shift the country's socio-economic development away from the current emissions-intensive growth strategy towards a more sustainable path that is able to leverage PNG's competitive advantages, natural wealth and significant human capital into the future. In alignment with this, in May 2015 the GoPNG passed the Climate Change Bill and became the first nation in the Pacific region to implement a law that will, among other things, minimise the effects of climate change as a result of infrastructural development.

The GoPNG's commitment to addressing and responding to climate change, through cross sector national action, directly supports and will be central to achieving the goals of responsible green growth as laid out in the National Strategy for Responsible and Sustainable Development (StaRS)¹².

The Climate Compatible Development Action Plan¹³ (2010) and subsequent policy, the Climate Compatible Development Management Policy¹⁴ (CCDMP) (2014) identified the key areas for action on climate change including targets of a 50% reduction in GHG emissions by 2050 and to reach a point of carbon neutrality by 2050.

The mechanisms to achieve this were further developed through the Climate Change Management Act (CCMA)¹⁵ (2015) as well as the country's NDC to address climate change. The NDC was submitted to the UNFCCC as an indication of PNG's commitment under the Paris Agreement¹⁶. The CCMA and NDC lay out a set of actions for addressing GHG emissions across sectors but do not include specific actions within the forest and land use sector, only acknowledging its importance in PNG and the need to develop both accurate estimates of emissions and potential actions.

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9. GoPNG Vision 2050, accessible at: <https://actnowpng.org/sites/default/files/png%20version%202050.pdf>
 10. GoPNG Development Strategic Plan 2010-2030 accessible at: http://www.asialeds.org/sites/default/files/resource/file/Publications_DSP2010-2030.pdf
 11. GoPNG MTDPs accessible at: <https://png-data.sprep.org/dataset/medium-term-development-plan-iii-2018-2022-volume-1>
 12. GoPNG STARs, accessible at: <https://png-data.sprep.org/dataset/national-strategy-responsible-sustainable-development-papua-new-guinea2014>
 13. GoPNG Climate Compatible Development Action Plan, accessible at: https://www.adaptation-undp.org/sites/default/files/downloads/png_climate_compatible_development.pdf
 14. GoPNG Climate Compatible Development Management Policy, accessible at: <https://www.pacificclimatechange.net/document/papua-new-guinea-national-climate-compatible-development-management-policy>
 15. GoPNG CCMA, accessible at: <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/ndcstaging/PublishedDocuments/Papua%20New%20Guinea%20First/PNG%20Climate%20Change%20Management%20Act%202015.pdf>
 16. GoPNG (2016) Nationally Determined Contribution – available at http://unfccc.int/files/focus/ndc_registry/application/pdf/png_indc_to_the_unfccc.pdf

THE NATIONAL REDD+ STRATEGY

PNG has a significant intact area of tropical forest covering 77.8% of the country's 46.9 million hectares (ha) of land¹⁷. Together with the forest of West Papua (Island of New Guinea) they represent one of the largest areas of intact tropical forest in the world. PNG's forests are also highly diverse, including 12 distinct forest types, with carbon-rich lowland tropical forest constituting over 50% of forest area.

The country's lowland forests have been ranked among the world's most ecologically distinctive forest regions,¹⁸ with the country's forests as a whole identified as containing 191 species of mammal (of which over 80% are endemic), 750 bird species (of which over 50% are endemic), 300 species of reptile and 197 species of amphibian¹⁹. PNG's montane forests are also recognised as being significant for their regional scarcity and levels of endemism²⁰.

The country's forests are also critical to the livelihoods and economy of the country. The ecosystem services forests provide help to maintain access to water and suitable agricultural land for PNG's predominantly rural population as well as helping to protect key infrastructure, people and crops from flash flooding and landslides. Forests also play a direct role in supporting

the livelihoods of rural communities, with more than 500 species of wild growing plants identified as being used for food and the value of annual bushmeat consumption estimated to be equivalent to \$26 million if alternative meats had to be sourced²¹.

These economic values sit alongside the deep social and cultural values attributed to forests across PNG. With over 90% of the land area under customary land ownership, PNG's forests are at the centre of the cultural identity of many communities.

DRIVERS OF FOREST COVER CHANGE

PNG's Forest Reference Level (FRL)²², submitted to the UNFCCC in 2017, identified that between 2000 and 2015 261,528 ha of forest was cleared, resulting in average emissions of over 5 million tCO₂e per annum. This deforestation has been primarily driven by the conversion of forestland to cropland, which accounts for 87% of deforestation in the country. Of this, shifting agriculture is responsible for 63% of the land deforested and commercial agricultural developments, primarily for oil palm, is responsible for 30% of the deforested land²³.

17. GoPNG (2016) Papua New Guinea's National REDD+ Forest Reference Level, Submission for UNFCCC Technical Assessment in 2017. Available at: https://redd.unfccc.int/files/png_frl_submission-15.01.2017.pdf
18. Olsen and Dinerstein (1998), Brooks et al 2006, Bryan et al (1997) quoted in Sherman P, Bryan J, Ash J, Hunnam P, Makey B, and Lokes B (2008) The State of the Forests of Papua New Guinea. Mapping the extent and condition of forest cover and measuring the drivers of forest change in the period 1972-2002. UPNG 2008
19. Shekran and Miller (1994) quoted in Sherman P, Bryan J, Ash J, Hunnam P, Makey B, and Lokes B (2008) The State of the Forests of Papua New Guinea. Mapping the extent and condition of forest cover and measuring the drivers of forest change in the period 1972-2002. UPNG 2008
20. Sherman et al (2008) The State of the Forests of Papua New Guinea
21. Sherman P, Bryan J, Ash J, Hunnam P, Makey B, and Lokes B (2008) The State of the Forests of Papua New Guinea. Mapping the extent and condition of forest cover and measuring the drivers of forest change in the period 1972-2002. UPNG 2008
22. GoPNG (2016) Papua New Guinea's National REDD+ Forest Reference Level, Submission for UNFCCC Technical Assessment in 2017. Available at: https://redd.unfccc.int/files/png_frl_submission-15.01.2017.pdf
23. GoPNG (2016) Papua New Guinea's National REDD+ Forest Reference Level, Submission for UNFCCC Technical Assessment in 2017. Available at: https://redd.unfccc.int/files/png_frl_submission-15.01.2017.pdf





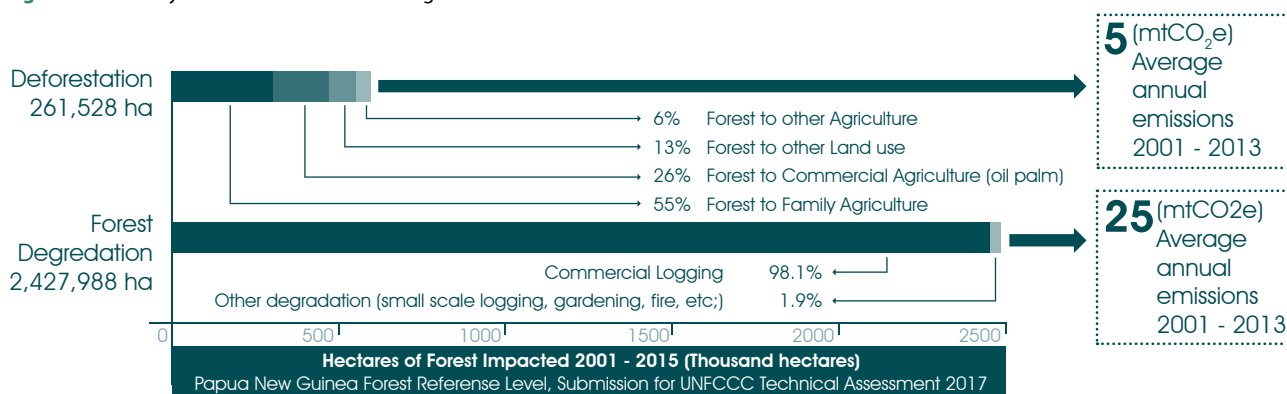
These trends in clearance of land for shifting agriculture as well as the demand for development through commercial agricultural developments are closely linked to ongoing population growth and increasing population density. With PNG's population increasing rapidly at 3.1% per annum²⁴ this trend is likely to continue and worsen over coming years. Indeed, the impacts of population growth on demand for agricultural productivity are being further heightened by a corresponding increase in the average number of calories consumed per person over time thus increasing the impacts of each individual, which combined with the population's rapid increases will present a significant driver of forest cover change in terms of conversion of forest to both shifting and permanent cropland²⁵.

The remaining forest area has also been subject to significant degradation with 2,427,987 ha of forest degraded between 2000-2015. This level of degradation has resulted in average emissions of over 25m tCO₂e per annum (See Figure 1). It is recognised that almost all of this disturbance has been caused by commercial logging (98.1%). This trend is also set to continue with over 8.6m ha of forest currently under concessions and

a further 8.4m ha identified as potential concession areas²⁶. Levels of degradation have, since 2008, also been driven by logging operations in Special Agricultural Business Leases (SABL) areas in preparation for future clearing and agricultural development with some 25% of exported timber coming from SABL areas in 2015.

Conversely, efforts to enhance forest cover through reforestation and forest rehabilitation activities have been limited, despite ambitious goals set out within Vision 2050 to establish 800,000 ha of forest plantation by the middle of this century. Papua New Guinea Forest Authority (PNGFA) estimates that some 60,000 ha have been reforested and are targeting a further 20,000 ha prior to 2030. The organisation's new 'Painim graun, planim diwai'²⁷ initiative, plans to expand the forest plantation area to meet the 800,000 ha target. The initiative, however, faces significant challenges in securing access to land and investors for this expansion, with plantation forestry facing challenges in creating appropriate incentives and securities for both land holders and companies to engage in the long-term agreements necessary for plantation forestry.

Figure 1: Primary drivers of forest cover change in PNG



24. PNG National Statistics Office - <http://www.nso.gov.pg/index.php/population-and-social/other-indicators#highlands-region>

25. Bourke, R.M. and Harwood, T. (eds) (2009). Food and Agriculture in Papua New Guinea. ANU E Press, The Australian National University, Canberra.

26. PNGFA Draft National Forest Plan (2013), accessible at: <https://pngexposed.files.wordpress.com/2013/01/draft-nfp.pdf>

27. 'Painim graun, planim diwai' refers to 'Secure land and plant trees'

THE NATIONAL REDD+ STRATEGY AND THE REDD+ FINANCE AND INVESTMENT PLAN

The National REDD+ Strategy²⁸ (NRS) was endorsed by the National Executive Council in 2017 and is one of the key four elements needed to be eligible for results based payments for emissions reductions and removals according to UNFCCC requirements for REDD+. The NRS marks the next milestone which will guide PNG's transition from the REDD+ readiness phase to the REDD+ implementation phase.

The NRS is based around PNG's 'Vision for REDD+', which is: 'To catalyse transformational change within the forest and land use sector towards a new responsible economy with lower GHG emissions, stronger long term economic growth and community livelihoods and the effective conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services while ensuring that Papua New Guinea's forest resources are used in a sustainable and equitable manner for the benefit of current and future generations.'

To effectively manage the national REDD+ process, PNG created enabling institutional frameworks for REDD+ implementation and effective stakeholder engagement. These frameworks include the REDD+ Technical Working Committees²⁹ (TWC) on National REDD+ Strategy, Social and Environmental Safeguards, Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) and FRL, pool of local REDD+ Experts³⁰.

The NRS was developed over an 18-month period through a process of structured consultation and awareness raising with key stakeholders from government agencies, civil society and the private sector. Thus, while the current strategy marks a critical step in the nation's REDD+ development process, further action is needed to ensure that the strategy is effectively financed, that proposed policies and measures are developed and tested, and that long term

sustainable financing and management systems are in place. To achieve this, the NRS is supported by a REDD+ Finance and Investment Plan (RFIP), which provides a detailed breakdown of REDD+ actions to be undertaken within the coming five years, including clear budgets and approaches to financing.

The achievement of PNG's emissions reduction targets will require action that cuts across government sectors and stakeholder groups and is undertaken at every level, from national to provincial, district, local and ward levels. These actions must not stop the processes of economic and social development but ensure that the country's forests are utilised in ways that are in line with the principles of responsible and sustainable development and that deliver the maximum long-term benefits to the people of PNG.

As identified by the RFIP, the actions identified through the NRS can deliver significant emissions reductions estimated at over 60mtCO₂e across the coming decade while also delivering significant social economic and environmental benefits. Delivering this level of impact will, however, require significant investment above current levels. The RFIP estimates the required investment at over \$1 billion over 10 years representing a nominal cost per tCO₂e of \$17.

These indicative costs are significantly in excess of existing government budgets with an annualised cost 80% over current spending across relevant sectors.

The range of policies and measures that will be needed have been grouped within three main REDD+ action areas that will address the direct and underlying drivers of forest cover change, namely:

28. GoPNG National REDD+ Strategy, accessible at: https://redd.unfccc.int/uploads/4838_1_papua_new_guinea_national_redd_2B_strategy.pdf

29. The TWCs are multi-stakeholder technical and advisory forums created to contribute to the development of PNG's National REDD+ Strategy by providing feedback, information sharing, increasing policy dialogue and collaboration

30. The pool of local experts is established through organisation of series of National REDD+ Expert Trainings by FCPF.



1. Strengthened land-use and development planning

The action area focuses on development, strengthening and rolling out the regulations under the draft Sustainable Land Use Planning Policy developed by the Department of Lands and Physical Planning (DLPP) to create an inclusive land use planning framework that recognises areas of high social and environmental value and strengthens both inclusion of all groups and the application of safeguards in land use planning. Full implementation will require investment of over \$20 million over 10 years with finance covering policy and regulatory development, land use planning systems and capacity as well as practical roll out to rural areas. This level of investment represents a 20% increase in existing recurrent spending for the entire DLPP.

The policies and measures are:

- a. Strengthened and Coordinated National Level Development and Land Use Planning through development of climate and REDD+ relevant development indicators within the national development framework and strengthening of development of national land use policy, planning and legislation.
- b. Integrated Subnational Planning through strategic development planning at provincial, and district level and strengthening the linkages between levels of planning.

2. Stronger environmental management, protection and enforcement

The action area focuses on the need to expand and further strengthen existing efforts across key sectors, including climate change, environment, forestry, agriculture, mining and natural gas extraction. This will be done by building on successes within specific projects or programmes, as well as learning the lessons of past failures. Actions will help to establish an effective and transparent system for environmental management, enforcement and protection that supports informed land use and resource use decision-making by both communities and the private sector.

Extensive tree planting across 220,000ha will help to rehabilitate degraded areas, reinstating key environmental services, while also developing a strong forest plantation sector that could deliver \$70m in forest products over the next decade and create a future asset worth close to \$2bill.

Actions cutting across timber legality, tree planting, research and enhanced approaches to forest management will be undertaken that will help to safeguard key environmental services, improve engagement with, and respect for, the rights of forest dependent communities and deliver over 39mtCO_{2e} in emissions reductions.

Achievement of these targets will however require investment in excess of \$540m over 10 years which would represent a fivefold increase in existing central government spending on forests. To meet these investment needs the GoPNG is committed to increased action within the sector, in partnership with key development partners, while also seeking to enable and promote strong private sector investment that supports land owning communities to build sustainable enterprises that catalyse the skills and experience of international firms and investment bodies.

The policies and measures are:

- a. *Strengthening climate change legislation, financing and management - through:*
 - Reviewing and updating of climate change (CC) legislation to link with changing domestic and international legislation.
 - Development of robust financial management systems to integrate climate finance with work of key sectors.
 - Support to development of capacity within CC institutions to effectively support and coordinate action on CC across sectors, levels of government and stakeholder groups.
- b. *Strengthening forest management and enforcement practices - through:*
 - Updating of the forest policy to consolidate amendments and incorporation of legality standards.
 - Strengthening capacity of PNGFA to enforce legislation through review of resources and support to development of management systems.
 - Strengthening alternative approaches to timber production and processing through expansion of plantations and small-scale timber producers.
 - Increase capacity of PNGFA and training and research institutions to raise awareness of and operationalise improved approaches to timber operations including legislation through support to universities, training colleges, government staff, communities and timber operators.

c. *Strengthening environmental management, enforcement and protection - through:*

- Strengthening of environmental policies, regulations and guidelines.
- Strengthening enforcement capacity of Conservation and Environmental Protection Authority (CEPA).
- Strengthening the capacity of Provincial governments for environmental management.

- Strengthen conservation planning, financing and management.

d. *Strengthen access to information and recourse mechanisms: through support to civil society groups to increase community and land holder awareness of their legal rights and requirements for environmental management and development planning as well as access to legal support to address breaches in those rights.*

3. Enhanced economic productivity and sustainable livelihoods

This action area focuses on strengthening food security within rural communities and developing a commercial agriculture sector that is sustainable and able to respond to changing international standards. The investment area has potential to contribute to government targets of increased revenue from agricultural exports while also significantly increasing productivity and earnings per hectare. Strengthened sustainable agricultural supply chains will also feed into supporting global progress towards sustainable consumption while improved productivity and adaptive capacity in PNG will help to reduce hunger and vulnerability to climate fluctuations and natural disasters.

Avoided expansion of agricultural areas also has the potential to deliver significant avoided emissions of over 23mtCO₂e over 10 years while additionally supporting the maintenance of biodiversity and environmental services within production landscapes. An indicative investment level of over \$500m is targeted for technical support, supply chain development, provision of improved planting stock and relevant materials, an investment need that is equivalent to a 50% increase in current government spending.

The policies and measures are:

- a. Development of a sustainable commercial agriculture sector: through improvements in guidelines and regulations for sustainable production of commercial products.
- b. Strengthened food security and increased productivity of family agriculture: through strengthening and expansion of extension services and support to rural communities.

Institutional Arrangements of the NRS and RFIP

The following agencies will play a key role in the implementation of the NRS and the RFIP based on

their legislated powers, functions and duties as well as their capacity to implement the proposed actions:

- **Climate Change and Development Authority (CCDA)** – is the national entity established by virtue of the Climate Change Management Act 2015 and is solely responsible for governing all matters pertaining to climate change management in the country. The CCMA sets out the core administrative/management structures and functions of the Authority in PNG as well as its roles and responsibilities as it relates to climate change related programs, projects and activities.
- **The PNG Forest Authority** – is the national entity established by virtue of The Forestry Act 1991 and is solely responsible for governing all matters pertaining to forestry within the country. The Forest Authority (FA) and all subsequent amendments and regulations legislate on matters such as forestry projects, programs and activities as well as the regulation of the timber industry. All the duties, roles and powers of the PNGFA management, administration and its operations are also set out within the FA.
- **Department of Agriculture and Livestock** – is the national entity responsible for coordinating the agriculture and livestock sector in the country despite an absence of any overarching legislation. This is due to the decentralisation of powers in this sector from national to provincial government since PNG's independence. Overall autonomy on matters of management and administration is given to individual sub-sectors created through commodity boards (e.g., Cocoa and Coffee Boards) and specific legislation to regulate these sub-sectors. All specific powers, functions and duties are stipulated within this commodity legislation.
- **Department of Lands & Physical Planning** – is the national entity established by virtue of two governing pieces of legislation, i.e., the

Land Act 1996, and the Physical Planning Act, 1996. These Acts provide the legal basis for the establishment of the one department and its two sub-departments (Lands and Physical Planning), including their core management, administration, powers, functions and duties. These two important entities are crucial in governing all matters pertaining to land use permits, land ownership, land development, planning and zoning in PNG.

- **Conservation & Environment Protection Authority** – is the national entity established by virtue of the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority Act, 2015. This legislation, coupled with other conservation and environmental legislation sets out the powers, functions and duties of this sector particularly as it relates to the establishment of environmental permits, standards and regulations as well as conservation areas and/or protected areas within PNG.
- **Provincial and Local Level Governments** – are the subnational entities of government established by virtue of the Organic Law on

Provincial and Local Level Governments 1995 (OLPLLG) including all subsequent amendments and associated legislation. It establishes the system of decentralization of powers from the national to the subnational level and outlines the individual powers, functions and duties of the Provincial and Local Level Governments with regards to their province, district or wards. There are also other entities that support the implementation of these powers and functions such as the District Development Authorities.

- **Other Relevant Institutions/Agencies** – are those entities that are present at the various levels of government and have a pivotal role in supporting the effective functions of the key agencies mentioned above. They include agencies such as the National Judiciary (District and Village Courts and Land Courts), NGO's/ CSO's and Private Sector (corporate companies), especially in addressing conflict/grievances, land ownership and community engagement, environmental development and sustainability issues and overall human rights and social equity.

REDD+ ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH THE GOPNG SEEKS TO OBTAIN AND RECEIVE RESULTS BASED PAYMENTS

This section outlines the REDD+ activities for which the GOPNG seeks to obtain and receive results-based payments in accordance with decision 9/CP.19, paragraph 4.

PNG made its first FRL submission, in accordance with decision 12/CP.17, on 15 January 2017, which was subject to a technical assessment following the guidance provided in decision 13/CP.19 and its annex. Taking into consideration the technical inputs of the assessment team, Papua New Guinea submitted a modified version of its FRL on 10 July 2017. The assessed FRL was included as one of the elements of the technical annex to its first BUR submitted by Papua New Guinea on 17 April 2019, in accordance with the guidelines contained in the annex to decision 14/CP.19.

The technical annex on REDD+ demonstrates that results achieved by PNG between 2014 and 2015 were 9,003,314 tCO₂e. The REDD+ activities that were accounted for in the period 2014 to 2015 include deforestation, forest degradation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks. The emission reductions come mainly from reduced degradation. PNG reports zero (0) removals from carbon stock enhancement in the historical reference period (2001-2013) and 2014-2015.

The GHG emission reductions between 2014 and 2015 can be alluded to the following REDD+ actions :

- Awareness and educational activities on climate change and REDD+ have been extensively conducted throughout the country;
- PNG moving away from Forest Clearance Authority (FCA) to the Forest Management Agreement (FMA) which has provisions for sustainable forest management. This is in line with the country's overall forestry priority and PNG's international commitment on REDD+;
- Implementation of the Medium Term Development Plan (2011-2015), Papua New Guinea Development Strategic Plan (2010-2030) and the PNG Vision 2050 which discourage deforestation and promote reforestation/afforestation;
- Forestry and Climate Change Framework for Action (2009-2015) which identifies afforestation, reduced deforestation and reforestation as means to mitigate climate change;
- Implementation of the Climate Compatible Development Plan for PNG by PNGFA in collaboration with CCDA.



PART

2

GOPNG'S REDD+ SAFEGUARDS APPROACH

This section presents how the GoPNG is ensuring REDD+ implementation is consistent with Cancun Safeguards. In the final series of decisions on REDD+, agreed in Paris at COP 21, Parties to the UNFCCC developed some further guidance “on ensuring transparency, consistency, comprehensiveness and effectiveness when informing on how all the safeguards referred to in decision 1/CP.16, appendix I, are being addressed and respected.”³³ As part of this guidance, the COP “strongly encourages” developing country Parties, when providing the summary of information on how the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected, to include, inter alia, “[a] description of each safeguard in accordance with national circumstances.”³⁴

In accordance with the above, this section outlines a description of the Cancun safeguards according to PNG’s national context and provides an overview on progress and perspectives in the set-up of a system for providing information on how the safeguards have been addressed and respected.

33. UNFCCC Decision 17/CP.21, see also UN-REDD brief on summaries of information

34. Ibid, paragraph 5(b) see also UN-REDD brief on summaries of information for further analysis

GOPNG'S DESCRIPTION OF THE CANCUN SAFEGUARDS

Parties to the UNFCCC agreed to a set of seven safeguards (broad principles) that are expected to be applied in accordance with national context and circumstances when undertaking REDD+ activities (*See Box 1*).

Box 1: The Cancun safeguards³⁵

When undertaking the activities referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision, the following safeguards should be promoted and supported:

- (a) That actions complement or are consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes and relevant international conventions and agreements;
- (b) Transparent and effective national forest governance structures, taking into account national legislation and sovereignty;
- (c) Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national circumstances and laws, and noting that the United Nations General Assembly has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- (d) The full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, in the actions referred to in paragraphs 70 and 72 of this decision;
- (e) That actions are consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that the actions referred to in paragraph 70 of this decision are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits;³⁶
- (f) Actions to address the risks of reversals;
- (g) Actions to reduce displacement of emissions

A description of each safeguard in accordance with national circumstances was achieved by identifying the various rights and obligations that are embodied in the Cancun safeguards, and examining how these are reflected in the specific context of PNG's Policies, Laws and Regulations (PLRs). This section presents a description of each Cancun safeguard, including a proposed narrative description and breakdown of the core elements of such description.

35. UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16 Appendix 1 paragraph 2

36. Taking into account the need for sustainable livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities and their interdependence on forests in most countries, reflected in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as International Mother Earth Day.





DESCRIPTION OF SAFEGUARD A

Narrative description:

The National REDD+ Strategy must be implemented in compliance with the objectives of national forest programmes, and consistent with the provisions of the relevant treaties and international conventions to which PNG is Party.

Core elements of the description:

- a. The National REDD+ Strategy is consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes.
- b. The National REDD+ Strategy is consistent with relevant and applicable international conventions and agreements.

DESCRIPTION OF SAFEGUARD B

Narrative description:

Transparency and effectiveness of forest governance structures, including the right to access to information, accountability, access to justice and the recognition and protection of land use rights are promoted and regulated in the scope of the application of the National REDD+ Strategy through the relevant PLRs of the country.

Core elements of the description:

- a. The right to access information is recognized and protected in the context of the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy.
- b. Accountability is guaranteed in the context of the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy.
- c. The right to access justice is recognized and protected in the context of the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy.
- d. Rights over forest land are recognized and protected in the context of the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy.

DESCRIPTION OF SAFEGUARD C

Narrative description:

The recognition of, and respect for the rights of customary landowners, local communities and vulnerable groups in accordance with the relevant PLRs is applicable to the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy;

including the rights to non-discrimination, traditional knowledge and culture, self-determination, benefit sharing and collective tenure rights.

Core elements of the description:

- a. The rights of customary landowners, local communities and vulnerable groups are promoted and protected in the context of the application of the National REDD+ Strategy, in consistency with relevant and applicable international conventions and treaties.
- b. Traditional knowledge is recognized and protected in the context of the application of the National REDD+ Strategy.

DESCRIPTION OF SAFEGUARD D

Narrative description:

The right to participate, in particular for customary landowners, local communities and vulnerable groups, is recognized and promoted under the National REDD+ Strategy through the relevant PLRs of the country, which include the promotion of gender equality and the right to free, prior and informed consent.

Core elements of the description:

- a. The right to participate in the design and implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy is recognized and promoted.
- b. Customary landowners' local communities' and vulnerable groups' right to participate, including their Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), is recognized and promoted in the context of the application of the National REDD+ Strategy.
- c. Gender equality is promoted and protected in the context of the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy.

DESCRIPTION OF SAFEGUARD E

Narrative description:

REDD+ actions under the National REDD+ Strategy will promote the conservation of natural forests and biodiversity, the enhancement of social and environmental benefits, and will not result in the conversion of natural forests, in accordance with the relevant PLRs in the country.

Core elements of the description:

- a. The National REDD+ Strategy is consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity.
- b. The National REDD+ Strategy will not incentivise the conversion of natural forests.
- c. Enhancement of and the right to a fair distribution of benefits is recognized and protected in the context of the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy.

DESCRIPTION OF SAFEGUARDS F AND G

Narrative description:

Addressing risks of reversals of and displacement of emissions from the REDD+ actions are required by the National REDD+ Strategy.

Core elements of the description:

- a. Addressing risks of reversals is required by the National REDD+ Strategy.
- b. Addressing risks of displacement of emissions is required by the National REDD+ Strategy.



SECTION

2.2

OVERVIEW OF THE SAFEGUARD INFORMATION SYSTEM

The SIS is defined as a domestic institutional arrangement responsible for providing information as to how the Cancun Safeguards are being addressed and respected in the context of the implementation of the proposed REDD+ actions.

The SIS website is available at: <https://pngsis.org/sis/>
The objective of PNG's SIS is to provide information that is accessible by all relevant stakeholders to demonstrate that the seven Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout REDD+ implementation. As such, the SIS will be used to:

- provide information that is accessible by all domestic stakeholders to demonstrate that the seven Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected throughout REDD+ implementation; and

- to prepare the most recent summary of information on how all the Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected³⁷. The GoPNG intends to utilize the information compiled and managed by the SIS as the basis for the preparation of its summary of information to the UNFCCC.

The institutional arrangements for the SIS are linked to the overall institutional arrangements set out for the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy (see Figure 2). See Figure 3 for an overview of the functions and institutional arrangements of GoPNG's SIS and Figure 4 for an overview of the SIS process. Each function and associated institutional arrangements are further explained and presented figure 2, 3 and 4. National and international reports will be published every two years.

37. Decision 12/CP.17, paragraph 3 and Decision 9/CP.19, paragraph 4

Figure 2: REDD+ Coordination Arrangements

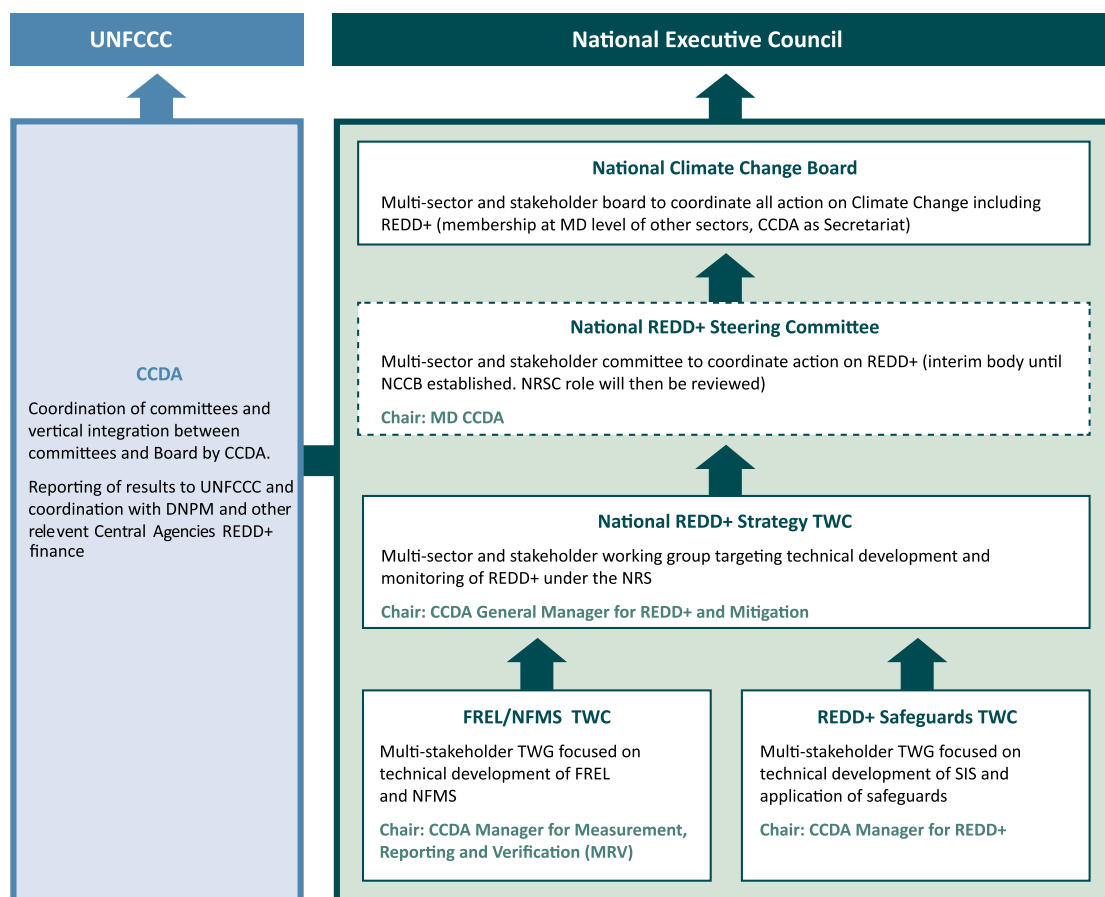
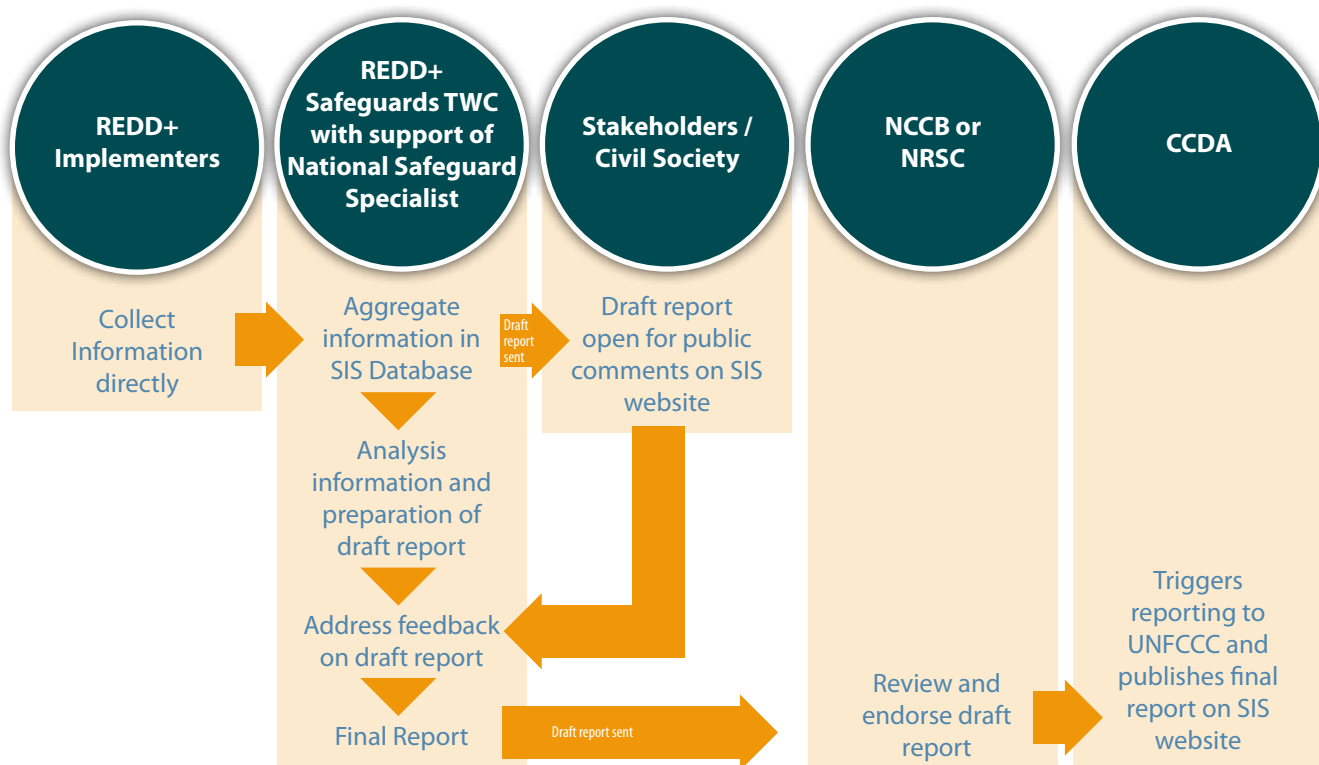


Figure 3: Overview of the functions and institutional arrangements of GoPNG's SIS

		Functions of the SIS
4	Dissemination	CCDA will trigger reporting to UNFCCC and enable web-based publication and updates into the safeguards information system (SIS)
3	Analysis	REDD+ Safeguards TWC with support of National Safeguards Specialist will carry out an analysis and prepare a draft report for public comments from stakeholders and will submit the final report to the NCCB or NRSC for final validation and endorsement. Existing and relevant systems will also be used to complement the information and analysis
2	Aggregation	REDD+ Safeguards TWC with support of National Safeguards Specialist (house in CCDA) Will aggregate information into SIS database.
1	Collection	REDD+ Implementers are responsible for collection of information as a component of their monitoring and reporting responsibilities under the implementation of REDD+ activities

Figure 4: Overview of the GoPNG's SIS process



FUNCTION 1: COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

This function refers to the process of collecting information on the ground and is linked to the monitoring and reporting responsibilities under the implementation of the REDD+ actions.

The collection of information is to be carried out primarily by the REDD+ Implementers as a component of their monitoring and reporting responsibilities.

To be able to collect the necessary information for purposes of the SIS, specific template reports will be followed in accordance with the SIS's indicators (see section 3.2. below). Additionally, and to complement the information gathered by REDD+ implementers, relevant information collected and reported by existing and relevant systems will be considered and utilized. See section on 'analysis of information'.

FUNCTION 2: AGGREGATION OF INFORMATION

This function refers to the process of aggregating the requested information at national level with the purpose of being able to report on the application of the safeguards at national level. The REDD+ Safeguards TWC, with the support of the National Safeguard Specialist, will be responsible for the aggregation of the information.

FUNCTION 3: ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION

The analysis function aims to offer a qualitative and quantitative assessment of the information in order to determine to what extent the safeguards are being addressed and respected at national level.

The REDD+ Safeguards TWC, with the support of the National Safeguard Specialist, will analyse the information. As noted above, apart from the data provided by the REDD+ implementers, relevant information collected and reported by existing and relevant systems will be considered and utilized in this phase of analysis of information. The key information systems and mechanisms are outlined in Tables 1 and 2 below.

The REDD+ Safeguards TWC, with the support of the National Safeguard Specialist, will contact the institutions responsible for these systems and for the preparation of these reports to international conventions and agreements to request the relevant information. This will be done utilizing a specific template report.

With all the information, the REDD+ Safeguards TWC, with the support of the National Safeguard Specialist, will prepare a draft report and submit it for public comments.

Table 1. List of existing and relevant national information systems and sources

Systems		Institution responsible	Relevant to safeguard
1.	Satellite Land Monitoring System (part of National Forest Monitoring System)	Climate Change and Development Authority	C, D, E, F and G
2.	Forest Resource Information System (FRIMS)	PNG Forest Authority	B, E, F and G
3.	Environmental Management Information System	Conservation and Environment Protection Authority	E
4.	PNG Resource Information System	Department of Department of Agriculture and Livestock	C, F and G
5.	Mineral Tenement Database, FlexiCadastre	Mineral Resources Authority	F and G
6.	Pacific Islands Legal information Institute	Office of Legislative Council within the Dept. of Prime Minister & National Executive Council	All ('addressed')
7.	International Household Survey Network	National Statistics Office	C
8.	Incorporated Land Groups Registry	Dept. of Lands & Physical Planning	B and C

Table 2: List of reporting mechanisms to international treaties and agreements considered relevant for providing information on REDD + safeguards

Treaty or Convention	Responsible institution	Relevant to Safeguards
Convention on Biological Diversity	Conservation and Environmental Protection Authority (CEPA)	E
UN Convention on Climate Change and Desertification	CEPA	A
Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species	CEPA	E
RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands	CEPA	A
Convention on the Protection and Promotion of The Diversity of Cultural Expressions	Tourism Promotion Authority (TPA)	C
United Nations Convention Against Corruption	Dept. of Justice & Attorney General (DJAG) - Public Prosecutor's Office	B
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	Tourism Promotion Authority (TPA)	B, C and E
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Department of Justice & Attorney General (DJAG)	B and C
Convention On The Elimination Of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	DJAG – Public Solicitor's Office	B and C
Convention On The Elimination of All Forms Of Discrimination Against Women	Dept. of Community Development	B

The draft report will be posted on the SIS website, and the public will have 30 working days to submit any written comments to the REDD+ Safeguards TWC.

The REDD+ Safeguards TWC, with the support of the National Safeguard Specialist, will address the feedback received within 30 days of finalizing the public comment period. Based on comments received, the REDD+ Safeguards TWC will issue a response matrix that summarizes all comments and responses to each and will submit the final report to the National Climate Change Board (NCCB) or the National REDD+ Steering Committee (NRSC) for final validation and endorsement.

FUNCTION 4: DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

This function refers to the process of disseminating the information produced by the SIS.

A national report will be prepared every two years. Once the NCCB/NRSC endorses the final report, the CCDA will publish it as a final version on the SIS website.

The CCDA will adapt the national report into a summary of information in order to be able to submit it to the UNFCCC every two years. Information and updates on the SIS website will be done frequently.



SIS INDICATORS-HOW HAVE THE SAFEGUARDS BEEN ADDRESSED AND RESPECTED?

The GoPNG will provide information on how the seven Cancun safeguards have been “addressed” and “respected” throughout the implementation of the REDD+ activities³⁹.

The UNFCCC does not establish any guidance about the type of information that is expected to be provided to demonstrate how REDD+ safeguards are being ‘addressed’ and ‘respected’. In accordance with best practices⁴⁰, the GoPNG understands that ‘address’ comprises what developing country Parties have, and plan to have, in place to guarantee the implementation of the safeguards. Consequently, information on how safeguards are addressed will vary from country to country but would generally pertain to developing country Parties’ governance arrangements, all of which would seek to guarantee the implementation of the safeguards. Regarding ‘respect’, the GoPNG understands it is associated with, and expected to be provided in relation to, how effective a country’s governance arrangements have been in safeguarding the implementation of REDD+ actions. This information should demonstrate the extent to which each of the Cancun safeguards has been achieved when implementing REDD+ actions, including any actions, taken or planned, to improve implementation measures over time.

39. UNFCCC Decision 12/CP.17 paragraph 3

40. Braña Varela, J., Lee, D., Rey Christen, D., and Swan, S. 2014. “REDD+ Safeguards: Practical Considerations for Developing a Summary of Information.” Prepared with support from the Government of Norway’s International Climate and Forest Initiative. Available at www.merid.org/reddsafeguards

This section presents the set of indicators adopted by the GoPNG's SIS to collect, aggregate, analyse and disseminate information to demonstrate the Cancun safeguards have been 'addressed' and 'respected'. These indicators were developed in accordance with GoPNG's description of the Cancun safeguards, in particular with respect to the core elements of description of each safeguard (*presented in section 2.1. above*).



SECTION 3.1

ADDRESSING THE SAFEGUARDS

This section presents information in relation to the indicators adopted to demonstrate the Cancun safeguards have been 'addressed'. Understanding that 'addressing' safeguards requires anchoring the Cancun safeguards to the existing governance arrangements (e.g., policies, laws and regulations, institutional arrangements) of the GoPNG, this section outlines all relevant legal and institutional frameworks in place that ensure REDD+ actions are implemented in accordance with the Cancun safeguards.

These governance arrangements have been in place and are applicable to the five REDD+ policies and actions implemented by the GOPNG over the 2014 and 2015 period⁴¹, which are:

- Awareness and educational activities on climate change and REDD+ have been extensively conducted throughout the country;
- PNG moving away from (FCA) to the (FMA) which has provisions for sustainable forest management. This is in line with the country's overall forestry priority and PNG's international commitment on REDD+;
- Implementation of the Medium Term Development Plan (2011-2015), Papua New Guinea Development Strategic Plan (2010- 2030) and the PNG Vision 2050 which discourage deforestation but promote reforestation/afforestation.
- Forestry and Climate Change Framework for Actions (2009-2015) which identifies afforestation, reduced deforestation and reforestation as means to mitigate climate change; and
- Implementation of the Climate Compatible Development Plan for PNG by PNGFA in collaboration with CCDA.

41. PNG first biennial update report to the UNFCCC, December 2018, Chapter 3. Available at: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/PNG_BUR1_re_submission_20190830.pdf

CANCUN SAFEGUARD A

A.1.

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE REDD+ STRATEGY AND ASSOCIATED PLRS ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF NATIONAL FOREST PROGRAMMES

The legal framework in PNG sets out clear objectives for its forest programmes under the National Forest Policy,⁴² the National Forestry Development Guidelines and the Forestry and Climate Change Framework for Action⁴³, and key National Policies such as the MTDP III⁴⁴ which set out specific indicators and targets (also known as Key results areas relating to the development of PNG's forests). These targets are also captured within the NRS, which further expounds upon and reinforces these broad objectives. The National Constitution sets the overall basis for these forest programmes.⁴⁵

A.2.

DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE NATIONAL REDD+ STRATEGY AND ASSOCIATED PLRS ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS TO WHICH GOPNG IS A PARTY

PNG is Party to several relevant international conventions and agreements. These include:

- International Convention on the Elimination on all Forms of Racial Discrimination,
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,
- Convention on the Political Rights of Women,
- International Convention on the Elimination on all Forms of Racial Discrimination,
- Convention on the Protection and Promotion of The Diversity of Cultural Expressions,
- United Nations Convention against Corruption,
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,
- Convention on the Rights of the Child,
- Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage,
- International Tropical Timber Agreement,
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES),
- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD),
- Convention on Biological Diversity,
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the
- Ramsar Convention.

42. National Forest Policy 1991, Part II (2) refer to Forest Management Policies and outlines the basis for all National Forestry Development Programmes, and includes the need for all forestry in the country to be managed in accordance with this policy.

43. The Forestry and Climate Change Framework for Action 2015 , Section F – this refers to Climate Change Initiatives under UNFCCC and mention specific reference to REDD+ under Clause (F.2(i)(e) as a possible activity to be included within their forestry mandate. However, this document is now considered outdated.

44. The MTDP III, 2018-2022 has specific c sections (2.1 and 3.2, 3.3, 4.2 and 4.8) which make reference to forestry as part of broad targets for increased revenue and wealth creation and responsible sustainable development These sections set out clear indicators and targets for this. Forestry targets and indicators are tied into the broader goal of responsible sustainable development and covers the reduction in round logs and increases to downstream processing, conservation and sustainable management of forests, sustainable reforestation and afforestation programmes and protecting and conserving rainforests through the reduction in primary forest depletion rates per year from logging. In this policy document they are presented as key results areas (KRAs) for the country.

45. The Fourth National Goal and Directive Principle of the Constitution of PNG and section 25 – Implementation of the NGDP's.

The Constitution 'binds' PNG to the specific instrument once it is ratified. This denotes a commitment on PNG's part to ensure compliance with its terms and provisions under its National REDD+ Strategy.

The National REDD+ Strategy sits within this international and national framework of action and will directly contribute to PNG's progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These goals will form the basis of PNG's upcoming Medium Term Development Plan in line with those laid out in the Vision 2050 and the StaRS. In particular, PNG's work on REDD+ will help to achieve the goals on Climate Action (SDG13) and Life on Land (SDG15).



CANCUN SAFEGUARD B

B.1.

DESCRIPTION OF PLRS, INSTITUTIONAL MANDATES AND PROCEDURES FOR PROVIDING AND DISSEMINATING INFORMATION CONCERNING THE REDD+ ACTIONS

The Right to Freedom of Information is a qualified right under the National Constitution of PNG.⁴⁶ The National Constitution⁴⁷ interprets 'Information' as 'official documents.' The Constitution⁴⁸ establishes procedures by which citizens may obtain access to official information. Forestry legislation requires a Public register to be kept of all important documents and decisions concerning forest management. It also specifies the kinds of information recorded⁵⁰ and sets out the processes/procedures necessary for accessing this information.⁵¹

B.2.

DESCRIPTION OF ANTI-CORRUPTION PLRS AND MEASURES IN PLACE CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REDD+ ACTIONS

All Government agencies are subject to Financial and Accounting/ Auditing processes enforced through institutions designated for this purpose, which include the Auditor General's Office, the Department of Finance, Department of Treasury and the Internal Revenue Commission as well as the Public Accounts Committees. These institutions have been given their mandate by either an Act of Parliament or the Constitution of PNG.⁵²

B.3.

DESCRIPTION OF PLRS, INSTITUTIONAL MANDATES AND PROCEDURES CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF LAND TENURE RIGHTS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REDD+ ACTIONS

The Constitution and land and forestry legislation guarantee clear land tenure rights to customary landowners and recognizes the extent of these rights in relation to forest resources.⁵³ They also provide the basis for just compensation to be awarded in the event of development and acquisition of land/resources from customary landowners⁵⁴, which is applicable to both statutory and customary ownership and use rights. Land titling procedures are also established via respective legislation and involve the formation of land holding groups to govern them. Gender equality is recognized and guaranteed as part of these groups and relates to decision making processes over forest/land tenure arrangements and benefits.

B.4.

DESCRIPTION OF PLRS, INSTITUTIONAL MANDATES AND PROCEDURES FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION MECHANISMS REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REDD+ ACTIONS

The Constitution of PNG recognizes the Right to the Protection of the Law for all citizens 'directly affected' by any violations to their rights.⁵⁵ This legal framework also provides for dispute resolution mechanisms at all levels of government⁵⁶ (especially in relation to customary land or natural resources). Public Law offices are established to assist citizens otherwise unable to access legal services and other support. A process of appeal⁵⁷ is also provided as part of the traditional legal system⁵⁸ and is prescribed within individual sector-specific Acts. Remedies for breaches of rights are also afforded under both Acts and subordinate laws but they are not clearly prescribed. There are also specific courts and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms provided to enforce the rights of access to justice for all customary landowners/ local communities vulnerable to unfair/ unjust business practices.

50. Section 103A (3)(b) to (c) Forestry Act, 1991.

51. Forestry Regulations 1998, regulations 245 (access to Maps), 246 (access to Forms related to various aspects of Forestry activities/operations and PNGFA regulated matters), 247 (access to Tender Forms), and 249 (access to the Public register).

52. Under Part VIII and Division 1 the relevant Public Finance offices are established. These include the Auditor-General (s.213 and 214), and the Public Accounts Committees (s. 215 and 216).

53. Under section 58 of the Forestry Act in relation to Forest Management Agreements and the 34 step process for establishing this.

54. Under section 53 of the Constitution.

55. This provision, however, focuses on the rights emanating from persons in custody or charged with criminal offences.

56. Section 37 of the National Constitution.

57. Section 155(2), (3) and of the National Constitution.

58. Supreme, National Court and District Courts of PNG.

CANCUN SAFEGUARD C

C.1. DESCRIPTION OF PLRS, INSTITUTIONAL MANDATES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF CUSTOMARY LANDOWNERS, LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND VULNERABLE GROUPS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REDD+ ACTIONS

The National Constitution of PNG provides a standard criterion for defining who are 'indigenous people' in PNG, which is consistent with international law. However, the term 'indigenous people' is not used in the Constitution or in relevant PLRs. This is replaced with the term 'customary landowners'. These definitions are elaborated further in Acts of Parliament which relate to land and natural resources. The legal framework also provides definitions for 'local communities'⁵⁹.

C.2. DESCRIPTION OF PLRS, INSTITUTIONAL MANDATES AND PROCEDURES TO RESPECT AND PROTECT TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE

The legal framework outlines a clear objective towards safeguarding customary landowners' and local communities' rights as they relate to culture and also indirectly includes a respect for their identity, customs, traditions and institutions. There is various legislation which promotes the need to maintain cultural heritage through the establishment of the institutions and systems which support and facilitate its preservation.

Traditional knowledge has always been an aspect of customary law which is recognized under the Constitution. Traditional knowledge is also referred to as 'customary practices'⁶⁰, referring to the customs or usual practices associated with a particular society, place, or set of circumstances.

C.3. DESCRIPTION OF PLRS, INSTITUTIONAL MANDATES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE RECOGNITION, RESPECT AND PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF CUSTOMARY LANDOWNERS, LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND VULNERABLE GROUPS

The Constitution obliges the Government, as the custodian of the people of PNG, to recognize and 'uphold' the Underlying Laws governing customs and traditions and the rights associated with them. These are also detailed and reinforced via specific Acts of Parliament. This legal framework outlines all available means of ensuring there is sufficient remedy to address any discrimination shown towards customary landowners/groups.

The right of self-determination is recognized in the National Constitution and also detailed within specific Acts of Parliament, which are designed to facilitate and to recognize this right through the primary forms of traditional decision making structures.

PLRs recognize the collective rights of forest ownership in PNG through the establishment of Incorporated Land Groups (ILGs) as per the relevant legislation. ILGs are designed as a customary social unit to possess, manage and trade land. The Constitution recognizes the right of customary land owners and local communities in terms of the inherent right to manage their own natural resources following their traditions from time immemorial.⁶¹ This is supported in all respective PLRs relating to natural resource development on customary owned land and over customary owned resources especially within forest lands which they own or exercise a traditional user right over. The Constitution section 53 recognizes the rights of citizens in situations in which there has been an unjust deprivation of property or land, particularly customary land, and provides for the process to be followed within the Land Act 1996 prior to extinguishing or diminishing their right. In such instances, a monetary form of compensation is normally awarded, however, other forms of compensatory measures are also considered.

59. The Land Act 1996 and the National Constitution of PNG defines 'local communities' as 'any other person' (who does not qualify as a customary landowner') and 'citizens.'

60. Papua New Guinea Policy on Protected Areas. Conservation & Environment Protection Authority, October 2014, Waigani, National Capital District, Papua New Guinea. Available at: https://info.undp.org/docs/pdc/Documents/PNG/PNG%20Protected%20Areas%20Policy-NEC%20Approved_Signed.pdf

61. The Constitution, National Goals and Directive Principles, 5

The legislative framework in PNG covers mechanisms required for the fair sharing of benefits derived from forest resources. The Constitution refers to ‘the conservation of natural resources and environment for the collective benefit of all, and to be replenished for the benefit of future generations’ and the Organic Law on Provincial and Local Level Governments⁶² regulates benefit sharing from development of natural resources at the subnational level.

62. Section 98 of the Organic Law on Provincial and Local Level Governments (OLPLLG).



CANCUN SAFEGUARD D

D.1.

DESCRIPTION OF PLRS, INSTITUTIONAL MANDATES AND PROCEDURES THAT RECOGNIZE AND REGULATE THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REDD+ ACTIONS

The relevant PLRs⁶³ provide for equal opportunities for the participation of every citizen in the development process and make it mandatory for customary resource owners and local communities to be present on decision making bodies⁶⁴ concerning the use of forest resources. Various PLRs⁶⁵ make it mandatory for customary resource owners and local communities to be present on Boards, Committees and Technical Working Groups during the various transactions concerning the use of forest resources, especially the process of planning, acquisition and development. The responsibilities of all respective agencies in relation to public participation are defined within forestry and natural resource PLRs.⁶⁶ Forestry regulations set out time-frames for inputs. PLRs provide for the Right to Freedom of Information⁶⁷ and establish procedures for citizens to access it, subject to certain restrictions. There are also provisions which outline the process of providing inputs and receiving them.⁶⁸ Refusals of applications must state the reasons and have to be registered in a 'register' which is open to public scrutiny.⁶⁹ The PLRs provide for access to justice through clear internal administrative processes⁷⁰ and relate to disputes over environmental plans or impact assessments.⁷¹ The PLRs⁷² allow for a non-prohibitive option in allowing for the pursuit of further legal remedies⁷³ despite also using internal/administrative dispute resolution processes.⁷⁴ They clearly stipulate the timely delivery of rulings as well.

63. National Goals and Directive Principles, 2 and ss.37 and 55 of the National Constitution.

64. E.g., section 46 of the Forestry Act 1991 and representation of customary owners is seen in the National Forest Board, the Provincial Forest Management Committees (PFMCs) and through multi-stakeholder representation.

65. Participation by all key stakeholders is provided for under sections 98, 115 and 116 of the OLPLLG 1998.

66. Example in Forestry - the responsibilities of the Board in initiating this process is defined under Regulation 83 (and specifically Form 80), in which a notice is expected to be drafted and sent to these respective stakeholders advising them to provide their views within a specified time. This process is also provided for Timber Permits and under some of the activities requiring Timber Authorities described in Regs. 160 – 168.

67. Section 51(3) of the Constitution.

68. Section 88(c)(vi) & (vii) of the Forestry Act 1991 and Regulations 160, 162, 164, 166 and 168 and Form 165 of the Forestry Regulations 1998.

69. Access to this register, however, is subject to the payment of a fee. The Register is established under Section 103A of the Forestry Act 1991.

70. Section 14 of the Environment Planning Act.

71. Section 13(1) of the Environment Planning Act

72. The Environmental Planning Act, 1978.

73. Section 20 of the Environmental Planning Act, 1978.

74. Section 18 of the Environmental Planning Act, 1978.



DESCRIPTION OF PLRS, INSTITUTIONAL MANDATES AND PROCEDURES THAT SPECIFICALLY RECOGNIZE AND REGULATE THE RIGHT OF CUSTOMARY LANDOWNERS, LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND VULNERABLE GROUPS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REDD+ ACTIONS

The PLRs provide for legally recognized traditional structures used by customary landowners to engage with corporations, government, and other stakeholders in activities concerning the utilization/development of their land or natural resources.⁷⁵ This is recognized and provided for within forestry, land and customary law. Forestry legislation⁷⁶ provides for financial assistance to ensure that the ILGs are contributing effectively to the management and development of the forest industry activities. The Constitution refers to Equality and Participation⁷⁷ and reflects the intentions of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP)⁷⁸ especially in relation to issues concerning the access to and use of customary land and resources for development purposes. It provides for various guaranteed rights and freedoms⁷⁹ which are core to ensuring compliance with the right to FPIC, also embodied within relevant Acts of Parliament⁸⁰ and specific national policies⁸¹.

The Constitution recognizes Gender Equality⁸² and the Right of women citizens to participate in all economic activities.⁸³ This is further recognized and encouraged in specific PLRs at the national level.⁸⁴ Gender discrimination issues are addressed within specific policies of the public service⁸⁵ and applicable within all sectors. There are also dedicated public and private agencies established to implement this right and to raise awareness and implement policies on gender equality and discrimination in PNG.

75. Incorporated Land Groups are created for this sole purpose under the Land Groups Incorporations (Amendment) Act 2009.

76. The Forestry Act 1991 and Forestry Regulations, 1998.

77. National Goals and Directive Principle 2 of the National Constitution.

78. UNDRIP - Article 10 "Indigenous peoples shall not be forcibly removed from their lands or territories. No relocation shall take place without the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous peoples concerned and after agreement on just and fair compensation and, where possible, with the option of return." Article 19 States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them. Also applicable are Articles 28 and 32.

79. Sections 32 – 56 of the National Constitution.

80. Forestry Act 1991, the Oil & Gas Act 1998, the Fauna (Protection and Control) Act and the Climate Change Management Act 2015.

81. Under Pillar 1 of the Protected Areas Policy and specifically mentioned in the recent NRS 2017, the CCDMP and the CCDA developed FPIC Guidelines for REDD+ Projects.

82. National Goals and Directive Principles 2, subsections (3) and (5).

83. This is stated specifically in section 55 of the Constitution in regards to the Right to Equality of Citizens.

84. The Papua New Guinea National Policy for Women and Gender Equality 2011-2015.

85. The National Public Service Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Policy.



CANCUN SAFEGUARD E

E.1. DESCRIPTION OF PLRS, INSTITUTIONAL MANDATES AND PROCEDURES THAT DEFINE THE TERM NATURAL FORESTS DISTINGUISHING THEM FROM PLANTATIONS

PNG defines forests as “land spanning more than 1 hectare, with trees higher than 3 meters and the canopy cover of more than 10 percent (%)”⁸⁶ and distinguishes them from forest plantations.⁸⁷

E.2. DESCRIPTION OF PLRS, INSTITUTIONAL MANDATES AND PROCEDURES THAT PROTECT AND CONSERVE NATURAL FORESTS, BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS

Relevant PLRs promote the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity as per the objectives of the Constitution and specifically through its planning process.⁸⁸ Relevant PLRs mitigate threats imposed to flora and fauna species as per international law. Provisions for the protection of endangered wood species are contained within specific legislation on the monitoring and control of trade in endangered flora and fauna.⁹⁰

The Forestry Policy provides for background considerations⁹¹ in relation to forest conversion within the context of FMAs as well as outside of them.⁹² In addition, environmental and forestry legislation set some degree of ‘control’ over land use conversion in both public and private forests through environmental impact assessments and mitigation measures.⁹³ The Environmental Regulation 2002 outlines environmental controls e.g., Environmental Impact Assessments for large scale forestry activities in both private and public forests. The controls are required for activities such as large scale forest conversion or road clearance or agricultural activities. Mitigation activities within forestry legislation relate to provisions which deter any interference within naturally forested areas such as the 10% set aside for ‘conservation areas’ within FMAs or other timber production areas. Under Conservation Areas which fall under the Conservation Areas Act, natural forest conversion is also controlled.

Currently, areas subject to FCA, outline clear procedures to monitor the development of agricultural projects. Any failure to achieve the planned targets under FCAs results in the seizure of logs held by the company in breach, and the disposal of them is free of production costs.⁹⁴

E.3. DESCRIPTION OF PLRS, INSTITUTIONAL MANDATES AND PROCEDURES THAT REGULATE THE ASSESSMENT OR ENHANCEMENT OF SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Relevant PLRs take account of and address the ecological, biological, socio-cultural and economic contributions of forest resources via Acts of Parliament and through other forms of standards/guidelines and Certification processes.⁹⁵ Forestry PLRs provide for adequate rights to fair distribution of benefits arising from the use of forest resources. Benefit Sharing arrangements are clearly stipulated within the present broader legal framework of the general natural resource sectors as well.

86. PNG National REDD+ Strategy, pg9.

87. Section 2 of the Forestry Amended Act of 2005, (Amended s. 1 of the 1991 Act).

88. The Constitution, NGDP 4(a) refers to the requirement to “manage, develop and protect the Nation’s forest resources and environment in such a way as to conserve and renew them as an asset for the succeeding generations.”

89. Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species.

90. The International Trade (Flora and Fauna) Act 1978

91. Example, considerations such as whether an area is designated as production or protection forests under the Forestry Policy and Act. This includes ascertaining whether the area is ideal for potential timber harvesting or not (as per criteria listed under the PNG Logging Code of Practice). These are limited to areas proposed for FMAs and TAs/TPs. The NFDGs mention consideration of biodiversity in relation to the process of Forest Land Conversion.

92. Article M.1 of the National Forest Development Guidelines – Conversion of Forest Lands.

93. Mitigation activities within forestry legislation relate to provisions which deter any interference within naturally forested areas such as the 10% set aside for ‘conservation areas’ within FMAs or other timber production areas

94. This is often the outcome of a project commenced under an SABL as per the Land Act 1996. However, these processes are now subject to review as part of national land reforms and amendments to all land legislation

95. Example, as seen in the FSC National Forest Management Standards for PNG.

CANCUN SAFEGUARDS F AND G

F&G.1.

DESCRIPTION OF MEASUREMENT, REPORTING AND VERIFICATION (MRV) DESIGNED, MAINTAINED AND IMPLEMENTED WITH THE APPROPRIATE FREQUENCY TO DETECT AND PROVIDE INFORMATION ON REVERSALS AND DISPLACEMENT OF EMISSIONS.

The National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) (www.nfmspng.org) consists of a monitoring function, to assess the implementation and impact of national policies and measures for REDD+, and a MRV function to estimate and report GHG emissions/removals in the Land use, land-use change, and forestry (LULUCF) sector. The Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS) produces Activity Data, using Terra PNG (a system for wall to wall land use mapping used with PNG's GHG reporting) operated by CCDA, and Collect Earth (point sampling) operated by PNGFA. These two systems verify, supplement and improve the data accuracy of each other. These in-house land use spatial information tools, together with extensive information from other national and international sources, are uploaded on to the web-portal, which enables public scrutiny of land use and forest information of PNG and thus enhances the transparency of REDD+ processes in the country. The National Forest Inventory (NFI) is the primary information source for Emission Factors for the MRV system. The Forest Resource Information Management System (FRIMS) is used by PNGFA to manage information on commercial forestry operations within the country. These systems have been used, together with data from a number of other sectors as well as time series assessments of forest carbon stock developed through a Collect Earth assessment undertaken by PNGFA, for the development of the FRL.

F&G.2.

DESCRIPTION OF CARBON ACCOUNTING RISK MITIGATION MECHANISMS SUCH AS BUFFER POOLS.

Relevant PLRs require updating land use and forest inventories for management and land use planning purposes and as a way of monitoring forest destruction.⁹⁶ This is achieved through the "REDD+ Web Portal"⁹⁷, created through the joint collaboration of government and key international partners.⁹⁸ Voluntary legality and chain of custody verification schemes,⁹⁹ and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Controlled Wood certification is also promoted in PNG.

Forestry and conservation legislation contain sufficient penalties for breaches of the provisions listed in these legislations and include separate penalties in relation to breaches of various forest management practices as well. The Environment Act 2000 and subsequent regulations, and certain aspects of the Conservation Areas Act and Land Act/Physical Planning Act contain necessary provisions to address issues of illegal forest related practices, e.g., felling of timber in a protected area etc.

96. Section 53(2)(e) of the Climate Change Management Act 2015.

97. This is an all-encompassing tool using GIS and satellite imagery to monitor and distribute information on land classification, land use, forest cover and forest resources and areas suitable for afforestation, conservation and traditional/indigenous land use.

98. The key agencies involved in setting up this system are the PNGFA, CCDA and UNREDD.

99. These are the standards and certification processes used by the forest industry/private sector in PNG to verify the processing of timber including the SGS ITTO TLTV (Timber Legality and Timber Verification Standards).



RESPECTING THE SAFEGUARDS

As this is GoPNG's first Sol, this section presents the set of indicators the GoPNG has adopted for demonstrating the Cancun safeguards are 'respected'. It is therefore anticipated that subsequent SOIs will provide information to document progress regarding the implementation of the Cancun safeguards; assess future needs, goals and plans to improve this

implementation and develop measures to achieve those goals. This will present an opportunity to identify and request the necessary support needed to overcome identified challenges and implement capacity building plans. This is aligned with UNFCCC guidance and decisions.¹⁰⁰

CANCUN SAFEGUARD A

- A.3.** Description of how (e.g. through use of mandates and procedures) the implementation of the REDD+ actions was consistent with the objectives of national forest programmes.
- A.4.** Description of how (e.g. through use of mandates and procedures) the implementation of the REDD+ actions was consistent with the objectives of the various international agreements to which GoPNG is a Party.

CANCUN SAFEGUARD B

- B.5.** Description of information provided concerning the proposed REDD+ actions in each locality (depending on the scale of the proposed REDD+ interventions), including through active dissemination, and to what extent was it done in a timely (i.e. before implementation begins) and culturally appropriate (i.e. adapting to local capacities) manner;
- B.6.** Description of the distribution and disbursement of REDD+ benefits related to the implementation of REDD+ actions.
- B.7.** Description of REDD+ related grievances received, process followed to adjudicate and outcomes, including records of any REDD+ related efforts to ensure access to justice in the context of the implementation of REDD+ actions.
- B.8.** Number of grievances addressed and resolved by implementing authorities.
- B.9.** Description of how land tenure and land use rights have been recognized and protected during the implementation of REDD+ actions.
- B.10.** Description of impacts on rights holders and stakeholders related to rights to lands, territories and resources.
- B.11.** If applicable, description of any resettlement

process (including procedures followed, compensation provided, motive for resettlement) for each REDD+ action.

- B.12.** Amount and type of compensation awarded for displacement (if and as applicable) and breakdown of compensation by gender.

CANCUN SAFEGUARD C

- C.4.** Description of how customary landowners, local communities and vulnerable groups were identified, and how their rights were recognized and protected in the implementation of the REDD+ actions.
- C.5.** Description of how traditional knowledge and cultural heritage and practices of customary landowners, local communities and vulnerable groups were identified, respected and protected during implementation of the REDD+ actions.
- C.6.** Number of customary landowners, local communities and vulnerable groups residing in areas affected by REDD+ actions.
- C.7.** Description of any sacred sites or other sites of cultural significance to communities in areas that may be affected by REDD+ actions.
- C.8.** If applicable, description of how (if at all) traditional knowledge has been used/has contributed to REDD+ actions implementation and how Indigenous peoples' intellectual property has been protected.

CANCUN SAFEGUARD D

- D.3.** Description of the general categories of stakeholders (women, youth, the elderly, etc) and how they were involved in the implementation of the REDD+ actions (documentation and mapping of stakeholders, information shared, feedback gathered, in what format was it gathered).

100. UNFCCC Article 12, paragraph 4; UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 69, 71 and 76; Decision 17/CP.8, Section VI and paragraph 40.

- D.4.** Description of approaches to participation as well as the outcomes of the participation processes (e.g. type of meeting, purpose of meeting and level (regional cluster/sub regional, district council, culturally appropriate information produced, non-technical information produced, capacity building activities, specific meetings organised for vulnerable groups, how the ideas or comments from relevant stakeholders led to implementation changed/was influenced by considering the views of the relevant stakeholders) carried out in the context of the implementation of the REDD+ actions.
- D.5.** Number of meetings held, number of participants (organized according to categories of participant), disaggregated by gender and age.
- D.6.** If applicable, description and evidence of how FPIC processes were followed prior to REDD+ actions in areas of customary landowners and local communities, and whether they affected the implementation of REDD+ (REDD+ actions cancelled where FPIC withheld).
- D.7.** If applicable, number of FPIC processes followed (FPIC granted, FPIC withheld -resulting in intervention not going ahead).

CANCUN SAFEGUARD E

- E.4.** Description of how REDD+ actions did not result in the conversion of natural forests.
- E.5.** Spatial information on the country's natural forest cover before and after REDD+ actions implementation.
- E.6.** Spatial information on extent of plantations nationally and rate of change in extent of plantations.
- E.7.** Description of whether and how the projected ecological, biological, climatic and socio-cultural priorities of REDD+ actions were realised following implementation.
- E.8.** Description of how the implementation of REDD+ actions has impacted biodiversity.
- E.9.** Description of measures taken to ensure REDD+ actions have contributed to delivering social and environmental benefits.

CANCUN SAFEGUARD F & G

- F&G.3.** Number of tCO₂ reduced since REDD+ intervention/implementation.
- F&G.4.** Variation of deforestation rates in neighbouring areas before and after the REDD+ actions' intervention.





PART

4

OPERATIONAL MECHANISM TO RECEIVE AND ADDRESS COMPLAINTS



This section presents GoPNG's dedicated REDD+ GRM, which will serve to receive, and address concerns and complaints associated with the implementation of the REDD+ actions.

In 2015, the GoPNG through the Climate Change Development Authority, enacted the Climate Change Management Act, which made provision for the establishment of a 'Dispute Resolution Mechanism'¹⁰¹ to address all forms of disputes arising from climate change related projects or activities in the country.

An initial review and assessment of the gaps and weaknesses of PNG's existing land and natural resource sector GRMs was conducted in 2016 as part of attempts to identify and design appropriate mechanisms for establishing a REDD+ GRM. Both formal and informal systems were reviewed as well as the particular institutional level at which they function (i.e., local, provincial and national) and their compliance or alignment with international best practice principles.¹⁰² Using these key criteria as well as lessons learned from other dispute resolution systems in other developing

countries, a structure or design was put forward for consideration as a suitable grievance redress arrangement.

The GRM is designed to be accessible at all stages and levels of the grievance redress process and to capture the receipt of grievances from its first point of entry to its final point of resolution and closure. The emphasis of a GRM is to be able to use existing systems and informal or less formal means of grievance redress such as stakeholder dialogue through interviews, meetings and other forms of community engagement processes as part of the steps incorporated in reaching a resolution.

The following table concisely lists the various elements of the GRM's institutional structure and arrangements as well as the core mandate (scope, roles and functions) of the GRM entities at the various levels and within the sectors that they operate in. It also identifies the various reporting lines for each entity in terms of the grievance redress process to give a clear indication on the levels of authority within this proposed structure.

101. Section 105 of the Climate Change Management Act 2015.

102. Based on the GRM principles set out in the Joint FCPF/UN-REDD Programme Guidance Note for REDD+ Countries: Establishing and Strengthening Grievance Redress Mechanisms.

Table 3: Summary of the Mandate (Scope, Roles & Functions) of the various GRM Entities

MANDATE (SCOPE, ROLES & FUNCTIONS) OF THE REDD+ GRM ENTITIES

LEVEL	COMPOSITION	SCOPE	ROLES & FUNCTIONS	REPORTING LINES	
GRM UNIT	National level (CCDA REDD+ & Mitigation Division).	Consists of CCDA staff from the REDD+ & Mitigation Division.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Overall management of the GRM system. ■ Resolution of grievances (in the first or second instance). ■ Referrals to the GRM Technical Committee or external entities. ■ Create and maintain links with subnational level GRMs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Receipt of all grievances. ■ Assessment of all grievances. ■ Registration of all grievances. ■ Referrals to relevant agencies for recourse. ■ Follow up on referrals. ■ Overall Periodic Reporting on GRM system (M&E requirements). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ GRM Technical Committee ■ CCDA Management ■ Relevant External GRMs/ Entities
GRM FOCAL POINTS	Subnational level (Sectors & entities that have existing capacity & links at this level.)	Consists of relevant REDD+ sector entities or other strategic subnational agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ First point of contact for grievances. ■ First option for redress. ■ Entry point for grievances to be channelled to the national level, if required. ■ Located within REDD+ relevant sectors or other strategic subnational agencies. ■ Link between national and subnational level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Receipt of grievances at subnational level. ■ Assessment of grievances at subnational level. ■ Registration of grievances at the subnational level. ■ Referrals to relevant agencies for recourse. ■ 'Filter' grievances for appropriate redress. ■ Provide periodic reports to the GRM Unit & CCDA management on its operations and progress. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Internal Sector Management ■ GRM Unit ■ Relevant External GRMs/Entities
GRM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE	National Level.	Consists of REDD+ technical experts from various relevant sectors & institutions. (E.g., CCDA (REDD+ & Mitigation Division), Donor representatives (UNDP/FCPF/ FAO), industries/CSO's with knowledge in specific REDD+ related fields).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Deliberates over purely technical grievances that relate to the implementation of the NRS. ■ Independent of the CCDA management and TWCs. ■ Appeals from the decision of this entity made to the CCDA Board & MD if grievance not resolved. ■ All unresolved grievances proceed to the formal legal redress at the national level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Deliberates over grievances referred from the GRM Unit. ■ Can deliberate over grievances referred from external entities, if approved by the CCDA Management/Board. ■ Provide periodic reports to the GRM Unit & CCDA management on its operations and progress. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CCDA Management ■ GRM Unit ■ External GRMs/Entities

PCCCs	Sub-national Level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consists of various CC (REDD+) related sector representatives at the subnational level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a link between the national and subnational level. Provide direction and guidance on the implementation of CC (REDD+) projects at the subnational level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a backstop for FPs at the subnational level. Overall oversight for FPs. Assist in verifying grievances raised at all levels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GRM Unit CCDA Management
EXTERNAL GRMs/ ENTITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Level Sub-national Level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consists of REDD+ sector agencies or other agencies responsible for dispute resolution at the national and subnational level (e.g., natural resource sector tribunals, Village/District/National Courts, ADR, Ombudsman Commission, Public Prosecutor/ Public Solicitor's Office and the Police.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part of existing government systems entrenched at all levels. Provides links between the national and subnational levels. Last resort for resolving grievances when the REDD+ GRM fails. Established by virtue of enabling legislation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Channels grievances from one level to another. Responds to referrals from the REDD+ GRM or (where necessary) refers grievances to the GRM (but only where clearly specified under a MOA/MOU). Assists in tracking grievances at the various levels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal agency dispute resolution systems. CCDA Management, if required.





ANNEX I | STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

This section outlines the stakeholder engagement process undertaken by the GoPNG to ensure that the implementation of REDD+ activities is consistent with the Cancun Safeguards¹⁰³ (as per sections 2.1, Part III and IV above) and for the set-up of the SIS (as per section 2.2), all of which inform this SOI.

Figure 5 outlines the timeline for the key REDD+ safeguard undertakings led by the GoPNG. A number of consultations have been carried out to ensure inclusive participation of stakeholders in relation to these activities and key outputs (see Table 4). This process has been led by the CCDA and the REDD+ safeguards TWC,

which includes stakeholders were key representatives from government agencies, civil society organisations, private sector, and development partners. They were engaged in every step of the design of description of the Cancun safeguards, PLR assessment, GRM design, adoption of FPIC guidelines and SIS design. Notably in 2019 several stakeholder training and consultation activities were carried out involving 600 - 700 participants. Participants comprised of key national and provincial government institution, research institutions, private sectors, international and national NGOs, civil society groups and a few communities.

103. Decision 2/CP.17, paragraph 63 that states: 'Agrees that, regardless of the source or type of financing, the activities referred to in decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 70, should be consistent with the relevant provisions included in decision 1/CP.16, including the safeguards in its appendix I, in accordance with relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties.'

Figure 5: REDD+ safeguards work timeline

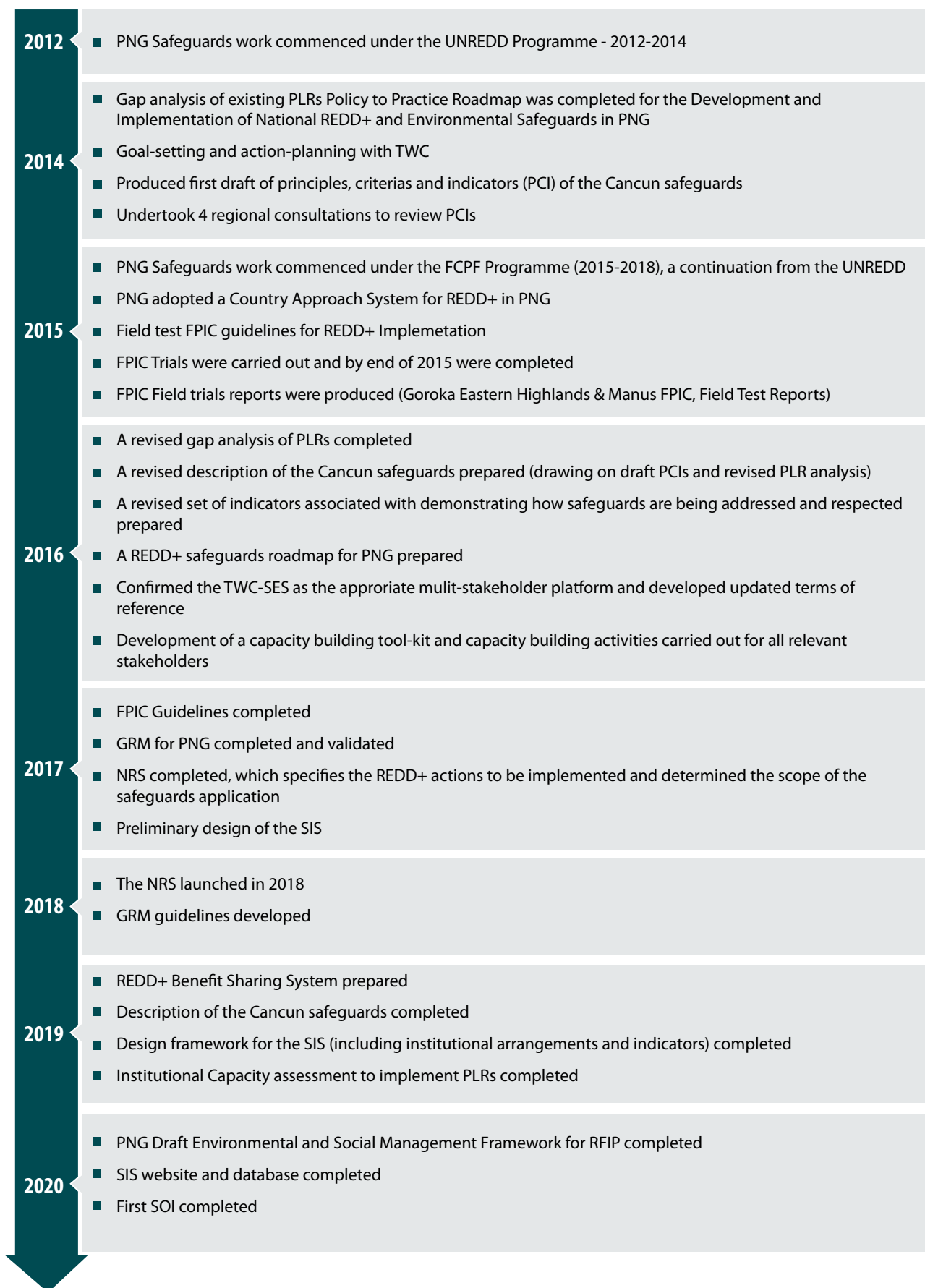


Table 4: Overview of stakeholder engagement activities

	Year 1 (2015)	Year 2 (2016)	Year 3 (2017)	Year 4 (2018)	Year 4 (2019)
Number of civil society organizations actively engaged	15	15	15	15	15
Number of people trained on REDD+ and climate change	55 (35 men/20 women)	120 (80 men/40 women)	600 (318 men/282 women)	1,420 (806 men/614 women)	1,300 (780 men/520 women)
Number of people trained on the four Warsaw Framework for REDD+ elements	26 (18 Men /9 women)	70 (60 men/10 women)	600 (318 men/282 women)	1,420 (806 men/614 women)	1,300 (780 men/520 women)
Number of national consultation workshops held.	1 (Inception Workshop) 2 (Trainings) 1 (REDD+ TWG meeting)	22 National Consultation Workshops: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 - REDD+ Expert Training ▪ 10 – Issues and Options Consultation Workshops ▪ 2 – Palm Oil Consultation Workshops ▪ 4 – Safeguards/ SIS Consultation workshops ▪ 2 – Gender Consultation workshops ▪ 2 TWG meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 REDD+ Expert trainings in March and November 2017; ▪ Sector planning retreat; ▪ PreCOP23 Workshop with Private sector; ▪ Lands Retreat ▪ Forestry Retreat ▪ CEPA Retreat; ▪ GRM consultations ▪ RFIP/GCF Consultation workshop; ▪ Provincial consultations in ENB, Madang and WNB 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 1 REDD+ Expert Training; ▪ 3 RFIP Consultations; ▪ 6 Provincial Capacity building trainings; ▪ 15 stakeholder consultations on different elements of NRS; ▪ 1 Communications and Knowledge Management workshop; ▪ 3 TWC meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 10 Stakeholders Consultations Workshops; ▪ 3 TWC Meetings; ▪ 2 Communications Capacity Building Trainings; ▪ 4 Provincial Stakeholder Consultations and Capacity Building trainings in target provinces.

Source: Adapted from Annual Progress Reports to the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) for Papua New Guinea



GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS

Addressing safeguards

Identifying, and providing information on, what a country has (or plans to put) in place, in terms of its governance arrangements, which would seek to guarantee the implementation of the safeguards.

Cancun safeguards

The term 'Cancun Safeguards' refers to the safeguards developed under the UNFCCC in paragraph 2 of Appendix I to decision 1/CP.16 [the Cancun Agreement]

PLRs

The policies, laws, and regulations, in addition to operational plans and programmes to implement the legal framework, that serve to define how safeguards are to be adhered to when implementing REDD+ activities in any given country.

Respecting safeguards

Identifying, and providing information on, how a country has implemented (or plans to implement) its governance arrangements, and what were the implementation outcomes of the country's safeguards framework.

REDD+ activities

The term REDD+ activities refers to those included in paragraph 70 of decision 1/CP.16 and Decision 1/CP.16, paragraph 73

REDD+ actions

Specific interventions, within the five REDD+ activity categories agreed under the UNFCCC, aimed to tackle underlying drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, or to support more effective/extensive "plus" activities. Also referred to as policies and measures (PaMs).





