

2019

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

**GPAS: Forest and Coastal Conservation in PNG**

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# Basic Data

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| **Project Information** | |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 3936 |
| GEF ID | 3954 |
| Title | Community-Based Forest and Coastal Conservation and Resource Management in PNG |
| Country(ies) | Papua New Guinea, Papua New Guinea |
| UNDP-GEF Technical Team | Ecosystems and Biodiversity |
| Project Implementing Partner | Government |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Full Size |

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| **Project Description** |
| The project is designed primarily to support GEF Biodiversity Strategic Program BD-3 on strengthening terrestrial PA networks. The project will ensure that community-conserved forest areas are integrated into the national PA system, increasing the national PA estate by at least 1,00,000ha of IUCN Category VI-equivalent protected areas. By strengthening revenue streams to support community-based conservation, the project also responds to BD SP-1 on the sustainable financing of PA systems.  The project also supports the GEF Pacific Alliance for Sustainability programme, under the Forestry and Terrestrial Protected Areas component, as described above.  The implementation of this project document will help to develop effective natural resource management and financing systems for community conservation areas in Papua New Guinea. The project will work on the following key components in order to succeed with the implementation and execution of the project: 1) Enabling national environment for a community-based sustainable national system of Protected Areas (PAs) containing globally and nationally significant biodiversity; 2) Identification and establishment of new PAs in the country; 3) Undertaking Conservation Area (CA) management planning and signing partnership agreements with communities; and 4) Providing capacity development and support for implementation of CA Management Plans; |

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| Other Partners | *(not set or not applicable)* |

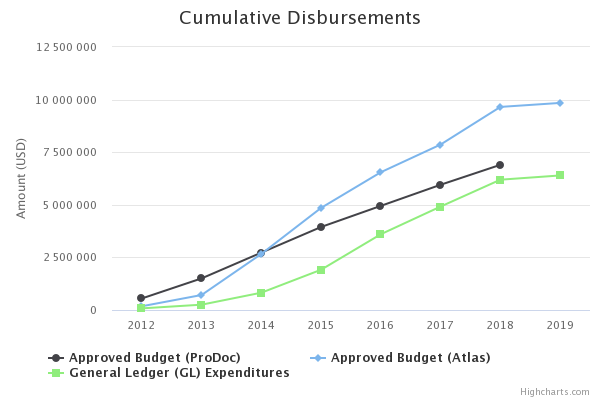
# Overall Ratings

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| Overall DO Rating | Satisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Satisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | Moderate |

# Development Progress

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| **Description** | | | | | | |
| **Objective**  **Develop effective natural resource management and financing systems for community conservation areas** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| National policy and regulatory framework providing comprehensive and consistent support for CCAs | No specific legislative framework for CCAs. Protected Areas are being established under a range of secondary legislation with limited and inconsistent governmental support | *(not set or not applicable)* | (1) A comprehensive and integrated policy and regulatory framework for CCAs is enacted by end of year 2, (2) supported by a coordinated whole-of-Government decision-making mechanism operational by year 3 | With the Protected Area Policy endorsed by the National Executive Council (NEC) in 2014, the project has supported CEPA to carry out directives: formulate a PA Bill and an implementation plan with budget implications. Since the Minister of Conservation, Environment and Climate Change has assumed his office, he has instructed CEPA to set a high priority for the Protected Areas Bill to be submitted to the National Executive Council. CEPA has recruited an independent lawyer in May 2018 to finalize the submission paper. The Minister is expected to formally present the Bill next month.    PAP Implementation Plan, developed through a thorough consultative process, was officially submitted to CACC in September 2017. Positive endorsement from the Department of National Planning and Monitoring was received on the PAPIP. CEPA with the Project will follow through and lobby for 20 million kina to be included in 2019 national budget. | Target achieved as noted in MTR of the project.  The Protected Area (PA) Policy endorsed by national government in 2014 is policy and regulatory framework which established the National Protected Area System. The PA Policy renders itself to drafting of the proposed PA Bill and the sectoral plan on protected areas or better known as the PA Policy Implementation Plan (PAPIP) – where both instruments funded by the Project were endorsed by the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) in 2018.  The proposed PA Bill was submitted to the National Executive Council in Feb 2019 and for resubmission under the leadership of the new Minister for Conservation, Environment and Climate Change by Q4 2019.  In January 2019, the National Government approved the 2019 National Budget with 2 million kina earmark to roll out PAPIP in the next 5 years – a first in PNG.  Since the JICA Biodiversity Project is progressing its intervention to operationalize a whole-of-government coordination mechanism, the Project adheres to MTR recommendation to focus resources elsewhere. |
| Area protected under Community Conservation Areas | 1.7 million hectares under various protection scheme for land and sea | *(not set or not applicable)* | 1,000,000 hectares protected by end of project [This has been revised to 500,000 hectares after the MTR in 2017] | Exceeded target with an aggregate of 540,000 ha directly supported in New Britain and Owen Stanley Range. Kokoda Integrated Protected Zone with 238,071 hectares was gazetted through a Ministerial approval among the Ministers on Conservation and Environment, Forestry and Mining. Pending the enactment of the Protected Area Bill, the Project with its partners are pushing for the gazettal of 17 Community Conservation Areas in New Britain through private conservation deeds. This legal instrument is part of the annexes of the Bill. Used by civil society such as the Wildlife Conservation Society, Binatang Research Center, Bismark Ramu Group, among others over the years, has been proven to be successful in deflecting the illegal conversion of land and coastal areas. | Strong indication that achievement of target will be exceeding by EOP, with a total of 672,187 hectares directly supported in New Britain Island (434,116 ha) and through parallel intervention through the Kokoda Initiative in Owen Stanley Range (238,071 ha). |
| Quality of biodiversity management of CCAs as measured by Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool | To be assessed for individual CCAs upon establishment [METT score for New Britain Island at 47 out of 102 (46%) and Owen Stanley Range at 75 out of 102 (75%). Updated after MTR in 2017] | *(not set or not applicable)* | CCAs show sustained improvement in METT scores over the duration of the project, beginning from respective year of CCA establishment. | Updated METT score in September 2017 with New Britain Island at 47 and Owen Stanley Range at 75. | Exceeded target on management effectiveness of protected areas.  For New Britain, steady improvement noted of comparing METT score from baseline of 14% (2011), 46% (2017) and 50% towards project closure (2019), or a 36% increase since project start. For Owen Stanley Range (OSR), METT baseline at 24% (2011), 75% (2017). Although the terminal METT for OSR will be carried out in September 2019, the score at midstream already exceeds target  Improvements include:  • At the institutional level – the retooled PNG METT was adopted in 2017 and further refined in 2019. Plans to again measure the management effectiveness of gazetted PAs by 2020/21 will be taken up by PIMS 5507.  • Retooled instrument and the results of the nation-wide METT assessment to all 58 national and local protected areas is now publicly available through the open portal on environment.  • Out from the launching of the PNG’s Assessment of Management Effectiveness report at the SPREP Annual General Meeting, CEPA have been receiving requests to extend technical support to other Pacific nations.    At the individual level - a total of 50 delegated staff from CEPA, provincial administrations of both East and West New Britain, Pomio District, NGO and community partners benefited from series of METT training, with indepth METT training in February 2019. The training builds consensus on the benefits and values of a protected area and how the situation in their site could be improved (e.g. in relation to the values, threats and various management effectiveness themes). |
| Landowner commitment to CCAs | Landowner commitment to existing forms of PAs (e.g. WMAs) is often limited, as demonstrated by level of contribution to WMA management. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Landowner commitment sufficient to ensure effective management and conservation of CCAs as measured at end-project. | Letter of consent from customary landowners and communities have been obtained for most of project sites, with the exception of Galuwe and Manginun where the Local Level Government President will sign off; and Mu and Western Whiteman Range to revalidate results from FPIC process.    The project is continuing to provide coaching support to new communities within Pomio District that are showing interest in conservation and livelihood initiatives, which the project cannot extend its support. An orientation to LLG officials and community representatives is scheduled in August 2018 for the new call for proposals under GEF Small Grants. | 100% achieved target with signed letter of consent from customary land owners and communities in all project sites to include new sites such as Manginuna, Galowe, Marmar-Olaipun, and Pakia Villages under a micro grant agreement with James Cook University. Key factors contributing to the positive progress are functional management committee in each site, and through community engagement processes reinforces shared visioning and decision-making on zoning/land use planning as reflected with their updated management plans. As a result, most sites are expanding their PA boundaries apart from Garu Wildlife Management Area. Garu WMA is surrounded by palm oil plantations managed by the New Britain Palm Oil, which follows RSPO+ principles and criteria. Assistance to other four (4) new sites (Mu, Baro Tarobi and Lakiri) were discontinued. |
| Funding for conservation and management of CCAs is sufficient to underwrite core activities, and is sustainable over time | To be established for each CCA during planning, using the PA Financing Scorecard | *(not set or not applicable)* | By end-project each established CCA has demonstrated access to all funding required for core management and conservation activities for at least two consecutive years. | Due to fiscal deficit in the country, both national government and the provincial administrations of East and West New Britain have strongly indicated their contribution will be made available in 2019. CEPA is currently preparing Capital Investment Program submission for K20 million to support the implementation of the PA Policy to be earmarked in the 2019 national budget.  The District Development Authority (DDA) of Pomio District has requested to directly partner with the Project to combine efforts in conserving the Nakanai Range. Discussions on a draft MOU ensued series on meetings in May-June 2018 and expected to be signed by UNDP and the Member of Parliament of Pomio in July 2018. Pomio DDA indicated a cash contribution of K100,000 or est at US$31,446 annually to co-implement project activities.  Both RSPO+ palm oil companies, New Britain Palm Oil and Hargy Palm Oil, have also indicated stronger partnership with the project. Discussions to be initiated in Q3 2018. | Target of 20% increase in financial score achieved. PA Financing score shows an increase of 4% (2017) to 24% (2019); however with no baseline established prior to project start up. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 1**  **National enabling environment for a community-based sustainable national system of protected areas (PAs) containing globally and nationally significant biodiversity** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Number and severity of instances in which CCAs are negatively affected by landuse or development decisions made by Government agencies [Note: this indicator will be deleted following recommendation of MTR in 2017 and subsequently approved by PB. Hence, progress will not be reported against this indicator starting 2018 PIR] | Existing PAs (e.g. WMAs) regularly suffering negative impact from agricultural conversion, mining impacts, etc. | *(not set or not applicable)* | In the final year of the project, no established CCA suffers any direct impact due to landuse/ conversion decisions, or indirect impact due to adjacent or upstream development activity. | Following MTR recommendation, progress against this indicator will not be reported starting in 2018 PIR. | This indicator will be deleted following MTR recommendation and PB approval. No progress will be reported starting 2018 PIR. |
| Explicit recognition of the role and contribution of the protected area system to national development strategies, as described in key national policy documents [Note: this indicator has been replaced with a new indicator following recommendation of MTR in 2017 and approved by PB]    Revised indicator: Evidence or degree of mainstreaming of protected areas within different national policies and development strategies | No recognition of the PA system in Medium-Term Development Strategy or related planning documents. Environmentally-Sustainable Economic Growth (ESEG) Policy framework under development but not yet agreed or operationalized. [Revised baseline line: Develop and support the implementation of the Protected Area Policy Implementation Plan (PAPIP)] | Approved and disseminated PAPIP by GoPNG; PAPIP reflected in the NBSAP and Sixth National Report on CBD [Updated after MTR in 2017] | By year 3, PNG's Medium-Term Development Strategy and related planning documents explicitly recognize the development of a sustainable National PA System as a development priority, under the ESEG framework. [Revised EoP target: By year 4, PNGs PAPIP as a sectoral plan is mainstreamed in related planning documents] | With NEC endorsement of the PA Policy, the Project assisted CEPA to develop an implementation plan, on the PA Policy through a consultative process. In September 2017, CEPA submitted the PAP Implementation Plan to CACC. The Department of National Planning and Monitoring concurred with the policy, planning and legal framework of PAPIP which responds to and implements the NEC Directive (Decision No. 385/2014) as well as confirms that PAPIP targets are aligned with targets in the Medium-term Development Plan 3. | 100% target achieved based on the revised EOP.    The Protected Areas Policy Implementation Plan (PAPIP), formally endorsed by CEPA in December 2018, which is aligned to the PNG Vision 2050 of adding 1 million hectares of protected areas in the country.    The draft 6th National Report of PNG to the UN Convention on Biodiversity (June 2019) acknowledges PAPIP’s contribution. Specifically, on Aichi Target 18 - Traditional Knowledge that by 2025 charts a course for CEPA to document traditional knowledge, sustainable cultural uses and traditional ecological and sustainable cultural practice-based PA planning/management for all PAs. Likewise, the 6th National Report also cited the contribution of PAPIP under Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 - Protected Areas to effect positive change across Papua New Guinea’s PA Network |
| National policy framework explicitly and comprehensively addresses key conservation policy requirements, including e.g. a framework for assessing and mitigating environmental impacts of development, sustainability policies and criteria for agriculture and sustainable financing flows for Protected Areas. | Comprehensive policy frameworks not yet established for EIAs, sustainable agriculture or protected area financing. | Options for Papua New Guinea for Action on Biodiversity Impact Mitigation endorsed and disseminated by CEPA [updated after MTR in 2017] | By year 3, policy frameworks for (i)SEAs, (ii)Sustainable agriculture and (iii) PA Financing have been developed, endorsed by CEPA and submitted to the Government for adoption [Revised after MTR 2017: By end of the project , policy framework on Biodiversity Offset Mechanism have been developed and endorsed by CEPA By end of the project , policy framework on Biodiversity Offset Mechanism have been developed and endorsed by CEPA] | Supportive of the national commitment on biodiversity conservation, the Project is currently liaising with UNDP Biodiversity Finance Initiative to provide support for PNG and/or link up with other similar biodiversity finance relevant alternatives in the region. BioFin mission tentatively scheduled in September 2018.    With the launch of the Assessment on the management effectiveness of the Protected Areas in PNG during the annual meeting of SPREP in September 2017, PNG CEPA was invited to participate and submit a proposal to IUCN Biopama Phase 2. CEPA with the Project will be preparing a proposal to follow through with actions in refining data and learning tools for protected areas planning and management in the country. | Target achieved based on revised EOP with the Biodiversity Offset Mechanism Framework endorsed by CEPA in 2016. While the policy framework was developed with Forest Trends, separate Study Missions to Victoria, Canberra and Queensland in Australia were completed since it is a new and complex concept. These missions provided a practical opportunity for CEPA officers to understand several considerations to operationalize a Biodiversity Offset Impact Mitigation Programme for PNG.    Follow through actions are taken up by a complementary GEF-funded project PIMS 5261 which developed the policy and in the process of assisting CEPA to establish an initial national system for mitigation of impacts on biodiversity in PNG. |
| Integration of the three existing Protected Areas Acts into a single legal framework for protected area establishment and management under the new Conservation and Environment Protection Act (see 3.2.1 below) with Conservation Areas providing the legal basis for establishing the Sustainable National System of PAs. The new legal arrangements for protected areas to incorporate the requirement for Benefit Sharing Agreements (BSAs). | Fragmented legislation with low power for PA management and no capacity to manage benefit sharing arrangements | *(not set or not applicable)* | A single integrated legislation with increased scope for PA management including benefit sharing arrangements | The Minister of Conservation, Environment and Climate Change has assumed his office in September 2017 and set a high priority for the Protected Areas Bill to be submitted to the National Executive Council. Since January 2018, bilateral negotiations were noted for World Heritage Site and REDD+ sites to be added in the provisions. A joint committee co-chaired by CEPA and the Climate Change and Development Authority in May 2018 to strongly endorsed the submission of the Bill to NEC in its original form. CEPA has recruited an independent lawyer since to review the submission papers, with the recommendation to repeal other administrative legislation of CEPA, namely the Conservation Act and the Fauna (Protection and Control) Act. The Minister is expected to formally present the Bill this July 2018.    Since April 2018, the Project has initiated to develop the first ever a BSA model on water use in the country. Through the political support from the Member of Parliament for Pomio and the Provincial Administrator of East New Britain, a draft MoU is being facilitate by the Project through a paralegal NGO to clearly define roles and responsibilities of different parties particularly East New Britain Provincial Administration, PNG Power and the local communities along the Warangoi River Catchment. The MoU also spells out grievance mechanisms to address issues of common concern particularly to address disputes regarding the land ownership and compensation.  The Warongoi river is the sole source of water and electricity for the densely populated towns of Rabaul, Kokopo and its surrounding communities of East New Britain. Warongoi Hydro Dam, since it was built has never had proper benefit sharing arrangement to support the landowning and communities of the headwaters in the Baining Mountain. This area covers the Area of Interest for conservation of CEPA and this project. A catchment plan for Warangoi headwater and river is also being developed. | The proposed Protected Area Bill was submitted to the National Executive Committee in Feb 2019 by CEPA with World Heritage Site and REDD+ sites and the regulation for a trust fund were added in the provisions.    Due to the recent enactment of the Public Money Regularisation Act 2017, which centralizes all levies and fees from government agencies to Treasury, CEPA was requested by the National Executive Council to resubmit the Bill. CEPA was requested to provide evidence of consultation with key government agencies, such as Treasury, Internal Revenue Commission, Finance, Budget and State Solicitor.    With the change in government in June 2019, the PA Bill was presented to the new Minister for Conservation, Environment and Climate Change in July 2019. The Minister has expressed his intent to present and champion to the National Executive Council this October 2019.    Pending is the sign off, of the MOU on the Benefit Sharing Arrangement on water use of the Warangoi River. Due to ongoing disputeson land ownership, other partners such as the Catholic Church with members of the Provincial Roundtable will also support via facilitation, to address this concern. |
| Integration of the six Acts administered by the Department of Environment and Conservation to create a single fully integrated Conservation and Environment Protection Act for PNG. [Note: This indicator has been deleted following recommendation of MTR in 2017 and approved by PB. Progress against this indicator will not be reported in 2018 PIR] | Six separate legislative acts from different periods of history, not integrated | *(not set or not applicable)* | Integrated CEPA Act to reconcile inconsistencies in current body of law, and introduce reforms | Based on MTR recommendation and approved by the Project Board, this indicator has been deleted. This indicator will not be replaced with a new indicator and will not be updated in PIR 2018. | This indicator will be deleted following MTR recommendation and PB approval. No progress will be reported starting 2018 PIR. |
| Level of Government funding available for PA establishment and management. | Annual funding averages less than USD1 million at start of project. | *(not set or not applicable)* | By end-project, available funding meets minimum requirement for gazetted CAs, as measured by the PA Financing Scorecard | To date, government firmed commitment total to: K 21.66 million or equivalent to USD 6.8 million (CEPA: K 20 million or $ 6.289 million;  New Britain provincial administrations: K 1.46 million or almost $460,000; and Pomio District Development Authority: K200,000 or $ 62,890) | Financial score increased from 4% (2017) to 24% (2019) however there was no baseline data prior to implementation    Based on financial data available for the Protected Area System, it is evident that 2 million kina or US$ 769,230 was earmarked in 2019 National Budget– a first for PNG.    For 2019, there is also a significant increase with co-financing from other partners approximately by 1.4 million kina or US$ 533,424 from parallel, cash and in-kind contribution to project activities:  - East New Britain with K753,840 or $ 289,938;  - West New Britain with K273,460 or $105,176;  - Pomio District Development Authority with K269,100 or $ 103,500;  - Private sector contributes K 58,400 or $ 17,930 to support with conservation actions in selected project sites to date. New Britain Palm Oil Limited supported the monitoring of megapod eggs harvesting in the Pokili Wildlife Management Area and expended K 50,000 to date under a partnership agreement with a NGO partner, Mahonia Na Dari. Hargy Palm Oil Limited is supporting the registration of the CBO and hiking trail up in Lake Lamu Auro which spent K 8,400 this year.  - The community in-kind contribution is estimated at K 55,000 Kina or $ 16,880 from Tavolo (K 18,000), Klampun (K 22,000), Toimtop (K 11,000), Pokili (K 3,000) and Garu K 1,000).    Information on parallel financing to date from the GEF Small Grants Programme, will be made available to the terminal evaluation process. |
| Level of institutional and technical capacity in CEPA (once established) and other relevant Government agencies as measured using a Capacity Scorecard or similar approach | To be established upon finalization of the Government restructuring [updated CD score for CEPA: 38%] | *(not set or not applicable)* | By end-project, CEPA institutional and technical capacity scores are rated as "˜Sufficient' or "˜Adequate' across all key competencies. Institutional scores for other relevant agencies (including local governments) show increases on average between project mid-term and end-project assessments [updated after MTR in 2017: capacity score increased by 20% from baseline] | Completed CD score in July 2017 with CEPA at 38% | Exceeded Capacity Development score of a target of 20% from baseline.  CEPA capacity measured from baseline at 24% (2012) to now at 52% (2019), which is 28% difference. CD score was taken midstream in 2017 at 38%.  For Owen Stanley Range, METT baseline at 24% (2011), 75% (2017). Although the terminal METT will be carried out in September 2019, the score midstream already exceeded EOP.  Based on approved PAPIP, the PNG adapted METT has been institutionalized by CEPA to be undertaken every 5 years. The next nationwide assessment is expected to be carried out in 2021.  Through this project, METT as an instrument was adapted to suit the PNG context in 2017 and further refined in 2019. |
| Legal status of CCAs and legal tools being applied to provide protection of CCAs | Existing PAs (e.g. WMAs) regularly suffering negative impact from agricultural conversion, mining impacts, etc. | 5 WMAs (Pokili, Garu, Klampun, Tavalo, Kavakuna caves) gazette providing partial protection | All CCAs are established and legally gazetted | Pending the enactment of the Protected Area Bill, the Project with its partners are pushing for the gazettal of 17 Community Conservation Areas in New Britain through private conservation deeds. This legal instrument is part of the annexes of the Bill. Used by civil society such as the Wildlife Conservation Society, Binatang Research Center, Bismark Ramu Group, among others over the years, has been proven to be successful in deflecting the illegal conversion of land and coastal areas.  Most CCAs are at stage of finalizing management plans, and land use plans with 2 project sites, namely Toimtop Village and Lake Lamo Auro has submitted its application for CEPA to gazette their area. A cross-visit to areas with a functional conservation deed is set in August 2018. | Pending the enactment of the proposed Protected Area Bill, CEPA has given guidance to project sites to consider their submission under the existing Fauna (Protected and Control) Act. Based on cross validation with community representatives, 10 sites are progressing with gazettal application as Wildlife Management Area while the remaining 4 will be established through Local Level Government recognition using the Organic Act for Provincial and LLGs.  No delays are expected. Finalization and endorsement is envisioned before project’s closure.  The Cross visit to areas with conservation deeds was cancelled due to security reasons in 2018; the cross-visit to model communities will be pursued with other UNDP-supported projects. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 2**  **Community-managed Conservation Areas identified and established in the Owen Stanley Range and New Britain** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Hectares of new Protected Areas established under the new community conservation area framework | 1.7 million hectares gazetted terrestrial and marine areas under protection and/or management. Under different national legislations, various conservation areas have been established as provided under the National Parks Act, Fauna (Protection and Control) Act and the Organic Law on Provincial and Local Level Governments. | *(not set or not applicable)* | By year 5 at least 1,000,000 hectares added [Revised target after MTR 2017: By year 5 at least 500,000 hectares added in pilot sites] | 2.125 million ha based on the newly established national registry of Protected Areas developed by this Project using ArcGIS. The new spatial tool, now adopted by CEPA, reflects a 3% increase in terrestrial protected areas. Cleaning of data layers were implemented through hands-on approach to improve internal GIS skill of the conservation wing of CEPA. These layers also include the updated PoWPA map, results of the PA assessment for all 57 PAs, and the existing land use or management plans in several provinces made available by NGO partners. As part of capacity development, 2 CEPA staff have been selected to attend and present their work at the ESRI User Conference in San Diego, California from 9-13 July 2018.  540,000 ha supported in New Britain and Owen Stanley Range however 0 ha formally gazette as CCAs pending enactment of the Protected Area Bill. 2 new communities recently submitted their gazettal application to CEPA. Both are part of the 17 sites directly supported by the Project – Toimtop Wildlife Management Area and Lake Lamo Auru Community Conservation Area.    Based on most recent ICT assessment, the online software on wildlife species and CITES will be revamped with a user-friendly apps. | Strong indication to exceed target with 672,187 hectares total directly supported through the Protected Area Network in New Britain Island and 238,071 ha for Owen Stanley Range.    • Owen Stanley Range through the parallel PNG-Australia partnership through the Kokoda Initiative, an Integrated Protected Zone with 238,071 ha was declared through a Ministerial approval among the Ministers on Conservation and Environment, Forestry and Mining in 2015.    • In New Britain Island alone, there was a significant increase in the coverage of protected areas. From the start of the project with 25,884 ha existing protected areas of (2013); 213,172 ha (2016) and 434,116 ha (2019) towards project closure. Six sites are formally recognized as protected areas while 8 sites are in the process of gazettal application preparation. These applications conform with the new PA standard and guideline endorsed by CEPA in May 2019 through technical assistance of PIMS 5261.    Through this Project, CEPA now has a record of all 58 protected areas within a recently upgraded Protected Area Register - that is updated half yearly. Established in February 2019, the Register enables CEPA to easily report on the status of protected areas to the World Database on Protected Areas. This project completed six work sessions, a week-long each session to include the participation of 2 CEPA staff to the annual geographic information systems (GIS) conference hosted by Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) held in San Diego, California in July 2018.    This database incorporates data holdings from key partners as well as the Tentative World Heritage Areas. The dataset tripled to 192 sites with many added with finer scale management zones within, thus with 485 records in total. Record of protected areas for PNG was submitted by CEPA to WDPA in May 2019 to ensure PNG’s contribution to important international targets is accounted for.    The draft 6th National Report of PNG on CBD (June 2019) acknowledges the contribution of this Project in progressing the conservation agenda in the country through (a) R2R Plan of Work Protected Areas (2017) analysis which combined the Terrestrial PoWPA and Marine PoWPA; and (b) Assessment of the Management Effectiveness (2017) of gazetted areas.    Management of the formal protected area network of PNG has not been effective due to a lack of financial support for both site management and national oversight (PNG-METT 2017). It was recognized that each Protected Area requires an annual budget for its development and implementation of management plans including capital and recurrent expenditure. The result from this exercise is aimed to improve the accountability of CEPA to manage the protected area system with a greater level of confidence of conservation objectives being achieved. In turn, communities would also see conservation as a development option.    The comprehensive biodiversity survey in the Whiteman Range which included an ichthyological study of inland streams discovered 5 rare and considered new species to science. A scientific paper was published in Cybium (2019) which documented the new species of Sicyopus, a sicydiine goby, from the specimens collected in streams of West New Britain, Papua New Guinea. The genus, confirmed with DA testing, differs by a combination of characters such as a “second dorsal fin with one spine and ten segmented rays, fewer scales in lateral series and transverse back series, and smaller predorsal and caudal peduncle lengths” (Cybium, 2019). |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 3**  **Conservation Area Management Planning and Partnership Agreements with Communities** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Increase in METT scores for each established CA. | Individual METT scores to be calculated during establishment of the CAs [updated baseline after MTR 2017: (i) Owen Stanley Range at 75; and (ii) New Britain Island at 47 | *(not set or not applicable)* | By end-project, METT scores for each CA increase by at least 20% over initial baseline | METT score was completed for New Britain (47) and Owen Stanley Range (75) in September 2017.  In preparation for project closure in 2019, an in-depth training on METT was recently tendered. Training to commence after the Local Level Government election or in September 2018. | Exceeding target of METT score increase by 20% over initial baseline.  New Britain Island surpassed the METT target by 36% with a score of 50% (2019) compared to baseline of 14% (2011). Management effectiveness was noted to steadily improve over time with baseline of 15 out of 102 (14%); midstream (2017) at 47 (46%); and towards end point (2019) at 51 (50%).  For Owen Stanley Range, METT baseline at 24% (2011) and 75% (2017). Although the terminal METT will be carried out in September 2019, the score generated in 2017 already exceed EOP target.  To date, the project held 5 workshops altogether to introduce and continually improve the skill and understanding of project partners particularly CEPA in assessing the management effectiveness of protected areas. More than 240 participants took part in these workshops.  The latest scores were out from the in-depth METT training in Feb 2019 to upskill CEPA staff to roll out METT to facilitate the actual assessment with 50 representatives from local partners of protected areas in East and West New Britain provinces. |
| Compliance with commitments stipulated in the Partnership Agreements [Note: indicator has been revised following recommendation of MTR in 2017. Revised indicator is: Partnership agreements (bilateral, tripartite or more) that are intended to support, in a demonstrable way (i.e., through provision of finance, alternative livelihood solutions, etc), establishment, and management of PAs signed and demonstrably implemented as measured by: a) number of agreements and b) demonstrated outcome of agreement] | Agreements to be established during creation of CAs [updated: One agreement in place: Signed MOU between NBPOL and Mahonia Na Dari to support Pokili and Garu WMA] | *(not set or not applicable)* | Within 2 years of CA establishment or by end-project (whichever is sooner) CAMCs report satisfactory compliance with service delivery, community development and economic development outcomes as specified in the respective Partnership Agreements. [Note: revised target after the MTR 2017: (a) Up to eight signed agreements; (b) Demonstrated expenditure leading to measurable outcomes. | Partnerships is at the very heart of the Project’s optimum function to ensue simultaneously that stakeholders are able to contribute equally to the achievement of the project’s goal and objectives. 5 additional agreements signed or about to be finalized by the Project are:  1. Support the expansion and regazettal of the Klampun Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and rehabilitate cocoa plots and even natural oils through a signed agreement in December 2017. Technical support also provided by East New Britain’s Division on Primary Industry and the Local Level Government of East Pomio.  2. Also signed in December 2017, a partnership agreement with Toimtop Village to support the gazettal as Toimtop/Sulei WMA. The agreement supports the community aspiration to extend its current area into the hinterlands to protect its watershed and rehabilitate cocoa plots and the production of natural oils with technical support from DPI at East Pomio LLG.  3. Tripartite agreement yet to be signed on the benefit sharing arrangement on the water use of the Warangoi River.  4. MoU to be signed with the Pomio District Development Authority on 12 July 2018 to commit a cash contribution K100,000 annually to improve cocoa and coffee production is existing and proposed PAs in Pomio District.  5. Potential partnership with Hargy Oil Palm to support the caldera of Lake Lamu Auro, as a new CCA. | Exceeding the target of 8 signed agreements by project closure.  There are 5 new partnership agreements that were recently signed, on top of the existing 10 agreements that supports the establishment and management of protected areas:  1. MOU between UNDP and Pomio District to support in exporting organic cocoa to Japan (13 Sep 2018);  2. Cost Sharing Agreement between UNDP and Pomio District commits K200,000 cash contribution ( 5 Oct 2018);  3. MOU between Pomio District Development Authority and Tachibana and Company Limited to commit in buying the first 500 kilos of organic and smoke free cocoa beans at US$ 5 per kilo (15 July 2019)  4. Micro grant agreement with James Cook University to support the establishment of new protected areas namely Manginuna, Galowe, Marmar-Olaipun, and Pakia Villages within Pomio District (10 July 2018)  5. Micro grant agreement with Tavolo Wildlife Management Area to support with implementing alternative livelihoods and expansion of PA boundary (10 Nov 2018) |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Achieved** | | | | |
| **Outcome 4**  **Capacity development and support for implementation of CA Management Plans** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| Institutional and individual/ technical capacities of Provincial and local level governments to ensure effective delivery of key project outputs. | Preliminary capacity assessment during PPG indicates institutional and individual/ technical capacities are low or extremely low, at 24.4% and 33.3% respectively. Detailed capacity assessments for each participating Provincial/ local government entity to be conducted during establishment of CAs [Revised at MTR: Capacity scores for East and West New Britain at 46% and 44%, respectively] | *(not set or not applicable)* | Provincial and local level government (LLG) institutional and technical capacities to support establishment and management of CAs increases by at least 20% two years after establishment of each CA.    Overall institutional capacity increases to at least 56.4%, and individual capacity increases to 50%. | Completed CD scores in July 2017 for West New Britain at 44% and East New Britain at 46%.    Project partners will be participating in the series of training on PA planning and management starting end July 2018. The modular training is funded by PIMS 5261. | The target is on track.  CD scores of East and West New Britain Provincial Administration saw an increase from the baseline at 24.4% (2011) to 44-46% (2017) which achieved EOP target. Final CD score is expected in Sep 2019.  During the reporting period, trainings and workshops cost-shared with PIMS 5261 were participated by focal persons from the provincial and district administrations: (1) Protected Area Management training in Port Moresby, 20-22 May 2019; (2) applying images from drones on GIS map in Port Moresby, 23-25 May 2019; and (3) Rangers Forum in Sogeri and Varirata National Park, 28-30 Nov 2018. |
| Capacity of landowners to manage conservation areas and associated livelihoods/ service delivery activities | Preliminary overall assessment during PPG indicated non-existent to low capacities. Specific capacity baselines to be established for each CA. | *(not set or not applicable)* | Landowner groups have sufficient capacity to implement livelihood and service delivery activities. [Revised at MTR: Landowner groups through their Local Level Governments and other partners are accessing resources to implement livelihood and/or service delivery activities] | On livelihood activities, most of the CCA such as Arabam, Raigel, Maranagi, Klampun, Toimtop, Tavolo, Manginun, Galuwe, and Kavakuna are engaging in cocoa development with support from the Project. Pomio DDA is committing K100,000 per annum to support to bolster cocoa and coffee production within the Nakanai Range, beyond the term of the project.    To accelerate the process of land boundary mapping, documentation of information for gazettal, a drone training was completed in April 2018 through cost-share with PIMS 5261. Sets of drones will be distributed on 12 July 2018 to key project partners who have been trained by DJI experts, namely the local communities, NGO partners, Pomio DDA and the Provincial Administrations of East and West New Britain.  The project will also be training and mentoring community leaders based on lessons learned from community engagement which will be initially. | Positive indication to achieve this target by end Dec 2019.    Agreements with project partners in the last 3 years of the project incorporates support for alternative livelihoods in most CCAs. These are: exploring the feasibility of value adding taro products (Manginuna, Galowe, Marmar-Olaipun, and Pakia villages in partnership with James Cook University), production and sale of Moringa products (Arabam, Raigel and Maranagi Wards in partnership with OISCA), and trialing to export organic and smoke fee cocoa beans (in Poio village and to be expanded in almost all project sites in collaboration with Pomio DDA, East New Britain Provincial Administration and OISCA).    The cocoa initiative is supported by Pomio DDA which provided K 200,000 – a first government cash contribution in UNDP PNG. The first tranche of K100,000 was paid towards the end of 2018 to build solar dryer at Poiyo village while the second tranche was paid on the 20 June 2019, to support the visit of the Tachibana company to Pomio District, the participation of the Pomio cocoa to the upcoming Cocoa Excellence Show, and the construction of another solar dyer to meet the first 2 tonnes order of Tachibana and Company Limited.    The project team has been working with Poiyo village and the Cocoa Board of PNG since October 2018 to ensure quality and requirements of the buyer is met based on an action plan and value chain analysis (Feb 2019). Recently, the Cocoa Board graded the dry beans from Poiyo village as premium export quality cocoa.    The exporting of organic cocoa beans to Japan at a premium price has been gaining traction since June 2018. Tachibana and Company Limited, a large confectionary of raw materials has placed its order of first 500 kilos in July 2019 at US$5 per kilo, compared to the current local market price of 6 kina ($ 1.87) per kilo. This direct trade brings a better source of income for the participating 104 cocoa farmers of Poiyo village in Pomio District.    ENBPA is complementing efforts on the cocoa initiative with the provision of technical training to rehabilitate cocoa plots and supply materials to build a cocoa nursery in project sites such as Klampun, Tavolo, Toimtop, among others.  Plan are underway to expand the cocoa initiative. Pomio DDA has approved K4.5 million ($1.38 million) out of its 5-year development plan to sustain this cocoa business start-up beyond the life of this project. This is on top of the tractor, dingy and a land cruiser assigned to support the cocoa initiative. While the East New Britain Provincial Administration further commits K 400,000 to construct two additional solar dyers in the expansion processing sites at Central Inland Pomio LLLG (to cover Manginuna, Galowe, Marmar-Olaipun, and Pakia) and East Pomio LLG (Klampun and Toimtop).    East New Britain Provincial Administration is also negotiating with JICA to establish a laboratory at the University of Natural Resources and Environment to localize research and training on agricultural products focusing on downstream processing of commodity products suchas coffee and cocoa. The Provincial Administration and UNRE are also negotiating partnership with Griffith University in Australia.  Sustainability of results is ensured through further funds raised by project partners which were introduced mostly through the project. |
| Increased access to social services (health, sanitation, education) for landowner communities participating in CAs. [Note: This indicator will be deleted following MTR recommendation. Hence, no progress will be reported starting 2018 PIR] | Basic social services being provided by LLGs and/or private industry (e.g. plantation and logging companies) in West New Britain. Social service provision in Kokoda being strengthened through the Kokoda Track initiative but still limited to areas around key Track sites. | *(not set or not applicable)* | All communities/ landowner groups involved in functioning community conservation areas enjoy documented improvement in at least two social service areas. | This indicator will be deleted following MTR recommendation and PB approval. No progress will be reported starting 2018 PIR. | This indicator will be deleted following MTR recommendation and PB approval. No progress will be reported starting 2018 PIR. |
| Improvement in policy and regulatory structures for the national PA system, and continued increase in management capacity. [Note: This indicator will be deleted following MTR recommendation. Hence, no progress will be reported starting 2018 PIR] | To be established as part of CEPA structure | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project demonstrates tangible and quantifiable increase in systemic, institutional and technical capacities by end-project. | This indicator will be deleted following MTR recommendation and PB approval. No progress will be reported starting 2018 PIR. | This indicator will be deleted following MTR recommendation and PB approval. No progress will be reported starting 2018 PIR. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **On track** | | | | |

# Implementation Progress



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| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 92.68% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 92.68% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August): | 6,394,616 |

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| **Key Financing Amounts** | |
| PPG Amount | 222,000 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 6,900,000 |
| Co-financing | 23,000,000 |

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| --- | --- |
| **Key Project Dates** | |
| PIF Approval Date | Jun 29, 2009 |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Jun 29, 2011 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | Aug 20, 2012 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | Aug 30, 2012 |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | Nov 16, 2017 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | Nov 20, 2017 |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Jun 1, 2019 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | Aug 30, 2019 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | Dec 31, 2019 |

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2018 to 1 July 2019)** |
| 2018-12-14 |
| 2019-04-12 |

# Critical Risk Management

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| Current Types of Critical Risks | Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period |
| Political | A key remaining activity for the Project is the presentation of the proposed Protected Area Bill to the National Executive Council, to be spearheaded by the IP the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority.  The change in government included the appointment of the new Minister for Conservation, Environment and Climate Change on 7 June 2019 which may pose as a risk and affect the endorsement of the proposed Bill. Hence, the project through UNDP and the IP is managing this risk by lobbying for the submission of the Bill while leadership in CEPA remains strongly committed. |

# Adjustments

**Comments on delays in key project milestones**

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| **Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| The operational closure has been moved to 31 December 2019 based on the approved no-cost extension in order to complete the planned activities and achieve the remaining outputs. In consultation with the Head of Environment Portfolio and RTA, Terminal Evaluation to commence in October 2019 but contracting of the evaluation team will commence in advance. |

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| **Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| CO sees no delays with the project in achieving the upcoming terminal evaluation and project closure steps.  As a result of MTR, the project is now in the position to achieve its intended results. Update on the implementation of MTR action is regularly tracked by the CO and IP. The PMU has completed most actions except for a slight delay in 2 (regular project monitoring with next visit scheduled in Oct 2019; and updating of Pomio’s District Development Plan which has been absorbed in GEF7 FOLUR); and the action to finance the Kokoda Initiative has been dropped since it has a bigger resource est. at AUD 45 million. |

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| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| - Project closure has been extended to 31 December 2019 with approval from Executive Coordinator, UNDP-GEF  - Terminal Evaluation including finalization of report and management response will be completed by 31 December 2019. |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

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| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | This is the final PIR for this project and its cumulative progress in achieving project objectives and outcome level indicators is rated as High Satisfactory with a number of targets already achieved, few surpassed and with an outcome on 500,000 hectares protected showing a strong indication will be achieved before project closure. The project will complete its Terminal Evaluation the same time it is scheduled to end by 31 December 2019.    Despite the challenges in project startup and delays to progress some activities (e.g. gazettal of protected areas, support in implementing alternative livelihoods) while implementing other projects such as FSP PIMS 5261 and PPG PIMS 5507 as well. In these circumstances, the team had to be able to reorganize, meet demands, manage constant changes and deliver positive results nearing project closure.    At the objective level, the project has been successful to develop and establish an effective protected areas system with PNG’s first ever Protected Area Policy endorsed by National Government in 2014. This policy provides the overarching framework for the establishment and management of the National System of Protected Areas in the country and lends itself to develop the financing systems for protected areas through the recently approved full sized GEF-funded project on Sustainable Financing for PNG’s Protected Area Network. Positive trend is also attributable to the increase of funding for PA establishment and management with less than $ 1 million (2011) to $1.849 million (2019) largely due to the growing co-financing from the provincial and district administrations within the current context of continuing fiscal situation in the PNG government.    As confirmed by the improving trend in the METT scores, management effectiveness of target protected areas showed a significant jump owing to functional management committees, updated management plans and support to PAs to implement livelihood activities in their respective communities. A special positive practice introduced by the project was to support the improved presence and communication of CEPA with all PAs with the provincial and district administrations.    Progress under Outcome 1 presents both breakthroughs and challenges on the national enabling environment for protected areas. Supportive of the National Executive Council endorsement of the PNG’s PA Policy, the project assisted CEPA to also deliver the (a) proposed Protected Area Bill, (b) Protected Area Policy Implementation Plan and (c) the Biodiversity Offset Mechanism for PNG – which are the 3 top priorities of the IP that effect a positive change across Papua New Guinea’s PA Network. The political changes in government could potentially put at risk the passage of the PA Bill.    For Outcome 3, the project reports to exceed EOP target. As confirmed by the improving trend in METT scores, management effectiveness of target protected areas showed a significant jump owing to functional management committees, updated management plans, and support to PAs to implement livelihood activities in their respective communities. With adaptive management, the project trialed varying modality for onsite implementation such as collaboration with NGOs and their partner communities, provincial administration taking the lead to support with the establishment of community conservation areas, and the Project to direct engage with model communities. As a result, there is an improved presence and visibility of CEPA with all PAs, and the provincial and district administrations.    Positive progress has been made under Outcome 4 in the last 2-3 years with the introduction of alternative livelihoods and trainings related to PA management. As indicated in the CD scores, capacity of provincial administrations shows a strong indication to achieve the EOP target by end of the project. Key factors which contributes to positive progress as well as sustainability led by East and West New Britain provinces as well as Pomio District to direct support each pilot areas are:    - During the last 5 years of this project, East and West New Britain provinces placed a priority on conservation and environment with a new section in their current Strategic Provincial Development Plans (2015-2021)    - Both provinces through restructuring have established a separate branch or unit with a mandate on environment and conservation and additional 3-4 dedicated staff    - Commits K1.46 million to co-finance project activities in 2017-18 through signed MOUs with CEPA (K500,000 East New Britain and K230,000 West New Britain annually)    - The provinces established a coordination mechanism or known as Provincial Roundtable to facilitate a common ground to resolve environmental issues. The New Britain model is used by CEPA through another GEF funded project PIMS 5261 to highlight the importance of the roundtable to other provinces.    - Opened avenues to introduce alternative livelihoods to communities such as production and sale of Moringa products, exploring the feasibility of value adding of taro, trialing to export organic cocoa bean. With the full engagement of East New Britain Provincial Administration and Pomio DDA, both are finding ways to make the Pomio cocoa initiative a success. Additional resources are being put in by these partners to include the District administration subsidizing freight of cocoa bean from Uvol to Kokopo.    - Facilitate for a commercial agreement on cocoa beans to be purchased on a premium price by a Japanese trading company. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Satisfactory | Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | The project Community-based Forest and Coastal Conservation and Resource Management in Papua New Guinea addressed key priorities of CEPA with the establishment of PNG’s protected area system.    To date, the project has demonstrated significant progress towards achieving its goal, objective and outcomes. Progress towards achieving objective indicators is rated as Highly Satisfactory as the project has successfully achieved its goal of instituting a national enabling environment complete with a national registry for protected areas in PNG with demonstration sites in New Britain Island above the original target. The achievement to date on project objective is rated as Satisfactory, with the achievement of 3 objectives balanced by the slight under-achievement of 2 other outcomes. The project has demonstrated positive trends in all but three indicators corresponding to outcome and outputs.    Overall, despite slow progress in the first three years of implementation, the project has sped up the implementation of its activities to signify a strong completion of remaining outputs by end December 2019.    In the past year, the project has stressed on efforts to ensure the long-term sustainability and continuity of results beyond project closure. Measures are being put in place for project outputs to be succeeded by relevant partners to further implementation. CEPA will oversee the implementation of the Protected Area Policy and push for the enactment of the Protected Area Bill - captured in the 6th national report on CBD - to include hosting of the PA Registry and employing the retooled PNG METT assessment every 5 years. Pomio District Development Authority will serve as the conduit with the Japanese trading company and continue to fund the exporting of organic cocoa beans from protected areas.    Governance and project management has been satisfactory in this reporting period. The achievement of several project outputs has been in part facilitated and accelerated by the presence of project staff on the ground. Monthly meetings were held between the project team, the NPD or with her designate and UNDP, which led to increased coordination and communication. The result of the internal audit has also been satisfactory, with required reporting in accordance to the project’s M&E framework.    In terms of financial performance, overall expenditure as of end June 2019 is USD 6,394,616 against the total USD 6.9 million GEF budget or delivered 92.68% of total project funds. Delivery rate is Satisfactory with the project on track with implementing its 2019 Annual Work Plan. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **GEF Operational Focal point** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Implementing Partner** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Other Partners** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser** | Satisfactory | Satisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | This is the sixth and final PIR of the project ‘Community-Based Forest and Coastal Conservation and Resource Management in PNG’. The project has completed 7 years of implementation and has been extended by 4 months to 31 December 2019. The project has to commission terminal evaluation before the closure of the project and should plan to finalize the TE report and management response by 31 December 2019.    After the revision of Project’s Results Framework following the MTR recommendations in 2017, the project is back on track to achieving most of the EOP milestones with some shortcomings. The project team hasn’t prepared the exit strategy as recommended in the 2018 PIR, but hopefully the TE will document knowledge and lessons from this project, which would be useful for the ongoing GEF-5 project (PIMS 5216) and the yet to start GEF-6 project on sustainable financing of PNG’s PA network (PIMS 5507).    For this final year reporting, progress towards development objectives (DO) and Implementation Progress (IP) have been rated ‘Satisfactory’.    PROGRESS TOWARDS DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES (DO):  The objective of the project is to develop and demonstrate resource management and conservation models for landholding communities that effectively incorporate community-managed conservation areas as part of agreed national priorities with industry and government. The progress achieved under the DO and outcome indicators are summarized below:    (1) in terms of the national policy and regulatory framework providing comprehensive support to the establishment of CCAs: the project has been instrumental in developing PA policy which was endorsed by the government in 2014. This has laid the foundation for the development of PA Policy Implementation Plan (PAPIP) which was endorsed by the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) in 2018 and also aligned to the PNG vision 2050 of adding one million hectares of PAs in the country; and the PA Bill which is still pending enactment. To roll out the PAPIP, the government for the first time, has approved 2 million Kina for the 2019 national budget. This is a remarkable achievement for the project to sustain its efforts.    (2) With regard to the area protected under community CA: a total of 672,187 hectares have been directly supported in New Britain Island and Owen Stanley Range. This includes total of 14 sites of which six sites are formally recognized as protected areas while 8 sites are in the process of gazettal. As a result of project intervention, quality of management has also improved as measured by METT. For New Britain Island, the METT score has increased to 50% (in 2019) from a baseline of 46% (revised in 2017); and for Owen Stanley Range, the score has increased to 75% (2017) from the baseline of 24% (2011). While the legal status of CCAs is still pending enactment of the PA Bill, CEPA has provided guidance to project sites to submit under the existing Fauna Act. 10 sites are submitting gazettal application as Wildlife Management Area while the remaining 4 will be established through Local Level Government recognition using the Organic Act for Provincial and LLGs. This presents potential risk of not achieving the target before the closure of the project.    (3) METT and PA database: the project supported customizing METT to PNG’s context and was adopted by CEPA in 2017 and further refined in 2019. This has resulted in institutionalizing retooled PNG METT and conducting nation-wide METT assessment to all 58 national and local PAs, where the data is now publicly available through the open portal. Following experiences from PNG in the SPREP Annual General Meeting, CEPA has received requests to extend technical support to other pacific nations. An in-depth METT training was conducted in February 2019 for 50 CEPA staff designated to provincial administrations of both East and West New Britain, Pomio District, including NGO and community.    The project also supported CEPA to upgrade the PA Register which has record of all the 58 PAs. The Register enables CEPA to easily report on the status of protected areas to the World Database on Protected Areas. This database incorporates data holdings from key partners as well as the Tentative World Heritage Areas. The dataset tripled to 192 sites and with additional finer scale management zones, has now reached to 485 records in total. Record of protected areas for PNG was submitted by CEPA to WDPA in May 2019 to ensure PNG’s contribution to important international targets is accounted for. The project further supported 2 CEPA staff to participate in the annual geographic information systems (GIS) conference hosted by Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) held in San Diego, California in July 2018, thus contributing to increasing in-house capacity within CEPA to undertake GIS analysis.    (4) Partnership arrangements: the project has been quite successful in extending partnership with the local government and private firms to support the establishment and management of community conservation areas. Some of the partnership agreements that have been confirmed are:  (i) MOU was signed between UNDP and Pomio District in September 2018 to support exporting organic cocoa to Japan. Follow-up to this, UNDP has signed a Cost Sharing Agreement in October 2018, where Pomio District Development Authority commits cash contribution of K200,000. The cash contribution was towards installing solar dryer at Poiyo village; support the visit of the Tachibana Company to Pomio District; participation of the Pomio cocoa to the Cocoa Excellence Show.    (ii) MOU was signed between Pomio District Development Authority and Tachibana Company Limited in July 2019, where the later commits to buy the first 500 kilos of organic and smoke free cocoa beans at US$ 5 per kilo.    (iii) Micro grant agreement was signed with James Cook University in July 2018 to support the establishment of new protected areas namely Manginuna, Galowe, Marmar-Olaipun, and Pakia Villages within Pomio District.    (iv) Micro grant agreement was signed with Tavolo Wildlife Management Area in November 2018 to support implement alternative livelihoods and expansion of PA boundary.    (v) The project has secured significant co-financing of Kina 1.4 million or US$ 533k in 2019 from different partners: (a) East New Britain committed K753,840 or U$ 289,938; (b) West New Britain - K273,460 or U$105,176; (c) Pomio District Development Authority - K269,100 or $ 103,500; (d) Private sector namely New Britain Palm Oil Limited & Hargy Palm Oil Limited contributed K 58,400 or $ 17,930 to support with conservation actions in selected project sites to date; (e) Community in-kind contribution is estimated at K 55,000 Kina or $ 16,880.    (5) Institutional and individual capacity development of provincial, local level governments and land owners: (i) There has been an improvement in the capacity of East and West New Britain Provincial Administration based on the CD score assessment done at midpoint in 2017. The 2019 assessment will be done prior to the TE. In 2019, staff from provincial and district administration were trained on – PA management, application of drone images in GIS, Rangers’ forum. (ii) support to alternative livelihoods have been extended to most CCAs in the project sites. These are: (a) feasibility of value adding taro products in Manginuna, Galowe, Marmar-Olaipun, and Pakia villages in partnership with James Cook University; (b) production and sale of Moringa products (Arabam, Raigel and Maranagi Wards in partnership with OISCA); (c) trialing to export organic and smoke free cocoa beans in Poio village and to expand to all project sites in collaboration with Pomio DDA, East New Britain Provincial Administration and OISCA.    Through the cost sharing agreement with Pomio DDA, the project team worked with Poiyo village and the Cocoa Board of PNG since October 2018 to ensure quality requirements of the buyer is met based on an action plan and value chain analysis. The Cocoa Board graded the dry beans from Poiyo village as premium export quality cocoa. Tachibana and Company Limited, a large confectionary of raw materials has placed its order of first 500 kilos in July 2019 at US$5 per kilo, compared to the current local market price of 6 kina ($ 1.87) per kilo. This direct trade brings a better source of income for the participating 104 cocoa farmers of Poiyo village in Pomio District. Plans are underway to expand the cocoa initiative. Pomio DDA has approved K4.5 million ($1.38 million) from its 5-year development plan to sustain this cocoa business start-up beyond the life of this project.    On this basis DO progress for the current reporting period has been rated ‘Satisfactory’.    IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS:  The IP rating for this reporting period is ‘satisfactory’.    The project has achieved a very good cumulative financial delivery of 92.68% (U$6.395 million) as of June 2019. The annual financial delivery in 2018 stands at 83.67% and the delivery as of June 2019 was 45.12%.    The project has recorded a political risk related to pending enactment of PA Bill which poses potential risks and, is going to impact the outcomes of all the on-going UNDP supported GEF-financed biodiversity projects in PNG focusing on PA expansion, gazettement of CCAs and sustainable financing of PAs. CO and CEPA has to apprise the new leadership in the Ministry of Conservation, Environment and Climate Change to push for the endorsement of the Bill.    Two PB meetings were convened during this reporting period - on 14 December 2018 & 12 April 2019 which has been a good practice that the project followed after the MTR.    With regard to reporting gender results, while the project has done lot of work on-the ground with the community, no gender results have been reported including gender dis-aggregated data in the DO progress. I am sure the new partnership with Pomio DDA and Tachibana and Company Limited to export premium Cocoa to Japan must have benefitted many women and youth thus empowering them. The information on how many men and women have benefitted through this initiative is missing.    In terms of knowledge management and communication, the project has been quite weak mainly reaching out to external audiences. Some publications that the project has come up with include: (i) Assessment of Management Effectiveness for PNG’s PAs 2017; (ii) Land-Sea conservation assessment for PNG 2017; (iii) The PNG METT: a method for assessing effectiveness in PNG’s PAs; (iv) Ridges to reefs assessment for New Britain, PNG: planning for sustainable development; (v) Biodiversity survey of Whiteman Range, West New Britain Province, PNG 2015 & 2017. In the current reporting period, the project ran a story on the communities of Pomio District breaking into new global markets with their local cocoa products.    RECOMMENDATIONS:  (1) The CO and project team must plan to conduct the terminal evaluation and complete the final report along with management response by end of December 2019.    (2) I would recommend the project team to prepare a project closure report mainly taking stock of project’s achievement, new knowledge generated, good practices that could be replicated, challenges, lessons learned, partnership, etc. This will be a good reference for the TE team as well as for the GEF-5 & GEF-6 projects. | |

# Gender

**Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning.  The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

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| **Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** *not available* |
| **Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.** |
| [Gender Analysis and Action Plan\_PIMS 3936\_final draft.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/3936/212932/1728960/1743880/Gender%20Analysis%20and%20Action%20Plan_PIMS%203936_final%20draft.docx) |

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| **Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):** |
| Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: No |
| Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes |
| Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes |
| Not applicable: No |

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| **Atlas Gender Marker Rating** |
| **GEN1:** some contribution to gender equality |

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| **Please describe any experiences or linkages (direct or indirect) between project activities and gender-based violence (GBV). This information is for UNDP use only and will not be shared with GEF Secretariat.** |
| None to date. |

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| **Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.**    **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.** |
| Gender inequality is a daily struggle for women in PNG – with a common perception that women are inferior to men that comes from the cultural norms carried up to this day.    During the timeframe of the GEF 4 project, more awareness on equal rights of women and children were addressed in both community level and stakeholder workshops both within and outside of the Province and the same message was driven right to the community level. There were positive responses to this agenda as women were included in the composition of the Conservation Committee and also one or two elected in the executive post.  A good participation in women and youths in any workshops or trainings, were a good environment to identify and address the different needs of all different groups of people and women’s needs were clearly addressed in workshops. Most attendees to the workshops at community levels were also community leaders and the more emphasis placed on gender equality, there were positive feedbacks. Slowly women are now recognized and appreciated in the communities with the support of many funded organizations also supporting gender equality in any projects. |

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| **Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.** |
| Promote gender equality and women’s voice as a core approach in targeted project activities to support in addressing power and resource imbalances in households and communities, particularly with women and youth who directly tends to cocoa plots will open a bank account to receive the payment of $5 per kilo of cocoa beans from Tachibana & Co. This arrangement is openly discussed with Poio village in Pomio District, East New Britain province. |

# Social and Environmental Standards

**Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)**

The Project Manager and/or the project’s Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

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| **1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?** |
| No |

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| **If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.** |
| (not set or not applicable) |

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| **2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.** |
| No |

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| **If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.** |
| (not set or not applicable) |

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| **SESP:** [3936\_Signed SESP.pdf](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/3936/212932/1727087/1740550/3936_Signed%20SESP.pdf)  **Environmental and Social Management Plan/Framework:** *not available* |
| **For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.** |
| (not set or not applicable) |

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| **4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential )?** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.** |
| (not set or not applicable) |

# Communicating Impact

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| **Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s lives.**  **(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)** |
| The communities of Pomio District, East New Britain are gaining momentum in their efforts to break into new global markets with their local cocoa products.    These efforts were given a significant boast with 100,000 Kina grant provided by the Pomio District Development Authority. This follows a previous such investment made in September 2018.    This funding will support the continuing efforts of farmers in the Melkoi Rural Local Ward to construct a second solar cocoa dryer, enable their participation in the Cocoa Excellence show in Lae to showcase products and continue developing locally made chocolate.    This initiative is being proudly supported by the member for Pomio District, the Hon. Minister Elias Kapavore, Government through its Conservation, Environment and Protection Authority (CEPA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) all of whom have contributed funding and provided technical assistance to communities in this work.    These efforts will see the export of high-grade cocoa into the Japanese market. This initiative has been supported by Japanese company Tachibana and Co. who have previously been involved in similar efforts around the world. Looking forward, these communities have started producing chocolate with hopes it will one day be readily available across Papua New Guinea and beyond.    Chief Executive Officer for the Pomio District Development Authority, Peter Peniat said, “this is an exciting opportunity. We have benefited from the great leadership of the Honourable member for Pomio, Elias Kapavore. He has supported this initiative because he recognises the capacity of communities to achieve great things when they have the resources and confidence to do so. We are particularly excited by the possibility of producing local grown and locally made chocolate.”    Recent testing of the cocoa product has confirmed its high-grade quality. This will increase its value and the quality of the products it can be used for.    These sentiments were reiterated by the UNDP’s Resident Representative to Papua New Guinea, Dirk Wagener who said, “not only are we empowering communities, we are do so in an environmentally sustainable way. These communities are increasing their capacity to produce a high-quality product with very little impact to the environment. This has complimented conservation efforts and ensured we are producing a green commodity.”    The project has been funded by the Global Environment Facility. It has been administered by the UNDP in partnership with CEPA and the Pomio District Development Authority. |

**Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media**

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| **Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.**    **Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.** |
| Project webpage: http://www.pg.undp.org/content/papua\_new\_guinea/en/home/operations/projects/environment\_and\_energy/community-based-forest-and-coastal-conservation-and-resource-man.html    Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/pg.undp/    Twitter: https://twitter.com/UNDPinPNG    Flickr: https://www.flickr.com/photos/148279672@N05/albums    YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXfqbxcdLupT4E0NJHKfxyw    http://www.pg.undp.org/content/papua\_new\_guinea/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2019/investing-in-green-commodities-to-improve-community-livelihoods-.html    https://emtv.com.pg/pomio-cocoa-making-its-debut-in-the-japanese-market/    http://www.asia-pacific.undp.org/content/rbap/en/home/stories/communities-balancing-conservation-with-export-opportunities-in-.html    http://www.asia-pacific.undp.org/content/rbap/en/home/about-us/partners/government-financing.html    https://png-data.sprep.org/dataset/protected-area-policy-implementation-plan-2018-2028)    https://png-data.sprep.org/dataset/png-mett; https://png-data.sprep.org/dataset/png-mett/resource/7a635786-0254-492a-afda-e979a0c75ced |

# Partnerships

**Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment**

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important!  All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

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| **Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with the Private Sector?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with UN Volunteers?** |
| No |

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| **Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?** |
| No |

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| **CEO Endorsement Request:** [3936 PNG FCPA CEO Endorsement Request REV16May2011.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/3936/212932/1642374/1642670/3936%20PNG%20FCPA%20CEO%20Endorsement%20Request%20REV16May2011.docx) |
| **Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.** |
| Through adaptive management, the project trialed varying modality for onsite implementation. Aside from directly collaborating with NGOs and their partner communities, the PMU partnered also with provincial administration to lead with the establishment of community conservation areas as well as with model communities. As a result, there is an improved presence and visibility of CEPA to build its working relationship with provincial and district administrations, civil society and all pilot communities. The PMU has been expanded to include project staff to ensure closer working relationships and support the back and forth coordination and management of project activities in East and West New Britain provinces; later, with Pomio District and CBOs as a direct recipient of micro grants.    At the start-up phase of the project, only a small number of pilot areas were targeted. Sites were expanded midway of the project as noted in the MTR to optimize long standing commitment of communities on conservation, e.g. Baining Mountain (Arabam, Raigel and Maranagi wards).    The project aimed to be inclusive and participatory in its aspects of implementation through the establishment of regular Partners’ coordination meetings with representatives from project proponents, particularly for onsite implementation (Components 3 and 4). As a result, information and communication were shared and discussed to reach a level of cohesion when communicating core messages and raising awareness on the project. With meetings of at least twice a year, the project maintained that all stakeholders are informed on an ongoing basis regarding: the project’s objectives; projects activities; overall project progress; and tapping into synergies in the various aspects of the project’s implementation. The Partners’ Meeting was utilized as a forum to review the project budget; develop its annual work plan; schedule collate information for detailed reporting, monitoring and evaluation requirements – prior to Project Board meetings. |

# Annex - Ratings Definitions

**Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

**Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.