



Fiji

Progress Update October 2016 – February 2018

Presentation to the Regional Steering Committee of the
SPC/GIZ programme Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region

*21 March 2018
Holiday Inn, Suva, Fiji*



Context of Support & Implementation

- **Funding agency:** German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
- **National focal point:** Ministry of Economy
- **Lead implementing partner:** Ministry of Forests
- **National steering committee:** National Climate Change Coordinating Committee; National REDD+ Steering Committee
- **Staffing in-country:** Suva main GIZ Office for CCCPIR; Fiji technical staff: 1 technical adviser; 1 project officer (excluding education component)



Main areas of support in Fiji (education not included)

- Supporting Fiji in REDD+ readiness
- Support national processes and approaches for CCA and CCM
- Awareness and information and knowledge management



Approaches
supporting



Output 2: Selected Pacific ACP countries have integrated CCA and CCM into their sector policies and strategies.

- Indicator 2.1: 12 sector strategies and planning documents for natural resource management and education in 9 Pacific ACP countries feature explicit CCA/ CCM measures
- Indicator 2.3: A national MRV system (monitoring, reporting, verification) for the REDD+ mechanism is operational in Fiji.

Output 3: National institutions and/or communities in selected Pacific ACP countries replicate proven adaptation measures at community level.

- Indicator 3.1: 2 Pacific ACP countries have replicated 4 CCCPIR community-based as well as gender-sensitive adaptation pilot measures which targeted 100 households particularly affected by climate change.
- Indicator 3.5: In Fiji, a participatory and gender sensitive REDD+ pilot project is generating defined co-benefits for 200 households



Supporting Fiji in REDD+ readiness

National level

- Supported Fiji to enter carbon funding pipeline for forest carbon emissions reduction programme
- Awareness and capacity building of national stakeholders
- Support implementation of Fiji's readiness activities co-funded by FCPF & Fiji Govt. (Fiji REDD+ Strategy; analytical studies, establishment of National Forest Monitoring System and Safeguards Information System, etc.)
- Development of reforestation guideline for Fiji's grassland areas (draft)
- Development of forest biodiversity monitoring framework (draft)





Supporting national processes and approaches -

Support national structures to support informed decision-making process

- Supported the establishment of the Divisional REDD+ Working Group for North and Western Division (November 2016-2017)
- Assessment carried out to include REDD+ in Fiji's NDC and the Agriculture and Other Land Use sectors (2017)
- Review of the National Climate Change Policy (2017)



THE FIJI REDD+ DIVISIONAL WORKING GROUP - NORTH

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. INTRODUCTION

Background

Scientists estimate that deforestation and forest degradation account for around 20 percent of the annual greenhouse gas emissions that fuel climate change. REDD+ (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and through the conservation of forests, sustainable management and carbon stock enhancements) is mechanism aimed at reducing the 20 percent of emissions related to forests through financial incentives. Forests are generally regarded as a source for financial and economical gain (agriculture, logging, land development etc.) and this often takes precedence over forest conservation or sustainable management. The REDD+ concept links financial incentives to forest conservation, sustainable management, and enhancing and increasing carbon stocks for credits for carbon emissions avoided and/or carbon sequestered.

Fiji has a forest cover of almost 1.1 million hectares, covering about fifty-six percent of the total land mass. Forest clearance, largely attributed to agriculture, can be observed on parts of Fiji. The country also has





- Regional Workshop on Climate change induced relocation in Pacific Island Countries
- Development of a national land use planning guideline (draft)
- Development of a national FPIC (Free Prior and Informed Consent) approach (draft)
- Support to the COP23 presidency

Our Pledge to Vulnerable Nations Everywhere



"And I make the following pledge to our island neighbours and the other low lying nations of the world, along with the rest of the international community. Fiji will do everything in its power to fulfill its duty to place climate change at the very top of the global agenda. As President of Fiji, I will continue to press for deeper cuts in carbon emissions to address the threat of rising sea levels and extreme weather."

1. Factors that will guide/determine the decision to relocate

Thematic area	Issues to be considered
Climate change (and disasters?) related impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sea level rise – inundation, flooding, coastal erosion, saltwater intrusion into freshwater table, impact on agriculture, health impacts
Social and cultural factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conforming to village bylaws • Languages/ cultures • Push and pull factors/poverty hardships • Family and village ties • Willingness to accept and having appropriate infrastructure/space to accommodate (from the receiver end) • Willingness to move away from their livelihoods • Need of the gov't doesn't match the need of the community (don't want to move)
Economic factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployment



REDD+ pilot site activities

- Ongoing implementation of local land use plan
- Reforestation and rehabilitation of degraded grassland areas to support community livelihoods
- Alternative livelihood trainings and development – bee keeping, continuing livestock and crop management support, tree nursery management
- Women-focused support - food technology and handicraft training
- Emalu REDD+ pilot site lease approved and first for Fiji
- Supported landowners with participation in national and international events
- Experiences, lessons and studies from pilot site feeds into national approaches and guidelines – REDD readiness



Awareness and information and knowledge management

- Ongoing support for managing REDD+ website, media coverage and social media platforms
- Ongoing support development of Climate Change and REDD+ information, awareness and news materials
- Awareness and training workshops for stakeholders in other sectors, local communities and government ministries, CSOs
- Awareness and information sharing on Fiji REDD+ activities in international meetings





International training and meetings

- REDD+ and Community Based Forest Management Learning in Nepal: Melanesian Delegation meeting & Exposure visit (September 2017)
- Asia Pacific Forestry Commission, Sri Lanka (October 2017)
- Results based payments from REDD+ and the link to Forest Landscape Restoration (October 2017)





Fiji awareness materials and publications: Oct 2016 – Feb 2018

news REDD+ FIJI
Issue 6 • February 2018

Communications Workshop for Forestry Officers

Forestry Officers who recently participated in a Communications capacity building workshop are hopeful that they will now be able to put into practice what they have learnt.

The workshop took place in Suva from December 13-14, 2017. Forestry Officers from the North, West & Central/Eastern Divisions attended with the aim of enhancing their skills and knowledge in communications.

Communications is a mechanism to increase knowledge, influence attitudes and move certain groups to change their behaviour. However information must be relevant produced in a timely manner and presented in a format that is understandable and accessible.

With support from the SP/C/GIZ Regional REDD+ Programme, the workshop was able to identify measures in which the technical officers can provide support to the Ministry's public relations officer Kuini Wagaqarou in terms of collecting relevant information for dissemination to stakeholders.

achievements & contact person and more frequent and refreshing Consultation (face to face) with relevant stakeholders on the Ministry's role with regards to their Licence conditions (breaching) & Permits. The

In this Issue

REDD+ welcomes new Technical Advisor
P2

Ministry of Forests

REDD+ FIJI

The Fiji National REDD+ Programme is the action taken by Government and stakeholders to guide Fiji through the REDD+ readiness phase and to successfully access carbon financing mechanisms. These efforts recognise global efforts in reducing Green House Gas (GHG) emissions.

REDD+ is an effort to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and increase carbon sequestration in the forestry sector.

FORESTS & ENERGY

CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL DAY 21st MAR TUVU PRIMARY SC

JOIN US!

Wood is a renewable source of energy only if...

Forestry_IDOF_low_FINAL

REDD+ FIJI

giz

THE 5 REDD+ ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY 2: REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM FOREST DEGRADATION

Forest degradation is the reduction in the quality of forest ecosystem services and forest carbon stocks. It is the loss of forest cover or the loss of forest products, and is caused by human activities such as logging, agriculture, and other forest products. Forest degradation can be reduced through the application of the Forest Harvesting Code of Practice, improved land planning, establishment of seedlings and introduction of other livelihood sources.

ACTIVITY 3: CONSERVATION OF FORESTS

Protecting our forests means we are protecting a carbon sink. Forests and plants absorb carbon dioxide and store it in a carbon pool (the forest holds a vast amount of carbon). But activities that harm these benefits and continue to be effective carbon sinks and pools. Such protection includes selective logging of trees to ensure the healthy regeneration of young seedlings.

ACTIVITY 4: SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF FORESTS

Forests provide us with an array of products (like timber and fuelwood) and services (like water and soil protection). To be harvested sustainably to ensure that future generations can also benefit from these benefits and continue to be effective carbon sinks and pools. Such protection includes selective logging of trees to ensure the healthy regeneration of young seedlings.

ACTIVITY 5: FOREST CARBON STOCK ENHANCEMENT

Growing more trees and increasing forest cover will increase carbon stocks. This means more removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. This will also improve biodiversity, restore natural ecosystems and contribute to food security.

THE 5 REDD+ ACTIVITIES

REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM FOREST DEGRADATION

This conversion can be reduced through proper land use planning, sustainable agriculture practices and introducing other livelihood sources.

REDUCING EMISSIONS FROM FOREST DEGRADATION

Forest degradation can be reduced through the application of the Forest Harvesting Code of Practice, proper land use planning, establishment of woodlots and introduction of other livelihood sources.

CONSERVATION OF FORESTS

Protecting our forests mean we are protecting a carbon sink (since trees and plants absorb carbon dioxide and store it) and a carbon pool (the forest holds a vast amount of carbon). But activities that harm these benefits and continue to be effective carbon sinks and pools. Such protection includes selective logging of trees to ensure the healthy regeneration of young seedlings.

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF FORESTS

Forests need to be harvested sustainably to ensure that it continue to provide us with an array of products (like wild foods) and products (including timber) and continue to be effective carbon sinks and pools.

FOREST CARBON STOCK ENHANCEMENT

Growing more trees and increasing forest cover will increase carbon stocks. This means more removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. This will also improve biodiversity, restore natural ecosystems and contribute to food security.

For further information please contact:
The Fiji REDD+ Secretariat • Email: redplus.fiji@gmail.com • Website: www.fiji-redplus.org
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REDD+ PROGRAMME

00:23

VINAKA VAKALEVU



Fiji National REDD+ Programme

National REDD+ Pilot site - Emalu

REDD+ is an effort to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and increase carbon sequestration in the forestry sector.

REDD+ stands for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation, (+) conservation, sustainable management of forests and carbon stock enhancement.

The Fiji National REDD+ programme is also supporting other Land Use activities in enhancing livelihood options for the people in the area. This serves to also protect the Emalu forest.

Key information

Area: 7,347 hectares
Matagali: Emalu; Yavusa: Emalu
Village: Draubuta
District: Nakororo; Province: Nadroga/Navosa

Co-ordinated by the Forestry Department

Ministry of Fisheries and Forests, Takayawa Building, Toorak Rd, Suva,
Phone: 3301011/Fax: 3310002



Importance of Emalu forest

Emalu forest has been identified as a biodiversity hotspot in Fiji. Biodiversity studies show that Emalu forest has a remarkably high rate of endemism.

Some of these include:

- 207 plant taxa
- 37 native bird species
- 26 families of terrestrial insects
- 76 freshwater microinvertebrates

Archaeological studies show that Emalu forest is rich in historical and cultural sites. A total of 77 historical and culturally significant sites were found.



Partnership Development
for International
Cooperation

7 Main outcomes

The following is a summary of agreed and priority actions emanating from discussions during the 2-day workshop-

1. There should be more awareness and workshops on risk insurance facilities with continuing assessment of regional and national facilities.
2. The social and cultural aspects of L&D in the Pacific should be strongly reflected in any working definition of L&D
3. The issue of climate-induced relocation should be put into the agenda of Pacific Leaders' meetings
4. Increase understanding of PICs on current UN processes and international policy developments on the issue of migration, displacement and loss and damage, including associated human rights issues, and strengthening the participation of Pacific Island countries in these processes and decision-making.
5. Should any displacement / migration take place, the priority option is to have this take place internally, within country borders. The focus of potential relocation support should be on "planned relocation" to address slow onset impacts and in anticipation of sudden-onset (disaster planning).
6. Conduct extensive awareness on the issue of climate-induced relocation including mapping and analysis of climate induced relocation activities in PICs and lessons learnt from past relocation and migration initiatives.
7. National policies and legal frameworks should be reviewed or developed to consider relocation issues and requirements. This should also include migration (cross-boundary), especially of the smaller land mass island countries. Lessons from past migration and relocation experiences (such as the Banaban and Carteret islands case) should be considered in policy development. Capacities to be strengthened in this regard.
8. The establishment of baseline information is very important and critical to proving L&D and provides a legal footing if countries are to claim for any compensation under L&D. Capacities of the Pacific Islands countries are to be strengthened to acquire and analyse baseline data and monitoring to determine trends.
9. A planned relocation guideline on the procedures for assessing the need to relocate and the undertaking of relocation will be important. For slow onset impacts, this is necessary to ensure a thorough investigative process to confidently determine the need to relocate and how to relocate.
10. Gender and human rights issues to be integrated into any relocation policy and planning development.
11. Develop a concept note on a regional initiative/approach to support relocation efforts in PICs

