IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND REPORTING MECHANISMS IN PNG, RELEVANT FOR THE DESIGN OF THE SAFEGUARDS INFORMATION SYSTEM

August 2016

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### Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBD</td>
<td>Convention on Biological Diversity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCDA</td>
<td>Climate Change and Development Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEPA</td>
<td>Conservation and Environment Protection Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>CERD</td>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women</td>
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<tr>
<td>CITES</td>
<td>Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora</td>
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<tr>
<td>COP</td>
<td>Conference of the Parties</td>
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<tr>
<td>DCD</td>
<td>Department of Community Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>DJAG</td>
<td>Department of Justice and Attorney General</td>
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<tr>
<td>CLRC</td>
<td>Constitutional Law Reform Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>DAL</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture and Livestock</td>
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<tr>
<td>DLPP</td>
<td>Department of Lands and Physical Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>FIMS</td>
<td>Forest Inventory and Mapping System</td>
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<tr>
<td>FPIC</td>
<td>Free, Prior and Informed Consent</td>
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<td>GHG</td>
<td>Greenhouse Gas</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICCPR</td>
<td>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>ICESCR</td>
<td>International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>LULUCF</td>
<td>Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry</td>
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<td>MDGs</td>
<td>Millennium Development Goals</td>
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<td>MRA</td>
<td>Mineral Resources Authority</td>
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<td>MRV</td>
<td>Measurement, Reporting and Verification</td>
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<td>NFI</td>
<td>National Forest Inventory</td>
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<td>NFMS</td>
<td>National Forest Monitoring System</td>
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<td>NSO</td>
<td>National Statistics Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>PaMs</td>
<td>Policies and Measures</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLRs</td>
<td>Policies, Laws and Regulations</td>
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<tr>
<td>PNG</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
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<tr>
<td>PNGFA</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea Forest Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>RAMSAR</td>
<td>Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REDD+</td>
<td>Reducing Emission from Deforestation and forest Degradation</td>
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<tr>
<td>SIS</td>
<td>Safeguard Information System</td>
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<td>SLMS</td>
<td>Satellite Land Monitoring System</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNCAC</td>
<td>United Nations Convention Against Corruption</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNCCD</td>
<td>United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNFCCC</td>
<td>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</td>
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<tr>
<td>UPNG</td>
<td>University of Papua New Guinea</td>
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1. INTRODUCTION

UNFCCC requirements for REDD+

REDD+ is an international climate change mitigation mechanism adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that seeks to contribute to the reduction of global carbon emissions from deforestation by providing financial incentives, in the form of ‘results-based payments’, to developing countries that successfully slow or reverse forest loss. The UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP) articulated five REDD+ activities that developing countries can implement to be eligible to receive these payments:

   a) Reducing emissions from deforestation;
   b) Reducing emissions from forest degradation;
   c) Sustainable management of forests;
   d) Conservation of forest carbon stocks; and
   e) Enhancement of forest carbon stocks

After several years of negotiations and discussions at the international level, the UNFCCC COP adopted the ‘Warsaw Framework for REDD+’ at its 19th meeting in December 2013. This officially anchored REDD+ to the UNFCCC regime. The Warsaw Framework builds on previous COP decisions and clarifies and consolidates the requirements and methodological guidance countries must meet in order to access results based finance. According to the Warsaw Framework, developing country Parties aiming to receive results-based finance for REDD+ must:

1. Ensure that the anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals resulting from the implementation of REDD+ activities are fully measured, reported and verified (MRV) in accordance with UNFCCC guidance;  
2. Have in place:
   a) A national strategy or action plan (a link to which is shared on the UNFCCC REDD+ Web Portal);
   b) A national forest reference emission level and/or forest reference level, or if appropriate, as an interim measure, subnational forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference level (that has undergone a UNFCCC-coordinated technical assessment process);
   c) A robust and transparent national forest monitoring system for the monitoring and reporting of REDD+ activities; and
   d) A system for providing information on how the safeguards are being addressed and respected (SIS)
3. Ensure that REDD+ activities, regardless of the source and type of funding, are implemented in a manner consistent with the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards

Provide the most recent summary of information on how all of the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards have been addressed and respected before they can receive results-based payments.

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1 UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16 paragraph 70
2 UNFCCC Decisions 9/CP.19; 10/CP.19; 11/CP.19; 12/CP.19; 13/CP.19; 14CP.19 and 15/CP.19
3 UNFCCC Decision 2/CP.17 paragraph 63
4 UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16 paragraph 63
5 UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16 paragraph 71
6 UNFCCC Decision 2/CP.17 paragraph 63
7 UNFCCC Decision 9/CP.19 paragraph 4
UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards requirements

Although REDD+ is primarily a mechanism to incentivise forest-based climate change mitigation, it is broadly agreed that it should, as a minimum, ‘do no harm’, and where possible go beyond this to ‘do good’ and achieve multiple (carbon and non-carbon) benefits. Given the potential environmental risks and benefits of REDD+ implementation, Parties to the UNFCCC recognised the need to ensure that the rules and guidance for REDD+ include measures to protect those potentially at risk, particularly indigenous peoples, local communities and biodiversity. For this reason, they agreed to the adoption of seven safeguards for REDD+ at the 16th Conference of the Parties (COP16) also known as the ‘Cancun safeguards’ (see Box 1).

Box 1: The Cancun safeguards

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

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

The UNFCCC recognises that safeguards are a key part of REDD+ implementation, and links the Cancun safeguards to results-based payments, requiring that countries demonstrate how they have addressed and respected them throughout the implementation of their REDD+ activities.

The specific UNFCCC safeguard requirements are the following:

Requirement 1: Implement REDD+ activities in a manner consistent with the Cancun Safeguards

REDD+ activities, regardless of their type of funding source, are to be implemented in such a way that the Cancun Safeguards are addressed and respected. This implies that countries should take

8 UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16 Appendix 1 paragraph 2
9 Taking into account the need for sustainable livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities and their interdependence on forests in most countries, reflected in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as International Mother Earth Day.
10 UNFCCC Decision 2/CP.17, Paragraphs 63 and 64, which should be read along with UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16, Paragraph 69 and Appendix 1, Paragraph 2.
11 Decision 1/CP.16 paragraph 69, Decision 2/CP.17, Paragraph 63
steps to define how the Cancun safeguards will be implemented, and to ensure compliance with the safeguards throughout the implementation of REDD+ activities.

Requirement 2: Establish a system to provide information on how the Cancun Safeguards are being addressed and respected

The governments of countries implementing REDD+ activities are required to establish a system to provide information on how the seven Cancun safeguards are being addressed and respected in all of the phases of implementation of REDD+ activities. This is commonly referred to as the Safeguard Information System (subsequently referred to as the SIS).

According to the UNFCCC guidelines, the SIS should:

- Be consistent with guidance in decision 1/CP.16, appendix I, paragraph 1;14
- Provide transparent and consistent information that is accessible by all relevant stakeholders and updated on a regular basis;
- Be transparent and flexible to allow for improvements over time;
- Provide information on how all of the safeguards are being addressed and respected;
- Be country-driven and implemented at the national level;
- Build upon existing systems, as appropriate.

Requirement 3: Provide a summary of information on how the Cancun Safeguards are being addressed and respected

In order to receive results-based payments, countries must present their most recent summary of information demonstrating how the safeguards have been addressed and respected.15 The UNFCCC also establishes that the summary of information should be provided periodically, and be included in national communications or other communication channels identified by the COP. An additional and voluntary format for providing information to the UNFCCC is through the UNFCCC REDD+ web platform.16

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12 UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16 Paragraph 71(d).
13 UNFCCC Decision 12/CP.17 Paragraph 2.
14 Which states that REDD+ activities should: (a) Contribute to the achievement of the objective set out in Article 2 of the Convention; (b) Contribute to the fulfilment of the commitments set out in Article 4, paragraph 3, of the Convention; (c) Be driven and be considered options available to Parties; (d) Be consistent with the objective of environmental integrity and take into account the multiple functions of forests and other ecosystems; (e) Be undertaken in accordance with national development priorities, objectives and circumstances and capabilities and should respect sovereignty; (f) Be consistent with Parties’ national sustainable development needs and goals; (g) Be implemented in the context of sustainable development and reducing poverty, while responding to climate change; (h) Be consistent with the adaptation needs of the country; (i) Be supported by adequate and predictable financial and technology support, including support for capacity-building; (j) Be results-based; (k) Promote sustainable management of forests;
15 Decision 9/CP, Paragraph 4, UNFCCC Decision 2/CP.17, op cit., Paragraph 63 and 64.
16 Decision 12/CP.19, Paragraph 2 and 3.
2. OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE OF THIS REPORT

The main objective of this report is to provide essential inputs for the design of the SIS, in terms of assessing which and how existing information systems and sources could be used to provide information on the application of the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards, in the context of the implementation of the proposed REDD+ actions.

The assessment has two specific objectives:

1. Provide an identification and inventory of existing and relevant information systems and sources
2. Provide a brief and general analysis as to how the identified information systems and sources might be used to provide information on the application of the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards, in the context of the implementation of the proposed REDD+ actions.

The scope of this assessment is to encompass all existing information systems and sources (including reporting mechanisms) that are thematically relevant to the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards (or the country specific safeguards) and linked to the identified and relevant Policies, Laws and Regulations (PLRs).

In order for this assignment to be effectively completed, the following inputs are required:

a) A prior and clear identification of the 'reporting needs/objectives' associated with the country's clarification/interpretation of the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards. This input is essential in order to be able to 'assess' to what extent existing information systems and sources can be used to provide information on the application of the safeguards, and to determine what recommendations are appropriate (e.g. modify or create new/specific indicators).

b) A prior and clear identification of the relevant PLRs, which are deemed to protect/regulate/promote the country specific safeguards. Based on this identification, it is possible to identify the relevant information systems and sources linked to these PLRs.

c) A prior and clear identification of the proposed Policies and Measures (PaMs), as these will allow the analysis to be undertaken in relation and in the context of the proposed REDD+ actions.

Disclaimer: The following analysis has been carried out in the absence of 'officially adopted reporting needs/objectives' (the report was only able to use preliminary reporting needs/objectives and preliminary country 'interpretation of the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards', both developed/identified as part of this consultancy). Because of the above, it is important to note that this analysis is not able to specifically determine whether the country needs new indicators or modify existing ones; nor be able to provide relevant recommendations (either for the

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17 By reporting needs/objectives we mean the type of information that could be provided to demonstrate how effective PNG governance arrangements (e.g. PLRs) have been in implementing the country-specific application of UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards.
development of indicators necessary or modifying existing) to be considered by the responsible institutions and the institutional platform of the SIS.

It is also important to note that to ensure that these systems and reporting mechanisms can be used in the context of REDD+, the scope of implementation of REDD+ actions under the National REDD+ Strategy need to be defined. This will enable the agencies or entities in charge of these systems and mechanisms to provide all and relevant information associated with the implementation of these actions. The following analysis has also been carried out in the absence of an adopted REDD+ strategy and PaMs.

The current analysis is therefore not able to fully assess the extent to which the agencies or entities in charge of these information systems and reporting mechanisms will be able to provide all the information required regarding the implementation of the REDD+ safeguards interpreted by the country, and in the context of the implementation of the proposed PaMs.
According to the UNFCCC guidelines in relation to the design of the SIS, countries should to the extent possible, build upon ‘existing systems’ that are deemed relevant for providing information on the REDD+ safeguards.

PNG’s legal system has a range of information systems and reporting mechanisms which respond to various purposes according to the nature by which they were created. It has been considered essential to carry out an inventory of these systems, in order to be able to determine how to best use them in designing the SIS.

Because of their different nature and structure, the inventory of information systems and reporting mechanisms is structured as follows:

- **Section A**: presents the inventory of existing information systems that are considered relevant for building the SIS
- **Section B**: presents the inventory of existing reporting mechanisms under international conventions and agreements, which are considered a relevant source of information on REDD+ safeguards.

Under both sections a brief and preliminary analysis on the extent to which these systems and mechanisms could be used to gather information for the REDD+ safeguards are offered.

In addition, and because of their different nature and structure, information systems and reporting mechanisms have been systematized under different categories, which are outlined in the table below. An explanation for each category is offered next.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information systems and reporting mechanisms</th>
<th>Reports to international treaties and conventions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal basis</td>
<td>Legal basis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objectives and functions</td>
<td>Entity or mechanism to supervise/control/monitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsible institution(s)</td>
<td>Institutions(s) responsible in PNG for ensuring compliance with the reporting obligation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Format of reporting</td>
<td>Format for the presentation of information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sources of information</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Quality control procedures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency/periodicity</td>
<td>Frequency/periodicity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Means for disseminating information</td>
<td>Means for disseminating information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of information provided by the systems and sources</td>
<td>Type of information provided by the systems and sources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Categories for systematizing the information:
a. **Legal basis:** the PLRs under which the system or source is created and there is an obligation to provide such information (i.e. its basis or foundation).

b. **Objectives and functions:** the objectives and functions of the system/source, among which may include collection of information, integration, and dissemination of information.

c. **Responsible institution:** to identify the institution or institutions responsible for their management.

d. **Format of reporting:** this category aims to clarify what is the format used to present information and thus establish which is the flexibility in expanding / adapting the type of information to be provided through these reports for purposes of REDD + safeguards.

e. **Sources of information:** aims to identify the databases used to compile information.

f. **Quality control procedures:** aims to identify whether there are procedures associated with these systems for the purpose of controlling the quality of the information provided.

g. **Frequency/periodicity:** aims to identify the frequency with which information is provided/updated.

h. **Means for disseminating information:** aims to identify whether information is public or access is of limited access.

i. **Type of information provided by the systems and sources:** this category aims to determine the types of information the system collects and provides, and that considered relevant to UNFCCC REDD + safeguards.
Section A. Existing Information Systems in PNG Identified as Relevant to Build the SIS

The following section presents the inventory of existing information systems and sources that are considered relevant for building the SIS. Table 1 below offers an overview of all the systems subject to the analysis in this section.

Table 1: Identification of existing and relevant information systems

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Systems</th>
<th>Institution responsible</th>
<th>Relevant to safeguard</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Satellite Land Monitoring System (part of National Forest Monitoring System)</td>
<td>Climate Change and Development Authority</td>
<td>C, D, E, F and G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. National Forest Inventory/ Forest Inventory Mapping System (part of National Forest Monitoring System)</td>
<td>PNG Forest Authority</td>
<td>B, E, F and G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Environmental Management Information System</td>
<td>Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA)</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. PNG Resource Information System</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL)</td>
<td>C, F and G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Mineral Tenement Database, FlexiCadastre</td>
<td>Mineral Resources Authority (MRA)</td>
<td>F and G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Pacific Islands Legal information Institute (PacLii:)</td>
<td>Office of Legislative Council within the Dept. of Prime Minister &amp; National Executive Council (PM&amp;NEC)</td>
<td>All (‘addressed’)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Incorporated Land Groups Registry</td>
<td>Dept. of Lands &amp; Physical Planning (DLPP)</td>
<td>B and C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. SATELLITE LAND MONITORING SYSTEM (PART OF NATIONAL FOREST MONITORING SYSTEM)

LEGAL BASIS

Domestic: National Executive Council (NEC) Decision No: 53/2010 and the Climate Change Management Act 2015 which mandates the Climate Change and Development Authority (CCDA) to establish a national Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system for PNG in collaboration with key stakeholders. PNG can then be able to report its Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions from the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector to the UNFCCC.

International: Decision 4/CP. 15 request that developing countries establish forest monitoring systems to monitor and report on their REDD+ related activities.

OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

- The Satellite Land Monitoring System (SLMS) main objective to make PNG’s National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) more transparent and robust, thus satisfying Decision 11/CP.19 Paragraph 3 on Modalities for NFMS which requires MRV systems to be robust, transparent and consistent over time.
- The SLMS comprises two main components: TerraPNG and the PNG REDD+ and Forest Monitoring Web Portal. Hence, the main functions of the SLMS are listed as follows:
  1. Production of activity data for use in the estimation of carbon dioxide ($CO_2$) emission and removals from PNG’s LULUCF sector
  2. Production of historic emissions data for use in the establishment of Forest Reference Levels (FRL)
  3. Measuring and monitoring PNG’s performance in its REDD+ implementation

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

- The Climate Change and Development Authority (CCDA) is directly responsible for the development and coordination of the administrative and technical aspects of the SLMS/MRV system, hosts the national GHG Inventory and National REDD+ Information System, and reports net GHG emissions to external parties, e.g. National Communications to the UNFCCC;
- The PNG Forest Authority (PNGFA) operates the National Forest Inventory (NFI);
- CCDA in collaboration with PNGFA, will manage the SLMS;
- Other government agencies, for instance, Dept. of Agriculture and Livestock, etc. will also be required to provide information necessary to gain a full understanding of sources of emissions from the land use sector.
FORMAT OF REPORTING

- GHG emissions from the LULUCF sector acquired through the SLMS/MRV system, as well as GHG emissions from other sectors (energy, waste, etc.) are compiled under the National GHG Inventory and submitted as part of country reporting to the UNFCCC via National Communications.
- There will also be a link provided on the web portal to the UNFCCC to view and assess PNG’s performance of its NFMS. In addition, reports on methodologies used will also be provided through the link.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- The main sources of information for the SLMS work are shown in Figure 1 above. These include the following core government agencies: Dept. of Lands and Physical Planning (DLPP), National Statistics Office (NSO), Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA), PNG Forest Authority (PNGFA), Dept. of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL), and the Mineral Resources Authority (MRA);
- Since CCDA now has its own system in place, it can now be able to generate some of the much needed information it needs for REDD+. There is already a plan in place to implement special projects at the SLMS Lab. These projects will generate some of the data and information, currently being provided by stakeholders, as well as information on safeguards.

QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES
• All the non-LULUCF data and information that are obtained for the SLMS work are strictly obtained from the government mandated data providers only as a measure of quality control;
• For the SLMS work, information from PNGFA, i.e. PNG Forest Base Map 2012 and Collect Earth NFI pre-assessment results 2013, was used to validate outputs for the TerraPNG Land-cover-land-use map.

Figure 2 shows how TerraPNG historical Land-cover-land-use maps will be validated for certain time series against the PNGFA’s Forest Base Map 2012 and Collect Earth results.

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

• For the TerraPNG land-use-land-use-change analysis, five (5) year interval in historical land use change assessment will be used. This means information will be updated every five years. The other data or information that is dynamic in nature will be updated accordingly from CCDA’s end, which is not applicable to the data or information sources.

MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

• Work under the SLMS will always be made available to the public through the REDD+ Web Portal for viewing purpose only;
• If the public wants a specific data or more information on a specific data/dataset on the portal, they will be referred to the original data source unless it is CCDA’s data.

TYPE OF INFORMATION THE SYSTEM GATHERS/PROVIDES

• The information that is obtained from other sources and systems is mainly information on the following areas (see png-nfms.org/portal/):
  - Forestry
    - Logging concessions
    - Forest Base Map 2012
    - NFI pre-assessment (via CollectEarth Tool)
Permanent sample plots (PSPs)

- Environment
  - Biodiversity priority areas
  - Conservation needs assessment areas
  - Existing protected areas
  - Proposed protected areas

- Mining
  - Exploration licences
  - Mining leases
  - Special mining leases
  - Alluvial mining leases
  - Leases for mining purposes
  - Mining easements

- Information REDD+ Pilot activities
  - Project design documents
  - Project briefs
  - Technical reports
  - Option papers for strategies and policies

- CCDA's data system would provide:
  - SIS Data
  - FPIC Information
  - GRM Information

### BRIEF ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION SYSTEM/SOURCE

Deemed relevant to offer information on the following safeguards:

- **Safeguard C**: Providing information on impacts of PaMs on the rights related to forest resources and environment of forest owners and other stakeholders, including information on GRMs and FPIC.

- **Safeguard D**: Providing information on FPIC in the context of the PaMs.

- **Safeguard E**: Providing land use change maps and therefore providing information on natural forest conservation and conversion of natural forests (if any). The system can provide information on the trend of forest cover over time for each REDD+ province, thus can provide information on contribution of REDD+ to achievement of national forest cover target.

- **Safeguards F & G**: Providing information on monitoring and assessment of land use change and forest cover. The system is planned to contain annual forest cover maps at national, provincial, commune levels. Forest and land use change maps can be generated by overlaying these annual forest cover maps, which can be used to derive information on conservation of natural forest, conversion of natural forest to plantation and other land uses, domestic displacement of emissions, and reversals of emissions/removals.

### Weaknesses and recommendations

- A major weakness is in the lack of data sharing arrangements and instruments between the core government agencies indicated in Figure 1 above. CCDA still needs to formalize this with these agencies, specifying details such as type of data/information needed, formats for providing information, frequency of providing information, etc. The institutional arrangement for SLMS is not 'set in stone' apart from identifying relevant core agencies as data providers.
Interrelated to the above, most core government agencies do not have in place adequate information systems as well as lack capacities to manage such data systems. For instance, DAL, DLPP and CEPA lack (all are important data providers to the SLMS) proper information and data management system, lack trained personnel to oversee the daily functioning of such systems, and overall have inadequate funding allocations and support. Question looms on how such agencies are able to provide high quality, robust data/information to the SLMS (for QA/QC) when required systems, capacities and funding support are not in place within core government agencies. In CEPA’s case, the Environmental Management Information System (EMIS) is currently funded and being set up through GEF support.

In addition to institutional set-up and data sharing, a tussle exists between the CCDA, PNGFA and CEPA on who should manage REDD+ in PNG. Such conflicting interests can hamper effective inter-agency coordination such as in information sharing.

According to SLMS technicians, further work/assistance is needed in terms of data modelling while results of TerraPNG would support further strengthening of CollectEarth Tool. Data production via TerraPNG is geared towards reaching an advanced stage, and probably one of the best information systems held within government. However, it needs continued updating of relevant information.
2. NATIONAL FOREST INVENTORY/ FOREST INVENTORY MAPPING SYSTEM

LEGAL BASIS


OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

Basic objective is for the sustainable management and use of forest resources for now and future generations, which takes into account the conservation and protection of PNG’s biodiversity and its people.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

PNG National Forest Inventory (NFI) database is managed by the European Union-FAO NFI Project in close collaboration with PNGFA and CCDA. The NFI builds upon the existing Forest Inventory and Mapping System (FIMS), managed by PNGFA.

FORMAT OF REPORTING

Written reports (both hard and soft copies) and publications online through the REDD+ Web Portal. The Web Portal is hosted at CCDA.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

NFI database (yet to be fully developed).

QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES

QA/QC is an integral part of data collection under the NFI Project and will follow industry standards (both in the field during data collection and office where data is stored/processed)

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

Information is provided after every field data collection trips to provinces visited under the NFI Project. Processed information will be fed into SLMS/MRV system within CCDA for reporting.

MEANS FOR DISSIMINATING INFORMATION

Mainly via presentations, workshops, meetings, training events, media such as television and print.

TYPE OF INFORMATION THE SYSTEM GATHERS/PROVIDES

The following information will mainly be generated through conducting NFIs:

- Forest plant species information, e.g. tree species names, wood density, etc.
• Information on forest types, cover and timber volume
• Information on aboveground biomass and carbon based on forest classification
• Soil carbon
• Forest base map indicating different land classes and forest types, i.e. already developed via support from JICA
• Biodiversity information, e.g. data on individual taxa such as mammals, reptiles, amphibians, etc. and special details such as on status as classified under IUCN.
• As part of community outreach and awareness, information on participation, dispute resolution, compensation in the event of conducting NFIs, etc. may also be provided. This is yet to be verified as the NFI is still in its initial piloting phase.

BRIEF ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION SYSTEM/SOURCE

Deemed relevant to offer information on the following safeguards:

- **Safeguard B**: providing information on the right to participate, accountability, access to justice, and dispute resolution mechanism, all relevant to demonstrate transparency and effectiveness of PaMs.

- **Safeguard E**: Providing information on natural forest conservation and conversion of natural forests (if any). This database contains forest cover base map and could therefore be used to gather information on conservation of natural forests and conversion of natural forests to plantations and other land uses in the context of the implementation of the PaMs.

- **Safeguard F and G**: Providing information on monitoring and assessment of land use change and forest cover. This database contains plot measurement data that can be used to calculate emission/removal factors, thus can be used to gather information for monitoring domestic reversals and displacement of emissions (when used in combination with forest cover and land use change maps).

Weaknesses and recommendations

- Overall, challenges exist in accessing traditional lands/forests to measure, report and verify forest emission reduction including biodiversity via NFIs. This stem mainly from the very strong customary land tenure system in PNG, general lack of awareness and low literacy in rural areas, cultural and language barriers, and the physical topography makes it burdensome with very high costs of travel coupled with low infrastructure.

- It is recommended that adequate awareness, targeted capacity building and effective coordination mechanisms are considered to drive NFI in PNG. Specifically:
  a. **Awareness**
     - Is challenging due to customary land tenure and raising expectations within communities that sampling plots are located. Adequate awareness raising and seeking consent (via FPIC) needs to be done before sampling is conducted.
     - Training needs to be included as part of FPIC and community engagement, e.g. via community participatory forest monitoring.
     - The aim of awareness needs to be to get key messages across to local communities but also district and provincial government offices. Different provinces and communities have variation in their local circumstances, expectations and exposure (to development), therefore, awareness approaches need to take into account these underlying issues.

b. **Capacity building**
While developing national level capacities, it is also important to build capacity at sub-national government levels (i.e. provincial, district and local) in order to drive REDD+ but also as safeguards measures.

Land use planning could be a tool to engage all partners/stakeholders such as government agencies, institutions, communities, etc. Experiences on sub-national land use planning exist in PNG such as Almami LLG in Bogia District, Madang Province as well as participatory clan land mapping in Manus Province.

### Coordination

Greater coordination will be needed by PNGFA with its regional coordinators (and offices) through which NFI can be channelled. These sub-national offices will play active roles in awareness raising, capacity building and reaching out/engaging forest owning communities.

It is recommended that PNGFA/NFI team work closely with NGOs that have established relationship with local communities.

Delineating NFI sampling plots with areas set as protected areas under CEPA, mining lease areas under MRA, etc. is important in order to reduce conflicting land uses. Coordination with respective sectors will be essential.
3. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

LEGAL BASIS


OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The Environmental Management Information System (EMSIS) is intended to meet international reporting obligations for environmental conventions that PNG has ratified. EMIS generally covers existing information systems, namely, national biodiversity information system (NBIS) which succeeded the species information method (SIM), made redundant. Work on NBIS is yet to be finalised and will provide information mainly on biodiversity, featuring as a key component of the EMIS.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) is the mandated government agency in charge of environmental management and protection in PNG.

Other government sectors such as PNG Forest Authority, Mineral Resources Authority, National Fisheries Authority, etc. do have specific environmental information but currently, CEPA does not have an institutional data/information sharing arrangement with these agencies. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is now funding the development of an institutional arrangement system in which cross-sector coordination is improved and key sectors are able to share information with CEPA.

It should be noted here that CEPA used to be called the Department of Environment and Conservation but recently transitioned into an Authority. Therefore, most staff are unattached pending organizational re-structure.

In addition, information provided here is scant given that CEPA is responsible for overseeing a number of international conventions/agreements.

FORMAT OF REPORTING

Due to scarcity of reports accessed, it is hard to verify if CEPA does have a standard reporting format for managing information and reporting internationally. However, there are standards and criteria for environmental assessments and reporting such as environmental impact statements.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Information is obtained mainly through surveys, field site visits and research, and species observations. A system for improved coordination with key sector agencies will enhance data/information sharing

QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES
The QA/QC section is not clearly outlined by the informant. It appears that the information system and reporting within CEPA is not clear, therefore further detailed assessments may be needed in future.

**FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY**

Reporting is done on ad-hoc basis with low updating of information

**MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION**

Information is accessible by public although a standard information dissemination system is not in place. An issues that will also be addressed via the GEF project mentioned above.

**TYPE OF INFORMATION THE SYSTEM GATHERS/PROVIDES**

- Information on existing and proposed protected areas, e.g. maps on both marine and terrestrial protected areas
- Information on biodiversity needs assessments and high conservation values, e.g. species and ecosystems of high conservation values based on biological rapid assessments (BioRAPS)
- CITES information providing updates on IUCN status, i.e. via maps and short descriptions of distributions, habitat, threats, etc.
- Relevant information from project-specific Environment Impact Statement (EIS) – as required by the Environment Act 2000
- Data and information on species is captured/sourced from external and internal sources such as museums, herbariums, institutions such as NGOs, CSIRO, etc.
- Geo-referenced data and GIS layers are sourced from the University of PNG Remote Sensing Centre.
- Information on benefit sharing arrangements such as via payment for ecosystem services (PES)
- Information on environmental, social, cultural and economic benefits and impacts through designating and/or implementing protected areas and REDD+ activities
- Project-specific information is also provided for projects that are developed by CEPA. For instance, the Kokoda Track Initiative Project provides information on forest cover, land use, drainage, benefit sharing, etc.

**BRIEF ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION SYSTEM/SOURCE**

Deemed relevant to offer information on the following safeguards:

- **Safeguard E**: Providing information on biodiversity conservation and enhancement of environmental benefits. In particular, it could be used to provide information of how PaMs have led to enhancement of socio-cultural, and economic and ecological, biological, climatic contributions of forest resources, and how these benefits are included in benefit sharing arrangements with relevant stakeholders.

**Weaknesses and recommendations**

- CEPA lacks infrastructure, e.g. storage facilities, hardware and software and networking systems
- Low capacity in terms of trained officers in charge of data coordination/collection, analyses and dissemination
- Weakness due to lack of funding to improve or develop data system – GEF funding coming through but lack counterpart government funding/commitment
- Low budget may be due to CEPA senior management not prioritizing data/information storage as important, e.g. via staff training, purchase and installation of hardware/software, etc.
- CEPA's reporting on international conventions is not effective apart from CBD reporting, due to lack of information and data management system. Apart from other international conventions/treaties, the World Heritage Secretariat is located within CEPA
- Gaps exist in data sharing between government agencies, e.g. formal arrangement for information sharing for the SLMS between CCDA and CEPA is not in place. This institutional arrangements/mechanisms need to be in place as mentioned above.
4. PAPUA NEW GUINEA RESOURCE INFORMATION SYSTEM

LEGAL BASIS

Although there are no international reporting requirements, Department of Agriculture and Livestock (DAL) reports to various international donors and agencies such as:

- World Trade Organization
- Asian Pacific Economic Cooperation
- Asian Development Bank
- World Bank
- Melanesian Spearhead Group
- Food and Agriculture Organization
- Relevant bilateral and multilateral aid/donor organizations

No legal basis exists, especially within the DAL although, until recently, two new Bills are before Parliament for endorsement, namely, the Agriculture Administration Adjustment Bill and the Agriculture Investment Corporation Bill.

DAL mainly operates on several sector policies and strategies, such as:

- White Paper on Agriculture 2005-2014 – is an overarching policy document
- Food Security Policy 2000-2010
- Rice Development Policy 2004-2014

OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

PNGRIS is an inventory of natural resources, land use and population information for PNG. The objective is to determine both the current use and development potential of PNG’s natural resources for food and cash crop production, while considering population growth and distribution.

DAL does not have an information system in place but does have an Information Branch and Library where all information, publication, books and journals are kept for public and farmers viewing and used for developing the sector. DAL also has the Statistics Section within Economic Research, Policy Planning and Coordination Branch with the function to develop and maintain an Agriculture Database system. The role of the organization is also to collect data from Commodity Agencies and Boards, Bank of Papua New Guinea, Internal Revenue Commission and other relevant agencies.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Within DAL, apart from PNGRIS, there are no other information system, and therefore no clear responsibility. In addition, there are no clear institutional arrangements with other agencies or institutions to use information. PNGRIS is a collaboration between DAL and other institutions such as University of PNG (UPNG) and Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO).

FORMAT OF REPORTING
Mainly via publications and reports, although generally, there is no standard format for reporting and reporting done on an ad-hoc basis.

**SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

- Agriculture census (PNGRIS)
- Major crops and Livestock data via literature and internet
- Land cover/land use (PNGRIS) – sourced via UPNG Remote Sensing Center

The recent publication of the PNG Resource Information System (PNGRIS) was developed by the Land Use Section of DAL in collaboration with the University of Papua New Guinea. The earlier version was developed in 1986 by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) and the PNG Department of Primary Industry (now DAL).

**QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES**

DAL identified technical assistance and capacity building & training in areas relating to QA/QC as there is currently lack of quality control procedures in place. Support is needed in information management, resolve user rights and benefits to avoid conflicts of interest between agencies and institutions.

**FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY**

Quarterly, half-yearly and annually. It also depends on availability of funding to collect updated data and information; analyse and report.

**MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION**

- Library
- Reports/literature
- Publications, e.g. Rural Statistics Handbook

**TYPE OF INFORMATION THE SYSTEM GATHERS/PROVIDES**

- Agriculture census (via PNGRIS)
- Maps showing agricultural land cover/land use (via PNGRIS)
- Exposure information on major crops
- Vulnerability risk management and loss/damage assessment for crops and livestock
- Description of current and proposed agricultural expansion plans
- Information on agricultural extension services within forested areas and its impact on local livelihoods

**BRIEF ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION SYSTEM/SOURCE**

Deemed relevant to offer information on the following safeguards:

- **Safeguard C**: providing information on impacts over rights of customary landowners, local communities and vulnerable groups, including local livelihoods.
- **Safeguard F and G**: Providing information on monitoring and assessment of land use change and land use. This information can be used to gather information for monitoring domestic reversals and displacement of emissions (when used in combination with forest cover and land use change maps and NFMS).

**Weaknesses and recommendations**

DAL lacks capacity in specific information gathering, information system, and input relevant data to support proper planning, budgeting and timely assessments of progress of implementation of sector plans. An area of gap identified is to set up an appropriate information system for data use and management including reporting, and related trainings and capacity development.

In addition, there is broader need for capacity building (and increased awareness) of REDD+ and related social and environmental safeguards policies within DAL, its agricultural agencies and commodity boards, farmer’s cooperatives, associations and agribusinesses. This can then enable better understanding and application of agriculture sector policy objectives in the context of REDD+ activities as well as safeguards. Such training/understanding can also assist DAL and its officers to meet various donor safeguard requirements during sector implementation.

Finally, there is urgent need to collaborate with other relevant institutions to create agriculture maps showing information such as land use, major crops distribution, vulnerability and exposure to risks, etc.
5. MINERAL RESOURCES AUTHORITY DATABASE/FLEXI-CADASTRE

**LEGAL BASIS**

The Mineral Resource Development Authority is regulated by the Mineral Resources Authority Act 2005 and the Mining Act 1992 (currently under review). Policies and laws relating to the mining sector are developed by the Dept. of Mineral Policy and Geo-hazards Management. These policies include:

- Mining Policy
- Off-shore Mining Policy
- Sustainable Mining Development Policy
- Geothermal Resource Policy
- Rehabilitation and Mine Closure Policy
- Involuntary Resettlement Policy

**OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS**

To store all tenement information and have information readily available.

**RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION**

Mineral Resources Authority (MRA) is directly responsible for managing the information and source of information. Spatial Dimension & Trimble Company are the back end users responsible for maintenance.

**FORMAT OF REPORTING**

Hard copy with digital copy or they can upload directly if they are registered online users of FlexiCadastre.

**SOURCES OF INFORMATION**

- Monthly mineral returns
- Bi-annual reports
- Annual reports
- Boundary coordinates
- Royalty returns

These are all statutory reports.

**QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES**

The receiving officer enters the data and uploads the report. Once that is done, a senior officer compares what data has been entered against the report submitted. When satisfied, approves the action and the officer closes the action.

**FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY**
The information is received monthly, bi-annually, and annually, depending on the type of report as prescribed in the Mining Act 1992.

MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

Library and PNG MiningCadastre Portal. If they are registered online users, they can access information online.

TYPE OF INFORMATION THE SYSTEM GATHERS/PROVIDES

- Tenement information such as
  - Holder/Applicant
  - Area of interest
  - Coordinates of area
  - Date of application
  - Date of grant
  - Date of expiry
  - Status
- Information on mineral type
- Information on exploration Licences
- Information on various mining leases
- Information on mining easements

BRIEF ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION SYSTEM/SOURCE

Deemed relevant to offer information on the following safeguards:

- **Safeguard F and G**: Providing information on monitoring and assessment of land use change and land use. This information could be used to gather information for monitoring domestic reversals and displacement of emissions (when used in combination with forest cover and land use change maps and NFMS), and on conservation of natural forests and conversion of natural forests to plantations and other land uses in the context of the implementation of the PaMs.

Weaknesses and recommendations

- Major challenges exist in determining clearly on a map which areas are for mining leases and explorations and which areas are designated as protected areas, agricultural areas or forest related activities.
- The SLMS aims to harmonize all data and information held within respective agencies including information supplied by MRA on the different land use classes. However, formal institutional arrangements are needed as highlighted above to determine the specifications of data sharing between agencies as well as stimulate greater coordination.
- Information on issues such as landowner consultation, consent, participation, gender, grievance redress mechanisms, etc. including benefit sharing within the mining sector is not captured by the MRA database and or not included here. It is recommended that any records on such information needs to be provided, i.e. via the SLMS.
6. PACIFIC ISLANDS LEGAL INFORMATION INSTITUTE (PACLII)

LEGAL BASIS

PACLII is a signatory to the Montreal Declaration on Public Access to Law \(^{18}\) and participate in the Free Access to Law Movement \(^{19}\). It is based at the Emalus Campus of the University of South Pacific in Port Vila, Vanuatu, and located across 12 countries of the Pacific including Papua New Guinea.

The Office of Legislative Council within the Department of Prime Minister and National Executive Council (PM&NEC) is tasked with updating any legal information that relates to PNG, e.g. new legislations, case laws, etc. on the PACLII database.

The Constitutional Law Reform Commission (CLRC) is governed by the Constitutional and Law Reform Commission Act 2004. It accesses resources from the Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute (PacLii), an online platform which PNG is a member of, and which can be accessed here: [www.paclii.org](http://www.paclii.org).

OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The main objective of PACLII is to host a database domain that provides legal information that is accessible and free for Pacific Island countries. PacLii is the legal database for Pacific countries and is mainly for users in the legal fraternity but can also offer useful information in terms of existing legislations and case laws for each Pacific country. It is public domain.

Major impacts of PacLii stated in a report \(^{20}\) are that it:

- Supports legal research and education
- Preserves vulnerable collections
- Encourages a Pacific jurisprudence and supports a Pacific identity
- Underpins the development of legal services
- Supports good governance and the rule of law
- Supports economic development
- Contributes to attainment of sustainable development goals
- Provides economy of scale

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

The Office of Legislative Council (within the Dept. of PM&NEC) has the role to provide inputs and updated information to upload onto the PACLII database. CLRC is not responsible for managing PacLii but one of many agencies in PNG that utilizes it as an information source.

FORMAT OF REPORTING

- The CLRC has its own format of reporting on its activities
- CLRC also complies with the reporting style of its donor partners

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\(^{18}\) [http://www.paclii.org/other/Montrealdec.html](http://www.paclii.org/other/Montrealdec.html)

\(^{19}\) [http://www.fatlm.org/](http://www.fatlm.org/)

CLRC’s reporting is also dependent on the type of activity and the partner(s) involved

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

CLRC uses PacLii

QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES

- CLRC has its own quality control procedures for its own report and publications
- Generally, consultations and seminars are done for Issues Papers that are developed for a review of legislation before a final report is submitted to the National Executive Council

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

- Depending on which activity by CLRC and the manner of instructions, the update of the information is defined by the terms of reference for the activity
- Annual reports are usually also supplied by CLRC

MEANS FOR DISSIMINATING INFORMATION

- CLRC publishes reports, discussion papers, issues papers, monographs, etc.
- CLRC also utilizes seminars, conferences, etc.

TYPE OF INFORMATION THE SYSTEM GATHERS/PROVIDES

PACLII provides information mainly on:

- Legislations
- Case laws.
- Courts
- Tribunals
- Law reports
- Gazettes (probably held within individual sectors)

PACLII does not necessarily provide information on access to justice or grievance redress mechanisms.

BRIEF ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION SYSTEM/SOURCE

This database can provide information on which are the updated PLRs related to seven UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards. Most recent review of PLRs relevant to the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards has taken place in 2016, but as PLRs are expected to undergo constant revisions, it will be important to ensure updated list of relevant PLRs is available.

Although the system does not offer information about the application of the PLRs, it can help ensure other relevant systems/sources can effectively gather information on updated PLRs.

Weaknesses and recommendations
The major weakness with PACLII is that information provided is not up-to-date. Relevant agencies such as the Office of Legislative Council needs to provide regular updates of recent legislations, court cases, etc.
7. PAPUA NEW GUINEA HOUSEHOLD INCOME & EXPENDITURE SURVEY AND POPULATION CENSUS

LEGAL BASIS

The National Statistics Office (NSO) is governed by the Statistical Service Act (Chapter 386) 1980 and is responsible for collecting, compiling and disseminating official statistical information on a regular and timely basis. NSO is directly responsible for conducting PNG’s Household Income & Expenditure Surveys (HIES). Information on HIES is available online via the International Household Survey Network/Catalogue.21

NSO also conducts National Population Censuses every five years for development planning as well as for electoral purposes. International multilateral agencies and donors provide technical and financial support towards conducting these surveys.

OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

HIES functions to generate data on socio-economic indicators such as household income and expenditure and to enable rebasing of Consumer Price Index (CPI). The CPI helps catalyse sound decisions and policies on improving living standards of PNG’s people.

Population census is important for budgetary and development planning as well as updating electoral rolls for election purposes.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

National Statistics Office (NSO)

FORMAT OF REPORTING

- Sample survey data based on household and individual surveys
- Reporting of findings and recommendations on key thematic areas

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The HIES gathers information via questionnaires, reports and technical documents22.

QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES

Data collection methods such as questionnaires, notes, etc. follow set criteria and template including data analyses and reporting. International organizations such as the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, etc. are part of this process so oversight is available.

21 http://catalog.ihsn.org/index.php/catalog
22 http://catalog.ihsn.org/index.php/catalog/3243
FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

The last HIES was conducted in 1996 and the recent survey was done in 2009-2010.

MEANS FOR DISSIMINATING INFORMATION

Mainly reports of results and recommendations via publications, uploading online, and supplying hard copies to institutions and line government agencies that need such information.

TYPE OF INFORMATION THE SYSTEM GATHERS/PROVIDES

The main scope of information gathered include:

- Household information
- General services available in the villages
- Self-employment and family business
- Consumption/expenditure
- Main meals at this household
- Education
- Individual health
- Housing
- Disabilities, etc.

BRIEF ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION SYSTEM/SOURCE

Deemed relevant to offer information on the following safeguards:

- **Safeguard C**: providing information on impacts over rights of customary landowners, local communities and vulnerable groups throughout the implementation of the PaMs, in particular on local livelihoods.

Weaknesses and recommendations

- **NSO does not have an independent centralized data collection, storage and retrieval system apart from publications of reports, etc. which are mostly hard copies. Most information was accessed online. A much efficient information management is needed.**

8. INCORPORATED LAND GROUPS REGISTRY – DEPARTMENT OF LANDS & PHYSICAL PLANNING

LEGAL BASIS

Department of Lands & Physical Planning (DLPP) is governed by a number of policies and laws, mainly the Land Act 1996 (currently under review), the Incorporated Land Groups (ILG) Act 2009 as amended, Survey Act, Valuation Act, Physical Planning Act, among others. DLPP works closely with other agencies such as DJAG (described above) on issues relating to land administration in PNG.

The ILGs are an important mechanism that enables landowner organization and participation in resource development, administered under the ILG (Amendment) Act 2009. Various reports have surfaced (e.g. Nakmai, 2013) on the abuse of ILG processes and the need to improve as an important safeguard for REDD+. A review of ILGs and registration of customary land in PNG is given by Tararia and Ogle (2010).

OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

The main functions of DLPP relate to the development and implementation of policies and laws that guide land administration and usage in PNG. This include laws that regulate both customary land under traditional ownership and state-owned land.

It aims to provide accurate information on the state land that DLPP administer including registered customary lands. DLPP also functions to capture and manage all land-related transactions.

RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Department of Lands & Physical Planning (DLPP)

FORMAT OF REPORTING

Reporting format is not clear, however, it is likely reporting is done using:

- Reports
- Media notices
- Registry, and
- Publications

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- Mainly ILG registry information


QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES

The policy and legal services division does quality checks on information relating especially to policies and legislations before being disseminated for public use.

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

Four-five years for policy implementation before being reviewed.

MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

- Media publications such as newspapers
- Programmed awareness in selected locations throughout PNG
- Radio

TYPE OF INFORMATION THE SYSTEM GATHERS/PROVIDES

Further details are needed with regards to the registration and information collection on ILG registrations and management. For the development and/or reviews on policies and laws, stakeholder consultation and feedback are always sought via public awareness and workshops, etc.

Generally, information/services are provided on 26:

- Land information
- Physical planning
- Customary land acquisition
- Incorporated land groups
- Customary land projects
- Alienated land
- Registrar of titles, etc.

BRIEF ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION SYSTEM/SOURCE

Deemed relevant to offer information on the following safeguards:

➢ **Safeguard B and C:** providing information on actual impacts on rights holders and stakeholders related to rights to lands, territories and resources;

Weaknesses and recommendations

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26 http://lands.gov.pg/index.html
- Lack of adequate information systems as well as effective coordination with other line agencies.
- Greater support, i.e. financial and technical is required to establish appropriate information systems that links up with other systems, e.g. SLMS, including data/information sharing and greater coordination structures.
Section B. Reports to Relevant International Treaties and Conventions

The following treaties and conventions to which PNG is party to were identified and deemed most relevant for providing information on the implementation of REDD+ safeguards (See Table 2).

Each of these treaties and conventions have associated reporting mechanisms and monitoring derivatives thereof, and the next section systematizes the information reported and considered to be relevant for providing information on the implementation of REDD+ safeguards.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Treaty or Convention</th>
<th>Responsible institution</th>
<th>Relevant to Safeguards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</td>
<td>CEPA</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN Convention on Climate Change and Desertification (UNCCD)</td>
<td>CEPA</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES)</td>
<td>CEPA</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands</td>
<td>CEPA</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention on the Protection and Promotion of The Diversity of Cultural Expressions</td>
<td>Tourism Promotion Authority (TPA)</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Nations Convention Against Corruption</td>
<td>Dept. of Justice &amp; Attorney General (DJAG) - Public Prosecutor’s Office</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</td>
<td>TPA</td>
<td>B, C and E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</td>
<td>DJAG</td>
<td>B and C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention On The Elimination Of All Forms Of Racial Discrimination (CERD)</td>
<td>DJAG – Public Solicitor’s Office</td>
<td>B and C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention On The Elimination Of All Forms Of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)</td>
<td>Dept. of Community Development (DCD)</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (CBD) AND THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND THE FAIR AND EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS

LEGAL BASIS

Article 26 of the Convention on Biological Diversity outlines the obligation of Parties to submit reports, at intervals determined by the Conference of the Parties, on measures taken to implement the provisions of this Convention and on the effectiveness of such measures for achieving the objectives of the Convention.

Meanwhile, Article 29 of the Nagoya Protocol requires parties to monitor the implementation of its obligations, at intervals and formats determined at the Conference of the Parties to the CBD and before the meeting of the parties to the protocol.

ENTITY OR MECHANISM TO SUPERVISE/CONTROL/MONITOR

States parties to both international instruments submit their compliance reports to the Conference of the Parties and meetings of the parties, respectively.

FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION

The terms and guidelines on how it should be presented in each national communication to the CBD will be agreed at the Conference of the Parties.

The COP / MOP also determine the format and content of reports on the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

There is no periodicity regarding the presentation of National Communication to the CBD, as there is no periodicity of meetings of Conference of the Parties. However, it has a strategic plan provided for in the MYPOW for the period 2011-2022, which provides guidelines on the subject that should be covered in national communications.

The same applies in the case of the Nagoya Protocol, in which the frequency or intervals at which the reports must be submitted shall be determined by the COP / MOP. The reports shall normally be submitted through the Secretariat of the Nagoya Protocol to the COP / MOP, which will be discussed.

MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

Reports can be found on the official website of CBD.

INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE IN PNG FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REPORTING OBLIGATION

CEPA

TYPE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SYSTEM /SOURCE
There are several categories of information addressed in the reports that are considered relevant to the implementation of REDD+ safeguard E:

- **ecosystems**
  - Terrestrial ecosystems
  - Priority sites for conservation of biodiversity

- **Species**
  - Knowledge of the diversity of native species
  - Risk categories
  - Priority species for conservation

- **Uses of biodiversity**
  - Wild life
  - Forest Resources
  - Cultural diversity
  - Factors pressure and threat
  - Degradation and loss of ecosystems
  - Over-exploitation of species
  - Introduction of invasive alien species
  - Contamination
  - Climate change

### BRIEF ANALYSIS OF REPORTING MECHANISM

Deemed relevant for REDD+ Safeguard E.

Information provided through these reports can serve as input to provide information on the following aspects of Safeguard E, if they can be linked to the implementation of the PaMs:

- Information on the protection and conservation of native/natural forests and biodiversity
- The conversion of native/natural forests
- Information on socio-cultural and economic benefits
- Implementation of measures to address threats to flora and fauna
- Creation of protected areas
2. UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION (UNCCD)

LEGAL BASIS

In accordance with Article 16 of the UNCCD, the parties must "integrate and coordinate the collection, analysis and exchange of relevant data and information, both short and long term, to ensure systematic observation of land degradation in the affected and understand better and assess the processes and effects of drought and desertification "areas.

To this end, the Parties communicate to the Permanent Secretariat of the Conference of the Parties, reports on measures taken in implementation of the Convention for consideration by the Conference at its regular sessions.27

ENTITY OR MECHANISM TO SUPERVISE/CONTROL/MONITOR

Article 22 subsection (b) of the UNCCD states that the Conference of the Parties is the supreme body of the Convention, responsible among other things to promote the exchange of information on measures adopted by the parties, and to review the information presented.

Until 2001 the Convention had no specific mechanisms for reviewing implementation reports submitted by the Parties. The Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC) was established by decision of the Parties as a subsidiary body of the COP to assist in the review of the implementation of the Convention.28

FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION

According to Decision 16 / COP.11, from 2014, countries should provide information through a new online system (called 'PRAIS-2'), by filling a number of reporting forms on compliance with the strategic and operational objectives, based on performance indicators and progress adopted by the Parties. There is a manual that shows the procedure for filling the report formats, indicating the type of information to provide.29

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

The frequency of the CRIC sessions marks the periodicity of the formulation of reports. CRIC is currently held every two years to review performance reports every four years -along with the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) - to review reports on performance indicators and progress.

27 Art. 26 CNULD
Parties must report every two years based on performance indicators and their overall objectives and report every four years on the progress indicators established by the four strategic objectives of the Strategy.

MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

According to Article 26 of the UNCCD, the information provided by the Parties in relation to measures taken for the implementation of the Convention, the fulfilment of obligations, the formulation and implementation of regional action plans or sub regional, and funding of actions relating to the Convention shall be communicated as soon as possible by the Standing Committee to the Conference of the Parties and relevant subsidiary body.

Also in accordance with decision 15 / COP.10, the Secretariat was requested to disseminate information on best practices on sustainable land management and integrated reported through PRAIS. In compliance with the relevant provisions of decision 17 / COP.11, the Secretariat signed an agreement with the Global Observatory on Approaches and Technologies for Conservation (WOCAT) to integrate best practices in technology sustainable land management in order to establish an online communication system that allows country Parties and other reporting to further contribute to the integration of best practices on sustainable land management, allowing them available through the same installation entities.

INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE IN PNG FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REPORTING OBLIGATION

CEPA

TYPE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SYSTEM /SOURCE

Reports emanating from this Convention provide information on actions and measures aimed at addressing desertification, and are considered to only be relevant to provide information on safeguarding A as to demonstrate that REDD + proposed actions are consistent with the objectives of this Convention.
3. CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA (CITES)

LEGAL BASIS

According to Article 11 of the CITES, each party must "maintain records of trade in specimens of species included in Appendices I, II and III". Article 8 states that each party has to prepare and submit to the Secretary periodic reports on the implementation of the Convention, including:

- An annual report containing a summary of the information

- A biennial report on legislative, regulatory and administrative measures taken to comply with the provisions of this Convention

ENTITY OR MECHANISM TO SUPERVISE/CONTROL/MONITOR

Article 11 provides that the Secretary convenes meetings of the Conference at least once every two years. It states that in these meetings will "review the progress made in the restoration and conservation of species listed in Appendices I, II and III, and receive and consider reports submitted by the Secretariat or any Party;"

The Convention contemplates measures to address in cases of repeated failure to submit annual reports.

FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION

The Parties have agreed standardized formats for annual reports and guidelines for their preparation and presentation, and a standardized format for biennial reports.

In the manner of the possible, computerized preparation of annual reports and their presentation in electronic format.

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

According to the convention, the parties must submit before October 31 of the following year to which the report is due:

- An annual report - summary of information on, inter alia, the number and type of permits and certificates granted, the States with which has made trade, quantities and types of specimens and the names of the species, as listed in Appendices I, II and III.

- A biennial report - on legislative, regulatory and administrative measures taken to implement the Convention. (Art. 15)

MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

Article 8 of the Convention states that the information prepared by the countries should be made available to the public when so permitted by applicable law of the Party concerned.
Furthermore, CITES trade data is available to anyone who is interested through the CITES database in CITES website. Specific requests for information may also be addressed to UNEP-WCMC.

**INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE IN PNG FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REPORTING OBLIGATION**

CEPA

**TYPE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SYSTEM /SOURCE**

The reports provide information on the number and type of permits and certificates issued and information on trade in protected species, all of which are considered to be relevant information for demonstrating implementation of safeguard E.

**BRIEF ANALYSIS OF REPORTING MECHANISM**

- Deemed relevant for REDD+ Safeguard E.

Information provided through these reports can serve as an input to provide information on the following aspects of Safeguard E, if they can be linked to the implementation of the PaMs:

- Impacts on biodiversity and in particular the impact of REDD+ actions in the trade of protected species.
- Measures to address threats to wildlife, particularly the impact of REDD+ actions in the trade of protected species.
4. CONVENTION ON WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE (RAMSAR)

LEGAL BASIS

In accordance with Article 4 of the Convention of RAMSAR the parties "encourage research and exchange of data and publications regarding wetlands and their flora and fauna". The parties should designate suitable wetlands within its territory for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance (Art. 20).

Article 3 specifies that Parties should report as soon as possible about changes in the ecological character of wetlands in its territory and included in the List to be forwarded without delay to the organization.

ENTITY OR MECHANISM TO SUPERVISE/CONTROL/MONITOR

According to Article 8 of the Convention, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources shall perform the functions of the permanent Office under this Convention.

The obligations of the permanent office include, among others:

- Maintain the List of Wetlands of International Importance and receive information from the Contracting Parties of any additions, elimination or reduction of wetlands included in the List,
- To receive information from the Contracting Parties of any changes in the ecological character of wetlands included in the List,
- Notify the Contracting Parties of any alterations to the List or changes in character of wetlands included therein, and to arrange for these matters to be discussed at the next Conference;
- To inform the Contracting Party concerned the recommendations of the Conferences in respect of such alterations to the List or changes in character of wetlands included therein.

According to Article 6, the Conference of the Contracting Parties shall be competent inter alia:

- To consider information regarding changes in the ecological character of wetlands included in the List provided
- To formulate specific recommendations general or Contracting Parties regarding the conservation, management and wise use of wetlands and their flora and fauna;
- To request relevant international bodies to prepare reports and statistics on matters which are essentially international nature that are related to wetlands.

FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION

In accordance with Recommendation 2.1 of 1984 Parties must submit national reports.
The format of the COP12 National Report has 4 sections:

1. Institutional information on the administrative authority and national focal points for the implementation of the convention

2. Summary of various aspects of national implementation progress and recommendations for the future

3. 66 implementation indicator questions, according to the Strategic Plan 2009-2015 of the Convention

4. Annex to add additional information on wetlands of international importance (Ramsar sites)

**FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY**

Every three years, at least six months prior to each ordinary session of the Conference, Parties must submit National Reports (NRs) to the Secretariat detailed.

**MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION**

The reports are available on the website of Ramsar.

**INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE IN PNG FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REPORTING OBLIGATION**

CEPA

**TYPE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SYSTEM /SOURCE**

The reports provide information on wetlands. It is considered that the usefulness of this information will only be relevant to provide information on safeguard A as to demonstrate that the proposed REDD + actions are consistent with the objectives of this Convention.
5. CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE DIVERSITY OF CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS

LEGAL BASIS

According to Article 9 paragraph a) States Parties undertake to provide a report to UNESCO, appropriate information on measures taken to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions on their territory and in the plane international, four years after ratification.

ENTITY OR MECHANISM TO SUPERVISE/CONTROL/MONITOR

According to Article 22 of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties shall be the plenary and supreme body of the Convention.

FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION

UNESCO provides general guidelines for the quadrennial report and a format that must be completed by the parties.

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

According to Article 9 paragraph reports must be submitted every four years after ratification.

MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

UNESCO portal has a special section to publish the reports of States parties.

INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE IN PNG FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REPORTING OBLIGATION

PNG’s Tourism Promotion Authority (TPA)

TYPE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SYSTEM /SOURCE

The reports provide information on the protection and promotion of diversity of cultural expressions, and considered relevant for providing information on safeguard C.

BRIEF ANALYSIS OF REPORTING MECHANISM

- Deemed relevant for REDD+ Safeguard C.

Information provided through these reports can serve as input to provide information on the measures PNG has taken on the protection of knowledge and / or traditional knowledge.
6. UN CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

LEGAL BASIS

Article 63 of the Convention indicates that there will be a Conference of States Parties of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, inter alia, to promote and review the implementation of the Convention. The same article is the legal basis creating an appropriate mechanism or body to support the effective implementation of the Convention.

ENTITY OR MECHANISM TO SUPERVISE/CONTROL/MONITOR

Derived from the Third Session of the Conference of States Parties in November 2009 in Doha - Qatar, the parties created the Mechanism for Follow-up on the implementation of the Convention of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, also known as Review Mechanism Application of the Merida Convention.

The mechanism is based on a self-assessment by the Member State, made through a specific software in which a checklist on the implementation of the Convention and submission of additional information is included.

In each country review, a self-evaluation by the country is performed, followed by an evaluation by peers (i.e., another State party revises), which may be accompanied by an international specialist visit. Everything will be compiled in a report full review by country and finally an executive summary of this report.

FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION

That assessment is done by software, which includes a checklist on the implementation of the Convention which can only be accessed by representatives or government bodies.

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

The review process derived from monitoring mechanism for the implementation of the entire Convention consists of two five-year cycles:

- The first cycle (2010-2015) focuses in Chapter III of the UNCAC criminalization and law enforcement, and Chapter IV on international cooperation.

- The second cycle (2015-2020) will address chapter II on preventive measures and Chapter V on asset recovery.

Some countries have decided to publish a summary of the self-assessment.

MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

Self-assessment is conducted by the government institution in charge of monitoring the Convention, i.e. it is an internal process that does not require publication of the results of self-assessment or summary.
Although we were unable to access and analyze the self-evaluation document of the country, it is considered that the responses to the checklist on the implementation of the convention will serve as input to provide information on safeguard B. We highlight the types of information considered relevant to this safeguard:

- In terms of transparency, actions, measures and policies implemented against corruption that promote the participation of society and demonstrate the principles of the rule of law, such as integrity, transparency and accountability, among others.

In terms of accountability, it will report on the systems for recruitment and selection with objective criteria of merit that have been launched. The measures of transparency in financing the campaign of candidates and political parties. Codes of conduct that include stimulus measures to allegations of corruption by civil servants, and discouragement to the reception of gifts or any action that could cause a conflict of interest.

- In addition, the country must report not only on the preventative corruption measures adopted by the government, but also by the private sector. Among them: developing auditing standards for accounting firms; provide effective civil, administrative and criminal sanctions and have an inhibitory character for future action; promote cooperation between law enforcers and private companies; prevent conflict of interest, prohibit parallel existence in business accounting; and discourage tax exemption or reduction to expenses considered as bribes or other similar conduct.

- Finally, and in addition to the existing offenses that include basic forms of corruption such as bribery or embezzlement of public resources, country needs to report on other offences, such as obstruction of justice, influence peddling and laundering proceeds from corruption. The criminalization of corruption is conditioned by the existence of mechanisms that allow the criminal justice system to perform actions of detention, trial, punishment and reparation.

**BRIEF ANALYSIS OF REPORTING MECHANISM**

- Deemed relevant for REDD+ Safeguard B.

Information provided through these reports can serve as input to provide information on:
- Accountability in forestry
- Addressing corruption in the forestry sector
7. INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (ICESCR)

LEGAL BASIS

In accordance with Article 16 of the ICESCR States Parties they are required to regularly submit reports on the measures taken and progress, in order to ensure respect for the rights recognized therein.

ENTITY OR MECHANISM TO SUPERVISE/CONTROL/MONITOR

The body responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Covenant is the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), which was created under the resolution of the Council for Economic and Social Affairs United Nations ECOSOC Resolution 1985/17 28 May 1985.

FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION

The Harmonized Guidelines for Reporting to organs Created under international human rights treaties apply to derivatives ICESR reports.

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

States must submit an initial report within the first two years of entry into force of the Covenant and thereafter every five years.

MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

Information can be found on the National report on the promotion and protection of human rights under the 2nd cycle universal periodic review30, and in the United Nations webpage.31

INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE IN PNG FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REPORTING OBLIGATION

PNG’s Tourism Promotion Authority (TPA)

TYPE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED

The subjects and categories of information addressed in the reports are considered relevant to REDD+ safeguards B, C and E safeguards. Specifically, in terms of:

Rights of ethnic minorities and vulnerable groups
- Right to self-determination of peoples
- Right to non-discrimination
- Right to the protection of cultural values
- Right to Land Tenure

Transparent governance structures
- Access to information
- Accountability

Effective governance structures
- Gender Equity
- Land Tenure

Access to information to participate
Multiple Benefits

**BRIEF ANALYSIS OF REPORTING MECHANISM**

- Deemed relevant for REDD+ Safeguard B, C and E.

**Safeguard B**: Information provided through these reports can serve as input to provide information on the following aspects:

- Right of access to information
- Recognition, promotion and respect for gender equality
- Recognition and respect for the rights of land tenure

**Safeguard C**: Information provided through these reports can serve as input to provide information on the implementation of the rights of ethnic minorities and vulnerable groups, in accordance with the relevant and applicable national and international law. This includes: the right to non-discrimination, the right to self-determination, the right to culture, the right to collective land ownership and right to equitable sharing of benefits.

**Safeguard E**: Information provided through these reports can serve as input to provide information on the ecological, biological, climatic, socio-cultural and economic benefits.
8. INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS (ICCPR)

LEGAL BASIS

In accordance with Article 40 of the ICCPR, States Parties "undertake to submit reports on the measures they have adopted which give effect to the rights recognized in the Covenant and on the progress made in the enjoyment of the same".

ENTITY OR MECHANISM TO SUPERVISE/CONTROL/MONITOR

By virtue of Article 28 of the ICCPR a Committee on Human Rights is established. The Committee is composed of experts (member countries) that, among other functions, monitor implementation of the Covenant through the reception and examination of State reports or communications that a State party alleges that another State party is not fulfilling its obligations under the Covenant.

FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION

The Harmonized Guidelines for Reporting to organs Created under international human rights treaties apply to derivatives PIDCPS reports.

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

According to Article 28 State reports to the Committee shall be presented:

a) Within one year after the date of entry into force of the present Covenant for the States Parties concerned; and

b) Thereafter whenever the Committee so requests.

MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

Reports can be found in the United Nations Human Rights webpage.

INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE IN PNG FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REPORTING OBLIGATION

PNG’s institutions that govern this issues include the Department of Justice and Attorney General (DJAG) and Ombudsman Commission. DJAG has an International Law Division under the Office of the State Solicitor. This division is tasked with ensuring PNG’s obligations under international conventions and treaties are implemented domestically and reported on through collaborating with other key departments and agencies.

TYPE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED

The themes and categories of information addressed in the reports, are considered relevant to REDD+ safeguards B and C. In particular, concerning:

- Effective governance structures
  - Gender Equity (related art. 3 of Protocol)
  - political rights
  - Judicial Guarantees
- Transparent governance structures
  - Freedom of Speech
- Respect the rights of ethnic minorities
  - Self-determination and free disposal of natural resources
  - Equality before the law and non-discrimination
  - Right to the right to cultural identity, religion and language

BRIEF ANALYSIS OF REPORTING MECHANISM

- Deemed relevant for REDD+ Safeguard B and C

Safeguard B: Information provided through these reports can serve as input to provide information on the following aspects of the safeguard:
  - Right of access to information
  - Access rights to participate in decision-making
  - The right to access to justice
  - Gender equality

Safeguard C: Information provided through these reports will serve as input to provide information on the implementation of the rights of ethnic minorities and vulnerable groups, in accordance with the relevant and applicable national and international law. This legislation guarantees: the right to non-discrimination, the right to self-determination, the right to culture, the right to collective land ownership and right to equitable sharing of benefits.

Weaknesses and recommendations

- Information is held within implementing agencies as there is no information system. Further enquiry is needed due to lack of feedback from DJAG officers during initial surveys. Perhaps, information within DJAG and other implementing government agencies on data/information gathering and reporting will be useful.
- Generally, like most government agencies, enhanced coordination and information sharing between government agencies is lacking and will be an important boost to develop/establish data-sharing mechanisms.
9. CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (CERD)

LEGAL BASIS

In accordance with Article 9 of the CERD, States Parties "undertake to submit to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, for consideration by the Committee, a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures which they have adopted and which give effect to the provisions of this Convention".

ENTITY OR MECHANISM TO SUPERVISE/CONTROL/MONITOR

In accordance with Article 9 of the CERD, the Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination shall report annually, through the Secretary General, to the General Assembly of the United Nations on its activities and may make suggestions and general recommendations based on the examination of the reports and information received from the States Parties. Such suggestions and general recommendations shall be reported to the General Assembly together with comments, if any, from States Parties.

FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION

The Committee provides general guidelines for the reports and a format that must be completed by the parties.33

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

In accordance with Article 9 of the CERD, reports shall be submitted:

(a) within one year after the entry into force of the Convention for the State concerned; and

(b) thereafter every two years and whenever the Committee so requests. The Committee may request further information from the States Parties."

MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

Reports can be found in the United Nations Human Rights webpage.

INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE IN PNG FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REPORTING OBLIGATION

Public Solicitor's Office within DJAG

TYPE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED

The themes and categories of information addressed in the reports, are considered relevant to REDD+ safeguards B and C. In particular, concerning:

- **Effective governance structures**
  - Gender Equity
  - Political rights
  - Judicial Guarantees
- **Transparent governance structures**
  - Freedom of Speech
- **Respect the rights of ethnic minorities**
  - Self-determination
  - Equality before the law and non-discrimination
  - Right to the right to cultural identity, religion and language
  - Right to participate in political processes

**BRIEF ANALYSIS OF REPORTING MECHANISM**

- Deemed relevant for REDD+ Safeguard B and C

**Safeguard B**: Information provided through these reports will serve as input to provide information on the following aspects of the safeguard:
  - Right of access to information
  - Access rights to participate in decision-making
  - The right to access to justice
  - Gender equality

**Safeguard C**: Information provided through these reports will serve as input to provide information on the implementation of the rights of ethnic minorities and vulnerable groups, in accordance with the relevant and applicable national and international law. This legislation guarantees: the right to non-discrimination, the right to self-determination, the right to culture, the right to collective land ownership and right to equitable sharing of benefits.
10. CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)

LEGAL BASIS

In accordance with Article 18 of CEDAW "States Parties undertake to submit to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, for consideration by the Committee, a report on the legislative, judicial, administrative or other measures which they have adopted to give effect to the provisions of the present Convention and on the progress made in this respect." Reports may indicate factors and difficulties affecting the degree of fulfilment of obligations under the present Convention.

ENTITY OR MECHANISM TO SUPERVISE/CONTROL/MONITOR

In accordance with Article 17 "For the purpose of considering the progress made in the implementation of the present Convention, there shall be established a Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women."

FORMAT FOR THE PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION

The Committee has adopted guidelines to help states prepare these reports. According to these guidelines, the initial report is intended to be a detailed and comprehensive description of the position of women in that country at the time of submission; it is meant to provide a benchmark against which subsequent progress can be measured. Second and subsequent national reports are intended to update the previous report, detailing significant developments that have occurred over the last four years, noting key trends, and identifying obstacles to the full achievement of the Convention.

FREQUENCY/PERIODICITY

In accordance with Article 18, reports shall be submitted:

(a) Within one year after the entry into force for the State concerned;

(b) Thereafter at least every four years and further whenever the Committee so requests.

MEANS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION

Reports can be found in the United Nations Human Rights webpage.

INSTITUTION RESPONSIBLE IN PNG FOR ENSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REPORTING OBLIGATION

Department of Community Development (DCD). DCD reports on international conventions such as CEDAW as well as develop policies that ensure gender participation, inclusiveness and mainstreaming in development planning and implementation in PNG.
TYPE OF INFORMATION PROVIDED

The themes and categories of information addressed in the reports, are considered relevant to REDD+ safeguard B. In particular, concerning gender equality.

According to the Country Gender Assessment (2011-2012), information are reported in these areas:

- Challenges and access to education and health services including protection against HIV
- Challenges and access to employment and economic resources/opportunities
- Challenges and access to rights via legal and social empowerment
- Challenges and access to political voice and participation in decision-making, and
- Recommendations for implementing gender policies

BRIEF ANALYSIS OF REPORTING MECHANISM

➢ Deemed relevant for REDD+ Safeguard B

Safeguard B: Information provided through these reports can serve as input to provide information on gender equality. Specifically, in terms of the legal, administrative and judicial measures taken to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women.

Weaknesses and recommendations

➢ Weakness mainly relate to a lack of centralized information database or system. DCD works closely with other core agencies such as Dept. of National Planning and Monitoring, Dept. of Health, Dept. of Education, Dept. of Treasury, and Dept. of Personal Management (DPM), etc. via establishment of Gender Units and Focal Points. DPM, for instance, has a Gender Equality & Social Inclusion (GESI) Branch.

➢ Low capacity and funding support hinders effective coordination. The National Council of Women, deemed to support DCD, appears dysfunctional due to inadequate financial support.

➢ A recommendation is made for the establishment of an information system within DCD that harmonizes all gender-related activities and information within government. Greater funding support will be essential to drive this initiative.

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PNG has a range of information systems and reporting mechanisms whose functions respond to various purposes and fulfill various policy objectives. A number of these information systems and reporting mechanisms are relevant for reporting on the UNFCCC REDD+ safeguards.

Therefore, we consider that the identified systems and reporting mechanisms can serve as a solid foundation for the construction of the SIS, in particular to perform the functions of collection and analysis of information. However, to ensure that these systems and reporting mechanisms may be used in the context of REDD+, it will be important to define the scope of the implementation of REDD+ actions under the forthcoming National REDD+ strategy, so that agencies or entities in charge of these systems and mechanisms are able to provide all and relevant information associated with the implementation of these actions.

From this initial survey, PNGFA and CCDA are developing the most advanced information systems compared to other core agencies in terms of general reporting but more specifically, related to REDD+. Perhaps, this stems from the fact that both CCDA and PNGFA have and continue to be the main government agencies involved heavily in discussions on REDD+ both internationally and locally. Other government agencies such as CEPA and DAL have had very limited involvement.

As for reporting mechanisms, information gathered to report to international conventions and treaties could be used and considered for purposes of the SIS. The challenge and issue of concern is the general lack of adequate information management and reporting systems within government departments. For instance, CEPA has a number of international conventions and treaties that it needs to report to, however, information provided shows that they lack proper data management and reporting (i.e. no formal database in place). This raises the important questions of how the information gathered to report on these relevant international agreements/requirements can be consistently collected for purposes of the SIS.

On the other hand, DAL reports that it has no proper information system in place because it does not have a national legal mandate. DAL also identifies serious lack of capacity and training needs in the areas of establishing and managing information systems as well as reporting. Capacity and appropriate technical training including hardware/software support could be an impediment in most government agencies and institutions in having efficient information and reporting systems in place.

Finally, we note that there is a general lack of coordination in terms of data/information sharing between core responsible government agencies. The need to have formal institutional arrangements for such collaboration was raised both by CEPA and DAL. Both these agencies do not have such arrangements in place and are only beginning to develop one (CEPA via GEF support) and need external support (DAL). An excellent example of sector coordination and institutional arrangement is shown (Figure 1 above) by CCDA for the management of the SLMS.

**Recommendations**

Some key and general recommendations to consider when assessing the future use of these systems for purposes of the SIS:
- Based on this initial assessment, further detailed engagement is needed especially with those agencies that are relevant to REDD+ and rights and obligations encompasses in the REDD+ safeguards. This will assist in enhanced cross-sector planning and alignment of their work/reporting to REDD+/REDD+ safeguards and make way for future reporting of such implementation. This can be achieved via greater engagement at TWGs, safeguards capacity training and other relevant fora.

- The CCDA SLMS already captures key agencies and data providers: Department of Lands, National Statistics Office, CEPA, PNGFA, MRA and DAL. Given the lack of or poor set up of information systems within some of these agencies (such as CEPA and DAL as outlined above), it is necessary to put in place remedial measures to validate data/information provided for QA/QC. Long-term measures need to be put in place while this is being done.

- Targeted capacity development is needed as well as the installation/purchase of equipment. This could be done by a collaboration between the responsible government agency and external collaborators based on identified needs and desired outcomes.

- Greater cross-sector coordination is needed, and should be strongly supported where necessary. This relates especially on data/information sharing and reporting.