

UN-REDD
PROGRAMME



National Programme Semi-Annual Report –Solomon Islands

UN-REDD Programme

29 May 2012

1. National Programme Status

1.1 National Programme Identification

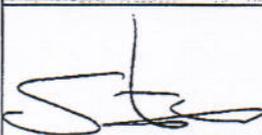
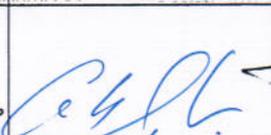
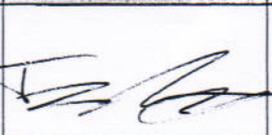
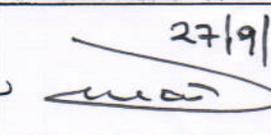
Please identify the National Programme by completing the information requested below. The Government Counterpart and the designated National Programme focal points of the participating UN organisations will also provide their electronic signature below, prior to submission to the UN-REDD Programme Secretariat.

Country: Solomon Islands Title of programme: UN-REDD Solomon Islands	Date of signature ¹ : 17 th May 2011 Date of first transfer of funds ² : 3 rd June 2011 End date according to National Programme Document: January 2013 No-cost extension requested ³ :
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Implementing partners ⁴ : Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) Ministry of Forestry and Research (MFR) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
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The financial information reported should include indirect costs, M&E and other associated costs.

Financial Summary (USD) ⁵			
UN Agency	Approved Programme Budget ⁶	Amount transferred ⁷	Cummulative Expenditures up to 30 June 2012 ⁸
FAO			
UNDP	\$550,000	\$550,000	17,333.36
UNEP			
Total	\$550,000	\$550,000	17,333.36

Electronic signatures by the designated UN organization ⁹			Electronic signature by the Government Counterpart
FAO	UNDP	UNEP	
			 27/9/12
Type the date and name of signatories in full:			
p.o. Mette LoycheWilkie	Akiko Suzuki	Thomas Enters	Chanel Iroi

¹ Last signature on the National Programme Document

² As reflected on the MPTF Office Gateway <http://mptf.undp.org>

³ If yes, please provide new end date

⁴ Those organizations either sub-contracted by the Project Management Unit or those organizations officially identified in the National Programme Document as responsible for implementing a defined aspect of the project. Do not include the participating UN Organizations unless Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) is being applied.

⁵ Use Anglophone standards for all figures

⁶ The total budget for the entire duration of the Programme, as specified in the signed Submission Form and National Programme Document. This information is available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY: <http://mptf.undp.org>

⁷ Amount transferred to the participating UN Organization from the UN-REDD Multi-Partner Trust Fund. This information is available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY: <http://mptf.undp.org>

⁸ The sum of commitments and disbursement

⁹ Each UN organisation is to nominate one or more focal points to sign the report. Please refer to the UN-REDD Programme Planning, Monitoring and Reporting Framework document for further guidance

1.2 Monitoring Framework

The table below requests reporting on cumulative achievements (against the expected targets in the Monitoring Framework included in the National Programme Document) and achievements gained in the reporting period (against the expected targets in the annual work plan). If there is no data to be reported in the reporting period, please mark N/A. Please add additional rows as needed. For information on means of verification, responsibilities and risk and assumptions, please refer to the Monitoring Framework in the National Programme Document.

Expected Results (Outcome or Output)	Indicators	Baseline	Overall progress (Cumulative achievements)		Progress Against Annual Targets (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
			Expected Targets (According to the National Programme Document)	Cumulative Progress Towards the Overall Target (Outcome or Output)	Expected Annual Target (According to the annual work plan)	Achievements of the Annual Target (Outcome or Output)
Outcome 1: REDD+ readiness supported by effective, inclusive and participatory management processes	REDD+ readiness roadmap	No roadmap process	Roadmap ready after 10 months	No progress toward achieving this Outcome was made due to delays caused by the political unrest in late 2011, staff turnover at UNDP CO and difficulty in recruiting PMU staff. (Note: the PMU established and the first Programme Executive Board (PEB) meeting held in Jul 2012)	Not applicable as there was no annual budget approval by PEB for the reporting period. (Note: PEB approved the first annual budget and activities under this Outcome in Jul 2012)	No progress toward achieving this Outcome was made during this reporting period due to delays caused by the difficulty in recruiting PMU staff. (Note: the PMU established and the first PEB meeting held in Jul 2012)
Output 1.1: A broad-based, multi-stakeholder national REDD+ working group	Working group formed within 2 months and meet on quarterly basis and or as required	See the outcome level baseline	See the outcome level target		Not applicable as there was no annual budget approval by PEB for the reporting period. (Note: a National REDD+ Taskforce established in Aug 2012)	
Output 1.2: Policy and sectoral analyses to inform the development of the Roadmap	Monitoring and oversight process in place within 4 months Report produced within 10 months	See the outcome level baseline	See the outcome level target		Not applicable as there was no annual budget approval by PEB for the reporting period. (Note: Baseline data collection on sectoral policy is planned to start in Sep 2012)	
Output 1.3 A REDD+ readiness roadmap	Road map in place after 10 months	See the outcome level baseline	See the outcome level target		Not applicable as there was no annual budget approval by PEB for the reporting period.	

Expected Results (Outcome or Output)	Indicators	Baseline	Overall progress (Cumulative achievements)		Progress Against Annual Targets (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
			Expected Targets (According to the National Programme Document)	Cumulative Progress Towards the Overall Target (Outcome or Output)	Expected Annual Target (According to the annual work plan)	Achievements of the Annual Target (Outcome or Output)
Outcome 2: REDD+ stakeholders have a comprehensive understanding of the potential benefits and risks associated with REDD+	Empowered stakeholders by end of initial programme	No Stakeholder engagement programme	Stakeholder engagement programme officially endorsed	No specific progress toward achieving this Outcome was made due to delays caused by the political unrest in late 2011, staff turnover at UNDP CO and difficulty in recruiting PMU staff.	Not applicable as there was no annual budget approval by PEB for the reporting period. (Note: PEB approved the first annual budget and activities under this Outcome in Jul 2012)	No specific progress toward achieving this Outcome was made during this reporting period due to delays caused by the difficulty in recruiting PMU staff. (Note: the PMU established and the first PEB meeting held in Jul 2012)
<u>Output 2.1:</u> A constituency-based education and awareness raising programme.	Plan developed within 4 months; programme delivered by end of initial programme	See the outcome level baseline	See the outcome level target	(Note: the PMU established and the first PEB meeting held in Jul 2012) Meanwhile, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination and collaboration between national institutions, stakeholders and development partners (GIZ/SPC, JICA, Live & Learn) were promoted as a priority during the inception phase, beginning in Jul 2011. 		Meanwhile, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial awareness on good governance and FPIC was raised among two national REDD+ focal points from MECDM and MFR and one CSO representative from Live & Learn through a regional knowledge sharing event in Bogor, Indonesia in Apr 2012. It contributed to a better understanding of the FPIC process and the initiation of discussions among the government counterparts and CSOs regarding the design of FPIC process in the Solomon Islands.
<u>Output 2.2:</u> A process to ensure the right of free, prior and informed consent for actions to be undertaken on REDD+	Plan developed within 4 months; programme delivered by end of initial programme	See the outcome level baseline	See the outcome level target	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial awareness on potentials and risks of REDD+, particularly on corruption, good governance and FPIC, were raised among two national REDD+ focal points from MECDM and MFR and two CSO representatives from Live & Learn and KIBCA as part of the regional knowledge sharing efforts in Bangkok in Oct 2011 and Bogor in Apr 2012. 		
Output 2.3: Promoting social and environmental benefits whilst reducing risks from REDD	Awareness and discussion of formulation of nationally appropriate safeguards	See the outcome level baseline	See the outcome level target			

Expected Results (Outcome or Output)	Indicators	Baseline	Overall progress (Cumulative achievements)		Progress Against Annual Targets (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
			Expected Targets (According to the National Programme Document)	Cumulative Progress Towards the Overall Target (Outcome or Output)	Expected Annual Target (According to the annual work plan)	Achievements of the Annual Target (Outcome or Output)
Outcome 3: Preliminary capacity developed for REL/RL formulation and MRV	Costed plan for REL&RL/MRV capacity building with timeline	No structure/process for REL/RL formulaiotn and MRV	Costed plan for REL&RL/MRV capacity building officially endorsed	No specific progress toward achieving this Outcome was made due to delays caused by the political unrest in late 2011, staff turnover at UNDP CO and difficulty in recruiting PMU staff (Note: the PMU established and the first PEB meeting held in Jul 2012)	Not applicable as there was no annual budget approval by PEB for the reporting period. (Note: PEB approved the first annual budget and activities under this Outcome in Jul 2012)	No specific progress toward achieving this Outcome was made during this reporting period due to delays caused by the difficulty in recruiting PMU staff (Note: the PMU established and the first PEB meeting held in Jul 2012) Meanwhile, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With Targeted Support funds, the Solomon Islands together with PNG has requested FAO in May 2012 to develop a regional monitoring and MRV support structure for Pacific Island Countries to collectively attain and share technical capacity.
<u>Output 3.1:</u> REL and MRV capacity assessment	Needs assessment report	See the outcome level baseline	See the outcome level target			
<u>Output 3.2:</u> Assessment of potential for regional cooperation on MRV	Regional cooperation opportunities report	See the outcome level baseline	See the outcome level target	Meanwhile, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic awareness on MRV and monitoring was raised among several technical officers of MECDM and MFR, the Under- Secretary of MFR, and CSO representatives from WWF, Live & Learn and TNC, through a half day training event provided by FAO in Sep 2011. This training initiated discussions on capacity requirements and capacity development process for the Solomon Islands. A dialogue on regional cooperation on forest monitoring and MRV among Melanesian countries was initiated at the Pacific Technical Forestry meeting 		

Expected Results (Outcome or Output)	Indicators	Baseline	Overall progress (Cumulative achievements)		Progress Against Annual Targets (Achievements gained in the reporting period)	
			Expected Targets (According to the National Programme Document)	Cumulative Progress Towards the Overall Target (Outcome or Output)	Expected Annual Target (According to the annual work plan)	Achievements of the Annual Target (Outcome or Output)
				organized by SPC in Sep 2011 in Fiji.		

1.3 Financial Information

In the table below, please provide up-to-date information on activities completed based on the Results Framework included in the signed National Programme Document; as well as financial data on planned, committed and disbursed funds. The table requests information on the cumulative financial progress of the National Programme implementation at the end of the reporting period (including all cumulative yearly disbursements). Please add additional rows as needed.

Definitions of financial categories:

- *Commitments:* Includes all amount committed to date. Commitment is the amount for which legally binding contracts have been signed and entered into the Agencies' financial systems, including multi-year commitments which may be disbursed in future years.
- *Disbursement:* Amount paid to a vendor or entity for goods received, work completed, and/or services rendered (does not include un-liquidated obligations)
- *Expenditures:* Total of commitments plus disbursements

***In this Initial National Programme, UNDP will be the Managing Agent (MA) and act as the financial interface, on behalf of FAO and UNEP, with the national partner.**

PROGRAMME OUTCOME	UN ORGANISATION	IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS			
		Amount Transferred by MPTF to Programme (A)	Cumulative Expenditures up to 30 June 2012		
			Commitments (B)	Disbursements (C)	Total Expenditures (D) B + C
Output 1.1: A broad-based, multi-stakeholder national REDD+ working group	UNDP	51,000.00	0.00	9065.11	9065.11
Sub-total		51,000.00	0.00	9065.11	9065.11
Output 1.2: Policy and sectoral analyses to inform the development of the Roadmap	UNDP	47,000.00	0	0	0

Sub-total		47,000.00			
Output 1.3 A REDD+ readiness roadmap	UNDP	0	0	0	0
Sub-total		0			
Output 2.1: A constituency-based education and awareness raising programme.	UNDP	87,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub-total		87,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Output 2.2: A process to ensure the right of free, prior and informed consent for actions to be undertaken on REDD+	UNDP	85,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub-total		85,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Output 2.3: Promoting social and environmental benefits whilst reducing risks from REDD	UNDP	72,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub-total		72,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Output 3.1: REL and MRV capacity assessment	UNDP	77,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub-total		77,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Output 3.2: Assessment of potential for regional cooperation on MRV	UNDP	48,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sub-total		48,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Programme Management	UNDP	47019.40	0.00	7054.90	7054.90
UNDP (Total):		514,020.00	0.00	16120.01	16120.01
Indirect Support Cost (7%)		35,980.00	0.00	1213.35	1213.35
Grand TOTAL:		550,000.00	0.00	17,333.36	17,333.36

1.3.1 Co-financing

If additional resources (direct co-financing) are provided to the activities supported by the UN-REDD National Programme, please fill in the table below:

Sources of co-financing ¹	Name of co-financer	Type of co-financing ²	Amount (US\$)
UNDP UN-REDD Tier 2 Asia-Pacific Regional Readiness	UNDP	Cash	50,000.00
FAO Targeted Support: Development of a Regional Monitoring and MRV Support Structure for Pacific Island Countries	FAO	Cash (partial)	100,000.00

1.3.2 Additional finance for national REDD+ efforts catalyzed by the National Programme

Name of financier	Description	Amount (US\$)
UNDP/GEF	Integrating Global Environment Commitments in Investment and Development Decision-making through REDD+ Readiness	935,000.00

1. National Programme Progress

The questions in section two are intended to capture advancements and challenges that the National Programme has faced during the reporting period. It also aims to collect information on inter-agency coordination, ownership and development effectiveness, and communication. Please provide your answers after each question.

1.1 Narrative on Progress, Difficulties and Contingency Measures

The questions below ask for a brief narrative describing progress on the implementation of activities, generation of outputs and attainment of outcomes. It also asks for a description of internal and external challenges to National Programme implementation, as well as the contingency actions planned to overcome them.

1.1.1 Please provide a brief overall assessment of the extent to which the National Programme is progressing in relation to expected outcomes and outputs. Please provide examples if relevant (600 words).

Since the Inception Workshop was held in July 2011, the Programme was not able to start implementing its activities due to delays caused by the political unrest in late 2011, staff turnover at UNDP CO and difficulty in recruiting PMU staff. The first half of 2012 saw the vigorous effort being made in recruiting a suitable candidate to manage the Programme. However, due to the limited number of qualified technical individuals in country, the Programme had to re-advertise twice before a suitable candidate accepted the post. This situation was made worse by the fact that the UNDP salary scale for the project manager position was not as attractive as that of the rapidly growing mining sector. The UNDP CO therefore requested its senior management to grant a waiver to raise the upper limit of the salary scale of the Programme manager position in order to secure the current Programme manager. This has resulted in readjustments of the Programme budget to secure additional funds for this position, and as the Programme manager has expertise in stakeholder engagement and strategic environmental assessment, he will also be delivering specific technical

¹ Indicate if the source of co-financing is from: Bilateral aid agency, foundation, local government, national government, civil society organizations, other multilateral agency, private sector, or others.

² Indicate if co-financing is in-kind or cash.

outputs in those areas in order to ensure that this adjustment will not compromise the delivery of the Programme outcomes.

A related concern is the shortage of skilled human resources. This issue will be addressed through harmonization of related initiatives such as FAO's ACP FLEGT project, which is currently being set up, and the recently submitted GEF enabling activity project by UNDP to support MEAs through REDD+ Readiness to reduce unnecessary competition for human resources. It is also expected that the financial support from the Tier 2 UNDP UN-REDD project will support knowledge transfer from international REDD+ experts to government staff in the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) and the Ministry of Forestry and Research (MFR).

In relation to the issue of capacity constraints, the UN Agencies and the Government of the Solomon Islands has agreed to recruit an international policy advisor on a part-time basis to support the Programme implementation. The recruitment process is currently underway, and the international policy advisor is expected to be in place by September 2012.

The PMU recruitment issue was resolved in late June 2012 with the recruitment of a Programme Manager and a Programme Assistant to start on their jobs from the beginning of July 2012. Annual work planning and the organization of the first Programme Executive Board (PEB) meeting in July are the immediate priorities of the PMU. Technical activities expected during the next quarter include the appointment of a National REDD+ Taskforce, establishment of technical working groups to prepare a national REDD+ Roadmap, intensified awareness-raising in both general and technical areas.

Additional Note:

For the first PMU meeting, the PMU will prepare a revised work plan and a multi-year budget by considering current national circumstances, absorptive capacity and capacity constraints faced by the country.

The PEB during its first meeting is expected to give guidance on the following:

- By taking into account the 12 month delay in implementation and realistic delivery projection, the Programme budget needs updating and an extension till the first quarter of 2014, which will necessitate another no-cost extension;
- To provide continuous policy and technical guidance to address capacity constraints, an international policy advisor will be engaged on a part time basis. The cost should be shared across all Outputs, while the Tier 2 UNDP UN-REDD project will provide financial support, and;
- Due to capacity and resource constraints, the Programme requires narrowing of its scope to focus on the delivery of key outputs - a national REDD+ roadmap with policy guidelines on stakeholder engagement, safeguards and MRV. As a result, demonstration activities will not be funded by the Programme but through inclusive planning, supported by other development partners (Live&Learn, SPC/GIZ, JICA, GEF).

1.1.2 Please provide a brief overall assessment of any measures taken to ensure the sustainability of the National Programme results during the reporting period. Please provide examples if relevant. (250 words)

There is ongoing dialogue between UNDP and the national REDD+ focal points at the MECDM and MFR to ensure that Government's commitment to the Programme remains³

³ Please note that subsequently in July, at the first PEB meeting, the PEB members agreed and endorsed that the Programme should first focus on the delivery of the outputs according to the 2012 AWP this year, and based on the improved redelivery results, a request for no-cost extension should then be made in early 2014. Also, the PEB approved the recruitment of an international policy advisor on a part-time basis to support these efforts.

These discussions relate to the strategic direction, establishment of a national REDD+ coordination body, coordination and collaboration with internal and external partners and operational issues related to the Programme implementation.

The establishment of a national REDD+ taskforce is expected⁴ to be endorsed by the PEB meeting in July 2012. The taskforce will play a critical role in coordinating REDD+ activities and in particular support the development of the national REDD+ Roadmap/policy. The Taskforce includes all relevant stakeholders in Government and non-government organizations. It will work as a coordination as well as advisory body on REDD+ issues for all REDD+ related initiatives including UN-REDD in the country to support the work of the Climate Change Mitigation Working Group established under the Solomon Island National Climate Change Policy.

1.1.3 If there are difficulties in the implementation of the National Programme, what are the main causes of these difficulties? Please check the most suitable option.

- UN agency Coordination
- Coordination with Government
- Coordination within the Government
- Administrative (Procurement, etc) /Financial (management of funds, availability, budget revision, etc)
- Management: 1. Activity and output management
- Management: 2. Governance/Decision making (Programme Management Committee/National Steering Committee)
- Accountability
- Transparency
- National Programme design
- External to the National Programme (risks and assumptions, elections, natural disaster, social unrest)

1.1.4 If boxes are checked under 2.1.3, please briefly describe any current *internal* difficulties⁵ the National Programme is facing in relation to the implementation of the activities outlined in the National Programme Document. (200 words)

A critical issue relating to effective coordination within government ministries is the HR capacity of line ministries. The line ministries do not have enough staff to coordinate and implement ongoing programmes/projects. The key Government focal points are often away on official missions, making it difficult to effectively coordinate and implement respective activities. Another important issue is staff capacity, in particular the number of personnel available and providing support to the Programme. The Climate Change Division for example currently have only three staff supporting various initiatives relating to climate change including UNREDD. Also, as described previously, the shortage of skilled human resources in the country poses a challenge for the Programme implementation as there is very limited availability of national experts.

1.1.5 If boxes are checked under 2.1.3, please briefly describe any current *external* difficulties⁶ (not caused by the National Programme) that delay or impede the quality of implementation. (200 words)

Since the change of Government in 2011, the Permanent Secretary for the MECDM (Programme Executive Chair of the UN-REDD Initial National Programme) has been transferred to another ministry. This has resulted in leadership gaps that impede moving the UN-REDD Programme forward. The leadership gap however was filled immediately by the Acting Permanent Secretary providing

⁴ Please note that the taskforce was established in July, and the first meeting of the taskforce was held in August. The next meeting to work on the Roadmap is scheduled to take place in end-September

⁵ Difficulties confronted by the team directly involved in the implementation of the National Programme

⁶ Difficulties confronted by the team caused by factors outside of the National Programme

oversight and leadership for the Programme. The Government through the Acting Permanent Secretary was instrumental in the process of recruiting appropriate candidates for the UN-REDD PMU and addressing critical challenges in starting the implementation.

1.1.6 Please, briefly explain the actions that are or will be taken to eliminate or manage the difficulties (internal and external referred to in question 2.1.3 and 2.1.4) described in the previous sections. (250 words)

Internal difficulties: the MECDM is constantly being reminded to coordinate with key line ministries for the implementation of the Initial National Programme. After the inception workshop in 2011, the MECDM has coordinated well with the MFR; however, there needs to be more active coordination within both ministries and joint implementation of activities with other Government agencies. As the PMU will be operational starting in July, 2012, the coordination and collaboration issues should improve, and a national REDD+ taskforce, which is expected to be established soon, will also greatly support this effect.

Further to that, the Climate Change Division (CCD) of the MECDM has embarked on a recruitment exercise to recruit four additional staff members. Among these positions, there is a position, Principal Mitigation Officer, responsible for mitigation issues, including REDD+. The position is expected to be filled during the third quarter of 2012.

Meanwhile, the Climate Change Division also receives support from the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) to allocate one officer to liaise with SPC's climate change related activities but also to enhance capacity within the Division to assist with coordination of climate change projects and activities by development partners.

Regarding the challenge posed by the shortage of skilled human resources, the MECDM has been promoting the harmonization (e.g, sharing of project staff, experts, office space, etc) of related initiatives, including UN-REDD, ACP FLEGT by FAO, SPC/GIZ REDD+ initiative, etc. to reduce unnecessary competition for human resources.

External difficulties: Political instability is beyond the Initial National Programme or implementing agency's control. Risks related to the implementation of the Programme will be closely monitored by the PMU.

1.2 Inter-Agency Coordination

The aim of the questions below is to collect relevant information on how the National Programme is contributing to inter-agency work and "Delivering as One".

1.2.1 Is the National Programme in coherence with the UN Country Programme or other donor assistance framework approved by the Government?

Yes No

If not, please explain:

1.2.2 What types of coordination mechanisms and decisions have been taken to ensure joint delivery? Please reflect on the questions above and add any other relevant comments and examples if you consider it necessary:

FAO and UNDP have demarcated outputs to deliver and will jointly lead the realization of outputs each is responsible for. UNEP provides support from the distance, if and when requested.

At the national level, the National Climate Change Policy under MECDM has been launched by the Prime Minister and formally endorsed by the Cabinet. The policy was developed with support from the Ministry of National Planning and Aid Coordination, and Ministries of Finance and Treasury; and the Office of the Prime Minister. This policy strongly emphasizes the need for a better coordination

mechanism to address mitigation activities and reflects on the need for Solomon Islands to participate in REDD+ activities. Therefore, increased national ownership and coordination of the REDD+ Readiness process assisted by the UN-REDD Initial National Programme is expected.

1.2.3 Are the recommendations of the HACT assessment being applied in the implementation of the National Programme by the three participating UN organization?

Yes No

If not, please explain, including which recommendations from the HACT assessment have or have not been applied:

A request to the UNDP Multi-Country Office in Fiji was made (5 July 2012) by the UNDP Sub-Office Environment Team for a micro-assessment to be carried out on the MECDM before the implementation of a HACT. It is envisaged that this assessment will be completed before end of this year (2012). Nevertheless, the implementation modality is compliant with HACT guidelines. In the absence of the HACT micro-assessment, a high risk scenario has been assumed and the cash transfer arrangement is direct payment. Once the micro-assessment is completed, any necessary adjustments based on the HACT recommendations will be made in the current delivery modality.

1.3 Ownership⁷ and Development Effectiveness

The questions below seeks to gather relevant information on how the National Programme is putting into practice the principles of aid effectiveness through strong national ownership, alignment and harmonization of procedures and mutual accountability.

1.3.1 Do government and other national implementation partners have ownership of the implementation of activities and the delivery of outputs?

No Some Yes

Please explain:

The Government, through MECDM, has launched the National Climate Change Policy that provides the platform for how climate change is being addressed on the two fronts of mitigation and adaptation. As the forest sector is considered the largest source of GHG emissions in the country, the policy provides a strong impetus on the need to build Government capacity in REDD+ to enable the country to effectively participate in Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs). The UN-REDD Initial National Programme is therefore perceived by the Government as a critical instrument in initiating the process of REDD+ Readiness in the country.

1.3.2 Are the UN-REDD Programme's Guidelines for Stakeholder Engagement and Operational Guidance Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Other Forest Dependent Communities been applied in the National Programme process?

No Partially Fully

Please explain, including if level of consultation varies between non-government stakeholders:

The Programme is still in its inception phase due to the reasons described in the previous sections thus has not really had a chance to apply the guidelines. The guidelines will be fully reflected in the activities particularly under Outcome Two, and the progress will be monitored through a SEPC process.

1.3.3 What kind of decisions and activities are non-government stakeholders involved in?

Policy/decision making
 Management: Budget Procurement Service provision
 Other, please specify

⁷ Ownership refers to countries exercising effective leadership over their REDD+ policies and strategies, and co-ordination of actions.

Please explain, including if level of involvement varies between non-government stakeholders:

In 2011, the Programme inception process invited inputs from locally community-based organizations such as Kolombangara Indigenous Biodiversity Conservation Association (KIBCA), as well as from NGOs including WWF, TNC and Live & Learn. As a result, revisions were made to the Initial National Programme document to adjust to current national circumstances and needs. This is a particularly important process as the Initial National Programme tries to leverage external support in implementing demonstration activities through an inclusive process to design national guidelines and processes. To this end, non-governmental stakeholders will also be represented on the PEB and national REDD+ taskforce to provide guidance and leadership to the implementation of the UN-REDD Initial National Programme in the Solomon Islands.

1.3.4 Based on your previous answers, briefly describe the current situation of the government and non-government stakeholders in relation to ownership and accountability⁸ of the National Programme. Please provide some examples.

Since its inception, MECDM has forged a cordial relationship with a number of non-government organizations such as Live & Learn, TNC and the WWF. The Ministry has been working closely with the NGO community and values their inputs in the UN-REDD Initial National Programme consultations. Furthermore, MECDM has been working to strengthen partnership arrangements with relevant community-based organizations that undertake environment related programmes. There is also a lot of networking and collaboration between local NGOs, international NGOs, regional organizations (such as SPC) and bilateral and multilateral partners and the Government to implement environment and climate change projects in rural areas. These networks and collaboration will be critical in achieving many of the outputs of the Initial National Programme.

2. Government Counterpart Information

The aim of this section is to allow the Government Counterpart to provide their assessment, as well as additional and complimentary information to Section 1-2 which are filled out by the three participating UN organizations.

Comments by the Government Counterpart:

The government is very supportive of ensuring the successful implementation of the UNREDD Programme and its subsequent sustainability into the future. One of the great difficulties faced in moving the project forward is the recruitment of the Project Manager due to the limited technical HR capacity in place. Now that the PMU is in place, we believe implementation will continue to progress. In terms of government coordination, we will ensure that continuous support is provided to the project. MECDM will continue to work closely with other line Ministries to ensure closer collaboration and support is provided to the project. The total collaboration and support of our NGOs is of great value to ensure everyone have a say in the implementation process of the project. Also note that other donor funded initiatives adds value to the outputs of the project and must be valued.

3. Other stakeholders (non-government) Information

The aim of this section is to allow non-Government stakeholders to provide their assessment, as well as additional and complimentary information to Section 1-2 which are filled out by the three participating UN organizations. Please request a summary from existing stakeholder committees or platforms.

Comments by other stakeholders (non-government):

⁸ Accountability: Acknowledgment and assumption of responsibility for actions, products, decisions, and policies and encompassing the obligation to report, explain and be answerable for resulting consequences.

The UNREDD Program has been very supportive to non-government stakeholders involvement in its processes. In the first half of the 2012 the UNREDD Programme provided support for Live and Learn Education Country Manager myself (Johnson Fangalasu) to attend an FPIC Workshop in Indonesia. This workshop focus on sharing knowledge and examples of good practices among the UN REDD partner countries in the region on the Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) process for UN-REDD. Furthermore, the Programme through the Ministry of Environment has invited Live and Learn to be a member of the Programme Executive Board. The PEB also has SPC-GIZ as a member which reflects well on the broad based approach. Many other NGOs look forward towards the establishment of the National REDD+ taskforce which will involve many more NGOs and civil society groups.