

Low emission land use planning in

MADANG

Papua New Guinea



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From mountain ranges to ocean reefs, Madang province and its rich biodiversity hold immeasurable commercial, cultural, spiritual and recreational value.

While natural resources have brought wealth and benefits to the province, population and economic pressures are growing and future development must maximize social benefits and conserve biological resources.



Key factors impacting forest and land use change



From 2000-2013 the equivalent of

40,000 rugby fields
of forest lost

Together For A Better Future

- The national government has endorsed a **Climate Compatible Development Strategy** for Papua New Guinea
- Pillar Five of the **Vision 2050 for Papua New Guinea** addresses government objectives concerning climate change and environmental sustainability

- The **Madang Provincial Government** has taken a leading role in Papua New Guinea in adapting climate compatible strategies for growth
- With **USAID LEAF** support they are developing a province-wide plan consistent with national strategies and grounded in the realities of climate change and development challenges in the province



USAID LEAF works side by side with our local partners and government counterparts to slow climate change by developing strategies to sustainably reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the forest and land use sector.



The **Madang Medium-term Development Plan** provides a framework for improved planning in 10 areas, including natural resource management, infrastructure, mining, land, agriculture, forest and fisheries. USAID LEAF, The Nature Conservancy and others have contributed to components of the plan.



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The United States Agency for International Development Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forests (USAID LEAF) program is helping the Madang Provincial Government to comply with the national Climate Compatible Development Strategy.

USAID LEAF is recommending policy options and mitigation actions to achieve the development objectives of improved forest and land management and greenhouse gas emissions reductions through three key activities:



1 Capacity Building



2 Policy Support



3 Low Emission Land Use Planning

Capacity Building

USAID LEAF strengthens the ability of government counterparts and community-based and civil society organizations to better understand climate change. Training is provided on a variety of topics.



- Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+)
- Land use planning and conservation
- Historical drivers of landscape change
- Measuring forest biomass
- Calculating carbon stocks
- Forest reference levels
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- Ground validation techniques
- Scenario development

Policy Support

USAID LEAF supports policy reviews in collaboration with the national and provincial government; convenes multi-stakeholder consultations to assess potential impacts of legislation and policy; and provides technical assistance in development of new regulations.



Low Emission Land Use Planning Process

USAID LEAF is providing recommendations to the Madang Provincial Government for long-term development of the province based on the following low emission land use planning development stages and associated tasks.



1. Define Working Context

Develop province-wide land use plan through multi-stakeholder consultations

- ➔ **Recommendation:** Madang Provincial Planning Office is mandated to develop, implement and monitor the plan

Review capacity for measuring carbon and balancing development objectives

- ➔ **Recommendation:** Establish a GIS center and increase land use planning expertise

2. Survey and Analyze

Provide preliminary estimates of historical forest and land use change

- ➔ **Recommendation:** Increase accuracy through the national CollectEarth assessment

Consult stakeholders on drivers of forest and land use change

- ➔ **Recommendation:** Strengthen engagement with public and private sector stakeholders



3. Develop Policies and Plans

Consider likely emissions from development scenarios and their impact on social, economic and environmental targets

- ➔ **Recommendation:** Consult, debate and agree on a development pathway that balances economic growth, conservation, social expectations and reduced greenhouse gas emissions

4. Implement Policies and Actions

Mainstream low emission actions into all provincial planning processes

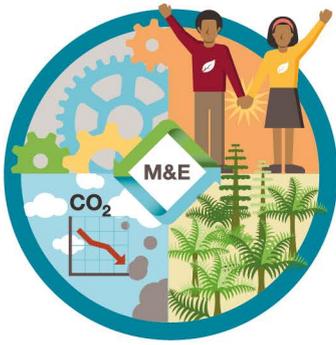
- ➔ **Recommendation:** Determine commercial agriculture sites, implement reduced impact logging, encourage community land use planning and identify high conservation value sites for protection

- ➔ **Recommendation:** Revise agriculture, forest sector and medium-term development plans to combine adaptation and mitigation actions

Secure financing to ensure sustainability

- ➔ **Recommendation:** Secure domestic funding to ensure ownership and accountability; seek international or private funding for innovative performance mechanisms





5. Monitor and Evaluate

Set economic, social, environmental and emission reduction indicators and baselines

- ➔ **Recommendation:** Agree upon indicators, allocate resources and ensure transparency

Madang Province has a unique opportunity to lead Papua New Guinea's low emission development with land use planning at its core. In June 2015, USAID LEAF presented an Options and Opportunities report to the Madang Provincial Government that outlines low emission pathways for development in the province. These options are replicable throughout Papua New Guinea and are an example of a Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS) for Asia-Pacific countries.

Low emission land use planning allows

MADANG

to promote continued economic growth,
sustainably manage its natural resources and
reduce greenhouse gas emissions



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