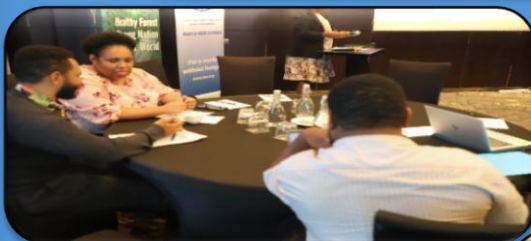


WORKSHOP REPORT

GREEN CLIMATE FUND RESULTS-BASED PAYMENT PILOT PROGRAMME VALIDATION WORKSHOP

Friday, 28th MARCH 2025

Lamana Hotel





The Climate Change Development Authority was established in November 2015 by the Climate Change Management Act of 2015. It is mandated as a lead Government agency in the country to coordinate climate change activities and strives to coordinate this process through partnerships with the development partners in PNG and internationally.

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Acronyms

ART	Architecture REDD+ Transaction
BCF	Biodiversity Climate Fund
CCDA	Climate Change & Development Authority
CCMA	Climate Change Management Act
CELCOR	Centre for Environment Law and Community Rights
CSO	Civil Society Obligation
DPLLGA	Department of Local-Level Government Affairs
ESA	Environmental and Social Assessment
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
FAO	Food & Agriculture Organization
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GESI	Gender Equity & Social Inclusion
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HIES	Household Income Expenditure Survey
ILG	Incorporated Land Group
LEAF	Lowering Emissions Accelerating Finance
LLG	Local Level Government
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NDC	National Determined Contribution
NFMS	National Forest Monitoring System
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NIP	New Ireland Province
PCCC	Provincial Climate Change Committee
PCMC	Provincial Coordinating Monitoring Committee
PLLSMA	Provincial and Local Level Government Services Monitoring Authority
PMU	Project Management Unit
PNGBCF	Papua New Guinea Biodiversity Climate Fund
PNGFA	Papua New Guinea Forest Authority
PWM	Partners With Melanesian
RBP	Results-Based Payment
SABL	Special Agriculture & Business Lease
tCO₂e	Tonne Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
TREES	The REDD+ Environmental Excellence Standard
TRP	Timber Rights Purchase
TWC	Technical Working Committee
WNB	West New Britian

1. Executive Summary

Papua New Guinea (PNG) is securing Green Climate Fund (GCF) Results-Based Payments (RBP) funding to advance its REDD+ efforts, having successfully reduced emissions by 6.5 million tCO₂e (2014–2015) and 10.5 million tCO₂e (2016). Despite an initial setback in 2019, a 2024 GCF allocation now enables PNG to access these funds, reinforcing its leadership in forest conservation, emissions reduction, and sustainable development. The workshop was held at Lamana Hotel, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea on Friday, 28th March 2025. The workshop aimed to conduct a final stakeholder consultation and validate the updated GCF RBP Pilot Programme funding proposal. The participants who attended the workshop were representatives from National and Sub-National Government Agencies, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and community representatives, Research and Academia, Private Sector, Development Partners and GCF RBP Target Provinces.

The total number of participants who attended the GCF RBP Validation workshop was 37 (29 Males & 11 females) from different organizations. In the inaugural session, the Acting Managing Director for Climate Change and Development Authority, Ms. Debra Sungi, gave her opening remarks, acknowledging and thanking the participants for making time to attend the validation workshop. As the representative for the United Nations, Dr. Richard Howard, United Nations Resident Coordinator in PNG, gave his opening remarks emphasizing the support from FAO to the CCDA as the developing partner for the success of the production of the funding proposal.

In the technical session, Ms. Gwen Sissiou presented on PNG's Progress on REDD+ & Opportunities in the GCF RBP Pilot Programme, explaining the whole process of how PNG was eligible to be required as a country to apply to the GCF Results Based Payment Program. The second and final presentation was from Mr. Chris Mong on the GCF Consultation Process & Discussion Outcomes. In his presentation, he explained the processes and timelines it took for the consultation process before coming up with the final funding proposal that will be submitted on March 31st, 2025.

After the presentations it was up to the stakeholders to give their feedback and final comments to the funding proposal before officially validating the document. Stakeholders commended CCDA and FAO's efforts, raised key questions on selection criteria, data accuracy, and equitable distribution of benefits, and unanimously validated the proposal for submission. Finally, Ms. Gwen Sissiou asked if there was any objection to submitting the Funding proposal document and all the stakeholders approved to pass the proposal as validated. The workshop was officially closed by Ms. Sissiou and the submission of the funding proposal will take place on March 31st, 2025.

2 Background

2.1 Introduction

Papua New Guinea (PNG) is strategically positioned to capitalize on international climate financing through the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Results-Based Payments (RBP) program as part of its broader commitment to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+). With vast tropical forests serving as a crucial carbon sink, PNG has long recognized the importance of preserving its forest ecosystems for national sustainability and climate change mitigation. As the country faces increasing pressure from deforestation and forest degradation

driven by logging, agriculture, and land-use changes, these financing opportunities provide essential support for implementing sustainable forest management and reducing emissions.

From 2014 to 2015, PNG achieved significant greenhouse gas emission reductions of 6.5 million tCO₂e. As part of reporting to UNFCCC, the 2nd Biennial Update Report (BUR2) Technical Annex shows that PNG reduced 10.5 million tCO₂e by reducing deforestation and forest degradation in 2016. These results were reviewed and verified by experts before it is made available to PNG. Since PNG has shown great efforts in emission reductions and made great progress in producing these REDD+ results, the 2016 results are now claimed and included in the funding proposal in 2019, PNG submitted a concept note to the GCF seeking results-based payments for these reductions. However, along with three other countries, PNG could not secure funding due to the exhaustion of the initial budget allocated to the GCF RBP pilot program. In 2024, the GCF approved an exceptional allocation for the RBP pilot window, allowing PNG to access RBPs.

PNG's participation in the GCF RBP aligns its national priorities with global climate action, providing the necessary financial backing to support REDD+ activities. Through these efforts, PNG is well-positioned to continue its leadership role in forest conservation, emissions reductions, and sustainable development, ensuring environmental and economic benefits for the country and the international community.

2.2 Workshop Objectives

- Conduct final stakeholder consultation on the GCF RBP Pilot Programme funding proposal
- Update and review the funding proposal with stakeholders for validation

3 Participants

- National and Sub-National Government Agencies
- CSOs, including community representatives
- Research and Academia
- Private Sectors
- Development Partners
- GCF RBP Target Provinces

4 Summary of Workshop Presentations

4.1 Inaugural Session

4.1.1 Welcome Remarks by Ms. Debra Sungi, Acting Managing Director for Climate Change & Development Authority

In the opening remarks by Ms. Debra Sungi she acknowledged the participants that attended the workshop by saying on behalf of the government of PNG and the Climate Change and Development Authority I warmly welcome you all to this very important Validation workshop. Today's events is to validate the key outcomes of the regional consultation workshops that was held from the 21st February -04th March 2025 and provide provincial endorsement on the outcomes through this validation process on the GCF RBP Funding Proposal. She went on to say

that PNG is also proud to host the 42nd GCF Board Meeting in July 2025 of this year. She concluded her opening remarks by wishing all the participants a successful outcome of this validation and commend the CCDA & FAO team on facilitating the successful submission of the GCF RBP Funding proposal for the 6 pilot provinces during the 42nd GCF Board meeting in PNG by July 2025.

4.1.2 Opening Remarks by Dr Richard Howard, Resident Coordinator for the United Nations in Papua New Guinea

Dr. Richard Howard, the UN Resident Coordinator in PNG, opened the GCF Results-Based Payments Pilot Programme Validation Workshop by expressing gratitude to all participants, especially those who travelled from various provinces, emphasizing their shared responsibility in safeguarding the environment. He highlighted that climate change remains one of the world's biggest challenges, with global emissions still rising despite decades of international agreements under the UNFCCC. Dr. Howard commended PNG's leadership in environmental stewardship, noting that the country is among the few net-zero emissions nations and home to vast forests crucial for carbon sequestration. He acknowledged PNG's pioneering role in REDD+, launched alongside Costa Rica in 2005, and praised the country's progress in climate governance, including strong legislation, monitoring systems, and emissions reporting. These efforts have positioned PNG to qualify for the GCF's Results-Based Payments Pilot Programme, a significant milestone in mobilizing climate finance. He reaffirmed the UN's commitment to supporting PNG's REDD+ journey and commended the extensive national and regional consultations that shaped the funding proposal. With PNG set to host the 42nd GCF Board Meeting in June 2025, he expressed hope for the proposal's approval and congratulated all stakeholders for their dedication to securing climate finance and advancing sustainable development.

4.2 Technical Session

4.2.1 Presentation on PNG Progress on REDD+ & Opportunities in the GCF RBP Pilot Programme by Ms. Gwen Sissiou – General Manager REDD+ & Mitigation Division, CCDA

Ms. Sissiou presented on PNG's progress on REDD+ and opportunities in the GCF RBP Pilot program. She emphasized the progress of REDD+ in PNG and its results on the GCF's RBP pilot program. She elaborated more on the formulation of the GCF RBP proposal and its timeline. Other jurisdictional REDD+ including ART/TREES and LEAF Coalition were also given updates in her presentation. She also explained on how the 6 pilot provinces were selected and it was based on the level of them Reducing Emissions and producing results in the results period.

4.2.2 Presentation by Mr. Christopher Mong, Climate Finance Expert FAO on Discussion Outcomes of the GCF Consultation Processes

Mr. Mongs Presentation was all about the process and timelines for the GCF RBP Consultations with stakeholders. He explained on the approach the FAO & CCDA took to come up with the funding proposal. He emphasized on the regional consultation workshops that took place and also the national consultation workshop. His presentation ended with a summary given the status and activities that have taken place to come up with the final version of the GCF RBP Funding proposal.

4.3 Questions & Answers

Table 1: Comments and Questions with their responses from stakeholders participated.

Name & Organization	Questions/Comments	Responses
Mr. Desmond Vaghelo West New Britian Provincial Administration	Thank you for selecting WNB as one of six pilot Programme province. I thank you CCDA & FAO to invite me representing my province, as for us we have no further comments but to congratulate CCDA for this milestone and on behalf of my province we agree to validate and pass on the GCF RBP Funding proposal to the next stage. Thank you.	Gwen Sissiou CCDA, thank you for the wonderful comments Mr. Vaghelo.
Mr. Freddy Alei University of Papua New Guinea	I would like to congratulate Dr Abe and the CCDA team. It's not an easy task to produce a funding proposal at the national level. It's been a while I don't know since e 2019 when they submitted the Concept Note. A job well done to CCDA and FAO, I have no further comments, thank you.	
Mr. Oala Luda PNG Forest Authority	I commend the FAO and CCDA on a job well done producing the proposal, just a question on the Emission Reduction I think selection could be made on deforestation and degradation so in my opinion I think the selection done has been more considered on forest cover and not on the rate of deforestation and degradation.	Dr Hitofumi Abe FAO, thank you Oala for the question I know you know better than me in terms of forest so the results were from the 2014 to 2016 results and if you see in that period Highlands has low deforestation rates and high forest cover so the results are gathered for high forest cover that resulted in emissions reductions. All results came from PNGFA so thank you PNGFA for

		<p>continued support in sharing important key information.</p> <p>Freddy Alei UPNG, I totally agree with Oala but I think I don't want to go down that road since it's been a while were PNG would receive such a fund, we might be under estimating or over estimating our data. Biggest objective of why we are here is to validate the RBP Proposal so for once let's just give it a go and let us receive something for PNG first. Thank you.</p>
Mr. Masato Okayabashi JICA	<p>I would like to take this time to Congratulate Dr Abe and the CCDA for a job well done on producing the GCF RBP Proposal, it would be a milestone for PNG to receive such funding. As a developing partner I would like PNG to receive the funds and JICA is willing to participate in any activity if recommended by CCDA.Thank you.</p>	
John Sengo British High Commission	<p>My question is on the selection process, how are some provinces left out and some are selected for example there is two Sepik provinces selected?</p>	<p>Gwen Sissiou CCDA, selections were made due to the Emission Reductions they have contributed in the results period. Other programs, projects and provinces are still going to benefit with the 40%that are going to be received in the national scale during the inception phase. No one will be left out. Thank you.</p>
Bradley Failou East Sepik Provincial Administration	<p>Thank you to the CCDA and FAO for bringing this funding proposal this far. East Sepik</p>	

	is thankful for the opportunity given to be one of the selected provinces and we look forward to working closely with you all. Once again I congratulate CCDA for this achievement. Thank you.	
Edwin Tanda ,Conservation Environment Protection Authority	As the sister agency for the CCDA we congratulate you on the milestone achieved and we look forward to continually working closely together. Thank you.	
Eric Yuguli Hela Provincial Administration	On behalf of the Hela Provincial Government I would like to thank CCDA for selecting Hela to benefit from the GCF RBP. Hela is a new province and we always look forward to any opportunity given to us, with that I congratulate CCDA and FAO and we look forward to working with you. Thank you.	Dr Hitofumi Abe, we are coming to the Provinces in the inception phase and yeah to the community level as well. Thank you.
Katrina Aiwa Simbu Provincial Administration	Simbu province is grateful for the opportunity given to be one of the pilot provinces, we congratulate you CCDA and we look forward to working with you once we receive the approval come July. Thank you.	Aida Kai CCDA, thank you Ms. Aiwa for the lovely comments given.
Nathan Sapala New Zealand Climate Finance Strategy Project	First of all, I would like to thank FAO & CCDA to invite us as a project development partner. I also would like to congratulate the FAO team who are behind this funding proposal and also the CCDA team for the NDA for the GCF RBP Program. Your hard work has almost come to its end, We thank you for always putting PNG's name up in Climate Change. Thank you.	

<p>Lisa Pandi West Sepik Provincial Administration</p>	<p>The people of West Sepik thanks you for selecting their province as a pilot province, we all look forward in working closely with CCDA to a successful implementation of the program. Once again a big thank you for the opportunity and I congratulate CCDA and FAO for this milestone, thank you.</p>	
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After all the comments, questions and responses Ms. Sissiou got the chance to ask if anyone of the participants objects the decision of validating the GCF RBP Funding proposal for PNG. The stakeholders all agreed to validating the funding proposal and now is ready for submission.

5 Closing Session

5.1 Way Forward/Next Steps

Moving forward, the next steps for the GCF RBP Funding Proposal are as follows.

- Funding Proposal to be submitted on 31st March 2025
- GCF RBP Proposal to go through ITAP phase
- PNG to collaborate with the FAO to host the GCF 42nd Board Meeting in PNG
- All presentations, Workshop Reports, and Meeting Minutes to be shared with stakeholders
- Final Version of the GCF RBP Funding proposal to be shared with stakeholders

5.2 Closing Remarks

Ms. Gwen Sissiou, General Manager for Climate Change Development Authority (CCDA), delivered the closing remarks at the GCF Results-Based Payments Pilot Programme Validation Workshop, expressing her deep appreciation to all participants for their engagement and contributions. She acknowledged the commitment of stakeholders from government agencies, development partners, and communities, emphasizing that their collective efforts have been instrumental in shaping PNG's REDD+ journey. Ms. Sissiou highlighted that the GCF funding proposal represents a crucial opportunity for PNG to access climate finance, which will support forest conservation, strengthen climate resilience, and enhance sustainable livelihoods. She reaffirmed CCDA's commitment to ensuring the successful implementation of REDD+ and emphasized the importance of maintaining strong partnerships and stakeholder collaboration. Looking ahead to the 42nd GCF Board Meeting in June, she expressed hope that PNG's funding proposal would be approved, marking a significant step forward in the country's climate action efforts. She thanked everyone once again for their dedication and contributions and encouraged them to continue championing climate resilience and sustainable development for the future of Papua New Guinea.

6. Appendices/Annex

6.1 Participants List

No	Name	Organization
1	Motsy David	Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Climate Change
2	Ruel Yamuna	Ministry of Environment, Conservation & Climate Change
3	Katrina Aiwa	Simbu Provincial Administration
4	Andigi Eric Yuguli	Hela Provincial Administration
5	Desmond Mondo Vaghelo	WNB Provincial Administration
6	Bradlee Failou	East Sepik Provincial Administration
7	Lisa Pandi	West Sepik Provincial Administration
8	Reuben Bopi	Department of Provincial & Local-Level Government Affairs
9	Kopsy Issac	Department of National Planning & Monitoring
10	Debra Sungi	Climate Change Development Authority
11	Gwen Sissiou	Climate Change Development Authority
12	Aida Kai	Climate Change Development Authority
13	Jason Paniu	Climate Change Development Authority
14	Junior Solomon	Climate Change Development Authority
15	William Lakain	Climate Change Development Authority
16	Morgan Kai	Climate Change Development Authority
17	Edwin James	Conservation & Environment Protection Authority
18	Jayleen Mandali	Conservation & Environment Protection Authority
19	Oala Iuda	Papua New Guinea Forest Authority
20	Dr Lindsay Kutan	National Research Institute
21	Freddie Alet	University of Papua New Guinea
22	Mirzohaydar Isoev	Expertise France
23	Harry Aurere	Australian High Commission
24	John Sengo	British High Commission

25	Manau Renagi	The European Union Delegation to Papua New Guinea
26	Nathan Sapala	New Zealand - Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade
27	Nidatha Martin	U.S Agency for International Development
28	Dr Takahiro Koide	Japan International Cooperation Agency
29	Masato Okahayash	Japan International Cooperation Agency
30	Haraguchi Masamichi	Japan International Cooperation Agency / Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
31	Dr Hitofumi Abe	Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
32	Rong Yu	Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
33	Litamele Sabbath	Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
34	Emmanuella Memafu	Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
35	Paul Hasagama	Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
36	Christopher Mong	Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
37	Dr Richard Howard	United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office

6.2 Workshop Agenda

Time	Activity	Speaker/ Presenter
8:30 – 9:00	Arrival & Registration	All
9:00 – 9:30	Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opening Prayer ▪ Welcome Remarks by CCDA ▪ Welcome Remarks by the United Nations 	Ms. Debra Sungi A/Managing Director, CCDA Dr. Richard Howard Resident Coordinator, United Nations
9:30 – 10:00	PNG's GCF RBP Funding Proposal	Ms. Gwen Sissiou General Manager, REDD+ and Mitigation, CCDA
10:00 – 10:30	Morning Tea/Group Photo/Media Interview	All
10:30 – 11:00	Consultation Workshops Discussion Outcomes	Chris Mong Climate Finance Expert, FAO

11:00 - 11:45	<p>Questions & Answer</p> <p>Validation of the GCF RBP Funding Proposal</p>	CCDA/FAO
11:45 - 12:00	<p>Closing Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wrap up and next step ▪ Closing Remarks 	<p>Ms. Gwen Sissiou</p> <p>General Manager, REDD+ and Mitigation, CCDA</p>

6.3 Workshop Presentations

<https://pngreddplus.org/document-library/>

6.4 Workshop Pictures

