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## CFM Project News (Q2-2023)

ITTO Project PD-764-14:

*Enabling customary landowners to participate effectively in community forest management (CFM) schemes within 6 pilot areas of PNG.*



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**Welcome to the ITTO CFM Project's second newsletter for 2023** which outlines the key activities that have taken place at national and local levels during the period April to June 2023. This includes two field trips by the Project Monitoring Team to West New Britain and Milne Bay Provinces.

Special thanks goes to our local CFM partners: FORCERT, Foundation for People & Community Development (FPCD), Milne Bay Provincial Administration (MBPA), and Research & Conservation Foundation (RCF).

With only 5 months left to go (July to November 2023), we now need to focus on completing the remaining tasks at national and local levels.

**John Mosoro**  
Managing Director  
PNG Forest Authority

# News from ITTO

During the reporting period, the:

- **Financial Audit Report for 2022** was submitted to ITTO in May and approved in June together with a request for PNGFA to send monthly financial statements (unaudited).
- **3rd Yearly Plan of Operation with 6 month No-Cost Extension** was approved by ITTO for the period June 2023 to November 2023.

## Submission of software development reports



**TECHNICAL REPORT #2**  
Software development to support community forest management

**OVERVIEW**  
Technical Report 2 presents the data collection and management software that has been prepared through ITTO Project PD 764/14 Rev.3 (F): "Enabling Customary Landowners to Participate Effectively in Community Forest Management (CFM) Schemes within 6 pilot areas of Papua New Guinea (PNG)".  
**Dr. Adia Bey, Software Developer, Pacific Island Projects, Rabaul**  
*1st April 2023*

In April, Dr. Adia Bey (Software Developer) submitted her two final reports documenting the software development process which began back in August 2020:

- **Technical Report 1**: Potential variables to be measured, mapped and interpreted.
- **Technical Report 2**: Software development to support community forest management.

A big thank you to everyone who took part in the selection of high priority variables for CFM in PNG, followed by the field testing of data collection forms and data management software on KoboCollect and KoboToolbox.

# Land Use Planning & Monitoring in West New Britain Province



In April, the Project Monitoring Team visited FORCERT's target community at Ainbul to see how the CFM Project is helping this Incorporated Land Group with their land-use planning and monitoring activities.

During the 2-day visit, the team was shown the Land Use Map prepared by the Ainbul community for their 23,000 hectares of land. This huge map (see photo above) includes the following land-use zones:

- **Forest production area**- 11,400 hectares
- **Conversion area** - 3,400 hectares
- **Disputed area** - 3,100 hectares
- **Conservation area with HCV forest** - 2,900 hectares
- **Garden area** - 1,100 hectares
- **Cash crop area** - 500 hectares
- **Government services area**

There was only enough time to visit the community's well-managed cash crop area, which produces high-value products for the Kimbe market, including balsa, cocoa, ornamental plants & flowers, and vanilla. Pamela Avusi (FORCERT) said "*the land-use survey forms are assisting the community to manage their land-use plan, whilst the socio-economic monitoring forms are helping people to understand how their income generation activities are contributing towards their land-use objectives*".

# Ward Development Planning & Monitoring in Milne Bay Province



In May, the Project Monitoring Team visited the Milne Bay Provincial Administration's target community at Gibara Ward (in Huhu LLG, Alotau District) to see how the CFM Project was helping the Gibara Ward Development Committee with their socio-economic development activities.

During the 1-day visit:

- **Wendy Wahe** (Office of the Chief Physical Planner, Department of Lands & Physical Planning) introduced the National Sustainable Land Use Policy (NSLUP)'s bottom-up planning process during an open-meeting with the community. She also handed out copies of the 2 NSLUP Guidance Sheets.
- **Lulu Osembo and Keran Aselai** (Natural Resource & Climate Mitigation Division, Milne Bay Provincial Administration) tried-out Form 4B (Socio-economic infrastructure profile) with Gibara Ward Development Committee Leaders. The trial interview helped Lulu & Keran to understand the type of questions contained in Form B. Some glitches were identified during the survey, which were corrected by the Project Manager while in Alotau.
- **Debes Kenny** (Public Relations Officer, PNGFA) captured a set of films for the Project's 5th CFM Awareness Video titled "*How do socio-economic surveys help forest resource owners?*". This included an interview with the Ward Member (see photo above) who introduced Gibara's Ward Development Plan and explained how the socio-economic monitoring forms will help him secure financial support from the District and Provincial Services Improvement Programs.

# What next?



During the next 3-months, the following activities need to be fast-tracked:

- **Output 1:** Local CFM Partners need to complete any remaining data collection activities and either improve their current community land-use plans or prepare new land-use plans that support their CFM “project” requirements (see photo above showing Dr. Henry Scheyvens (IGES, Japan) assisting youths from Ugalingu with Step 2 of FPCD’s land-use management planning process).
  - **Output 2:** The Training Resource Developer needs to complete the awareness videos for the National Sustainable Land Use Policy (NSLUP) and CFM Topics 1-5. Local CFM Partners need the printed NSLUP and CFM guidance sheets to circulate.
  - **Output 3:** Local CFM Partners need to identify CFM opportunities and engage landowners in feasible CFM schemes. Local partners should have a suitable CFM “project” to work on with their target community (i.e. not too big).
  - **Output 4:** Project Manager needs to complete the CFM Policy & Planning Guidelines (technical report and guidance sheet) and identify lead agency roles and responsibilities.
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