Building capacity for sustainable forest management in PNG – soils, water and biodiversity

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Overview of work to date

• Review of PNG logging code of practice consultants and PNG Forest Authority
• ‘Train the trainer’ course for forest planners (May 2014)
• Crawford training award to PNG Scientist, Muse Opiang for Technical guideline development
• Training courses in soil science and soil analysis for sustainable forest management and National Forest Inventory
Review of the Papua New Guinea Logging Code of Practice

LCOP ‘Purpose’

‘prescribe how forestry activities shall be conducted so that the community can continue to enjoy economic and social benefits from its forest whilst minimising the risk of adverse environmental impacts’
Train the Trainer Course 2014
FPA/Crawford internship

• Muse Opiang - Development of Technical Guidelines
Priorities from 2014 LCOP workshop

- Information on where to access latest topographic maps and the latest satellite images for planning purposes.
- A forester's guide to PNG's natural and cultural values.
- Technical notes and photographs of species of high conservation significance (plant and animal) so that planners can identify and report on them.
- Technical notes on tree hollows/cavities, species that depend on them, and hollow management.
- Technical guideline on management of streamside areas.
- Technical note on reducing the impact of log ponds on mangrove areas.
- Landowner guide/ awareness brochure.
- Simplified version of guidelines for forest workers in Tok Pisin.
- Guide to planning at the regional, local and setup level.
- Guide to compliance auditing.
- Assessment of soil erodibility in PNG forest soils.
- Assessing stable and potentially unstable landscapes in PNG.
- A forester's guide to PNG geology.
- Road construction - best practice guide.
- A guide to road drainage in hilly and steep terrain.
- Building stable road batters.
- Assessment of small streams for erosion risks.
- Identifying karst terrain.

1. Tok igo pas

Bikpela as tingting bilong Loging Code or lo bilong kisim timba long bus em bilong givim stia toktok na soim gutpela rot bilong katim diwai wantaem liklik bagarap long bus so ol manmeri iken hamamas long kisim moni na ol arapla helivim long bus na graun. Dispela lo em bihainim mama lo blong PNG, Forestru Act na Envaramen Act

Wanpela lo insait long loging Code itok aut long as tingting blo lukautim bus and tumbuna pasin em oseim:

Yumi mas bihainim gutpela rot na pasin long kisim diwai bilong timba na long dispel rot yumi ken lukautim olgeta samting insait long bus na graun nan a tu lukautim tumbuna pasin bilong yumi

Wanpela bikpela samting logging code I luksave em ol eria or bikpela diwai we em I nambwan tru long ol kainkain wel abus.

Bikpela diwai (namel size em 1 m o moa) na diwae igat hul em tupe lo namba wan samting ol wel abus bae
Proposed projects

• Additional ‘train the trainer course for natural and cultural values – New Britain

• Crawford/FPA training scholarship for PNG forest planners
Question:
How can the FPA contribute to making PNG commercial forestry sustainable?

Answer:
• Help PNG foresters develop better regulatory systems, including an improved Code of Practice.
• Train foresters in sustainable forest practices – Crawford/UN-REDD courses
Capacity gaps:
- Only one soil scientist in Forest Research Institute
- Limited soil survey coverage (CSIRO)
- No analytical facilities and limited equipment
- Poor access to internet and geological information
- Little expertise in land-use management

In November 2014 The Crawford Fund and UN-REDD combined resources to fund an FPA/University of Tasmania training course for 16 PNG foresters in soil science and geology
This field course was followed up by a more specialised FPA/UTAS course for three foresters in Tasmania, concentrating on soil description and measuring soil carbon.

This training has since been applied in soil surveys in Madang, Central and Morobe Provinces in PNG.

Landscape near Kokoda Track
The story so far:

• Training and capacity-building will continue to be needed for PNG foresters

• The current priority of the PNG Forest Authority is to complete the National Forest Inventory (NFI), funded by FAO/UN-REDD

• Measurement of carbon held in PNG’s forests is one of the aims of the NFI

• Over half the carbon in PNG’s forests is in the soil, so soil survey is essential

• The Crawford Fund is playing an important role in training foresters to accurately measure soil carbon and describe soils

• Soil survey not only assists NFI objectives, but will provide long-term information for land productivity (sustainable forestry and horticulture)

• Crawford Fund financial support works best when combined with funding from other sources
The future?

- More joint work with FAO/UN-REDD, concentrating on further training of future leaders in land management
- Pilot studies on community involvement and producing outputs tailored to the needs of local communities
Thank you for listening!

and many thanks to the Crawford Fund for being so supportive