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TAP's Comments and Fiji's Responses

Country: FIJI

Forest Carbon Partnership Facility 20th Carbon Fund Meeting
Washington DC
July 8 - 11, 2019



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Fiji's response and plan of action for outstanding issues

- Fiji appreciates World Bank, TAP, FMT & CFPs for their feedback and delivers its sincere thanks
- Feedback are incorporated in line with national policies and addressing WB requirements
- Committed to resolve most of the outstanding issues by Dec 2019



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Summary of TAP's comments

Summary score: 58 are scored as YES (meeting the indicator), 5 as NO, and 17 as NA or not applicable, of the 80 total indicators and sub-indicators.

	TAP Comments	1 st Assessment	2 nd Assessment	3 rd Assessment
II. Level of Ambition	YES	4	4	4
	NO	0	0	0
	N.A.	-	-	-
III. Carbon Accounting	YES	23	27	34
	NO	11	7	0
	N.A.	10	10	10
IV. Safeguards	YES	3	4	6
	NO	3	2	0
	N.A.	1	1	1
V. Sustainable Program Design and Implementation	YES	7	8	10
	NO	4	3	1
	N.A.	3	3	3
VI. ER Program Transactions	YES	3	4	4
	NO	5	4	4
	N.A.	3	3	3



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Outstanding issues

- Absence of Benefit-Sharing Plan
- Ability of the ER Program Entity to demonstrate its authority to enter into an ERPA with the Carbon Fund prior to the start of ERPA negotiations
- Ability of the ER Program Entity to demonstrate its ability to transfer to the Carbon Fund Title to ERs
- The need to have assessable public information contained in a national or centralized REDD+ Programs and Project Data Management System



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Outstanding issues

Ind 33.1 The design and implementation of the Benefit-Sharing Plan comply with relevant applicable laws, including national laws and any legally binding national obligations under relevant international laws

[Description of the legal context of the benefit-sharing arrangements 16.3]

NO

- **Benefits Sharing Mechanism selected**
 - Aligned to international legal framework and policy
 - UNFCCC
 - Paris Agreement
 - Warsaw Framework
 - Cancun Agreement Safeguards
 - Bali Action Plan
 - UNCBD
 - Aichi Target
- **Supported by existing local legal framework, strengthened by new Forest Bill**
- **Benefit Sharing Plan will be developed before signing of ERPA**

REDD+ Scheme

1. Entity leases land (TLTB/Land Bank - transfer carbon title to REDD+ License)
2. Entity obtains REDD+ licence from MoForestry
 - a) Forest conservation or restoration project
 - b) Sustainable Forest Management
 - c) Agroforestry/Sustainable Climate Smart Agriculture
 - d) Seed funding (FCPF)
 - e) Sells ER
3. ERs monitored by MoForestry for transmission to CCICD of MoEconomy under License
4. MoEconomy registers CCs/trades ERs under lease
5. % payments on results (proceeds of sale/CCs) as determined by FB, flow through CoF & TLTB to Entity (lessee)



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Outstanding issues



Ind 36.1 ER Program Entity demonstrates its authority to enter into an ERPA with Carbon Fund prior to the start of ERPA negotiations, either through:

- i. Reference to an existing legal and regulatory framework stipulating such authority; and/or
- ii. In the form of a letter from the relevant overarching governmental authority (e.g., the presidency, chancellery, etc.) or from the relevant governmental body authorized to confirm such authority.

NO

- M of Forestry committed to secure Cabinet Support for
 - Ministry of Economy to trade on behalf of landowners
 - Adopt mechanism of land lease and license to transfer and monitor ER credits
 - Include REDD+ lease condition a clause that allows TLTB/Land Bank to transfer ER to
 - MoForestry to verify under REDD+ License
 - MoForestry to report to CCICD of MoEconomy
 - MoEconomy to trade
- Letter of support from iTaukei Lands Trust Board to facilitate awareness, carbon title transfers and other necessary arrangements:



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Outstanding issues



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- i. Reference to an existing legal and regulatory framework stipulating such authority; and/or
- ii. In the form of a letter from the relevant overarching governmental authority (e.g., the presidency, chancellery, etc.) or from the relevant governmental body authorized to confirm such authority.

NO

- **New Forest Bill has provisions for ERP**
 - Registering and allowing trading of carbon titles under the ER-PA;
 - Issuing Emission Reduction Licenses to Carbon Title Holders to participate in ER activities, and comply with procedures under the ER-PA;
 - Empowering Min. of Forestry to enter lands where ER activities are being conducted to monitor for the ER-PA.
- **New Forest Bill currently in review to address additional issues**
 - Authority to enter into ERPA
 - Clear linkage between REDD+ leases and REDD+ license
 - Benefit sharing plan





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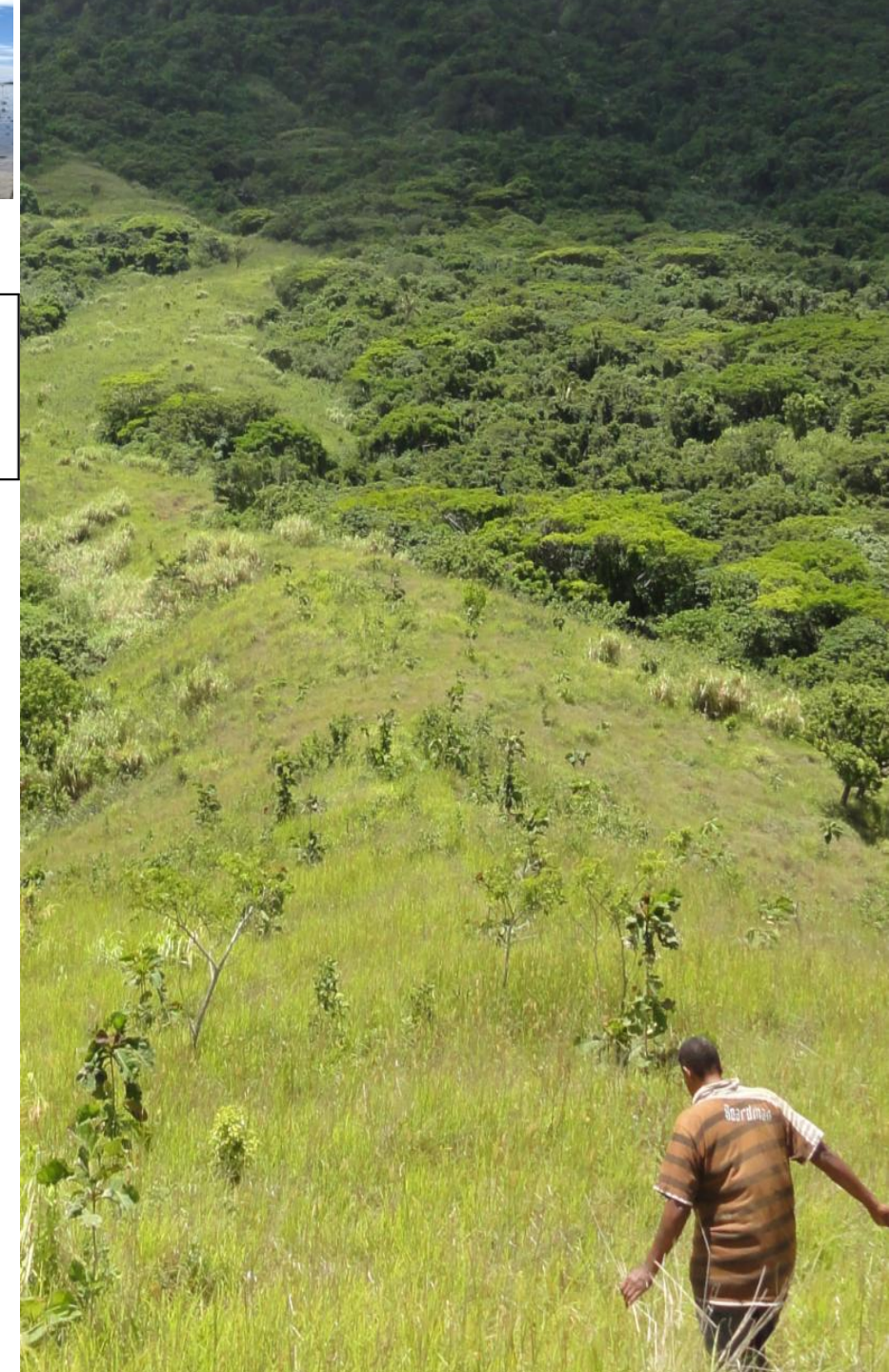
Outstanding issues



Ind 37.3 The information contained in a national or centralized REDD+ Programs and Projects Data Management System is available to the public via the internet in the national official language of the host country (other means may be considered as required).

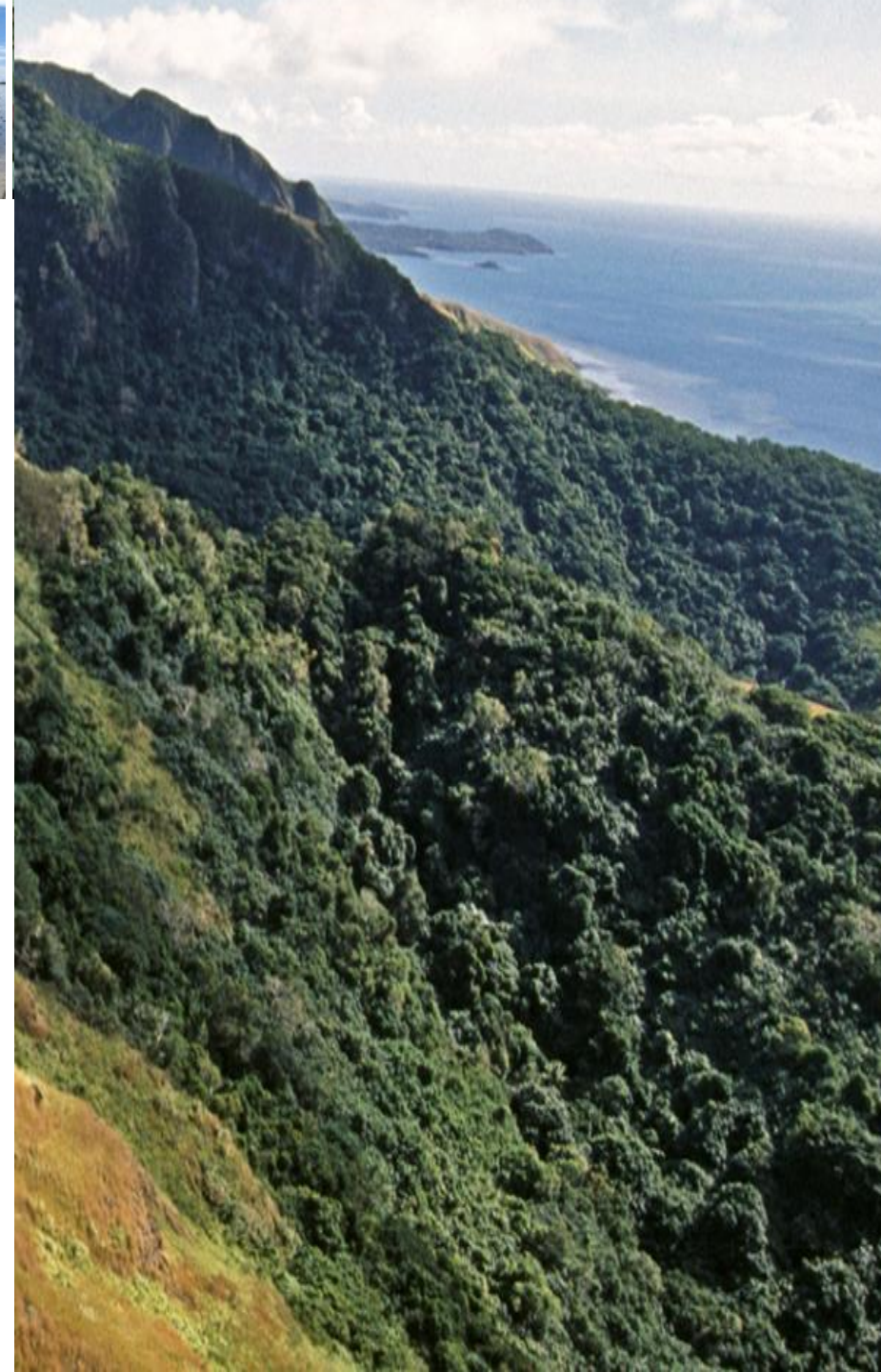
NO

- Data Management system exist under the Ministry of Forestry and accessible only to authorised members (web-based).
- Adopted stepwise approach to upgrade the database system
- Currently Fiji is working to make information system more advanced and web based
- Fiji will make available via internet before the end of Dec 2019





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Conclusion

- MoForestry is committed to:
 - Produce Benefit-Sharing Plan before ERPA signing
 - Show transparent and legal authority for the Ministry of Economy to enter into an ERPA with the Carbon Fund prior to the start of ERPA negotiations
 - Review the new Forest Bill to support:
 - Cross sectoral collaboration in alignment to existing policies and legal framework
 - Ability of the ER Program Entity to demonstrate its ability to transfer to the Carbon Fund Title to ER
 - Ability to support and implement benefit sharing plan which will be available before signing of ERPA

- MoForestry is committed to have assessible public information contained in a national or centralized REDD+ Programs and Project Data Management System