

The sample below illustrates the final product. If you wish to see the original Word document with edits in tracked changes, please email alice@crealitygroup.org.

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) PNG Lukautim Graun Program (LGP) aims to improve the conservation of biodiversity and equity among genders in priority terrestrial, marine, and freshwater ecosystems. *Lukautim graun* means “protect the environment” in Tok Pisin. The Program helps protect the country's rich biodiversity, which is increasingly threatened by industrial development, population growth, and other anthropogenic factors. LGP is a five-year project for approximately US\$22 million that supports the Government of Papua New Guinea (GoPNG) and its communities to reduce threats to biodiversity by strengthening the management of customary lands and waters that include key areas of terrestrial and marine biodiversity. In those same communities and areas, LGP also aims to increase women's economic empowerment (WEE) in the conservation sector, funded through the Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) Program and Initiative. LGP will be operating at the national, provincial, district, ward, and community levels from July 2019 to July 2024.

Cardno International Development implements LGP with a consortium of five lead partners: Care International (Care), REAL Social Impact (REAL), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), the Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program (TKCP) of the Woodland Park Zoo (WPZ), and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). LGP operates at the national, provincial, and local levels. The primary conservation geography includes a total of five provinces: the Bismarck Forest Corridor (BFC) and its provinces of the Chimbu, Eastern Highlands, and Jiwaka; the Province of Madang; and the Yopno-Uruwa-Som (YUS) Conservation Area in Morobe Province, which is defined by the watershed of its three main rivers: Yopno, Uruwa, and Som. The YUS Conservation Area will also serve as a “learning landscape” for the Program. Due to the nature of its program, REAL operates in the primary conservation geographies and across all other provinces where opportunities for micro, small, and medium enterprise (MSME) development exist for developing a new creative industries sector.

The Program envisions three key types of conservation and biodiversity outputs:

- Large areas of intact, healthy ecosystems in three different (but adjacent) landscapes that are better-managed to conserve biodiversity and environmental services for the people who rely on them
- Integrated (multi-sector), participatory, and adaptive management of natural resources based on science and an institutional framework that serves the needs and the people of Papua New Guinea (PNG)
- Strategic alliances supporting the stewardship and co-management of key ecosystems

The WEE component of LGP aims “to enhance the opportunity for women to participate in, contribute to, and benefit meaningfully and equitably from economic opportunities as

individuals, parents, workers, consumers, innovators, entrepreneurs, and investors.”¹ WEE interventions—conducted in the same sites and with the same communities that are working toward biodiversity conservation and land use management—strengthen WEE across the “value chain” of women in the economy: from female farmers in rural PNG, to female entrepreneurs developing new businesses, to women as employees in the formal sector. LGP will accomplish this value chain strengthening through a blended effort with its conservation components and partners (which also have a strong gender theme embedded in their work). The Program will form a platform for site teams, resources, relationships, and outreach to teach financial literacy to women’s groups and facilitate access to entrepreneurial training, mentoring, and private sector partners. In addition to focusing on alternative sustainable livelihoods in conservation areas through agricultural MSMEs, LGP will also scale up and strengthen existing initiatives in gender programming to enable its partners to expand their activities and reach more women across the country. The Program will take a family-centered approach and show high-visibility results that will enable national and international stakeholders to see and measure WEE in PNG.

For its WEE component, LGP envisions three key types of outputs:

- A large number of women and communities trained by Care on financial literacy and by REAL on entrepreneurship in all three geographic landscapes
- One or more national and sustainable natural-resource product line(s) with environmental and community branding
- Three non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the biodiversity conservation sector better able to design and deliver gender and sustainable livelihood programs

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

LGP will achieve its objectives by delivering assistance through several interventions, including (1) technical and management capacity-building through training sessions, mentoring, and grants, (2) education and advocacy campaigns to build knowledge and understanding, (3) partnerships and alliances for increased collaboration and leveraging of resources, and (4) data collection, systems, and usage practices for better decision-making. These incentive-based approaches target three key audiences: national and provincial governments (PGs), the private sector and civil society, and customary landowners.

Major interventions at the national level will include efforts to strengthen the policy framework by supporting the PNG Forest Authority (PNGFA) to undertake a review of the National Forestry Act and develop Forest Sector Sustainability Standards, support to the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) for the development and adoption of a new Protected Areas (PAs) Act and the development and adoption of a new Biodiversity Offset Policy (BOP), and support actions of the National Biodiversity Strategy through the support of and technical assistance to the National Coordination Committee. LGP will also support CEPA to develop an integrated information management system

¹ Donald J. Trump, “Presidential Memorandum on Promoting Women’s Global Development and Prosperity,” The White House, February 7, 2019, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-memorandum-promoting-womens-global-development-prosperity/>.

(IIMS) for operations and serve as an official knowledge platform for the status of conservation and environmental conditions and management in PNG.

Linking national and provincial efforts will be LGP support for civil society forums, dialogues, coordination committees, training, and task forces. These activities will roll up into LGP support for the creation of a “Civil Society Peak Body” that provides a consolidated voice for civil society advocacy at the national level and institutionalizes a new partnership between national and provincial environmental stakeholders. Linked to other provincial and site-based work, the Peak Body (name to be determined by lead civil society organizations [CSOs]) will lead advocacy to strengthen land tenure, institutionalize customary management, and address corruption and irregularities in the forest and mining sectors.

New national and provincial biodiversity technical steering committees (PBTSCs) are being formed to connect national biodiversity goals with PGs’ implementation plans and budgets. Links between national and PBTSCs are being formalized through Memoranda of Agreements (MOAs) between CEPA at the national level and PGs in each of the provinces to highlight biodiversity conservation. The MOAs are drafted in such a way as to enable national-provincial coordination on LGP implementation, implementation of projects under other development partners (for example, UNDP GEF 6), and other CEPA-provincial coordination needs. The biodiversity technical steering teams at both levels are inter-departmental, and LGP team members will serve as technical advisors to these bodies.

At the provincial level, LGP will use eco-system-based collaborative land use management planning tools, such as the development of the Ridges-to-Reefs (R2R) and Participatory Land Use Plans (PLUPs), and support to the PNGFA to complete Forest Inventories in LGP priority geography provinces and other high-priority provinces elsewhere in the country. The resulting PLUPs will highlight areas of highest biodiversity and ecological sensitivity by identifying and recommending actions to protect key habitats and species. Establishing pilot Provincial Resource Centers (PRCs), initially focused on conservation, women’s economic empowerment and livelihoods (VEEL), will help to institutionalize relationships between provincial actors and stakeholders and add capacities needed for sustained implementation after the end of LGP.

Major interventions also include strengthening and empowering the women in LGP activity areas by increasing women’s livelihood opportunities associated with natural resource management (NRM) decisions in their communities and increasing their opportunities to participate in conservation- or natural resource-related enterprises. Building from Care’s whole-of-family approach, LGP will support women to create family businesses that reduce the need to rely on exploiting natural resources from intact forests, such as timber and critical species. Women will be trained alongside men in engaged communities, as decisions by traditional landowners are made on community-based PAs through participatory land use planning, financial literacy, nutrition, and agriculture, and enterprise development. The latter will include training on providing technical assistance to produce or sell simple, daily use items (e.g., clothing or solar lamps), as well as developing market chains for production—whether from agriculture, artisan products, natural resources, or eco-branded products and services. In this case, the strategic approach (SA) also includes strengthening new and existing networks and organizations that support women in business and conservation. The

WEE component of LGP includes a small grants program for assistance to community groups.