



# ESTABLISHING A CONSERVATION DEED IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

## 14 Steps for Landowners



### Step 1

Seek community approval

Identify a community facilitator to obtain consent from village elders and community leaders to begin work. The community leaders must sign the FPIC form to give authorization.



### Step 2

Inform provincial and local-level government

The community, through its leaders and a representative from the facilitating conservation NGO, must inform the provincial and local-level government of its intention to conserve the land.



### Step 3

Conduct outreach, education, and awareness-building

The community facilitator and a representative from the conservation NGO conduct awareness-building with the communities on the roles ecosystems play and why it is important to conserve them. The process of setting up a conservation deed must be explained as well.



### Step 4

Conduct community mobilization and consensus

All landowners must agree that they are going to set aside a portion of their land for conservation. After the agreement is reached, a management committee is established to oversee this work.



### Step 5

Conduct a baseline documentation process

The management committee must now:

- Write down the names of the clans involved and their total population
- Identify and write down the names of plants and animal species, as well as cultural or historical sites to be protected
- Draw a rough ground map and then a detailed sketch map, making sure all landowners sharing the same land boundary agree to it



### Step 6

Set the management rules

Landowners make rules for protecting, managing, and harvesting wildlife within the conservation area. Ensure everyone in the community agrees with and accepts the rules.



### Step 7

Establish penalties for breaking the rules

Once the rules are established, the communities must decide what penalties should apply if these are broken and how to enforce them. E.g., if someone breaks a rule, they may be asked to pay a form of compensation or do community work. These rules must be recorded in writing.



### Step 8

Review the boundary map, rules, and penalties

A review of the boundary map, rules, and penalties must be done with the clan leaders to ensure it is what the community wanted and agreed to. Once accepted, all the documentation is sent to a lawyer for final review to ensure compliance with the village court act.



### Step 9

Develop a community-driven management plan

The community, with support from the conservation NGO, develops a management plan for the resource they want to protect. The plan must contain the rules and the penalties set by the community.



### Step 10

Prepare content of the conservation deed

The community facilitator and a representative from the conservation NGO sit down with the community at community meetings to prepare the content of the deed.



### Step 11

Draft the conservation deed

The conservation deed is drafted with the community in a community meeting.



### Step 12

Formalize and sign the deed

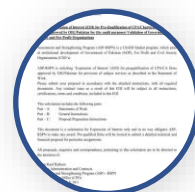
The deed is signed by the clan leaders and is witnessed by a representative from the provincial or local level government or by CEPA.



### Step 13

Monitoring and reporting on non-compliance

Ongoing monitoring and evaluation is key to biodiversity conservation, and it is one way communities can assess whether their efforts are working or not. Put in place a monitoring team (rangers), who must be people from the local communities, to provide surveillance, monitor any changes, and report back to the management committee.



### Step 14

Start the gazettal process

Conservation deeds are time-bound and only a temporal arrangement toward conservation efforts. Communities also have the option to work with the conservation NGO involved to submit a letter of interest with a proposal to CEPA to start the gazettal process – a permanent approach to conservation.

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#### To start the gazettal process, enquire at:

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