

MINISTRY OF FOREST AND RESEARCH





SOLOMON ISLANDS
GOVERNMENT

MINISTRY OF FOREST AND RESEARCH

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

**P.O Box G24, HONIARA
SOLOMON ISLANDS**

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GLOSSARY

- ACIAR** Australian Centre for International Agriculture Research
- AG** Attorney General
- DSP** Down Stream Processing Project
- FRMTS** Forest Resources Management and Technical Services
- FSC** Forest Stewardship Certificate
- GEF** Global Environment Facility
- ICTSU** Information Communication Technology Support Unit
- JICA** Japan International Cooperation Agency
- KOICA** Korea International Cooperation Agency
- LPO** Local Purchase Order
- MDPAC** Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination
- MECDM** Ministry of Environment, Conservation, Disaster Management and Meteorology
- MLH** Ministry Of Lands and Housing
- MOAL** Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock
- MOFR** Ministry of forestry and Research
- NGO** Non-Government Organisation
- NHBG** National Herbarium and Botanical Garden
- PHAMA** Pacific Horticulture Agriculture Marketing Authority
- PIFS** Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
- REDD+** Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation
- RIU** REDD+ Implementation Unit
- ROC** Republic of China
- RTC** Rural Training Centre
- SFM** Sustainable Forest Management
- SIG** Solomon Islands Government
- SWoCK** Strongim Waka lo Community fo Kaikai
- UNFCCC** United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- VATA** Value Added Timber Association
- WWF** Wildlife Fund for Nature

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Words of Acknowledgment are hereby extended to the following:

Hon. Minister of Forests and Research - Hon Heinz H Bodo Dettke, MP
The Permanent Secretary - Mr. Barnabas Anga
The Commissioner of Forest Resources - Mr. Reeves Moveni

For the Leadership, Supervision and Directions in terms of execution of Ministry Work Plans,
Programs and Administration and Statutory Functions

Under Secretaries, Deputy Commissioners, Directors, Human Resource Manager, and Financial
Controller as Head of Divisions that ensure Divisions and Sections are effective in discharging of
their respective functions and ensuring that expected outputs are fulfilled.

Forest officers, Forest Extension Officers and Workers

All line Ministries
Resource Owners
Industries Representatives
Funding Agencies
National, Regional and International Agencies

And all Stakeholders

We look forward to your continuous support and cooperation in the future as we pursue our
agreed Work Programs and Plans in our endeavors to lay strong policies and foundations for
forestry development as one of the core revenue earners for our future generations

Foreword by the Hon. Minister of Forests and Research

Greetings to you all!

As you are aware, the forestry sector will continue to be a cornerstone in our development forecasts as well as key support and assistance to our rural economies at least for the next decade.

With the steady reforms and political stability so far, we envisage that our partnership with the industry and other stakeholders will continue to grow and harness as we discuss future programs and initiatives that underscores a better future for our young generations and their generations.

In that connection, the Ministry of Forestry and Research is determined in ensuring that our set up is responsive given the nature of our responsibilities for more efficiency, provision of incentives, holistic approaches and strategies in order for us to deliver in a timely manner given our skilled and knowledgeable work force.

Furthermore, the management will continue to dialogue with other relevant Government Ministries and Agencies for a holistic and joint implementation of our Work Programs in our endeavors to strengthen our processes and protocols for better services to our people and clients. In the absence of such arrangements, there have been challenges to our monitoring and operational activities. For instance, monitoring of log shipments remains a challenge for our officers in the provinces as a consequence there was no thorough checks at the log ponds by forestry officials. As many of you are aware, it should be mandatory that all loading of logs will not proceed until forestry officials are available to conduct the necessary 100% or 10% checks.

We trust that this arrangement will better promote and coordinate Government initiatives in reforestation and timber processing programs.

With the increasing understanding with our development partners such as SPC and KOICA, we also look forward to venturing into programs that will capture future benefits for the country in terms of carbon trading as a revenue earner in the future.

In conclusion, I like to acknowledge the fine efforts and hard work of all my staff as well as the support from our stakeholders and partners during 2014 and look forward to our continual engagements in the future.

Hon. Heinz. H. Bodo Dettke (MP)
Minister

Commentaries by the Permanent Secretary

Let me take this opportunity to thank many of you and your organizations for your kind gestures and assistance towards the successful implementation of the Ministry Work Plans and Programs in the past including our 2014 Ministry Work Plans and Programs. This Report is a fine example of such cooperation as it portrays the strong linkages that exist between our offices. Similarly, as we map out the future Plans and Programs for this sector under the auspices of the Democratic Coalition for Change Government (DCCG), it is paramount and imperative that we stay connected and focused in our consultations and undertakings.

As highlighted in this Report, forest development is one of the key sub-sectors in this industry that impacts lives and sustainability of our rural population. Hence it is eminent that sound policies and regulations are in place as this rural population account for about eighty per cent of the Solomon Islands' population. So the reviews on reforestation, logging practices and to some extent the procedures and processes for accessing or obtaining a logging license in Solomon Islands as well as its terms and conditions is important.

The reviews of these policies are paramount and relevant for design and implementation of future Ministry Work Plans and Programs. These Plans and Programs are important tools for the management to monitor and assess any progress of such policies. Against that background it is important that these reviews be undertaken as soon as possible to pave the way for us to witness best logging practices in Solomon Islands, in our pursuit to sustain our natural resources for our future generations. Another important reform required in this sector relates to legislations and regulations that governs the operation and builds on the statutory obligations in the utilization of our natural resources.

2014 brings with it positive milestones as well as challenges. As we celebrate these achievements let us be mindful also of the options that are available to us as we build on these achievements. Conversely one should also acknowledge the challenges as these assists us provoke our thoughts and the perspectives of how we should respond to these challenges. Collectively I am confident that our combined skills and expertise will provide a better platform for the necessary reforms that will transform and translate real and equitable growth among our rural population.

As we explore and build on this notion, I urge all of us to embrace our responsibilities in our respective organizations. There is no better and rewarding time to be part of this journey than now. With your expertise and usual support we can make it.

Looking forward to your continuous and ongoing support, cooperation and investment in the forest sector for recognition of maximum benefits to our resource owners and partners.

Barnabas Anga
Permanent Secretary

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF FOREST RESOURCES**Statement – Role/Functions Office of the Commissioner of Forest Resources**

The Office of the Commissioner of Forest Resources is mandated to administer and execute the statutory functions and powers under the Forest Resources and Timber Utilization Act [Cap 40]. This is to ensure that proper legal process and technical evaluation is followed in the issuance and management of the forest harvesting licenses, prosecution of offences against the Act and proper implementation of measures to protect landowners' rights. Furthermore, the Commissioner of Forest Resources administers and executes the requirements of the Solomon Islands Code of Logging Practice to ensure sustainable and environmental sensitive logging activities are carried out.

The office of the Commissioner of Forest Resources also provides an overall management of the technical Divisions within the Ministry of Forest and Research in terms of strategic direction and organizational planning, staff management and discipline, financial control including development of annual budgets in consultation with the Permanent Secretary, care and maintenance of assets and consultation with the HRM overseeing the development and implementation of training and staff development programs for Division staff.

It also provide and efficient and productive interface between the technical bureaucracy of the Forests Division and the political framework of the Solomon Islands Government in particular provision of technical input to policy formulation and forestry legislation, technical advice to the Permanent Secretary and the Minister and ensuring the technical Division operates within the Government policy framework and interacts appropriately with other Government ministries, levels of government and regional bodies and organizations. Moreover, maintaining effective liaison communication and dialogue with timber industry representatives, non-Government organizations, customary landowners and other forestry stakeholders should allow for more participation to explore new opportunities.

Reeves Moveni
Commissioner of Forest Resources

CHAPTER 1 MINISTRY OF FOREST AND RESEARCH OVERVIEW

8.1 Background

Solomon Islands are a double chain archipelago in South-West Pacific located between longitude 155° and 170° and latitude 5° to 12° south. It consists of 990 islands with a total land area of 28,000 square kilometers. It is a tropical country with plenty of sunshine and a hot humid climate with high precipitation between 3,000 to 5,500 mm per annum. Temperature fluctuates around 24°C to 34°C, throughout the year. The population is approximately 500,000 and 85 % live in the rural areas.

Solomon Islands has a very rich vegetation cover (tropical rainforest) covering some 80% of the total land area and constitute to about two million hectares of which only 30% is considered to be commercial forests. It consists of six main vegetation types, namely (a) Grassland and other non-forest areas, (b) Saline Swamp forest, (c) Freshwater Swamp and Riverine forest, (d) Lowland rainforest, (e) Hill forests and (f) Montane forest.

These vegetation types has constituted about 5,000 of plant species some of which are found only in our forest, others have significant cultural, traditional, construction, artifacts and medicinal properties. There are also species that important to maintain natural forest state and resilience to adverse climatic extreme conditions. The forest, apart from providing wood and wood production, serve other important functions such as, wood for energy, non-wood forest products, recreation, watershed conservation, biodiversity conservation and the sequestration of Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

The Forests in Solomon Islands is owned by the people and has been associated with Land, traditions, customs and livelihood. People have depended on the forest for their livelihood and will continue to benefit livelihood in the future. The sad fact is the rapid deforestation and degradation due unsustainable logging, commercial agriculture and infrastructure development.

8.2 Importance of Forest Resources in Solomon Islands

Forests Resources is important to Solomon Islands. . People have depended on the forest for their livelihood and sustenance. Over the past decades, Solomon Island relied heavily on the harvesting of commercial timber trees for export and other forest development activities that resulted in degradation due to unsustainable logging, commercial agriculture and infrastructure development. The urgency remains, that a collaborative approach be established to implement appropriate policies and management framework to promote sustainable Forest Management initiatives, programs and activities.

The Forestry Sector is a key contributing sector in the country's development process. It contributes substantially to GDP growth, government revenue through export duty, and job creation, especially in the rural areas. Consequently, there is concern however about the current unsustainable timber harvesting through logging in the country and the likely adverse impact on the economy, if current trends continue unaddressed. Under the National Forest Policy, priority programs includes encouraging private existing investors to participate in implementing a comprehensive downstream processing strategy and plantation development and reforestation.

A comprehensive collaborative partnership between all stakeholders, indigenous Communities, National Government Agencies, Forest Industries, Civil Society Organizations, regional and international development partners is required for the best appropriate actions and practices to ensure sustainable maximum benefit to people, state and the environment.

8.3 Direction Focus

The Ministry of Forestry and Research under Government policy directives and strategy having high consideration and concern of the rapid exploitation of the timber extraction redirects focus and priority into development programs enhancing sustainability. Though progress and pace on the ground seems slow moving, high potential areas have been identified and incorporated into the corporate plan and development plans to fully addressed and implemented. These development programs and strategies aims to sustain the beneficial aspect of the forest to the economy, environment and the livelihood of many Solomon Islanders and resource owners and custodian of the forest. This can be fully achieve and accomplish through the process of Stakeholder Engagement and Forest Integration Management Approach.

The Ministry of Forest and Research identified four main development areas to be undertaken as follows:

- a. Sustainable plantation development strategy;
- b. Sustainable Forest Utilization and Downstream Processing Strategy;
- c. Forest Conservation Integration Management Strategy;
- d. Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building Strategy.

As a result of the urgency to adopt the above development strategic programs, the Ministry technical divisions have been reorganized to accommodate and implement the functions and activities. As In 2014, in 2015, the five major divisions were as follows:

The Forest Resource Management and Technical Services Division (FRMTSD)
 The Forest Industries Division (FID)
 The Forest Development and Reforestation Division (FDRD)
 The Timber Utilization and Processing Division (TUPD)
 The National Herbarium and Botanical Garden Division (NHBGD)

In the National Forest Integration Management approach, the reliance and dependency on round log export as the main development undertaking is no longer an issue as the pace is slowing down very quickly. The focus has shifted to value added products, non-timber products, environment conservation and management and reforestation on small holder basis. This is more appropriate to rural forest owners and has huge potentials to benefit all stakeholders. It is the new direction of the Forest Sector in the Solomon Islands within which windows of opportunities must be discovered.

8.4 Mandate and Values

Mandate:

- Legislative mandate is derived from the 'Forest Resources and Timber Utilization Act [cap 40].and Regulations
- Statutory Authority: North New Georgia Timber Corporation Act (1979).

Policy Statement:

The harvesting of forest resources at a sustainable rate with fair returns to landowners and the government and the replanting and care for the environment including promotion of all protected areas and to ensure Solomon Islands receive fair return on the export of round logs that reflect true international market value.

Our Vision

To become a highly respected forest agency with the professional competency to manage the forest resources of Solomon Islands in perpetuity

Our Mission

The Mission of the Ministry of Forestry and Research is to utilize, conserve and manage the forest resources for the continuing benefit to the environment and the people of Solomon Islands.

Our Goals

- a. Facilitate and promote sustainable management regimes of natural forest harvesting*
- b. Promote and Encourage industrial and smallholder plantation reforestation to ensure landowners and Solomon Islands Government receive maximum benefit from utilization of available resources.*
- c. Promote downstream processing for value added timber products and maximize revenue to resource owners.*

Our stakeholders

Local: National Government, Provincial governments, Forest Industries, Resource owners, Public;

International: SPC, UN Agencies, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWFN), Conservation International (CI), Global Environment Facility (GEF), JICA, KOICA, Australian AID through ACIAR, PHAMA, ROC.

CHAPTER 2 ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT

9.1 Ministry of Forests and Research Organizational Structure

The Permanent Secretary is accountable with an oversight responsibility for all ministry functions. He is supported by two undersecretaries for Administration and Technical matters. The biggest challenge ahead is making forestry issues work for the 21st century within a policy framework that fully captures the competing interests of stakeholders, international agencies, local land issues and environmental concerns. The benefits forests would make to support alleviation of poverty as a key UN mandate and the sector's contribution to sustaining the national economy requires professional capacity to push new approaches in addition to Reforestation and Down Stream processing.

For many observers, unsustainable logging over the years has caused much deforestation with widespread land (forest) degradation and therefore the new approach is not only to encourage sustainable harvesting through Downstream Processing but also encourage reforestation on small scale basis. These priorities will continue to require right skilled people, particularly at the provincial and local level where the resources are located.

The ministry must now move into re-prioritizing its workforce by right sizing in order to meet the new challenges. Our response to new opportunities such as REDD+ has been to establish a new position with the FRMTS division and budgetary support for preparatory work in the provinces. On the general work force register, a whole approach to restructuring would be able to determine the right level of human resources against the new priorities. The current structure is characterized by inefficiency from the top to the lowest level as the lines of responsibility are sometimes not compatible and the existence of huge gaps between the supervisory roles and their subordinates which offer little or no incentives in terms of career advancement. While it has been argued that low turnover from implementation has been due to insufficient staff, it could also be countered that a well- defined structure with less staff with the right skills, experience and qualifications is capable of delivering according to expectations.

In the longer term, it is expected that policies, legislation and institutions are aligned to promote objectives and by that, sufficient resources are available to make it happen. Human Resources for the 21st century must be well equipped to move into more sophisticated forest activities, which encompass a wider sector approach.

9.2 Work Force

The current work force register is summarized by gender below.

Table 1. Composition by gender as at 31st December 2014 (filled and vacant positions)

| Division | Total Number | Male Number | Female Number | Vacant Number |
|--|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| HQ & Administration | 20 | 12 | 6 | 2 |
| Commissioner of Forest Resources | 2 | 1 | 1 | |
| Forest Management & Technical Services (FRMTS) | 16 | 11 | 4 | 1 |
| National Herbarium & Botanical Gardens (NHBG) | 9 | 5 | 4 | |
| Forest Industries | 46 | 34 | 6 | 6 |
| Utilization | 9 | 6 | 3 | |
| Forest Development and Reforestation (FDRD) | 60 | 45 | 9 | 6 |
| Permanent Posts | 162 | 114 | 33 | 15 |
| Non-permanent posts | 11 | 9 | 2 | |
| Grand Total | 173 | 123 | 35 | 15 |

9.3.1 Work force register

Table 2. Compositions by Divisions (Filled positions only)

| Division | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| HQ Corporate Services | 12 | 6 | 18 |
| Commissioner of Forests Office | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Forest Industries | 34 | 6 | 40 |
| Utilization | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| FRMTS | 11 | 4 | 15 |
| NHBG | 5 | 4 | 9 |
| FDRD | 45 | 9 | 54 |
| Total Permanent | 114 | 33 | 147 |
| Total Non-permanent | 9 | 2 | 11 |
| Grand Total | 123 | 35 | 158 |

9.4 Administration Section

9.4.1. Introduction

This report intends to record work programs and activities that the HR and Administration Office had undertaken in 2014. The report is based on the HR and Administration 2014 Annual Work. The report will form part of the overall Support Service Report.

MOFR Support Services comprises three units; Human Resources unit headed by a Human Resources Manager, Finance unit headed by a Financial Controller, and a newly created Information Technology unit (IT) to become responsible for an ever-increasing demand for IT equipment, systems and Internet access.

These units are answerable to the Undersecretary (Administration) who reports directly to the Permanent Secretary.

9.4.2 Divisional Goals

The goals of the division are to provide an effective support service to the technical divisions on conditions of service including a wide range of human resource management issues; financial advice, budget, quarterly financial reports, logistics, upkeep of ministry accounts, office maintenance/repairs, transportation, and IT support. These services are directed towards an efficient, effective and consistent service delivery by all divisions of the ministry in keeping with government policy. Specifically, our goals are:

- Provide HR support to the ministry (training, accommodation, payroll, leave, counseling, workforce planning, promotion and confirmation, performance management processes, discipline, retirement etc.)
- Apply General Orders (GO) and Financial Instructions (FI) as may be appropriate.
- Administer systems and procedures of the government and MPS in the ministry.
- Clean, maintain and upkeep of office lawns and grounds.
- Ensure transport is available for morning and after hours pick up of staff.
- Provide monthly financial reports and advice on emerging financial issues to the Permanent Secretary and the management team.
- Develop Expenditure and Procurement Plan.
- Provide IT services for the ministry
- Provide support to the office of the Permanent Secretary, Commissioner of Forests and the Hon. Minister when required.
- Collaborate with government ministries, agencies and the public
- Lead ceremonial duties and functions of the ministry
- Coordinate and administer ministry projects where appropriate.

9.4.3. Ministry Organizational Structure

The Ministry consists of six divisions namely:

- The Forest Resources Management and Technical Services Division (FRMTS)
- The Forest Industries Division (FID)
- The Forest Plantation Development and Reforestation Division (FPDRD)
- The Timber Utilization and Processing Division (TUPD)
- The National Herbarium and Botanical Garden Division (NHBGD)
- The Corporate Service

The Overall Organizational structure can be found in **Annex A**

9.4.4 2014 Activities and Achievements

Table 3. Staff Accommodation-PSRC

| HOUSING OPTION | NUMBER OF OFFICER |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Public Rental Scheme | 80 officer |
| 2. Ministry Housing Quarters | 30 |
| 3. Private Quarters | 48 |

Staff accommodation in 2014 was either through the popular Public Service Rental Scheme (PSRS) or under the ministry owned quarters. Others that were not accommodated under either of those two options have resided in their private quarters. Out of the 173 staffing in 2014, accommodation is summarized as follows:

2 Office Maintenance and staff house maintenance

The need for maintenance of the current office building was received last year in particular the Planning and Policy division's office, the Commissioner's Office and the roof of the Support Service Extension. There was also request for maintenance of one staff house that is currently occupied by two staff in Honiara. There was no budget for maintenance last year hence no maintenance was undertaken. Hopefully, the activities will implement this year 2015.

3 Staff Training-Short Terms/Long Term

The ministry is yet to formalize its Staff Development Plan. However as far as training is concern for the ministry for last year, training was undertaken both on short-term trainings and long-term training.

In terms of short trainings, a good number of officer from our ministry have attended IPAM annual courses. A few attended USP courses.

For long-term trainings, two officers had completed long term training last year and are ready to join the ministry in 2015.

In-house training were also conducted last year basically on the new MPS processes such as the Performance Management Procedure and the Attendance procedure

4 Vacancies and Recruitment

In 2014 the ministry had 15 vacant positions to be filled. The vacancies were put out for advertisement last year around September. Appointments for these positions are yet to be finalized.

5 Confirmation and Promotions

There was no promotion for 2014 as a huge promotion exercise was made in 2013. The division only undertook 5 confirmations of trial promotions.

6 Discipline

Two discipline cases were dealt with in 2014. One was concluded and had resulted in the reinstatement of the officer concerned and the other case is still in progress.

7 Transport and Cleaning Service

Transport Service and Cleaning of both the office inside and outside continued to be facilitated to the ministry in 2014 by the Unit.

8 Challenges faced by the Administration Section

The Section wishes to acknowledge the cooperation and support rendered by all the ministry staff towards the successful implementation of its activities in 2014. The Unit and the whole Corporate Service are also acknowledged herein of the hard work in ensuring that the planned work of the unit was implemented.

Despite facing challenges with resources to implement some of the activities and to fully implement the General Order on the ministry, the unit is grateful and appreciative of the level of relationship that it had created with all the staff of the ministry in 2014

From such relationship, the unit is hopeful and positive of getting the ministry to understand and use the Orders to reach the level of behavior expected from a Public Officer working in a Public Office in 2015.

9.5 2014 Financial Statement

The following tables provide a summary of both the recurrent and development budgets for the ministry in 2014

Table 4. 2014 Recurrent Budget

| Account Code | Description | Estimate 2014 (revised) | Actual Expenditure |
|--|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Head Quarter & Admin | | | |
| 280-0002 | Payroll Total | 1,685,108 | 2,131,293 |
| | Other Charges Total | 7,983,666 | 6,900,714 |
| | Total | 9,668,774 | 9,032,007 |
| Utilization Unit | | | |
| 280-0266 | Payroll Total | | |
| | Other Charges Total | 545,825 | 498,434 |
| | Total | 545,825 | 498,434 |
| Plantation Dev. & Reforestation | | | |
| 280-0267 | Payroll Total | 2,988,394 | 2,386,375 |
| | Other Charges Total | 3,570,919 | 2,922,688 |
| | Total | 6,559,313 | 5,309,063 |
| National Herbarium & Botanical Garden | | | |
| 280-0268 | Payroll Total | 596,793 | 501,352 |
| | Other Charges Total | 862,741 | 679,840 |
| | Total | 1,402,463 | 1,181,192 |
| Forestry Technical & Mgmt. Services | | | |
| 280-0269 | Payroll Total | 596,793 | 421,588 |
| | Other Charges Total | 673,604 | 435,724 |
| | Total | 1,270,396 | 857,312 |
| Forestry Services | | | |
| 280-0270 | Payroll Total | 3,164,178 | 2,658,089 |
| | Other Charges Total | 3,183,709 | 2,404,402 |
| | Total | 6,347,887 | 5,062,491 |
| TOTALS | Payroll Total | 8,974,195 | 8,098,696 |
| | Other Charges Total | 16,820,463 | 13,841,802 |
| | Grand Total | 25,794,658 | 21,940,498 |

Table 5. 2014 Development Budget

| Division Account Code | Description | Estimate 2013 (revised) | Actual Expenditure |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 280-0270-0000-0227 | Timber Operation Application Fees | 2,495,971 | 2,834,250 |
| 280-0270-0000-0256 | Sawmill Operations | 214,384 | 23,700 |
| 280-0270-0000-0036 | Sale of Publications | 357 | 10,000 |
| | GRAND TOTAL | 2,710,712 | 2,867,950 |

| Account Code | Description | Original Development Budget | Development Budget (Revised) | YTD Actual |
|--------------------|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 480-0002-4015-5600 | National Herbarium Research Laboratory Project | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 441,917 |
| 480-0002-4144-5600 | Downstream Processing Program | 3,350,000 | 3,350,000 | 2,560,838 |
| | | | | |
| 480-0002-4546-5600 | National Forest Resources Development Project | 4,020,000 | 4,020,000 | 2,606,769 |
| 480-0002-4911-5600 | National Herbarium & Botanical Garden Fencing | 2,000,000 | 2,000,000 | 110,000 |
| 480-0002-4912-5600 | National Forest Biomass Survey Project | 1,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 585,048 |
| | Grand Total | 30,900,000 | 10,370,000 | 10,370,000 |

Table 6. 2014 Revenue Budget**9.6 Accounts Section****a) Introduction**

The Accounts Division provides a supporting role to the core functions of the Ministry in terms of facilitating payments and producing financial reports on the Ministry's budget.

With an estimated Budget of \$25.794m as reflected in the above tables in 2014, the Ministry was able to implement some of its programs and deliver its services to the general public in line with the Government Policies.

The division is headed by a Financial Controller with only two subordinate staff, one Senior Accountant and an Assistant Accountant. Experience has shown that the wide range of activities and programs of the ministry bears a heavy workload, which cannot be fulfilled by current staff without being overworked. An additional staff would complement and be a relief to the current situation.

b) **Activities****Table 7. Activities and Achievements in 2014**

| Activity | Ref to Corporate Plan | Ref to Budget | Achievements | Remarks |
|---|-----------------------|---------------|--|---|
| Process of Payments and Special Imprests | | | The Ministry did raise 538 Payments and requisition of LPOs together and 115 Special imprests. | Process of payments can be hindered by delay by MoFT in actually paying out those payments. |
| Maintain proper financial record | | | All Copies of PVs, LPOs and other financial documents were properly filed. | Large office space need for file storage. |
| Record management | | | All equipment and other asset purchased were recorded in the Asset Register. | This includes register of imprests warrants, Imprest AV , Schedules of PVs |
| Produce Monthly financial reports | | | Monthly reports were for HODs. | |

c) **Analysis**

Based on the above activities, and the fact that the processing of payments involves a time consuming operation in order to comply with Financial Instructions, e.g. to process one payment voucher may take between 5 to 20 minutes before it is ready for submission to Treasury Division for actual paying, the following conclusions can be drawn:

- The proper filing copies of PVs and their management is being done on an ad-hoc basis as no one has been assigned to carry out the task.
- The registering of physical assets has not been done properly, although attempts have been made to ensure that all physical assets purchased are properly recorded and maintained.
- The timely production of monthly financial reports have been hindered by rather slow pace by responsible Staff in Treasury (FFMS) to provide timely information for GL and FA on both the Recurrent and Development Budgets for purposes of reconciling the financial transactions made with the Ministry's Commitment cards.
- The proper assignment of responsibilities between the 3 staff can go a long way in reducing the time spent in the processing of payments per day. For instance, part of the responsibility of the Assistant Accountant would be to process PVs, make follow-ups at Treasury and the registering of equipment/assets and the filing away of copies of PVs, Special Imprests etc. The Senior

Accountant to be responsible for Bank Reconciliation, the checking & retirement of Standing Imprests and report monthly.

d) Suggestion for improvement

- Need to have a vehicle for the Accounts to fast track PVs at Treasury
- Need to have additional staff to cater for workload
- Need to have a larger Office space for the Accounts Division

9.7 Information and Communication Technology Services

Achievements in 2014

1. Joining SIG WAN (Wide Area Network) so-called SIG-Connect
2. Creating of MOFR Official Email
3. Sharing of Network printers for some divisions within the MOFR
4. Transferring of all MOFR Files to SIG Centralization file-server
5. National Herbarium and Botanical Garden Database
MOFR and ICTSU need to re-advertise the tender for the Database development.
6. MOFR Website proposal.

See **Annexe B** for list of IT equipment procured in 2014.

Chapter 3 FOREST RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

10.0 Introduction

The Approved Structure for 2014 establishment for Ministry of Forests and Research is divided and headed by four (4) Deputy Commissioners. The Forest Resource Management, Technical Services and Licensing Division (FRMTL) are an integral Division under the Ministry of Forestry and Research and are one of the five (5) Divisions and is headed by a Deputy Forest Commissioner.

This Division is responsible for the Planning and Management of the forest resource through the execution of certain delegated responsibilities under the National Forest regulations. The coverage of responsibilities under the Forest Resource Management, Technical Services and Licensing Division is divided into three (3) specific sections with key areas. These are the Policy Planning and Technical Services Section, Enforcement Section and the Licensing Section.

The Division is mandated to achieve the Policy Strategies of the Government within the delegated responsibility and competency to manage the forest resources of Solomon Islands in perpetuity by ensuring that future generations of Solomon Islands continue to receive maximum advantage with higher returns from their resource.

The Division's role is important in ensuring sustainable management of the forest resources are in equilibrium for provision of Services and also to ensure that beneficiaries are appropriately rewarded. The division's roles involve the planning and policy section, which is responsible for the inventory data records, mapping, application assessments, and coordination of local and international forestry data. The Licensing section is responsible for licensing records application and processing. The Enforcement section, which is tasked with the research and preparation of, requested documents for legal representation for the commissioner and ministry in general.

10.1 POLICY PLANNING AND TECHNICAL SERVICES SECTION

The Policy Planning is a section under the Forest Resource Management and Technical Services Division. It is mandated to achieve the following core programs and strategies under the Ministry of Forestry and Research. Some of the programs are cross cutting therefore involves other line Ministries.

- Improve regulation, monitoring and enforcement within the forest sector by conducting multi-stakeholder consultation on proposed forestry legislation, undertaking assessment of the value of standing forest, strengthening the application of the development consent process in forests areas, strengthening the management of information on licenses, as well as improving downstream processing and market access for timber through training on timber processing, establishing an internationally recognized timber legality system and strengthening landowner led timber milling.
- Strengthen the existing reforestation and plantation development programme by strengthening incentive mechanisms for reforestation and plantation development by landowners
- Establishment of Forest Reserves to conserve watersheds by developing a framework for the establishment and management of forest reserves that can be included within legislation and building the capacity of MoFR, MoAL, and MECDM staff to establish them.

10.1.1 The Reduced Emissions from Forest Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) Program

REDD+ Implementation Unit

The Policy and Planning Section have taken early steps to engage a new program known as REDD+ at the national, regional and international level. This program is an initiative towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Solomon Islands is a signatory to the UNFCCC and the Regional Pacific REDD+ Policy Framework and key ministries have included REDD+ activities within their annual work plans. The Solomon Islands have also received support from the UN-REDD programme to undertake initial planning activities for REDD+.

The Solomon Islands needs to develop capacity in three main areas to become ready for REDD+ mechanism.

- *Policies and programs* – that promotes REDD+ activities and provides the key guidance for government, landowner, NGO, community groups and private sector action.
- *A Framework of REDD+ Safeguards* – a number of safeguards have been identified under the Cancun Accord, and information must be provided on how these are being addressed.
- *An approach to Measuring Verifiable Emission reductions* – a mechanism on REDD+ is based on delivery of verified emission reductions capacity needs to be built to be able to measure and report on emissions levels from the forest sector.

As part of this mechanism the country will also develop approaches to sharing benefits from a REDD+ mechanism, increasing levels of awareness of REDD+, and ensuring that different stakeholders are consulted on REDD+ development and are able to participate fully in the process. It is anticipated that establishing this capacity within the Solomon Islands will take a number of years, with implementation occurring through a phased approach starting with piloting of different approaches to REDD+ at pilot sites.

Vision:

Establish a sustainably managed forest sector that supports rural livelihoods, maintains the quality of the environment, contributes to the socio-economic development of the nation and through reducing levels of emissions from the forest sector contributes towards global actions to mitigate climate change.

Objectives

In order to achieve this vision a number of objectives have been identified that will contribute to its success. These are:

- To increase understanding of the different values of forests within environmental decision making;
- To reduce the vulnerability of rural communities through effective management of their natural resources.
- To reduce GHG emissions from the forest sector;
- To maximize the benefits of REDD+ for the people of the Solomon Islands by ensuring the sustainable management of their resources and promotion of their rights to those natural resources;

The implementation of REDD+ Implementation Unit within the Planning and Policy Section is a new Initiative Office set up. This Unit will involve cross-cutting programs and activities. REDD+ is a multi-stakeholder institutional management arrangement, with a National REDD+ Committee. This committee provides the central point for REDD+ readiness programs.

This is supported by two operational units within the MoFR – the REDD+ Implementation Unit, and the REDD+ Focal Point with the Ministry of Environment and Conservation, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM).

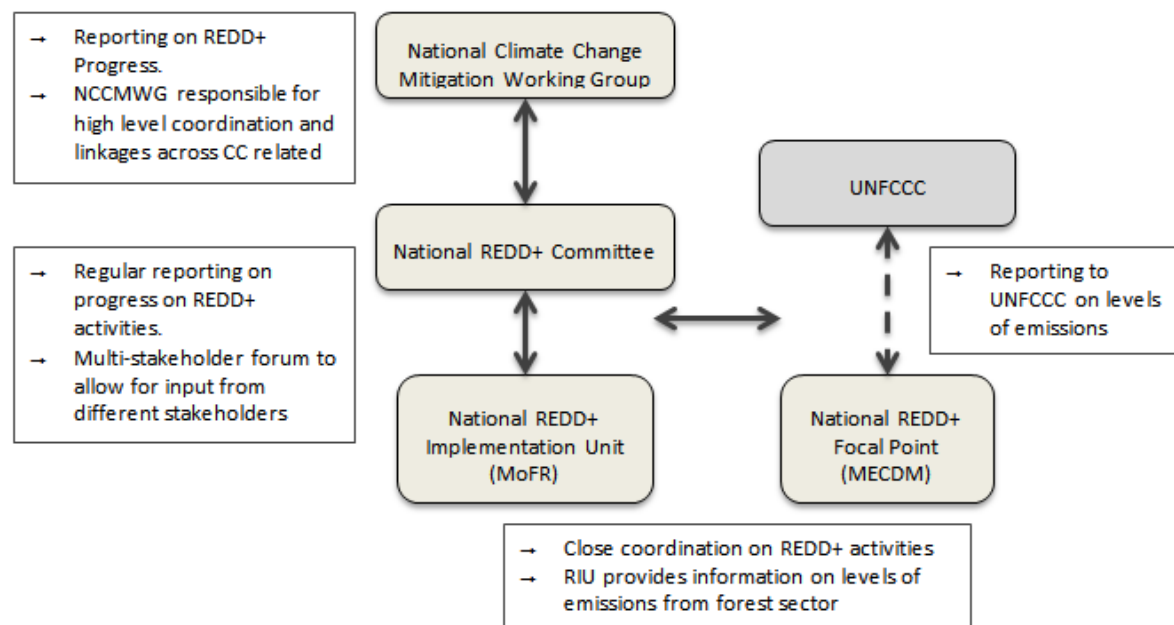


Figure 1. REDD+ Management Arrangement

REDD+ Roadmap

With support from the UN-REDD Programme, the Government of the Solomon Islands developed a national REDD+ Readiness Roadmap in the period June 2012-March 2014. The Solomon Islands REDD+ Roadmap has seven main sections outlining activities that will guide the Government towards full readiness for REDD+:

1. Integrating REDD+ into Existing Policies and Programmes;
2. REDD+ Safeguards;
3. Stakeholder Engagement;
4. Benefit Sharing Mechanisms;
5. National Forest Monitoring System;
6. Forest Reference Emission Levels and Forest Reference Levels;
7. Piloting of REDD+ Activities

However, the Roadmap will be a joint submission by the MoFR, MECDM, MAL and MLHS and supposed to be submitted to the cabinet for endorsement but not yet and hopefully the new government with our new Honorable Minister will take up this roadmap for endorsement in any parliament sittings as early as possible.

REDD+ Activities

The five specific activities that can be undertaken within this framework include;

- a) Reducing emissions from deforestation;
- b) Reducing emissions from forest degradation;
- c) Conservation of forest carbon stocks;
- d) Sustainable management of forests, and;
- e) Enhancement of forest carbon stocks.

REDD+ Field Visits

REDD+ implementation Unit (RIU) conduct few awareness workshop on the REDD+ mechanism mainly in Makira Ulawa province and also with a joint team with SWoCK project under UNDP's Food security Programme (Community Base Land Use Planning Policy). Among these sessions was the REDD+ mechanism awareness since REDD+ was related to Poor Land Use activities which contributes to deforestation and degradation.

(a) REDD+ Provincial Tour (Makira Ulawa Province)

Date: 21st April – 2nd May 2014

- Organize REDD+ Provincial Workshop on the National REDD+ Roadmap and REDD+ Guidelines

(b) REDD+ Presentation on Carbon emission for Boeboe (Choiseul Province)

Date of Travel: 19th – 22nd, June 2014.

(c.) REDD+ Provincial Tour- Mangrove Ecosystem –East Makira and Makira Province

Climate Change Steering Committee Consultation

DATE: 29th June – 5th July 2014

(d) SWOCK Project (Community Base Land Use Planning Policy)

2 officers REDD+ Unit and UNDP SWOCK project Team doing Community Based Land Use Planning awareness to five provinces; Makira, Isabel, Choiseul, Guadalcanal and Malaita.

Office Space and Manpower

The REDD+ Implementation Unit (RIU) was under the FRMTS division within the Planning section. There was an issue on office space as the office needs urgent maintenance and renovation. The REDD+ implementation unit (RIU) have only one full time staff to manage the daily activities of the unit and implementing the work program. However, it has to rely on with the help of other planning section staff members. Additional full time assistant is much needed in order to fully manage the daily activities of the RIU.

Challenges/Issues

The challenges faced by the RIU were mainly on office space with proper furniture like office desks and chairs etc. and also an assistant to assist the REDD+ Officer with office duties and other delegated tasks etc. Furthermore, slow processing of division Imprest to implement activities in the field also affects the RIU in carrying out the activities as scheduled on the work plan. Also unstable power supply with Internet connection also affects the daily activities of the office.

Furthermore, proper GIS and remote sensing software like ArcGIS is much needed to properly do mapping especially analysis and modeling tasks.

The REDD+ Implementation Unit was established as of 2014 mainly for implementing the activities identified in the Roadmap and to work closely with (MECDM) and other stakeholders and rural communities.

The year 2014 had been a challenging year for RIU as a new unit which just been setup by the Ministry of Forestry & Research with the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Disaster Management (MECDM) and housed within the Planning section of the FRMTS division. With only one staff to look after the office, there were a lot of challenges and office space and additional full time staff was much needed.

10.1.2 Strategies and Existing Policies and Programmes

Establishing a mechanism to drive the policy strategies can support the Solomon Islands to deliver existing policy objectives and strengthen environmental sustainability within the forest sector.

The Government of the Solomon Islands have policies and programmes in place that can have the different elements that can be mainstreamed to deliver and provide multiple benefits.

10.1.3 Workshops Attended

A number of national and international workshops were attended by the Policy Planning and REDD+ Implementation Unit in 2014.

Table 8. UNREDD+ Workshops attended by officers in 2014

| Date | Type of workshop | Venue | Representative Ministry | Duration |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------------|----------|
| 12 – 23 May 2014 | 7th Executive Forest Policy Course. | Nadi, Fiji | DCOF/FRMTSD and US/A | 2 weeks |
| 13-14 October 2014 (Bangkok) | UN-REDD Regional Consultation Workshop on the Strategic Framework 2016-2020 | Thailand (Bankok) | DCOF/FRMTSD | 2 days |
| 20 – 22 October 2014 | 5th UN-REDD Regional Lessons Learned Workshop | Vietnam (Hanoi) | PF/REDD+ | 4 days |

10.1.4 Capacity Trainings

This year 2014, there were 3 capacity building trainings under Regional Targeted Support, facilitated by SPC and UNREDD programme mainly on National Forest Inventory (NFI). However, other capacity trainings like GPS, Database, RS, Data Analysis, GIS- ArcGIS etc. were much needed and should be considered next year 2015 and are very important towards REDD+ mechanism in the Solomon Islands.

Table 9. Capacity Trainings attended by officers in 2014

| Date | Type of Training | Provider | Place of Training |
|---|------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| 18 th – 29 th August 2014 | National Forest Inventory training | SPC/UNREDD | Labasa – Fiji Islands |
| 7 th -10 th October 2014 | NFI Sampling Design (Backstopping) | SPC/UNREDD | Honiara –Solomon Islands |
| 3 th -14 th November 2014 | National Forest Inventory Training | SPC/UNREDD | Kirakira – Solomon Islands |

10.1.5 LANDUSE AND LAND USE CHANGE CLASSIFICATION – Makira province for NFI training

During the backstopping workshop held at Honiara Hotel on October 25 to 30 2014, participants were introduced with NFI in the context of REDD+ with new innovative tools used to do stratification with high resolution imageries were available through these new programs (software). The facilitator, Dr. Andrew Haywood introduced the participants with a new tool called “Collect Earth” with Google earth. These two tools works together to allow you to visual high resolution satellite imageries (Landsat and Bing images) and start stratify the grid points according to use classes;

STRATIFICATION OF GRID POINTS – Makira NFI training

With little knowledge on using the collect earth programme, 3 officers from the Planning division of the Ministry started the stratification of the grid points for Makira Province since; these points will be used during the next workshop training for Makira on the month of November 2014. It took a week including weekends to stratify all the 1,229 grid points for Makira. However, these grid points were just sampling points meant for the workshop and training purposes since we were using a collect earth programme designed for Fiji Islands Land use classification context.

A new Collect Earth programme for Solomon Islands will be design by Collect earth programme developers according to our context (Land Use Classes etc.) to use according to in the near future.

10.2 LICENSING SECTION

10.2.1 Introduction

Licensing Unit comes under the Forest Management and Technical Services Division within the Ministry of Forest and Research. Licensing Unit Officer reports to the Deputy Commissioner (FMTS). The Licensing Unit is manned by 5 Officers and is headed by the Chief Forester (Licensing)

10.2.2 Core Functions

The Licensing Unit assists the Office of the Commissioner of Forest to process felling and milling license. Licensing Officers are also expected to attend timber right hearings, witness execution of Standard Logging Agreement and keep records of non-taxable revenue (License fees, anniversary fees & Form 1 fees) that the Ministry is collecting. Other tasks are performed as and when directed by the Commissioner of Forest. These includes assisting Provinces to collect their due Provincial Business license fees or touring provinces to conduct timber right awareness and license surveillance in the field

Table 10. Summary Table of Comparison of Form 1 Received & Endorsed in 2014

| Location | Form 1 Received | Endorsed Form 1 | Rejected Form 1 | Remark (s) |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| Malaita | 7 | 3 | 4 | |
| Western | 13 | 7 | 6 | |
| Choiseul | 15 | 14 | 1 | |
| Isabel | 5 | 3 | 2 | |
| Guadalcanal | 1 | 2 | 0 | One F1 application received in Aug.2013 but endorsed in 2014, therefore two Form1 endorsed in 2014 |
| Makira | 2 | 1 | 2 | One F1 application received in Dec. 2013 and endorsed in 2014 |
| Central | 4 | 2 | 2 | |
| Temotu | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Renbel | 3 | 1 | 2 | |
| Total | 50 | 33 | 19 | Total no of F1 is 50 , only 33 is endorsed and 19 is rejected by COF due to the same area already covered under an existing current felling License or over lapped with current endorsed F1 application. |

Total Form 1 submitted is 50 and 66 % (33) are endorsed to the various provinces and 34 % (19) submissions are rejected due to technical reasons such as over lapping with a valid license concession area covered by a valid felling license and so on. Refer to **Annex C** for details.

Comparing with 2012 & 2013, we receive less Form 1 submission in 2014 for the same period. This also shows scarcity of available loggable area. The submission of Form 1 application will continue to decline until the remaining accessible areas are either covered by a felling or milling license

Table 11. Table of Comparison of Form 1 & Milling application Rec. from 2nd Jan- 31st Dec .2014

| Location | No of Rec. Form 1 | Milling application received |
|-------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Malaita | 7 | 30 |
| Western | 13 | 30 |
| Choiseul | 15 | 20 |
| Isabel | 5 | 29 |
| Guadalcanal | 1 | 15 |
| Makira | 2 | 19 |
| Central | 4 | 12 |
| Temotu | 0 | 15 |
| Renbel | 3 | 10 |
| Total | 50 | 180 |

Generally, it is noted that more milling applications are received per province than Form 1 submissions. However, only a small portion of the total concessions is covered by milling license compared to the large concessions areas of lands under felling licenses. Refer to **Annex D** for other details.

Table 12. Felling and Milling Issued Vs Felling and Milling License renew from 1st Jan- 31st Dec .2014

| Location | No. of Felling Licenses. Issued | No of Milling Licenses. Issued | No of Felling licenses. Extend their term | Renewed Milling licenses |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Malaita | 4 | 15 | 3 | 17 |
| Western | 18 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Choiseul | 8 | 7 | 3 | 18 |
| Isabel | 2 | 15 | 5 | 10 |
| Guadalcanal | 1 | 4 | 0 | 11 |
| Makira | 3 | 10 | 2 | 6 |
| Renbel | 6 | 6 | 0 | 4 |
| Central | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Temotu | 0 | 6 | 0 | 7 |
| Total | 42 | 76 | 23 | 86 |

It is noted that some felling license had been renewed for the fourth time, meaning re-entering the same area 4 times. Such operation jeopardizes the ability of the forest to regenerate to its' full potential. Our sustainable cutting quota is calculated on a 40 years rotation. This means that the forest should return to its' original state after 40 years. However, in the absence of a clear and establish research into the rate of regeneration over logged areas' we attached 25 years as the period for re-entry logging.

Table 13. Comparison of Milling License & Felling License issued and renewed 1st Jan - 31st Dec 2014

| Location | Total Felling License. Issued and Renewed | Total Milling Lice. Issued and Renewed |
|--------------|---|--|
| Malaita | 7 | 27 |
| Western | 29 | 20 |
| Choiseul | 12 | 20 |
| Isabel | 7 | 25 |
| Guadalcanal | 1 | 14 |
| Makira | 5 | 16 |
| Renbel | 6 | 5 |
| Central | 0 | 11 |
| Temotu | 0 | 10 |
| Total | 67 | 148 |

More milling license were issued and renewed in 2014(69%) compared to felling licenses (31%). Nevertheless, there is more wood extracted by felling licenses than milling licenses. It is important to note that the volume of mill timber per year is not included in the total volume of logs exported. This means that we are extracting more volume than our sustainable level. However, the more milling licenses we issue allows' or assist us to cut back on the unsustainable volume of logs harvested per year. If more areas are allowed to be covered by milling license than less environmental damages to forest regeneration, soil, water catchments, rivers, and streams can be said to have been achieved

10.2.3 Non- Taxable Revenue

Anniversary fees and license fees accounted for 92% of our collection while Form 1 and milling fees account for 7% and 1% respectively.

Table 14. Estimated fees collected in 2014

| Location | Anniversary and License Fees payment- Jan-Dec.2014 | Form 1 Fees | Milling License fees paid From Jan- Dec 2014 | Total |
|--------------|--|-------------------|--|---------------------|
| Malaita | 300,000.00 | 21,000.00 | 4,800.00 | 325,800.00 |
| Western | 680,000.00 | 39,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 722,000.00 |
| Choiseul | 320,000.00 | 45,000.00 | 3,750.00 | 368,750.00 |
| Isabel | 380,000.00 | 15,000.00 | 3,750.00 | 398,750.00 |
| Guadal | 230,000.00 | 3,000.00 | 2,250.00 | 235,250.00 |
| Makira | 2,000.00 | 6,000.00 | 2,400.00 | 10,400.00 |
| Central | | 12,000.00 | 1,500.00 | 13,500.00 |
| Temotu | 10,000.00 | | 900.00 | 10,900.00 |
| Renbel | 120,000.00 | 9,000.00 | 1,950.00 | 121,950.00 |
| Total | 2,042,000.00 | 150,000.00 | 24,300.00 | 2,207,300.00 |

Table 15. Current felling licenses in 2014

| Location | Current Felling up to Dec. 2014 | OPERATIONAL to Dec. 2014 | IN-ACTIVE 2014 |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Malaita | 31 | 8 | 23 |
| Western | 78 | 46 | 32 |
| Choiseul | 35 | 19 | 16 |
| Isabel | 47 | 30 | 17 |
| Guadal | 22 | 12 | 10 |
| Makira | 29 | 13 | 16 |
| Central | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Temotu | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Renbel | 9 | 4 | 5 |
| Total | 254 | 133 | 121 |

There are 254 felling licenses, of which 133 are operational and 121 non-operational. There is a need to investigate why the 121 are not working and options to get them to work worked out.

Locking up concession areas, which can generate revenue for the government and resource owners, is denying resources owners to utilize their forest resources. In terms of revenue, ninety five percent of non-operational licenses do not pay their license anniversary fees, which is recorded as non-taxable revenue collected by the Ministry of Forest & Research

The table below also shows the actions, that we take as directed by the Commissioner of Forest when there is non-compliance to the FRTUA and Forest Regulation 2005. We also assist Provincial Government to collect their due Provincial Business License payments. The Unit is also working with the Ministry of Trade to ensure maximum revenue is collected in the process of obtaining a felling license. This is whether a company has been registered and is incorporated. Anniversary show cause letter had also been issue to ensure that revenue for the government are collected

Table 16. Actions taken in 2014 due to breach of the Forest Resources and Timber Utilization (Amendment) Act

| Action taken 2014 due to Breach of FRTU Act | Number |
|---|--------|
| General Seizure | 14 |
| Seizure of Kauri | 4 |
| Seizure of Tubi | 7 |
| Suspension | 5 |
| General Show Cause | 18 |
| Prov.l Business Fee show causes | 42 |
| Anniversary Fees show cause | 106 |
| Approved TA | 31 |
| Result of show cause of A/Fees payment | 43 |

10.2.4 Conclusion

The number of Felling & Milling licenses' issued in 2014 are the ones that the Ministry had assess, process and issue. This is also reflected in the amount of non-taxable revenue that we have manage to collect although we can improve our revenue collection as quality data is now kept and maintain

Harvesting of our forest resources though is done on an unsustainable level. Production is about 6 times our sustainable rate and perhaps will continue in the years ahead

Therefore we urgently need a workable forest policy and a Forest Act that legislate the balances between extraction and production of new wood

10.3 ENFORCEMENT SECTION

10.3.1 Introduction:

The Enforcement is one of the small sections under the FRM & TS Division. Listed below are the core functions, the mission and vision statements that form the basis on which we perform our duties and how much work on each function we have addressed was depicted on the form graphs.

The trainings and workshops we attended during the year is an initiative to enhance and expand the understanding about our work. The initiative to actively establish a joint task force is another milestone to the enforcement setup in the country to tackle difficult or challenging issues together. The task force will lead to accountability and transparency in dealing with matters of national interest.

10.3.2 Core Functions

The duties carried out by the Enforcement Section are as follows:

1. Provide relevant documents to other Ministries, forest stakeholders and the general public on logging issues and procedures.
2. Attend to clients in office regarding logging issues.
3. Response to incoming and outgoing correspondences in relation to logging issues.
4. Undertake field tours to investigate, verify and advise the Commissioner of Forests on possible course of action to be taken.
5. Prepare affidavits with AG on behalf of the Commissioner of Forests.
6. Attend combine seminars and tours with Law Enforcement Section e.g. Immigration, Labour and etc.

10.3.3 Office Space

The office is still in good condition except that it does not have enough space to accommodate the current three officers working in the enforcement section at one time plus our clients. We therefore, need space for the purpose of accommodating all of us at once, to pave way for the re-organization of our tables, the tools and assets to ensure the office looks organized and accommodates our clients at the same time as well.

10.3.4 Combine task force

A task force was formulated, currently; our combine task force is working collaboratively with each other. This has given the opportunity for respective Ministries to understand each other's role and function. The approach is proper because it can curb tendency for individualism which might lead to involvement in propagation of inducement and corrupt practices.

After this setup, we realized that this approach is effective and fair enough for all investors. It is because, it can avoid evasion of Government Revenue and maximize revenue collection and can avoid public officers who might be slack, lenient or play up with Government procedures and processes

10.3.5 Achievement:

There were several field tours attended, either Ministry or privately arranged. There was a case that is challenging, it is LOT 23 assessments at Merusu Camp where it was done twice due to complain from the contractor that the assessment was bias. There were other cases dealt with during year 2014 as well. Most cases the Enforcement section dealt with were results of encroachment, license overlap and disagreement over the concession area

10.3.6 Conclusion:

The enforcement section though sometimes faces challenges that deemed positive and negative somehow; its role and duty is to ensure stakeholders understand situations that the Forest legislation and its regulations is complied, and what roles each stake holder plays in the process.

Despite public criticisms leveled against the unit over logging issues, we take and accept it as positive criticism.

Finally, despite the challenges, we enjoy the job and hope to improve on our weak areas and address it next year.

Chapter 4 FOREST INDUSTRIES DIVISION

11.1 Introduction

The Forest Industries (Services) Division is headed by a Deputy Commissioner of Forests who oversees two sections; Marketing and Operations. The marketing section is confined to the headquarters with only three staff, one female and two male. The Operations section is supervised by one director who oversees ten forestry stations established throughout the provinces in the country. There are a total of 35 foresters under this section of which 29 are male and 6 females.

11.2 Core Functions

Monitor all logging operations to ensure improved revenue from log shipments and compliance with FRTUA, its subsidiary regulations and Code of Logging practices.

- Effectively provide compliance monitoring in line with Code of Logging practices and license conditions
- Collaborate with Customs Officials for proper monitoring of log shipments
- Maintain updated records of log consignments
- Improve monitoring capacity on the ground

11.3 MARKETING SECTION

11.3.1 Expected Outcome

- Market Price Intelligence
- Facilitation and processing of Log Export Application
- Facilitation and processing of Sawn timber Application

11.3.2 Market Price Intelligence

The function was undertaken by the Economic Reform Unit of the Ministry of Finance. The Marketing section enforced and implemented gazette Determined value (Duty) Schedules which was done on a quarterly basis. The Determined values are used by Licensees or contractors during lodging of Log Export Applications for approval.

Legal Notice No. 5/14 – Implemented first quarter – January to March 2014

Legal Notice No. 32/14 – implemented second to fourth quarter – April to December 2014.

The third and fourth quarter schedules were not made available in time as expected for implementation.

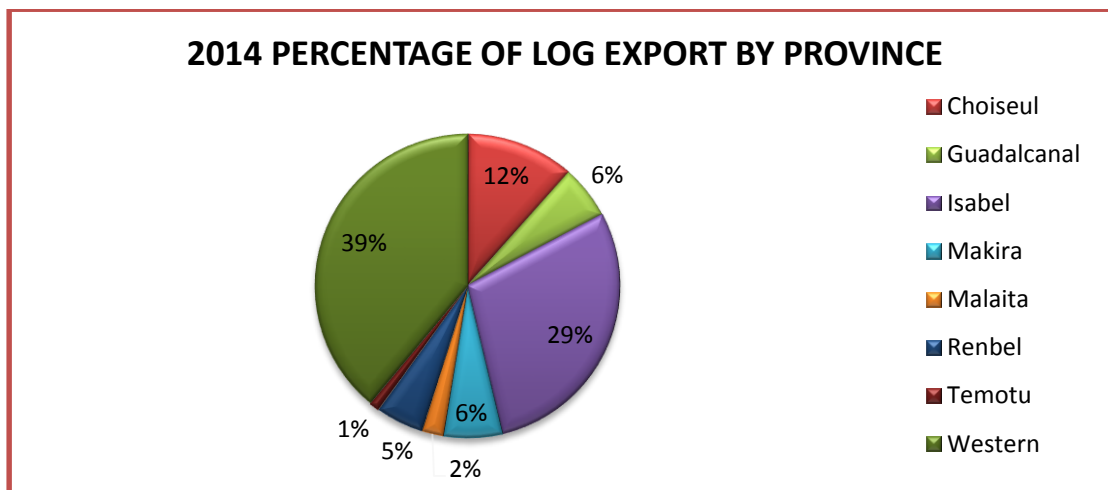
11.3.3 Facilitation and Processing of Log Export Application

Log Export applications lodged were assessed, processed and recommended to Commissioner of Forest Resources for issuance of Market Price Certificate (MPC). This amounted to total of 873 MPC's issued of which 4 were cancelled with an estimate volume of **2,520,871 m³** and estimate value of **US\$ 313,832,166**.

Total of 132 licenses were operational during the year as compared to 118 licenses in 2012. An increase of 14 new licenses issued or renewed to be operational.

During the year 11 Legal Notices were also operational and 4 contractors operated under North New Georgia Timber Corporation.

Figure 2. Percentage of log exports by province



From the above figure, Western province continued to be a dominant exporter of logs, 39% of logs were exported during the year an increase of 2% from 2013, followed by Isabel 29% been constant when compared with 2013. Choiseul exported 12% of log during the year, a rise of 4% from 2013. Makira and Guadalcanal exported 6% each, Malaita 2% and Renbel 5%. Makira, Malaita and Renbel exports dropped by 2% and Guadalcanal by 1% respectively. Temotu commenced operation in 2014. Refer to **appendices G, H and I** for supplementary details.

China continued to be the country's main importer of our logs, though it dropped by 1% in 2014 from 2013.

Solomon Islands continue to export to 9 countries as in 2013. However, there was no export made to Hong Kong and Switzerland as in 2013 but instead our new markets in 2014 was Bangladesh and Taiwan. Refer to **Annex K** for details

Plantation Exports

The two large scale plantation companies, Kolombangara Forest Plantations limited exported 65% of logs, a drop of 1% from 2013 while Eagon Pacific Plantation limited exported 35%, 1% increase from 2013.

Table 17. 2014 Log Exports

| 2014 - PLANTATION LOG EXPORTS | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| LICENSEE | ESTIMATE | | ACTUAL | | DUTY | |
| | VOLUME (M ³) | VALUE (US\$) | VOLUME (M ³) | VALUE (US\$) | PAID (SI\$) | EXEMPTED |
| Kolombangara Forest Product | 74,750 | 6,722,281 | 14,956.219 | 1,501,698.44 | 0.000 | 0.00 |
| Eagon Pacific Plantation Ltd | 41,000 | 3,960,529 | 23,140.190 | 1,779,637.53 | 0.00 | 3,968,133.75 |
| Total: | 115,750 | 10,682,810 | 38,096.409 | 3,281,335.97 | 0.00 | 3,968,133.75 |

Though the section does not have any database, summary data were kept in a spreadsheet and reports were generated for the management team of the ministry to make decisions and also to interested resources owners or individuals upon request.

11.3.4 Facilitation and Processing of Sawn Timber Application

Total of 439 applications were facilitated, processed and permits issued. Of this two applications were cancelled. Total volume approved for export was **22,788.18 m³**. However, 4,249.98m³ of the total approved were of Tubi species, were not shipped due to some controversies are still at Ports Authority area to date. The values of export in respective currencies were AUD 510,818.18, USD 1, 517,344.77 and SBD **76, 251,083.30**. Details of Sawn timber exporters can be found in **Annex F**.

Table 18. Destinations of sawn timber are as shown in the table below. Refer to Annex E for graph.

| Destination | Volume |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Australia | 4,827.24 |
| Belgium | 17.02 |
| China | 1,394.761 |
| Hong Kong | 278.137 |
| Indonesia | 100.494 |
| Malaysia | 2,191.54 |
| Nauru | 250 |
| New Caledonia | 387.191 |
| New Zealand | 5,476.24 |
| Philippines | 2,204.74 |
| Taiwan | 5,364.06 |
| Vanuatu | 296.772 |
| Grand Total | 22,788.18 |

11.4 OPERATION SECTION

11.4.1 Expected Outcome

- Monitor logging operations for compliance with forestry law
- Monitor log shipments – quantities, grades, species
- Manage Timber Harvesting Operations
- Maintenance of office and Staff Houses
- Logistic Support

11.4.2 Annual Harvesting Plan and Coupe Plan

A requirement of the license to fell and Remove Timber (CI 9(1)) under the Standard Logging Agreement is that an annual plan must be submitted, approve before logging commences with the objectives:

- To show that logging license and agreement conditions and the laws of the land are understood and recognized
- To foresee some of the problems associated with harvesting and hence improve environmental performance and minimize costs of production

The plan which is produced by company each year by November 1 as a requirement consists of two types and maps and supporting texts.

- Annual plan (1:50,000 scale) which covers a full years operation with low level detail covering log pond, major road, coupes, license boundaries landowners boundaries
- Coupe plan (1:10,000 scale) covers a small area (approximately 100 ha) and has high level detail on roads, landings, protected areas and buffers, watercourse crossings, major skid tracks, landowner boundaries and coupe boundaries. This plan shall be the operation plan company is expected to follow.

During the course of the year our field officers made visits to all plans approved. Annual plans are approved by Commissioner of Forests while Coup plans are approved by Provincial Forest officers in charge of operation sites after ensuring and check that operations are in agreement with the plan except those pending. An increase by twenty plans from 2013 is evident. Last year total plan received was 150, this year we received 169 plans. 105 out of 169 plans was approved while 64 was pending.

Table 19. 2014 Annual Harvesting Plan submission Received by Province

| PROVINCE | NO. SUBMISSION | APPROVED | PENDING |
|--------------|----------------|------------|-----------|
| Western | 52 | 31 | 21 |
| Choiseul | 30 | 18 | 12 |
| Isabel | 35 | 25 | 10 |
| Guadalcanal | 14 | 6 | 8 |
| Makira | 18 | 13 | 5 |
| Malaita | 11 | 5 | 6 |
| Temotu | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Renbel | 8 | 6 | 2 |
| Central | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 169 | 105 | 64 |

11.4.3 Log ship monitoring

Log ship monitoring continued throughout the year, however the result was not encouraging but unavoidable since three stations were handicapped due to no boats available to carry out the activity. Contribution towards the success of the activity is largely dependent on the transport otherwise the best that can be achieved is what is presented in the table 1.17. Meanwhile we hope that priority to purchase three (3) new boats shall be for the three stations. In comparison to 2013 this year was a total of 822 loading was recorded 53 less with a check of 20% while this year 11.8% check was achieved.

Log shipment inspection continues as procedures are part of the chain of inspection by Ministry of Forestry and Research's Operation section. Inspection and monitoring of logging practices to ensure that environmental standards are upheld and saleable timber is not left in the bush continues. Inspection of log shipments prior to export is the final link in this chain

There are four main areas where monitoring was focusing as the Solomon Islands may lose revenue:

11.4.4 Transfer pricing

Exporters may declare that logs were sold at prices below the market price to minimize duty payment.

11.4.5 Under-declaration of log species

Prices of Group 1 species are usually higher than for group 4. Hence higher value species must be correctly marked and not mixed with lower value species. No higher Value species was wrongly declared otherwise species continue to be harvested with the average FOB value of the shipment not encouraging and therefore affect revenue capture to both landowners and government.

11.4.6 Under reporting of log volumes

Exporters may under measure logs and therefore report lower log volume to minimize duty and royalty payment. Ten (10%) percentage random check continue to ensure log scaling is within the allowable permissible error.

11.4.7 Non declaration

Loading of any logs onto the log ship without declaring the log numbers and species on the official tally sheet is log theft. Thus the important of capturing the maximum return is very important and needs a lot of logistical support and resources. During the year no report of such was received

Table 20. Log ship monitoring for 2014

| Quarterly | No. of Ships | No. of Ships Checked | Percentage Checked 10% | No. of Ships Checked | Percentage Checked 100% |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <i>1st Quarter</i> | 185 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>2nd Quarter</i> | 193 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>3rd Quarter</i> | 185 | 12 | 6.5 | 1 | 0.5 |
| <i>4th Quarter</i> | 206 | 43 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 769 | 92 | 11.8 | 1 | 0.1 |

Note: Log ship checks were only carried out on Natural logs felled under legally acquired felling license and legal notices under Forest Resources and Timber Utilization Act. Therefore log exports from Kolombangara Forest Plantations Limited (KFPL), Eagon Pacific Plantation Limited (EPPL) and North New Georgia Timber Corporation was not taken into account.

11.4.8 Monitoring of logging operation

Monitoring of a logging operation continue as it is essential to ensure that compliance with the code is being achieved. Companies are expected to be self-regulate against the code. The Ministry is therefore responsible in auditing, thus it is carried out regularly by Forestry officers. Component of operations assessed are:

- Log pond – check buffer to the shoreline or ocean, drainage and oil and other waste products are being safely disposed
- Roads – check for location, clearing and drainage
- Buffers – check for location, buffer width and No unauthorized entry into rivers, streams etc.
- Watercourse crossings – check for location, drainage direction, type of crossing, machines operation within crossing during construction and felling around the crossing
- Landings – check for location, drainage and size
- Skid track – check for location, use of blade, width and damage to buffers
- Falling and wastage – check for direction felling, choice of felling direction, stump height, point of cross cutting

A total of 89 audits were made with an average score of 72%. The best performance achieved was recorded at 89% while worst was recorded at 72%

11.4.9 Logistic support to provincial stations

Implementation of work plan and achievement of field work depends very much on support from headquarters to provincial stations. However, as mandated though very slow and with limited resources available work output has been satisfactory.

Meanwhile Gizo, Taro and Munda are experiencing boats being not seaworthy thus their performance has been affected, therefore they are part and parcel of priority stations for the purchase of the boats.

11.4.10 Maintenance of office and staff quarters in provinces

Maintenance work at Gizo office finally commenced after contractor was identified, the overcrowded office environment shall now improve working environment friendlier.

STAFF AND OFFICE STATUS BY STATION

Table 21. Status of provincial houses and offices

| STATIONS | NO. HO USE | OFFICE | REQUIREMENTS |
|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|---|
| HONIARA | 2 | 1 | Two houses never been maintained since built in 1990. Office maintained recently |
| TARO | 3 | 1 | Three houses never been maintained since built in 1990 require urgent repair. Office built at taro again |
| AUKI | 3 | 1 | Three houses never been maintained since built in 1990 require urgent repair. Minor repair work on office done recently |
| GIZO | 3 | 1 | Three houses never been maintained since built in 1990 require urgent repair. However, one house has to be rebuilt. Office require maintenance and extension to accommodate all staff (too small) |
| BUALA | 4 | 1 | Four houses never been maintained since built in 1990 require urgent repair. Office too small therefore need to raise or extension. |
| ALLARDYCE | 2 | 1 | Two temporary houses and office need repair urgently |
| KIRAKIRA | 2 | 1 | Two houses never been maintained since built in 1990 require urgent repair. Office extension and urgent repair required. |
| LATA | 0 | 0 | No forestry house and office, therefore, need to build two own house and office |
| GUADALCANAL | 0 | 0 | Need to build own house and office at Ndoma |
| SEGHE | 2 | 1 | Two houses never been maintained since built in 1990. Office rundown need new one to be built urgently, Canoe shed rundown need repair immediately |

11.4.11 Training/Workshops

Staff continue to be supported on the job by mentoring, meanwhile Institute of Public Administration and Management continue to offer training for public service however, although submissions for officers to attend was made no officer was informed to attend such training.

11.4.12 Technical advice and assistant to industry and landowners

About 95% of issues received was related to land and therefore assistant rendered through request made to both landowners and company was enormous hence management to attend and assist continue. Majority of complaints raised was in breach of regulations

11.4.13 Law Enforcement Agency

A joint law enforcement agencies team tour was made to Choiseul province lead by operations team. The team consists of Forestry, Immigration, Labour, Inland Revenue, National Provident Fund and Transnational Crime

The agencies visited and investigate logging company camps to ensure that companies are complying with immigration, Labour, Forestry, Environment, Inland Revenue, National Provident Fund and Foreign Investment legislations. Twelve (12) Companies were identified and rating status with “High risk” and “low risk” according to their compliance is accorded. Seven (7) out of twelve are at high risk and five (5) low risk.

11.5 Constraints

Poor monitoring of logging operations and log ships and exports are due to various reasons or setbacks as listed here below;

- a. Poor communication system. All two-way radio systems established during the time of FMPII project are now mal-functional. Needs immediate attention
- b. Special Duty Allowance halted – need to be re instate immediately
- c. Accommodation (Staff Houses) and Offices needs maintenance
- d. No proper reports of log exports generated timely due to no database. Bids made for re-development of database was not approved.
- e. Lack of timely logistic support

Chapter 5 UTILIZATION DIVISION

12.1 Introduction

The Utilization Section was established in the Ministry of Forests and Research in November 2008 when a Chief Forester was recruited. The Utilization Section was then under the Forest Industries and Utilization Division which includes the Licensing Section, Operations Section, Enforcement Section and the Economics Section. The Section was then mandated to implement the Government Forest policy with regards to the downstream processing and to manage the Governments initiative to assist the Forest Resource owners with milling equipment under the Downstream Processing Project (DSP). It was only in 2013 that the Utilization became a Division of its own and manages its own work plans and budget.

The Utilization Division is currently one of the smaller Divisions in the Ministry with only 9 staff members of which 3 are females and 6 males. The Division is currently headed by a Director and assisted by a Chief Forester. Staffing for the Division will increase significantly in the future as we expand our operations to the Provinces to ensure that our Officers are closer to the people we are mandated to assist. It is expected to post the chief Forester Western Region to Munda early in 2015 and recruit Foresters for Afio, Kirakira, Buala and Taro also in 2015.

12.2 Achievements in 2014

12.2.1 Timber Legality Guidelines for Solomon Islands

Pacific Horticulture and Agriculture Marketing Agency (PHAMA) has assisted the Ministry in developing the Timber Legality Assurance Guidelines for Solomon Islands. It is intended to assist Australian importers of regulated timber products from Solomon Islands in understanding the regulatory framework in Solomon Islands in order for them to carry out their due diligence obligations under the illegal logging Prohibition Amendment Regulation 2013, which supports the illegal Logging Prohibition Act 2012. The enforcement of the above regulation comes into effect at the end of November 2014.

The Timber Legality Guidelines for Solomon Islands has been accepted by the Australian Government and was handed over to the Solomon Islands Government by the Australian Ambassador to the Permanent Secretary on the 6th of July 2014. Solomon Islands have been the First Country in the world to meet the Australian Government Timber Legality requirements. The fifteen-page manual spells out clearly the exporting procedure in line with Forest and Timber Utilization Act and contains all the forms required to export timbers into Australia.

The next step is to have the Timber Legality Guidelines Solomon Islands regulated.

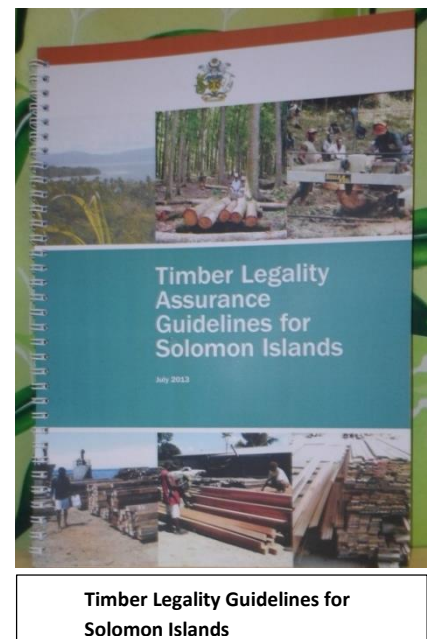


Figure 3. New Guidelines Book

12.2.2 Sustainable Forest Management Training (SFM)

Two sustainable forest Management workshops were conducted by the Chief Forester Utilization during the year. The training program aims at communities to do sustainable harvesting of their Forest Resources which should eventually lead Forest Stewardship Certification (FSC). The first workshop was held at Togori village in Makira and Ulawa Province from 26th May to 6th June. A local consultant specialist in sustainable Forest Management Felix Narasia was engaged to provide the training Program. A total of 24 participants attended the training program. The second SFM training was contacted by the Utilization Chief Forester was held at Kia in Isabel Province. The training program was attended by 20 participants from the Province and was held from 15th to 26th September. Training were both theoretical as well as practical orientated

12.2.3 Solomon Islands Timber Grading Rules

Solomon Islands are the only country in the region that does not have its own timber grading rules. Currently grading rules are negotiated between the buyer and the seller. This disadvantaged Solomon Islanders sawn timber exporters as only timbers without any defects are exported. With Timber Grading Rules certain minimum defects are acceptable.

The Solomon Islands Timber Grading Rules for rough sawn timber have now been developed and is now in draft form. This has been done with the technical assistance of the South Pacific Community (SPC).

The next step now is to hold consultation with our stakeholders and Pacific Horticulture Agriculture Marketing Agency (PHAMA) will be funding workshops and training. In the meantime the draft copies of the Solomon Islands Timber Grading Rules are been circulated to our overseas timber buyers so that their views are also reflected in the timber grading rules.

12.2.4 Farmset Assistance to Utilization Division

Lucas Pty Australia and Farmset has donated a 14hp portable Lucas mill to the Utilization Division on the 20th October. The mill was given to the Division following the Director of Utilization request for assistance. The portable sawmill will be used for training of our students from the School of Natural Resources of the Solomon Islands National University and our other stakeholders.

The mill will be available also to communities who requests training in portable milling operation including timber grading and timber volume calculations.

12.2.5 Assistance to Rural Training Centre (RTC)

The assistance given to the Rural Training Centre's and Community Based Training Centre's under the Downstream Processing Project has been very successful. Apart from the centre's using the tools and equipment for training these were also used to improve their infrastructures. Some are using the tools and equipment for income generation for the training centres. These include making furniture's for sale as well as taking up building contracts around the centre's locality. Refer to **Annex L** for details

12.2.6 Assistance to Resource Owners

A total of 36 applications have been received for funding under the Downstream Processing Project during the year. The Ministerial Tender Board based on its assessment and taking into consideration the funds available have approved a total of 30 applications for funding under the 2014 Downstream Processing Project. Payments for the approved projects was raised and submitted to the Treasury Division for processing and payments.

12.3 Marketing

Value Added Timber Association has been doing Timber export with the assistance of the Ministry. The association, a charitable organization has been exporting an average of one to two containers of sawn timber to New Zealand each month. Apart from the VATA's own export two local saw millers were assisted to export their own timbers to Australia and New Zealand during the year. The Division encourages all other saw millers to export their own timbers so as to maximize return to them as opposed to selling these timbers locally.



Figure 4. Timber containers being packed for export

12.4 Freight Subsidy

This has yet to be paid as we await a full financial report of the Value Added Timber Association for the financial year starting July 2013 to June 2014. R & I Accounting and Financial Management Services have been contracted to compile the report. Unfortunately the financial report could not be completed on time and therefore no submission was send to the permanent secretary for approval for the release of payment.

12.5 Fencing of Timber Yard

Following numerous break in at our Timber Yard at Henderson a permanent corrugated fences was constructed around the Yard. Tender advertisement was placed in the local media and the Ministerial Tender Board awarded the contract to Mo'osipe Construction. The cost to erect the fence was \$450,000.



Figure 5. The Newly Fenced Timber yard

12.6 Three Phase Power

The Extra Electric Services Company installed three-phase power at the Henderson Timber Shed. The company was allocated the electrical works by the Ministerial Tender Board. This has enabled us to use our Tensioning machine and other equipment, which requires the use of three-phase power.

12.7 Forest Stewardship Council Certification (FSC)

A consultant specialized from Woodmark from the United Kingdom was in the country in July to audit the communities which have been aggregated the Forest Stewardship Council certification (FSC). More communities have been trained in sustainable Forest Management and are been encouraged to pursue Forest Stewardship Council Certification. The South Pacific Community and National Resource Development Foundation is assisting in preparation of the necessary paper work for an audit in 2015.

12.8 Saw Doctoring Service

All saw doctoring equipment have been installed. Only the Stress Roller machine has yet to be installed. We need 3-phase power to have the machine operational. We are however manually tensioning the circular saw blade manually.

We also have equipment available for replacing of any sawmill blades with worn teeth and a number of sawmills have utilized the services provided but at a reasonable cost. Saw doctoring equipment has been installed and operational.

12.9 Conclusion

The Utilization Division has done its best and has achieved most of the function it was mandated to carry out during the year. Monitoring of all Provinces could not be carried out due to lack of funding.

Chapter 6 FOREST DEVELOPMENT AND REFORESTATION DIVISION

13.1 Forest Development & Reforestation Program

The Forest Development & Reforestation program is currently implemented by the Forest Development & Reforestation Division of the Ministry of Forest and Research. The program has been promoted by the former Ausaid Forestry Management Project and officially handed over to the MoFR in 2009. The Forest Development & Reforestation division was then formalised to implement the program under the SIG development programs known as the National Forest Plantation Development Program.

The Key guiding Forest Policies to this program are to;

1. Assist Forestry Research institutions so that they could identify and regulate the use of appropriate species in Forest Development and to develop and supply improved planting materials of proven tree species for smallholder reforestation.
2. Make available technical advice and other forestry services to rural communities to assist them in managing the commercial use of the resources, as well as to transfer skills and technologies to them.
3. Promote Reforestation in Rural areas throughout the country

The Division consist of 47 permanent officers and 46 village based forestry extension officers distributed across all provinces in the country under 16 forestry provincial stations and 47 subregions to implement the National Forest Plantation Development program.

The program “Forest Development and Reforestation” is aimed at promoting Forest development activities through appropriate Forest management, enrichment initiatives and establishment of forest plantations at a small scale basis to ensure wood supply is available in the future for domestic family needs such as timber for building and economic return from sale of timber or for furniture making.

With the current trend of harvesting of wood from the native Forest, wood supply from the natural forest will be depleted beyond year 2020 and as such, effective assistance and promotion of the program on a long-term basis is one of the best options the country must prioritise.

The key components of the program are;

- To promote development of forest plantations nation wide
- To provide Forest Plantation silviculture training to farmers
- To provide technical support to forest development & reforestation activities
- To do basic research on tree improvement to improve genetic planting materials
- To maintain and increase current seed sources for continuous seed supply to out growers and stakeholders
- Equipped and Resourced provincial forestry stations with appropriate logistics & resources to effectively implement field based activities.
- To do basic research on enrichment planting potentials through establishment of trial plots for continuous collection and analysis of data to identify native forest silviculture practices.

- To promote quality forest plantation through joint implementation of plantation silviculture practices.
- Improve provincial housing for mobilisation of skill forestry extension staff in all provinces to carry out the program and
- To work with other stakeholders and institutions such as KFPL, EPPL, ACIAR and KOICA to increase the capacity of staff and strengthen the program.

Currently, the Reforestation approach is on small-scale basis, which is not economically viable but contains wealth of plantation resources that the country needs to increase and expand to subsidise round log export from the native forest.

The division anticipated that by 2017, a reforestation master plan will be developed and consideration will be given to possible approaches such as state forest plantation, cooperative forest plantation and Reforestation enterprises that will positively increase the state of forest plantations in the country

13.1.1 Structure of Forest Development & Reforestation Division

The Forest Development & Reforestation (FDRD) is one of the Technical Divisions in the Ministry of Forest and Research responsible for promoting Forest Development and Reforestation in SI. A Deputy Commissioner for Forest Development (DCFDR) who reported directly to the Commissioner of Forests heads FDRD

Three regional coordinators (RCs) are based in Honiara coordinating 3 different regions in SI, Western region, Central region and Eastern Region. RCs reports to DCFDR.

Sixteen provincial stations have been established in the country headed by officers in charge (OICs). OICs have field officers who work in the field along with village based Forestry extension officers (VBFO).

In Honiara, the office of the DCFDR has supporting staff such as, Database, Seed Technology and Logistics officers.

Mission To ensure wood supply is available to Solomon Islanders when commercial forest from the natural forest diminished through natural forest enrichment.

Vision To promote sustainable forest harvesting, forest development and reforestation so that our future generation is not deprive of their rights to benefit from the same resources again in the future

Aim To promote forest development and reforestation nationwide for economic, environmental and social benefit.

Objectives

- Increase future timber resources in the country
- Stabilise and increase revenue for SI
- Increase capacity of officers to implement the Reforestation activities
- Increase forestry extension services in the provinces
- Maximise local participation in long term development of forest plantations

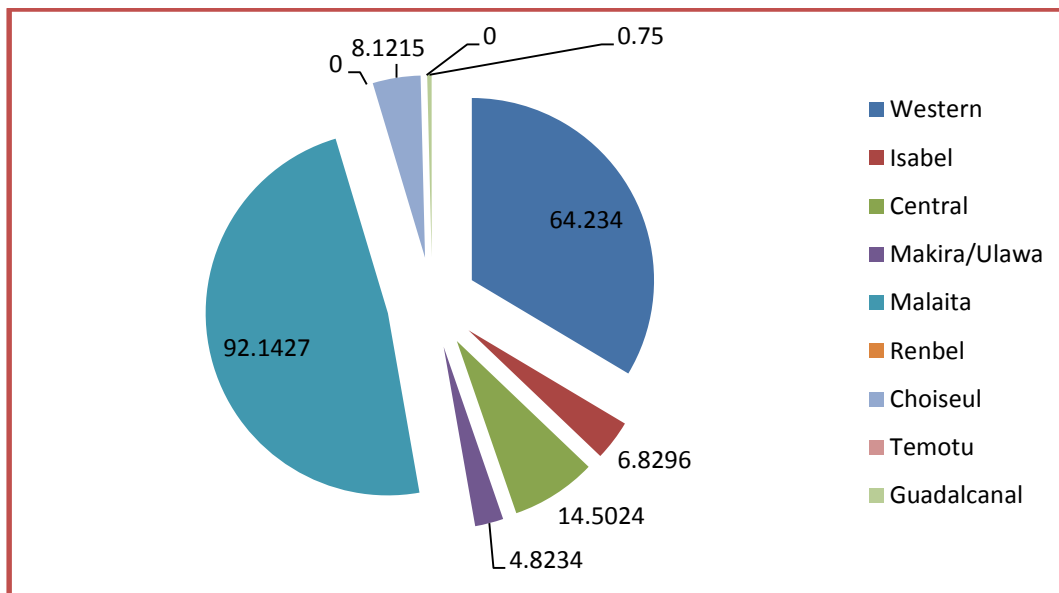
- Promote scientific base information collection and sharing
- Enhance forest biodiversity maintenance and restoration
- Improve and sustain the livelihood of locals through income generation from plantations
- Promote Education and Technical training to out growers

13.2 Plantation Establishment & Development

One of the key components of the program is to develop Forest Plantations of high quality trees that will generate income for growers in the future. With yearly budget limitation, this program is operated on smallholder basis encouraging families to establish wood lots ranges from 0.5 to 1 hectare using plantation recommended species. With the current average annual planting of 200 hectares, it is anticipated that by year 2030, there should be a substantial resources available that will generate substantial revenue from these plantations.

This year, a total of 191.404 hectares has been established. Malaita province recorded 48 per cent of the total planting followed by Western province with 34 per cent.

Figure 6. Plantings by provinces.



Provincial species planting summary

In 2014, *Teak* has been the most preferred species with a total stand of 114 hectares represents 60 per cent of the total plantings followed by *Mahogany* with 46 hectares and *Eucalyptus deglupta* with 24 hectares.

13.3 Seed Collection and Distribution

Seed Collection and distribution is a significant component of the program; without seeds, there will be no plantations. Whilst the program is focus on meeting annual planting targets and public demand for seeds, it is also vital that seeds are of high genetic quality to ensure quality plantations to meet both domestic and international standards and requirements. Improvement of seed banks is a long-term task in which benefits will come in future years. Throughout the past 30 years, the MoFR has focused mainly on improving teak compared to other species; today SI has the best teak seed material in the region.

Compared to the previous years, mahogany is the most preferred species during the reporting year; this is because it is shade tolerant which requires less work as well as the fact that it can be grown between cocoa and coconut plantations.

Seeds are normally collected from Kolombangara seed stands, stored at Munda Forestry cool room and are distributed to HQ cool room for distribution to central and Eastern provinces of SI. Some collection of *SWIM* has been done on Guadalcanal at times. Details of seed data can be found in **appendices M, N and O**.

13.3.1 Remaining stock

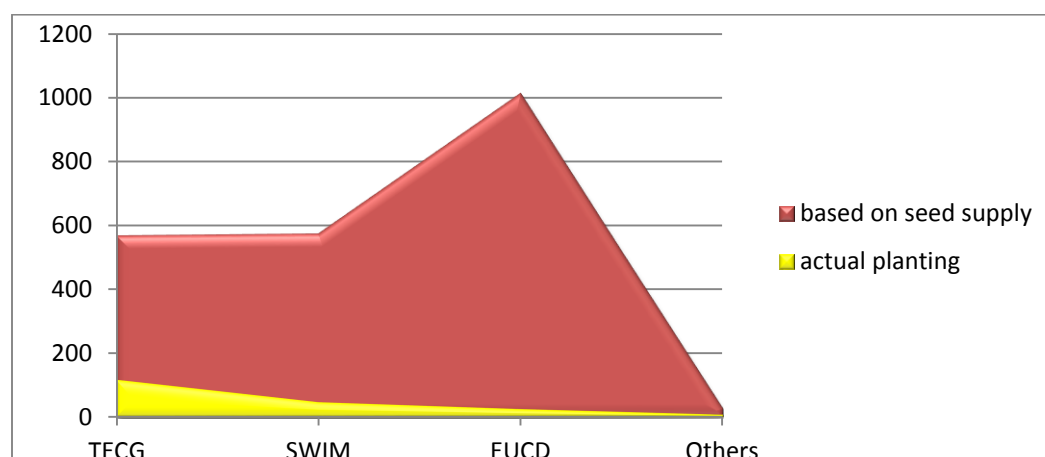
As of November 2014, the following seed stock remain in the cool room, refer table below.

Table 22. Shows Seed remaining in stock as of November 2014.

| Names of species | Weight in kg | Remarks |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>TECG</i> | 30 kg | Old stock |
| <i>SWIM</i> | 7.5 kg | Remain in stock(B/N :5801) |
| <i>SWIM</i> | 73.75 kg | Mould and Rotten(B/N:5801) |

Figure below clearly indicated the difference between planting area based on seeds supplied during the year and plantings recorded based on field reports and data which should be the actual planting. The difference is significant which calls for an assessment to identify this. For now few explanations can be made such as; more plantings are not recorded by field officers, very low survival rate, many farmers do not plant seeds collected, farmers may not plant seedlings from nurseries whilst data deficiency cannot be ruled out as well at this stage. One approach to narrow this gap is to discourage distribution of seeds to out-growers, instead, supply seedlings.

Figure 7. Graph of seed supplied vs actual plantings



13.3.2 Overseas Seed Exchange

During the year, the division received 2 kg of high quality mahogany seeds from SPC originally from Honduras. The seeds have been germinated at Munda and has high survival rate around 95 percent. As part of the ongoing joint research between regional countries and SPC, we also supply 15kg of TEGC seeds to SPC for research purposes. SI is yet to sign the Material Transfer agreement; therefore we cannot access some of the best genetic material from other countries through SPC.

13.3.3 Issues

Seed officers continue to encounter physical hindrances such as budget constraints, untimely availability of seed collection funds, lack of specialised skills in seed technology and freighting issue (needs standing Imprest). Again, the actual planting result for 2014 does not reflect the seed distributed to provinces. This will be investigated to identify reasons for this significant difference between seed supply and actual field planting turnout.

13.4 Nursery Establishment

The program normally distributes seed to farmers, from past assessments; most farmers never attempt to grow seeds, while others lack appropriate knowledge on germination of seeds which often resulted in very low turnout on actual field planting annually. In reducing this trend, the Division introduces establishment of nurseries (permanent/fly nurseries) to ensure farmers are given seedlings instead of seeds. Also, seedlings are charged at reasonable rates to ensure farmers are committed to plant seedlings once purchased.

In so doing, a number of permanent and fly nurseries have established throughout the country; these nurseries are managed by provincial forestry extension officers as well as village based forestry extension officers. Refer to **Annex J** for details of timber species planted by provinces.

13.4.1 Summary of Current Nurseries

Table 23. Current nurseries established in Central region

| Province | Sub region | Permanent Nursery | Fly Nursery | Stocking Capacity | Officers |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Central Islands | Russell | ✓ | ✓ | 9,271 | Modesto Lovasa |
| | Gauvai | | ✓ | 2,200 | Peter Teva |
| | Haleta | | ✓ | 3,000 | Charles Viti |
| | Tulagi | | ✓ | 1,200 | Kingsly Tea |
| Isabel | Biluro | | ✓ | 5,561 | Ben Vihi |
| | Momotu | | ✓ | 4,660 | " |
| | Kolomola | | ✓ | 8,052 | " |
| | Gugugluro | | ✓ | 3,759 | " |
| | Koge | | ✓ | 7,685 | " |
| | Mablosi | | ✓ | 4,676 | " |
| | Susubona | | ✓ | 5,030 | " |
| | Koloao (Buala) | | ✓ | 1,100 | Habru |
| Total Seedlings | | | | 56,194 | |

Table 24. Current nurseries established in Eastern Region

| Province | FD Station | Sub-region | Permanent Nursery | Fly Nursery | Remarks |
|----------|------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Malaita | Auki | Auki/Langalanga | 1 | - | Managed by Forestry office Auki |
| | | Atoifi | | 3 | Manage by VBFEO |
| | Afio | Small Malaita | 1 | 1 | Manage by Forestry Afio |
| | | W/Are Áre | 1 | 1 | Managed by VBFEO |
| Makira | KiraKira | - | - | Managed by KiraKira forestry office | |

Table 25. Summary of current nurseries in the Western Region

| Province | FD Station | Sub-region | Permanent Nursery | Fly Nursery | Remarks |
|----------|------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|
| Western | Munda | | 1 | - | Managed by Forestry office Munda |
| | Poitete | | 1 | - | Manage by Forestry Poitete |
| Choiseul | Taro | | 1 | - | Managed by Taro forestry office |

13.4.2 Issues

In some provinces such as Malaita and central islands, most nurseries are located on customary land; this is subjected to dispute and disturbance to nursery activities and facilities, on one instance, one of the permanent nurseries has been entirely destroyed after some investment in terms of facilities has been rendered and in some cases, landowners have been requesting land rental even when the nursery was to

supply seedlings for those very land owners and their immediate tribesmen. Communities have yet to establish the ownership of nurseries, which might render some volunteer work.

Acquisition of land in some provincial centres for permanent nurseries is also a setback. The division will work closely with provincial governments to establish some sense of common understanding to host some important components of this program especially on allocating land for permanent nurseries and some budgetary input. Choiseul provincial government has taken the lead in assisting nursery activities in her province, this level of collaboration will be communicated to other provinces to follow suit.

13.5 Forest Silviculture Trainings & Staff Training

13.5.1 Summary

Management of Forest Plantations is always a problem that most farmers faced. During the past years, farmers do not have adequate knowledge on Forest Plantation management and limited logistic resources (budget constrains) from the MoFR often make it difficult for Forestry officers to conduct technical trainings to isolated communities in the country.

This has called for prioritising farmer's technical training to ensure as many farmers as possible have access to knowledge and skills on Forest plantation silviculture to raise the level of plantation quality. Forestry extension officers and village based forestry extension officers through all provinces have been engaged to provide as much practical trainings using limited funds available throughout the year.

The technical trainings conducted during the reporting year is summarised by regions in tables below.

Table 26. Central Region Technical Training summary

| Province | # of Training | Total Participants | Date |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <i>Russell (Alokan)</i> | 1 | 36 | 5 th – 7 th June |
| <i>Isabel (Biluro)</i> | 1 | 34 | 31 st – 2 nd Mar- Apr |
| <i>Haleta (Gella)</i> | 1 | 32 | 31 st – 3 rd Mar-Apr |

Table 27. Eastern Region Technical Training Summary

| No .of Trainings | Sub-region | Nature of Training | Officers involved | Beneficiaries |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| <i>Malaita (1)</i> | <i>Odou N/West</i> | <i>Silviculture</i> | <i>R.Aiwewe J. Kinifu M. Avan</i> | <i>Farmers</i> |
| <i>Malaita (1)</i> | <i>West Are 'Are</i> | <i>Silvicultural operation</i> | <i>Elizabeth .H Jeffery. K</i> | <i>New Farmers</i> |
| <i>Temotu (1)</i> | <i>Vanikoro</i> | <i>Quality Control</i> | <i>Allan Yapela Batholomew</i> | <i>Old farmers</i> |
| <i>Malaita (1)</i> | <i>Malu'u</i> | <i>Nursery & Silviculture</i> | <i>B. Alakalia A. Babaeano</i> | <i>Farmers</i> |
| <i>Makira (3)</i> | <i>Star Harbour Bouro/Ugi Wainoni</i> | <i>Silviculture.</i> | <i>M. Garu P. Waitaera</i> | <i>Farmers</i> |

Table 28: Summary of Training for Western Region

| Province | Sub region | Nature of Training |
|-----------------|----------------------|---|
| Western | <i>Simbo/Ranogga</i> | <i>Forest Plantation Silviculture</i> |

In summary a total of 11 technical trainings were conducted in various region in the provinces. The trainings are mainly on forest plantation silviculture, tree measurement and nursery practices. Although a number of additional trainings were requested especially for Western and Choisuel provinces, funds are not available to proceed as plan. It is anticipated that future trainings will consider provinces and regions not covered during the reporting period. The impacts of these trainings over the past years have resulted in many plantations improved in terms of quality and wood stand. The Division will continue to put more emphasis on this component to ensure future wood supply from small holder plantations are of high quality and value.

13.5.2 Staff Development & Training

In implementing the program, officers also must be upgraded in terms of knowledge and skills in forest management. This is one of the important activities that often over-looked in terms of budgeting and planning. Approaches, systems and technologies may change but if people who are driving these changes do not have the knowledge and skills required to implement changes, needed changes will never happen. During the reporting period, few officers have attended some form of trainings as outline in Table below.

Table 29. Staff Development & Training

| No. of Officers | Training | Duration | Training Provider | Country |
|------------------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | <i>Plant Germ plasm</i> | <i>3weeks</i> | | <i>Taiwan</i> |
| 1 | <i>Senior officials Forestry training</i> | <i>3 weeks</i> | <i>KOICA</i> | <i>South Korea</i> |
| 2 | <i>International Computers Drivers lenience</i> | <i>4weeks</i> | <i>IPAM</i> | <i>Honiara</i> |
| 1 | <i>Knowing your public service</i> | <i>10 days</i> | <i>IPAM</i> | <i>Honiara</i> |
| 1 | <i>Knowing your public service. Code of conduct</i> | <i>10 days 1 day</i> | <i>IPAM IPAM</i> | <i>Honiara</i> |
| | <i>How to run a successful meeting</i> | <i>2 days</i> | <i>IPAM</i> | |
| 1 | <i>Knowing your public service. Code of conduct</i> | <i>10 days 1 day</i> | <i>IPAM IPAM</i> | <i>Honiara</i> |
| 1 | <i>Supervisor Development Code of conduct</i> | <i>2 days 1 day</i> | <i>IPAM</i> | <i>Honiara</i> |
| 9 | <i>Seed Technology</i> | <i>1 week</i> | <i>MoFR & ACIAR</i> | <i>Honiara</i> |

13.5.3 Seed Technology Training

A one-week seed technology workshop was conducted in Honiara for selected officers in the Eastern provinces of SI. This training is a follow up on the ACIAR- MoFR earlier training conducted in Munda by expertise from ACIAR aimed at improving the capacity of seed collection and processing in the country. During the earlier training, participants were from the MoFR, EPPL, KFPL and community representative. This workshop has been conducted by Mr. Philip Zekele, Mr. Basil Gua, Ms. Freda Manibili and Ms. Lilly Ramo. It has been one of the successful trainings.

13.6 Research and Related Activities

6.6.1 Summary

The backup of FPDP in the SI was from the research Section through tree improvement and conservation of materials by management of immediate resources with trails and continues observations with selection of provenances and seed collections storages for continues supply of seeds frequently for the tree farmers through the country.

There has relatively constraints with lack of sufficient manpower of current exist 4 forest workers at Poitete and 3 others in Munda is inappropriate in achieving priorities as expected. The required manpower for Poitete alone should be 8 pupils whilst Munda should have 6 pupils.

The current Research management plots in Poitete is about 90-100ha of individual plots and average of 1.0 ha per plot size. The bulk of additional routine measurements, establishments and management is a complex field duty with other related and associate field works.

This year we are fortunate to get assisted with some money to maintain these resourceful research plots which about 80.0ha plots were maintained. This also stipulates to the public that there is ownership of these plots by SIG through Research Section involvements and management. The Fiji provenances have now just planted in the field in September and its area is 1.2 ha plot. The selection of new mother trees for seed sources is now underway and likely the old Mother trees will also be considered and will be included in the restoration and rehabilitation work solely.

6.6.2 Collaborative Research Plots

The ACIAR plot trails of (Fluggea/teak) are going very well and carefully managed by forestry research staffs both in Poitete and Munda. Thinning and regime assessments are done with the plots in the months of March-June respectively.

Munda office contributes further on ACIAR with training of farmers on timber measurements and volume calculations, regeneration trials and GIS system to map locations of woodlots, soil system and species marching.

13.7 Logistics Supply

13.7.1 Summary

Logistics and other supportive resources play a significant role in the day to day implementation of Reforestation work programs. With a record of 17 provincial stations and 47 subregions scattered across the vast geographically isolated islands, procurement and distribution of logistics to provinces is often a tedious work.

Along with prolonged processing of requisitions, late payment to suppliers, some payments not approved, and lack of standing Imprest for the division makes it very difficult to procure and supply urgent logistics such as fuel in a timely manner. This has resulted in lack of monitoring and implementation of field activities in a timely manner as well.

Regardless of these difficulties, some progress has been made in which the details are as follows;

Fuel Distribution

FD stations cover wide areas and sub regions manned by extension officers. Day to day work Movement involves the use of fuel for both vehicle and OBM. Compared to previous years although procurement of fuel is late, distributions were made in all four quarters. During the reporting year, fuel for both third and fourth quarters were delayed until late in the fourth quarter due to request for Virement of funds has been delayed. This in turn really affected movement of officers.

Equipment and furnitures.

Distribution of major office resources to provincial forestry stations is summed up in the table.

Table 30. Distribution of major equipment to Provinces.

| <i>Province</i> | <i>Station</i> | <i>Nature of Equipment</i> | <i>Remarks</i> |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Choiseul</i> | <i>Taro</i> | <i>Boat</i> | |
| <i>Western</i> | <i>Gizo</i> | <i>Boat</i> | |
| <i>Makira</i> | <i>Kirakira</i> | <i>Boat</i> | |
| | | <i>Computer</i> | |
| <i>Malaita</i> | <i>Afio</i> | <i>Boat</i> | |
| | | <i>Generator</i> | |
| | | <i>Computer</i> | |
| <i>Isabel</i> | <i>Allardyce</i> | <i>Laptop</i> | |
| <i>Temotu</i> | <i>Lata</i> | <i>Boat</i> | |
| <i>Guadalcanal</i> | <i>G-Province</i> | <i>Boat</i> | |
| | | <i>tank</i> | |
| <i>Guadalcanal</i> | <i>HQ</i> | <i>Table</i> | <i>Cool Room</i> |
| | | <i>Chairs</i> | <i>Cool Room</i> |
| | | <i>Laptop</i> | |

Tool Distribution

During the year no major plantation and nursery tools were supplied due to late facilitation of the tool tender and supply. These tools are important for plantation quality control as well as for nursery operations.

Issues

- Untimely facilitation of necessary payments
- Irregular shipping services to remote provinces
- Delay of payments of freights which resulted in most shipping agents refused shipping of items
- Standing imprest disbursed quickly and most time did not cater for pending fright bills and
- Allocation for frights insufficient

13.8 Out-Growers Subsidy Assistance**13.8.1 Summary**

Subsidy scheme is a form of financial support, which was implemented by the Ministry of forest and Research under reforestation division program. Main purpose of this subsidy is to support tree plantation owners with cash to purchase tools to carry out plantation maintenance such as pruning, thinning, brushing and labour cost on their plantations. Plantation maintenance can ensure high quality wood products and high economic value return to resource owners and the country as a whole.

This subsidy scheme was first initiated in year 2009 and came in full force in 2010. The subsidy scheme usually released annually to all farmers who have plantation. In year 2013, all constituencies received subsidy on behalf of its growers except for Marovo constituency. In 2014 the subsidy scheme has been abolished due to budget limitations, only Marovo constituency that missed out the previous year was funded. The total assistance given in 2014 stands at \$184,568 funded under the support to Reforestation Development budget respectively.

13.8.2 Distribution of fund

Unlike the previous practises where funds are paid to constituency development accounts, Marovo constituency has set precedence for proper accountability of funds by allowing the MoFR to disburse funds to rightful farmers. The Assistance Deputy Commissioner for Forest Development & Reforestation and the coordinator for Western region lead the team consist of Seghe provincial forestry officers and a police officer to travel to farmers in their respective communities to ensure true farmers are recipient of this assistance.

Farmers have registered their sincere appreciation that their MP has decided that the Ministry responsible manage the disbursement of funds unlike in the previous years where funds channelled through political medium never reached them. They acknowledged the management of the MoFR for actually reaching their homes to meet the farmers as well as visit some of their woodlots to see for themselves. By doing this, farmers will be motivated to venture into this long-term investment now and in the future.

13.9 Buildings & Renovations**13.9.1 Summary**

Some buildings in the provinces have reached a level that was beyond safe human habitation. This has directly affected postings and morale of officers. Budget constrains experienced annually are a setback to construct additional buildings and major repair to run down buildings. The Division has been allocated limited funds during the past 3 years to build few new staff houses, offices and renovation of staff houses.

The following is the summary of buildings and renovations;

Table 31. Summary of Buildings & Renovations.

| <i>Station</i> | <i>Building</i> | <i>Status</i> |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Munda</i> | <i>Staff house renovation</i> | <i>complete</i> |
| <i>Gizo</i> | <i>Office renovation</i> | <i>95 percent complete</i> |
| <i>Tirokoqu</i> | <i>Office</i> | <i>complete</i> |
| | <i>Staff house new (2)</i> | <i>incomplete</i> |
| <i>Seghe</i> | <i>Office renovation</i> | <i>incomplete</i> |
| | <i>Staff house (new)</i> | <i>incomplete</i> |
| <i>Poitete</i> | <i>Staff house new (2)</i> | <i>Complete)</i> |
| <i>Taro</i> | <i>Office new</i> | <i>Complete</i> |
| | <i>Staff house renovation (1)</i> | <i>complete</i> |

13.9.2 Priority Buildings & Renovation work

As much as there is a need to increase technical officers in the provinces over the next 5 years to implement the National Forest Plantation Development program. The division has prioritised new buildings and renovations as follows;

Table 32. Priority stations and buildings

| <i>Station</i> | <i>Building</i> |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Lata</i> | <i>2 staff houses</i> |
| | <i>1 x new office</i> |
| <i>KiraKira</i> | <i>2 x staff houses</i> |
| | <i>1 x new office</i> |
| <i>Renbel</i> | <i>1 x new office</i> |
| | <i>1 x staff house</i> |
| <i>Tulagi</i> | <i>1 x staff house</i> |
| <i>Buala</i> | <i>1 x office (upgrading)</i> |
| <i>Allardyce</i> | <i>1 x staff house (new)</i> |
| | <i>1 x office (upgrading)</i> |
| <i>Russell Islands</i> | <i>1 x staff house</i> |
| | <i>1 x office</i> |
| <i>Afio</i> | <i>2 x staff houses</i> |
| | <i>1 x office building</i> |
| <i>Maluú</i> | <i>1 x office building</i> |
| | <i>2 x staff houses</i> |
| <i>HQ</i> | <i>Office upgrading</i> |

13.10 Joint Programs



Figure 8. Senior Forestry officials during the study tour to South Korea under the MoFR-KOICA project

13.10.1 Summary

The Division during the reporting period has joint programs with international agencies on some specific areas mandatory under the Division, The current active programmes are;

1. Formulation of the Forest Development & Reforestation action plan and the Research & Development Plan under the project: Establishment of action plan for forest resources management in SI- a joint program under KOICA assistance.
2. Assist the Forest Development & Reforestation program “Enhancing Economic Opportunities Offered by Community and Small holder Forestry in the Solomon Islands as ACIAR project FST/2012/043.

KOICA

ESTABLISHMENT OF ACTION PLAN FOR FOREST RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OF SOLOMON ISLANDS.

The KOICA Forestry project was finalised in 2014 and implemented by the Forestry Economy & Management Research institute (FERI) of the National Forestry Cooperative Federation (NFCF). The project is aimed at establishment of the Action plan for forest resources management in SI.

The purpose is to improve the capacity of sustainable forest resources management in the Solomon Islands; restore the ecosystem and to establish the foundation of economic development and maximize the effectiveness of the aid program by invitational training program and local workshops.

The executing organization work with the Ministry of Forest and Research and other stakeholders to conduct joint-research program specifically on, Reforestation, Forest Policies and Data base management.

This is seen as one of the milestone within the Ministry of Forest and Research and for the country especially when our forest resources continue to be harvested and exploited unsustainably.

The project is expected to be completed by 2015.

ACIAR

In 2013, ACIAR was given a project to assist the Forest Development & Reforestation program “Enhancing Economic Opportunities Offered by Community and Small holder Forestry in the Solomon Islands as ACIAR project FST/2012/043.

In pursuing this project, the division collaborates with ACIAR to start a pilot program in the Western province due to high volume stand, maturity of small woodlots as well as accessibility.

Forestry GIS training funded by ACIAR has been conducted in Munda in which various expertise from Australia and USP students were invited as resource personals. Participants were from the Ministry of Forestry, farmers and industries.

As part of this collaborative program, 2 forestry officers based in Munda have been funded by ACIAR to do attachment in Australia on wood coring and returned to do similar work for the small plantations as part of wood assessment for economic return.

A new project concept has been submitted in 2014, which focus mainly on researching potential market approaches for smallholder plantation on semi and commercial thinning products. Official finalisation of the project is yet to be announced when this report is prepared.

13.11 General recommendations

In order for the program to be successfully implemented, the following recommendations have been suggested;

- Developed a Forest plantation ACT
- Revised the Current FRTUA to incorporate the Reforestation Policy
- SI to sign the Material Transfer Agreement (MTA) to have access to superior genetic materials from other regional pacific countries.
- Establish a Forestry Research Centre to implement joint research initiatives for efficient forest management practices.
- Facilitate Reforestation enterprises to increase forest plantation products
- Develop medium to large scale forest plantations
- Increase the village based forestry extension network
- Capacity building for innovation and creativity
- Increase provincial forestry infrastructures & Communication
- Promote farmers subsidy scheme
- Increase logistic support to provincial stations
- Establish markets for forest plantation products
- Promote enrichment planting on logged over forest areas
- Improved and expand current seed sources

- Support the tree breeding and improvement program
- Encourage agro forestry, social/participatory forestry initiatives.

13.12 General Conclusion

With the inclusion of the above recommendations, it is hope that Forest Plantation development will play a significant role in producing timber or wood from plantations, which will subsequently on a long-term basis reduce extraction of wood from the natural forest.

The smallholder woodlots have potential timber resources that will benefit farmers and the industry in the future. The slow achievement of annual targets will be assessed to identify approaches that will ensure improvement in meeting annual planting targets.

Forest farming is a long term investment that often attracts less attention by resource owners to commit time, land and resources in developing but with continuous government commitment through allocation of funds, it is anticipated that more communities, resource owners and individuals will participated more effectively in the program.

The revision of the current Forestry act will definitely assist in further strengthening the program should the current DCC government pursue, the decline in forest available for harvesting from the natural is a threat to the forest industry and the economy, therefore, the expansion and establishment of appropriate avenues for reforestation and reforestation enterprises will ensure continuous wood supply from the forest in the future.

The division will review its manpower, strategies, logistics, and capacity from time to time to ensure the program becomes a priority long term investment goal reflected in any successive government's long term development goal.

Again, we call for recognition in terms of funding and policy review to effectively implement the program in the next four years.

Chapter 7 NATIONAL HERBARIUM AND BOTANICAL GARDEN DIVISION

14.0 Introduction

The National Herbarium and Botanical Garden is one of the five main Divisions in the Ministry of Forestry which is directly responsible for the management and improvement of the Herbarium and the Botanical Garden's infrastructure for both research and amenities for visitors, researchers and fellow citizens. The overall underlying Goal of our work is to reveal, implant and nurture the true economic, environmental and social values of forests and other associated resources to all forest custodians. Most importantly, we work to discover the potential of our forest in all forms of its products like wood, bark, leaves, fruits, flowers, roots and exudates. The Division has two sections. They are the National Herbarium section which is responsible for all research related work and the Botanical Garden Section which is responsible for live plant collections and the general improvement and upkeep of the Botanical Garden.

Like all other Government Divisions or other Ministries, the Herbarium and Botanical Garden Division sets its activities in line with the National corporate plan 2011-2014. Thus, the corporate Plan keeps the Division on track with its activities.

The intended purpose of this report is to highlight the Division's accomplishments, constraints and recommendations in 2014 and focuses for the New Year 2015.

14.1 Opening Statements

14.1.1 National Herbarium and Botanical Garden Division

The National Herbarium section exists as an implementer of Solomon and Overseas joint researches and studies which would lead to in-depth analysis of the forest resources and why protection, conservation and studying of these forest resources and their ecological biodiversity is vital. The Herbarium is a museum of specimens of our native flora collected over several decades spanning the nine provinces. Specimen collections, plant identification and information storage are housed within the Herbarium.

The Botanical Garden section is responsible for the general upkeep of the public open space. It is responsible for ensuring the protection of the watershed and the flora and infrastructure within its boundaries. It is also responsible for live plant collections and provides an ex-situ environment for rare, ornamental, medicinal and useful plants collected from sites all over the nine provinces. With the Gardens natural forest environment, herbal medication extracted from plant parts have supplemented modern medication over the years.

14.2 Policy Statement

Ensure the sustainable utilization and conservation of natural resources, protection of the environment and successful adaptation to climate change.

14.2.1 Vision Statement

Naturalized Environment (aesthetically appealing/display) and secured social and economic interest and secured forest genetic resources at all times.

With these, the Division envisions to become one of the top National Herbariums and Botanical Gardens in the South Pacific.

14.2.2 Mission Statement

To develop and promote a place for recreation and biodiversity conservation, education and research to encourage sustainable utilization and appreciation of the country's plant genetic resources – the basis of life on earth.

14.3 Challenges of the Division

In line with the Goals, Vision and Mission, the identified challenges to be addressed in the short term, medium term and long term plan include:

- What we want the Herbarium and Botanical Garden to be like in years to come.
- Our focus must be clear to meet the needs of the public, the researchers and the visitors through excellence, relevance and communication.
- To get the best balance between our scientific actions and the reaction of the affected subjects to meet the changing needs of living human generations.
- Become less dependent on public purse and become (to some extent) self reliant by selling own products and services.
- Meet the needs and wants of the people of Solomon Islands.
- Promote conservation and Ethno-botanical and Traditional ecological knowledge and resources to the world.
- Seize the opportunity to work with the local communities and other Government Agencies, NGO's, Researchers and the international Institutions.
- Protect the watershed and manage the water resources in existence within the garden boundaries
- Develop the garden to become a national heritage for conservation, preservation, research, recreation, education and recreational purposes.

14.4 Specialized functions of the Division

The management functions of the National Herbarium and Botanical Garden Division can be classified into several specialized components such as.

- Herbarium Management
- Botanical Garden Management
- Forest Ecology
- Forest Research
- Ethno-Botany, Dendrology/Botanical Studies
- Animal Sciences (e.g. Entomology, Herpetology, Avifauna, Mammal studies, etc.)
- National Forest Conservation programs
- Non-Timber Forest Products
- Investigate into Carbon and Environmental Service Benefits

14.5 Set of Tasks for the NHBG Division

The set of tasks of the Division as stipulated in the medium term development strategies (2009-2013) include:-

- Revitalize the National Botanical and Herbarium functions of identifying of various species availability and storage for reference purposes.
- Continue to assist with the facilitation of applied research on plants in Solomon Islands.
- Liaise with SPC and USP to bring back Herbarium species from Suva, Fiji back to the country.
- Forest Research programs.
- Research and Promotion of Non Timber Forest Products.
- Investigate into Carbon and Environmental Services Rent.
- National Forest Inventory Program.
- Conservation of biodiversity.

14.6 Activities

The Division's work plan were based on the interpretation of the NCRA Policy from which all tasks were derived and marked for implementation to accomplish the Division's vision and mission and the Ministry's goals.

14.6.1: Botanical & Herbarium Up-grading and Maintenance

Reviving and maintaining the continuous use of the botanical garden after the Ethnic tension remains a priority for the Botanical garden section. This year there were plans incorporated into the annual work plan for the upgrading of the botanical garden and herbarium.

Some of the marked upgrading work were included in the development budget for that include Fencing & Landscaping and construction of the laboratory & procurement of specialized lab Equipment. However most of these work still pending for accomplishment due to financial constraints and delayed processes through certain stakeholders.

Despite these difficulties officers did their very best in every way to manage and maintain the image of our country's very important resource by doing everything they can with the limited tools and equipment in store for the up-keeping and maintenance of garden ground like keeping the surrounding lawn tidy and lily pond clean, regular maintenance of the forest treks and tagging trees with their scientific names.

14.6.2 Recreation, Environment Education, Biodiversity and Conservation

Promoting the important role of environment in particular the blessing that forests provide for humanity is recognized priority for the botanical garden. Thus these can be achieved through providing avenue for recreation, educating visitors/students about the environment the importance of biodiversity and for conserving these resources for future generation.

Social, Recreational and Educational activities.

The botanical garden purposely served for social, research, recreational and for educational site for the public. Thus, for this year, individuals, organizations and even schools choose the botanical for walks, site seeing, functions, wedding photo shots, researches and even doing their promotional programs on local music.

With this opportunity the NHBG has the chance to promote the important role of the Division in the documentation and conservation of natural biodiversity.

This year the Division was fortunate enough to work in partnership with the HCC through their Japanese volunteers to organized Nature Games with various schools in Honiara. This Nature Game program is one of the educational activities held in the botanical garden by various schools in Honiara and this program is collaborated with the Environment Health Division of Honiara City Council and the Division. Organizers of the program are the attached Japanese Oversea Volunteers (JOVC) for both HTC – Environment Health Division and NHBG Division.

The main purpose for this activity is for sharing nature with children, and to understand and learn the mechanism and wonder of nature through the various activities that uses sense of human. A



Figure 8



Figure 9

Fig (9). JICA Volunteer instructing students on nature game

Fig (10). NHBG Officer explaining orchid collection to students

Plant Nursery Updates

The plant nursery grounds is a fundamental component of the botanical garden as this is the place where most living plants collected are reared and cared for before transplanting. The botanical garden section in the NHBG Division has really tried their best in reviving and improving nursery grounds by doing collection and raising a variety of ornamental and wild plants in the nursery. These plants are to be planted in the botanical garden and also are sold to the public especially the ornamental plants. The nursery also is served for other plants with special attention like those that are vulnerable of being threatened, rare, endemic etc. at their natural environment.

However the April flash flood is a significant disaster in the nursery which damaged most of the plants raised in the nursery, but the BG Unit prioritized and put more effort in raising and propagating of plant varieties in the nursery for the rehabilitation and beautification purposes.

Most of the activities involved in the nursery in 2014 include; weeding, soil collection for potting, ornamental plant collection, planting, watering and daily monitoring.

Orchid House Management

Prior to the ordering and purchasing of fern stalks from the local communities from West Guadalcanal, there has been some upgraded and improvement work done in the orchid house. These includes; the replacement of defected stand stumps from fern stalks, recording & labelling of orchids both old and new collection and data entry. A summary of the variety of native orchids kept in the Orchid house can be found in ***Annexe Q***.

This collection was possible through collaborative work with the Taiwan-Solomon Island flora inventory and the Solomon Island Government Recurrent Budget Funding.

Green House Management

The green house management training was a continuing program from 2013 with the NMNS of Taiwan. This involves sharing of information and technical skills with professionals from Taiwan especially on biodiversity conservation of our wild plants in the Solomon Islands. We liaise, support and work with expert on greenhouse management. The managing of the green house was more effective towards the last quarter of the year after the NMNS expert complete the final attachment and installation of the irrigation water system in one of the NHBG green house funded by the project located at Taiwan Technical Mission Farm at KGVI. The green house is now upgraded in high standard and supplied with electrical power and sprinklers connection just adorable.

A Summary List of the plants stored in the Green-house can be found in ***Appendix P***.

14.6.3 Staff Capacity Building

Staff capacity building is very important in equipping our staffs with the necessary skills in their specialized fields. For this year the NH&BG staffs go through training, going on field inventories with international Researchers and attending workshops for capacity building.

For training our staffs attended various short term training courses and as evident in the table below are list of training course with the corresponding staff.

Table 33. The table below shows training courses attended by NHBG staff in 2014

| NH BG 2014 STAFF TRAINING LIST | | |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------|
| IPAM Training | | |
| Courses | Duration of Course | Officers |
| International Computers Driver's License (Excel) | 3 Months | 3 officers |
| Introduction to Management | 4 Days | 1 Officer |
| Art of Report Writing | 1 Day | 1 Officer |
| USP | | |
| Climate Science | 6 Months | 1 Officer |
| Disaster Risk and Management | 6 Months | 1 Officer |
| Climate Change Impacts, Vulnerability and Adaptation | 6 Months | 1 Officer |
| Taiwan Training Workshop | | |
| Plant Germ plasm and Conservation | 2 Weeks | 3 Officers |

14.6.4 Government Funded Development Project

In 2013, the Division submitted two Development budgets to be funded in 2014 and was granted funding.

Fencing & Landscaping Project

The Fencing and landscaping project was awarded \$2,000,000 for its first phase. Although all the activities were anticipated, only the Survey and demarcation of the Garden Boundary was done. The Rest of the activities were not done since MID was unable to supply the required documents on Time. MID had to deal with reconstruction of major infrastructure damaged by the April floods and all our work was pushed aside. All liaisons done by responsible officers came to no avail.

Laboratory Equipment

The Laboratory Project was awarded \$1,000,000. Two of its major activities were achieved. The Lab design was completed and lab equipment was purchased for the lab. This included desktops and microscopes. The Herbarium database documents were late for tender however, documentation was completed which is a comfort.

14.6.5 Collaborative Research Projects

Korea Research Institute Bioscience & Biotechnology (KRIBB) Medicinal Plants Project

The Korea-Solomon Islands Biotechnology Cooperation Project was initiated after the signing of an MOA between Korea and the Solomon Islands focusing on the collection of medicinal plants used in the Solomon Islands. Under the Agreement it has stipulated for the collection of 100-200 species of medicinal plants with voucher specimen and all these would be powdered and packaged in the host country before shipment.

Three provinces were visited under this project namely Isabel, Guadalcanal and Choiseul Province and collected a total of One Hundred and Eighty Eight (188) plant specimen. With this quantum, Ninety Five (95) families were identified to make up 159 plant sample with the remaining 29 species still unidentified thus are yet to be identified.

Taiwan Solomon Islands Flora Inventory (NMNS Project).

Living Plant Collection Summary

The NHBG Division continuously liaise and support collaborative activities, established research networking partners in the country especially with the National Museum of Natural Science (NMNS) of Taiwan. The collaborative activity involved in floristic and taxonomic inventory research leading to the compilation of the flora of Solomon Islands. In 2014 a joint expedition team managed to carry out plants inventory collection in three provinces, Choiseul, Isabel and Guadalcanal Province. Are total of 45-50 families identified with about 539 species were collected altogether.

14.7 Achievements

What the Division is very grateful when it reflects back on the past twelve months in 2014. The following were the most notable achievements:

- The National Herbarium & Botanical Garden remains a precious national research asset for students at all levels that have access to its premises, materials and equipment.
- The Division through the Deputy Commissioner and Director continued to maintain its International links with other Botanical Gardens and Research Institutes.
- Increase Biodiversity and conservation of living flora especially for orchids and ferns in the botanical garden. And these were made possible with collaborative work with the Taiwan research team doing the inventory of Solomon Islands flora.
- In collaboration with the Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology of Korea, on the inventory of the medicinal plants of the Solomon Islands especially from three Provinces namely Isabel, Guadalcanal and Choiseul. We look forward to the expansion of this project to other provinces in the Solomon Islands in year 2015
- The increased knowledge of the staff through various training they engaged in.

- Although the development projects for NHBG in 2014 are slow some work were not accomplished, there have been some achievements that mark its progress.
The whole Botanical Garden area has been re-surveyed and re-demarcation
- The gaining of the favor of the general public who visited the garden and that was achieved through continuous general up keeping of the garden and the vigorous maintenance done to maintain its image.
- Procure some of vital equipment needed for upgrading work in the botanical garden like the Plant shredder to be used in the nursery for compost and Oven drier to be used in the Herbarium to dry plant specimen collected.
- Reinforced collaborations with Honiara City Council and the Ministry of Lands on Botanical Garden developments

It is the Division's belief that its achievements were the result of a combined cooperation and efforts of many relevant individuals and authorities within the Division, the Ministry and the country at large. Without the effort of these individual and authorities from either the Government or the private sectors nothing would have been achieved.

14.8 Constraints

Constraints referred to in this paper are the things and happenings that prevented the Division from achieving some of its objectives and these include:

- Lack of Fencing causes encroachment and squatters to target the boundaries of the botanical garden. It also brings about security issues for visitors, officers and the government assets within.
- Broken Bridges cause difficulties for visitors to cross the stream and visit other parts of the garden
- Deteriorating Access roads and forest trails cause difficulties and danger for visitors to visit certain parts of the forest with rough terrain
- Pests like the African Giant Snail have invaded the garden during the April floods and are thriving within the boundaries disturbing the nurseries and all other plant life. This poses a threat to ornamental and rare plant species which have been collected from far off provinces.
- The lack of Vehicle has caused much of the logistics work to be slowed down. Much of the heavy work has to depend on the busy schedule of other vehicles from HQ such as collecting fuel and collecting rubbish.
- Slow responses from responsible stakeholders in ensuring development projects needed to improve the infrastructure are carried out on time.

14.9 FOCUSES FOR 2015

The Division looks forward to 2015 with new strength to ensure that its mission vision and goals continue to support those of the Ministry. Developments of infrastructure within the garden remain high priority and networks established will be maintained to ensure their progress to completion. Other networks with research organizations will be maintained while establishing new ones for the benefit of the research, conservation and the Forestry sector.

14.10 CONCLUSION

2014 has been a remarkable year for the Division. It has opened new avenues into which the Division realizes what it is capable of achieving and what it must work harder to achieve. Nevertheless, officers have been encouraged to continue working by their individual Job descriptions with the understanding that there is no harm in attempting new initiatives if it will mean benefits for the Ministry and the Government as a whole.

Chapter 8 GENERAL ANALYSIS AND OBSERVATIONS

15.1 Constraints and Difficulties

In the process of implementing the 2013 work plan, most Divisions performed below the expected performance and output levels. This is resulted from several factors as highlighted by each Division, the main constraint as common the leads to lower performance is insufficient resource that includes;

- a. Insufficient funding allocation
- b. Limited support services and logistic
- c. Lack of good working environment – office space
- d. Poor Communication and IT equipment and services
- e. Ageing and incompetent manpower
- f. Poor working culture and coordination team work
- g. Poor supervision and management
- h. Out dated Legislation and regulations
- i. Out dated management structure and organization

15.2 Future forecast and projection

The Forestry sector is a major economic productive sector that contributes to the National Economy. It will be still the major foreign revenue earner in the next 5 years. In this context, maximizing benefit through revenue needs to be fully supported and prioritize. As has been observed, the Divisions dealing with revenue capture performed poorly in 2013, and this has to be improved in the coming years. There is urgent need to review the organizational arrangement and resource allocation to improve productivity. It is obvious that the Timber extraction Sector is poorly performing and there is need for a full review of the whole sector with highlighted constraints and gaps to improve revenue collection.

Round log export being the biggest revenue earner is expected to decrease due to depleting commercial timber stand, more focus should be given to the Timber milling and processing program. Already the Divisions have established platforms for development in this sector and more resource needs to allocate especially in the organizational management and facilitation of the programs. Value added timber products have huge economic potential and must be encouraged as the next revenue earner in the Forestry sector.

The plantation development program has been fully implemented and participation by the rural out growers has been impressive and encouraging. This is another program that has high potential for economic benefit especially directly to the rural out-growers. In the past years the planting target of 500 hectares per year has not been met. This needs to be reviewed to improve and increase planting in the future. The provision of subsidy needs to be addressed as the driving force to promote participation by the resource owners and communities.

Whilst wood products currently dominate the forestry productive sector, there is more attention and focus on the non-wood forestry products, especially in the currently global actions to mitigate and address climate change. Hence, there potential to participate and benefit from environmental sustainable programs such as:

- a. Carbon Trade REDD+
- b. Biodiversity Conservation
- c. Non-wood forest product, (medicine, latex, resin, flower etc.)
- d. Eco tourism and recreation
- e. Habitat Conservation
- f. Environmental services (watershed, ecology, natural cycles, protection etc.)

There have been initial work being undertaken and needs to promote through strong secured partnership with stakeholders.

15.3 Recommendations

The main recommendation for to address pressing issues and constraints and to enhance performance and progress in the future are as follows

1. Review and establishment of appropriate legislations and regulations.
The Forest Utilization Act
The Forest Resource Integration Management Act
The Forest Plantation Act
The Forest Carbon Management Act
The Forest Protection and Conservation Act
2. Review and restructuring of the Ministry organization and management
3. Proper resource management and service facilitation
4. Review of the manpower and establishment structure (training)
5. Improve working condition and environment
6. Promote stakeholder engagement and coordination.

15.4 Conclusion

The 2014 working year for the Ministry of Forest and Research has been a challenge as well as satisfying to a certain degree. In general the Ministry has implemented its work plan and achieved a lot, however not to the expected productivity output as anticipated. There were challenges and constraints faced, some of which were beyond the Ministry capacity to address.

The forest sector encompasses all nine provinces to some of the very remote locations that are difficult to access and work under. Hence, the ever present need for appropriate resources allocation is crucial. As observed in the Divisional reports, insufficient resource allocation is a priority need to drive progress and productivity. The Forest Industries Division need to be well supported and resourced to enhance revenue capture to ascertain and ensure true value of timber is received.

Also, the new forest development programs have not been fully supported such as the Out-growers tree planting, Sustainable Forest Management, Biodiversity Conservation and Timber Processing. These are the potential Forest Development Programs that would replace the log export sector that is fast declining.

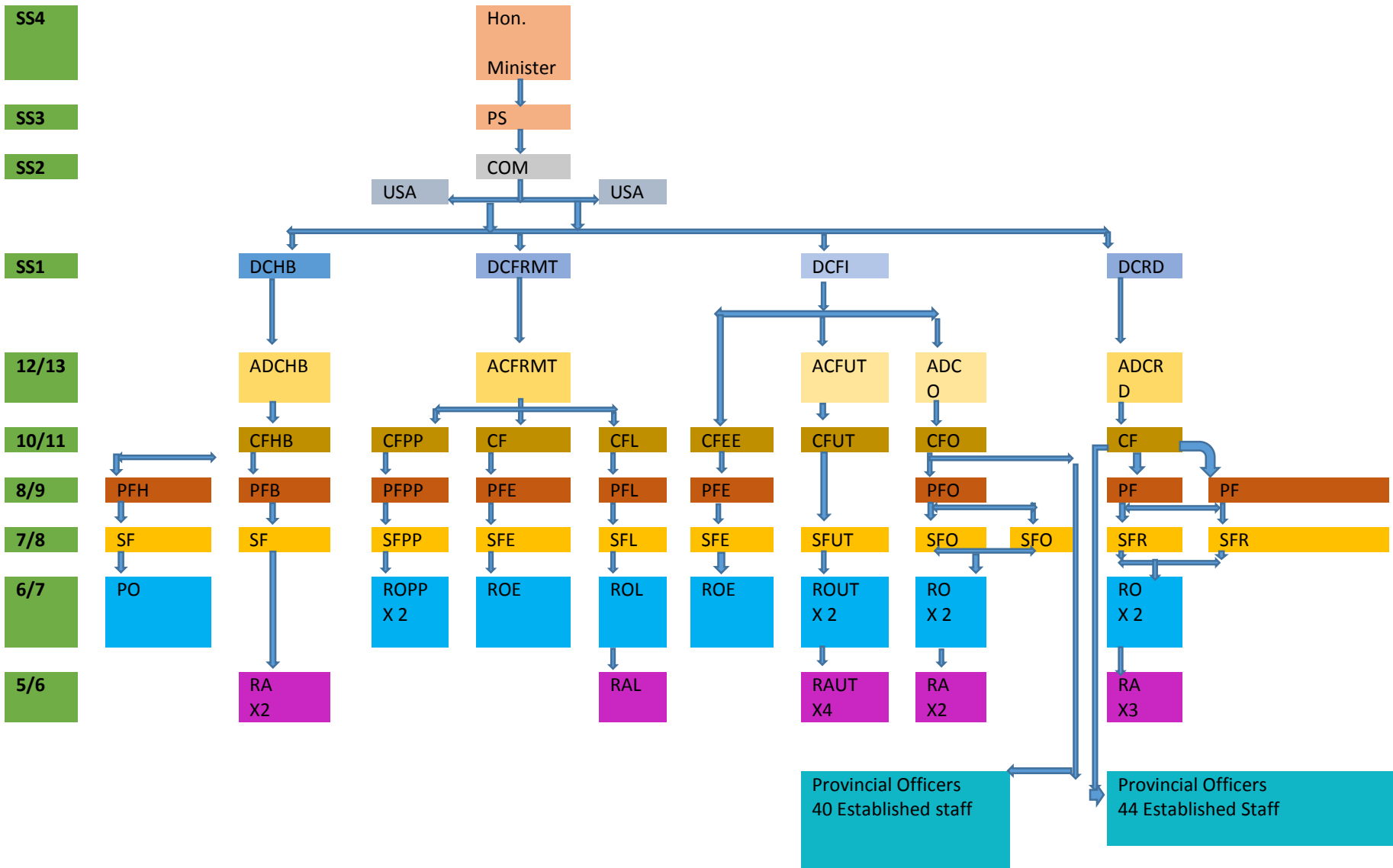
To ensure sustainability and continuous benefit of the forest resource there needs to be an effective collaborative approach through better and committed stakeholder participation.

Our forest the sustenance to our livelihood, our nation and the environment we shelter for survival. Our forests are our future

Together, we Own, Manage and Benefit

ANNEXES

ANNEX A. The Organizational Structure of the Ministry of Forestry and Research



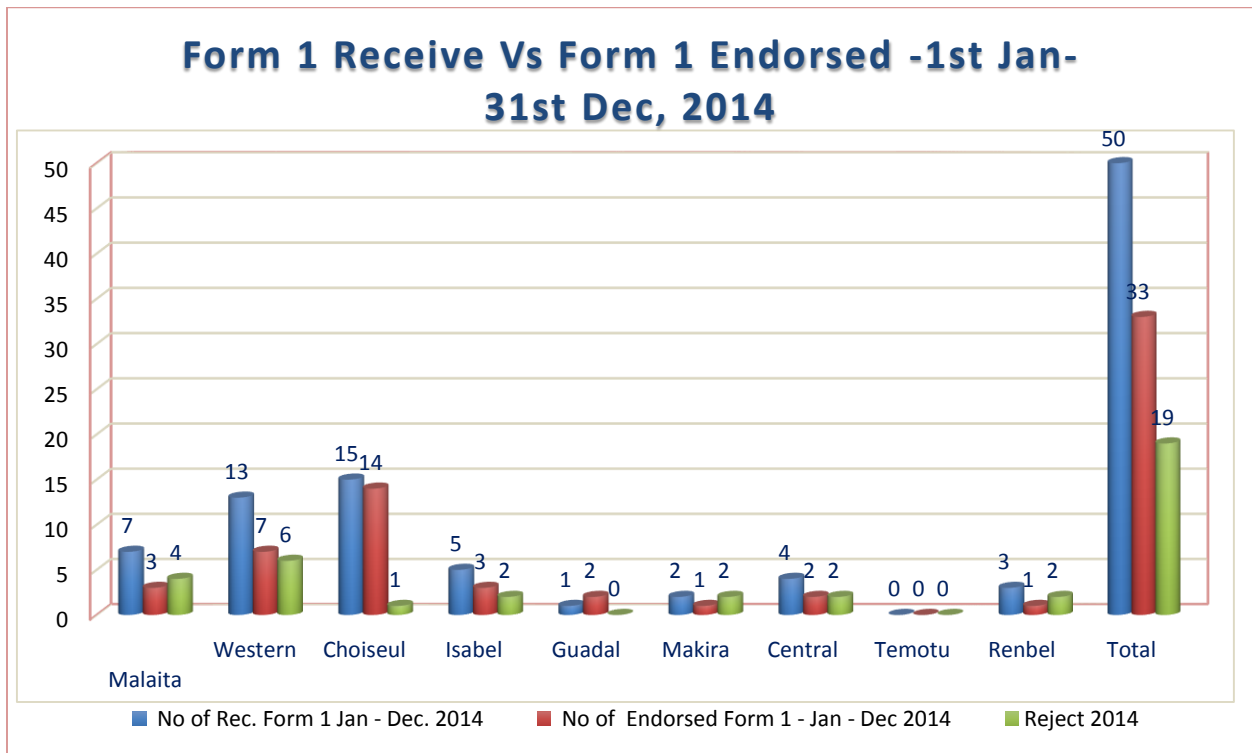
ANNEXE B

Number of computers and IT Equipment issued by the Ministry in 2014

| <i>Division/Section</i> | <i>Desktop/Laptop</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------|
| <i>Administration</i> | <i>Desktop – Nil Laptop – Nil Printer – 2 Photocopying Machine - 1</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>Planning</i> | <i>Desktop – Nil Laptop – 1 Printer – Nil Photocopying Machine - Nil</i> | <i>1</i> |
| <i>Operation</i> | <i>Desktop – 1 Laptop – 3 Printer – Nil Photocopying Machine - Nil</i> | <i>4</i> |
| <i>Utilization</i> | <i>Desktop – Nil Laptop – 2 Printer – 1 Photocopying Machine - Nil</i> | <i>3</i> |
| <i>Enforcement</i> | <i>Desktop – Nil Laptop – Nil Printer – Nil Photocopying Machine - Nil</i> | <i>Nil</i> |
| <i>Licensing</i> | <i>Desktop – Nil Laptop – 1 Printer – Nil Photocopying Machine - Nil</i> | <i>1</i> |
| <i>Marketing</i> | <i>Desktop – Nil Laptop – 1 Printer – Nil Photocopying Machine - Nil</i> | <i>1</i> |
| <i>Reforestation</i> | <i>Desktop – 3 Laptop – 2 Printer – Nil Photocopying Machine - Nil</i> | <i>5</i> |
| <i>National Herbarium</i> | <i>Desktop – 2 Laptop – 3 Printer – Nil Photocopying Machine - 1</i> | <i>6</i> |
| 2014 Total machine Issued | | 24 |

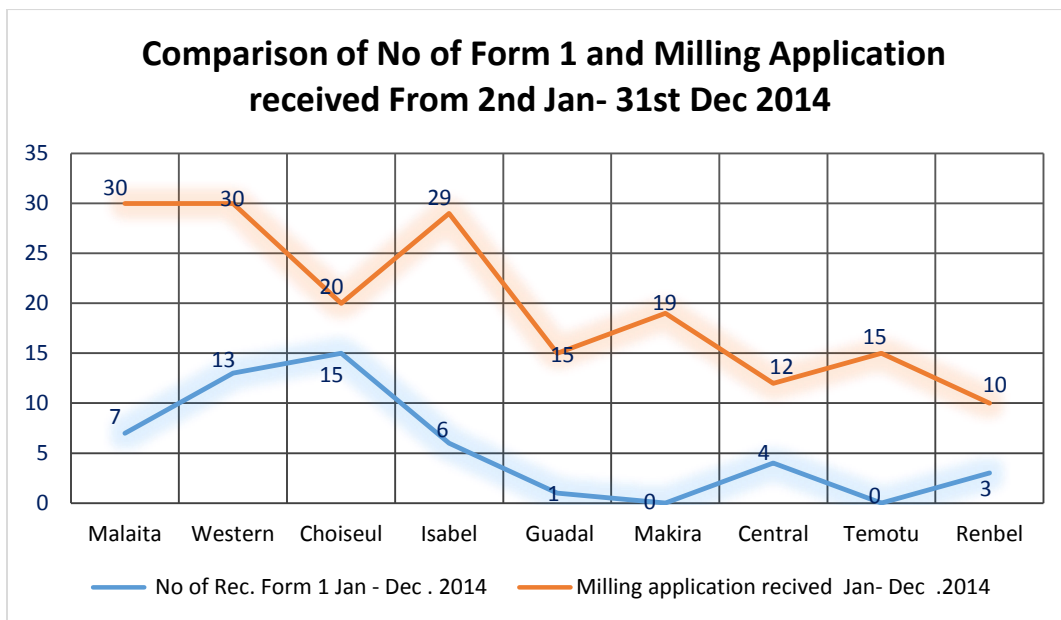
ANNEX C

Form 1 applications received and endorsed to respective provinces in 2014



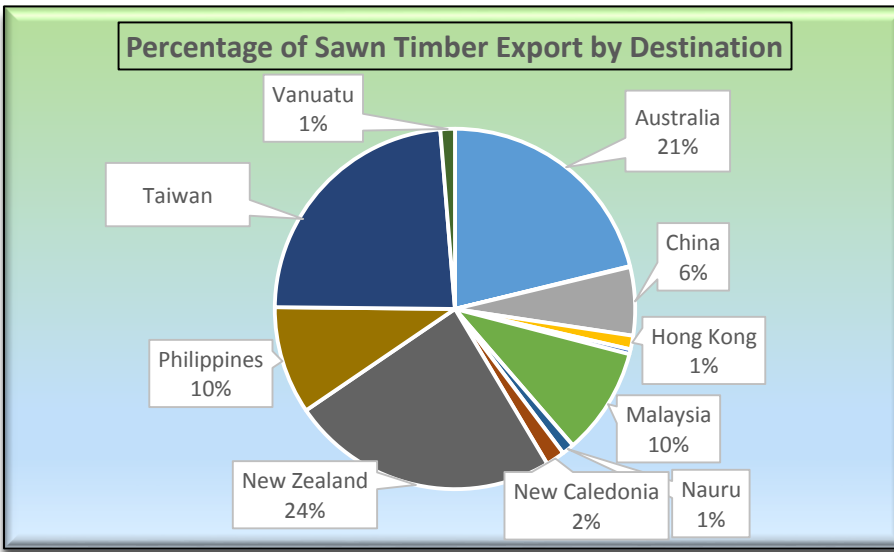
ANNEX D

Form 1 and Milling Applications received in 2014



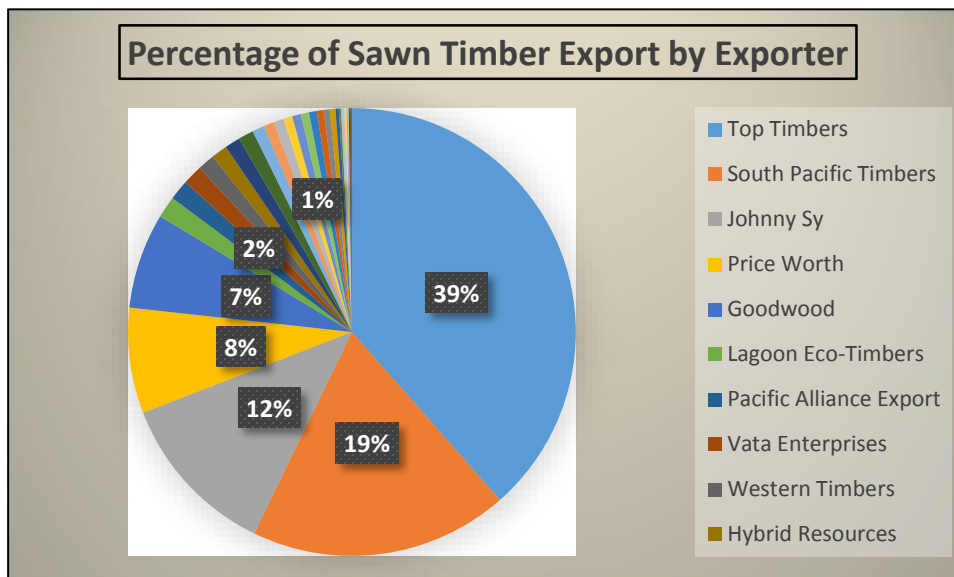
ANNEX E

Sawn timber export by Destination



ANNEX F

2014 Sawn timber exporters



ANNEX G

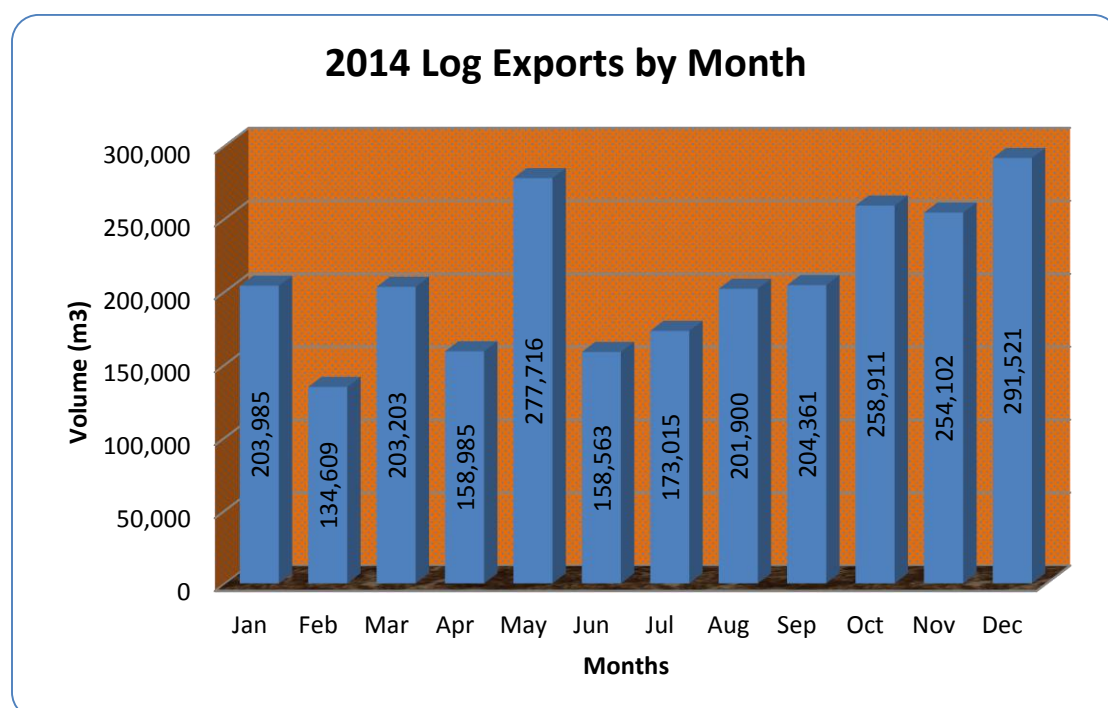
Table on 2014 Log Exports by Month

| | Estimate | | Actual | | Duty | MPC | |
|--------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|-----------|
| | Volume (m ³) | Value (US\$) | Volume (m ³) | Value (US\$) | Paid (S\$) | Issued | Cancelled |
| Jan | 203,985 | 23,706,202 | 152,178.459 | 16,260,779.20 | 29,657,276.91 | 79 | 1 |
| Feb | 134,609 | 13,830,129 | 79,645.466 | 8,713,521.950 | 14,209,775.65 | 54 | 3 |
| Mar | 203,203 | 23,415,251 | 86,345.914 | 9,829,534.94 | 12,336,951.28 | 75 | 0 |
| Apr | 158,985 | 19,402,884 | 48,471.730 | 5,414,611.11 | 8,891,129.41 | 55 | 0 |
| May | 277,716 | 35,076,968 | 124,097.475 | 15,554,315.23 | 26,369,796.68 | 96 | 0 |
| Jun | 158,563 | 19,079,998 | 104,970.009 | 104,970.01 | 22,872,859.85 | 68 | 0 |
| Jul | 173,015 | 22,254,726 | 128,828.960 | 15,783,280.60 | 29,582,505.73 | 64 | 0 |
| Aug | 201,900 | 25,333,320 | 163,985.124 | 19,783,683.01 | 33,828,342.84 | 71 | 0 |
| Sep | 204,361 | 32,135,202 | 164,110.970 | 20,204,834.66 | 35,190,524.93 | 74 | 0 |
| Oct | 258,911 | 32,935,569 | 155,891.681 | 18,895,806.43 | 32,397,584.33 | 72 | 0 |
| Nov | 254,102 | 31,434,034 | 27,755.705 | 3,552,329.80 | 1,675,783.92 | 75 | |
| Dec | 291,521 | 35,227,882 | 1,906.263 | 246,174.95 | 0.00 | 90 | |
| Total | 2,520,871 | 313,832,166 | 1,238,187.756 | 134,343,841.89 | 247,012,531.53 | 873 | 4 |

(Note: Actual volume exported is less compared to estimate volume as not all shipping documents are received to update data)

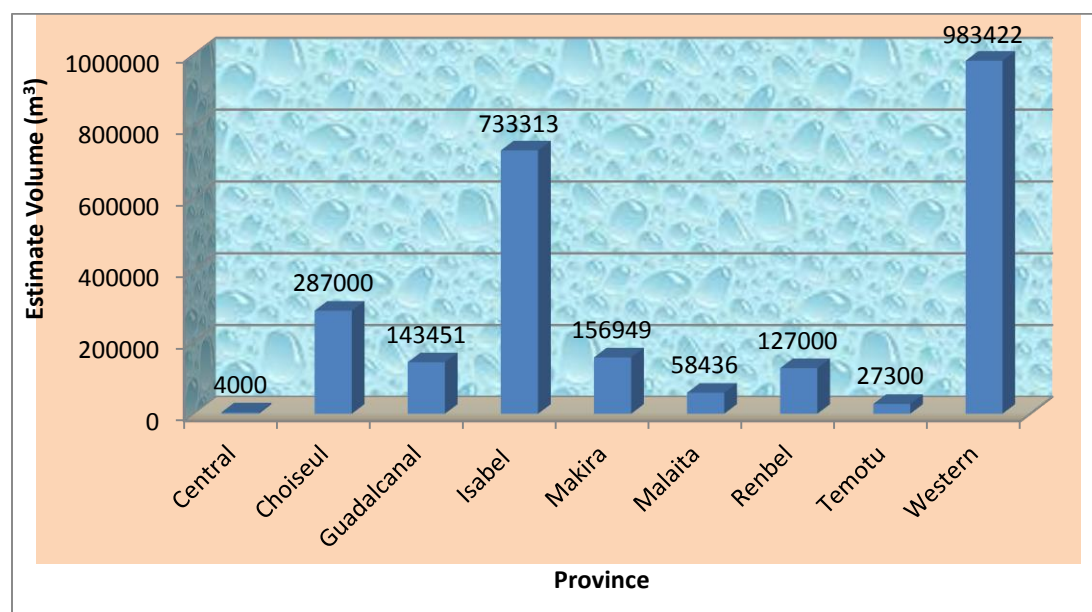
ANNEX H

Graph on 2014 Log Exports by Month



ANNEX I

Graph on 2014 Log Export by Province



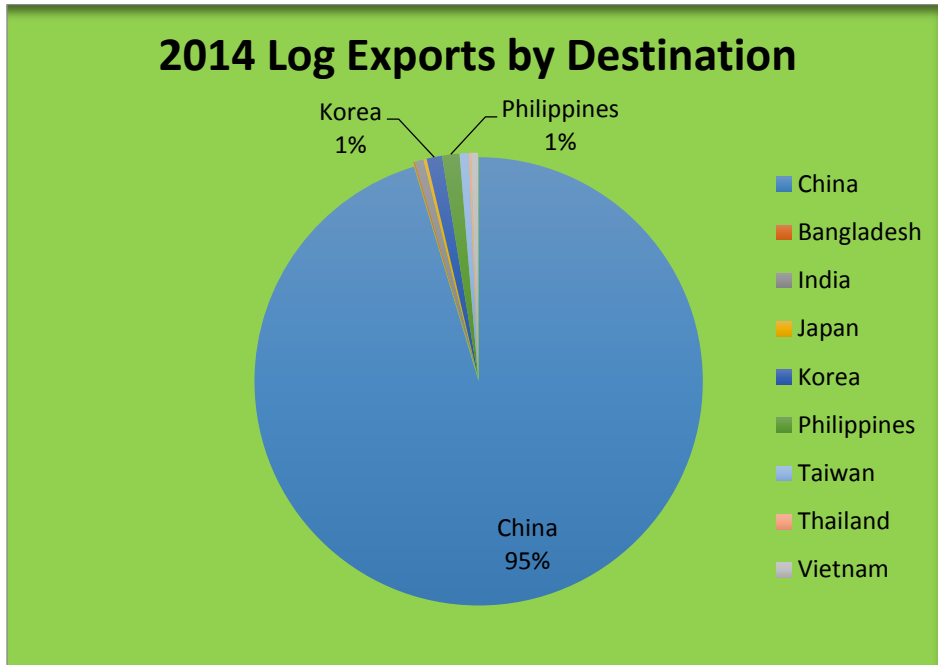
ANNEX J

Summary table of timber Species planted by Provinces in 2014

| Provinces | Species | | | | | NO. of Farmer by provinces |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Euclid | Teak | Swim | Others | Total | |
| Western | 19.678 | 31.6898 | 9.9178 | 2.9484 | 64.2340 | 142 |
| Isabel | 0.456 | 1.884 | 4.468 | 0.0216 | 6.8296 | 38 |
| Central | 0.0336 | 8.862 | 5.6068 | | 14.5024 | 85 |
| Makira/Ulawa | 0.036 | 0.9996 | 3.786 | 0.0018 | 4.8234 | 66 |
| Malaita | 2.7065 | 69.623 | 15.6832 | 4.13 | 92.1427 | 34 |
| Renbel | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Choiseul | 0.998 | 0.999 | 6.1245 | | 8.1215 | 50 |
| Temotu | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| Guadalcanal | | | | 0.75 | 0.75 | 1 |
| Total Ha | 23.9081 | 114.0574 | 45.5863 | 7.8518 | 191.4036 | 416 |

ANNEX K

Graph of 2014 Log exports by Destination



ANNEX L

Summary of RTC and CBTC DSP Recipients 2014

| NO | RECIPIENT | SUPPLIER | PRO FORMA | EQUIPMENT/TOOLS | AMOUNT |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | Adakoa RTC | Power Products | P1 532393 | Chainsaw & Frame | \$28,221.70 |
| 2 | Afutara RTC | Solomon Agents Ltd | 201403068B | Warriors Portable Mill | \$97,706.00 |
| 3 | Asiko CBTC | Farmset Limited | HON 3003 | Generator | \$6,000.00 |
| 4 | Aisilinga CBTC | Farmset Limited | HON 3017 | Generator | \$10,000.00 |
| 5 | Arao CBTC | Placemakers Hardware | Pro forma Invoice | Carpentry Hand Tools | \$13,607.30 |
| 6 | Bolilau CBTC | Farmset Limited Discount Electricals | HON 3031 45810 | Generator Electrical Tools | \$6,000.00 \$11,750.00 |
| 7 | Nawote RTC | Island Enterprises Ltd | 170327 | Generator | \$25,980.00 |
| 8 | Ngaligaragara RTC | Power Products | P1 532664 | Chainsaw & Frame | \$26,852.50 |
| 9 | Pamua RTC | Honiara Hardware | 151049 | Carpentry Hand Tools | \$37,298.10 |
| 10 | San Isidro RTC | Power Products | P1 531744 | Chainsaw & Frame | \$29,733.50 |
| 11 | Sapetola CBTC | Bowmans | 40148 | Hand Tools | \$9,646.70 |
| 12 | St Dominic RTC | Discount Electricals Farmset Limited | 45584 HON 0176 | Electrical Tools Generator | \$16,460.00 \$6,000.00 |
| 13 | ST Martin RTC | Power Products | P1 531681 | Chainsaw and Frame | \$26,852.50 |
| 14 | Suva RTC | C&I Distributers | A 37228 | Electrical Tools | \$20,034.00 |
| 15 | Tarapaina RTC | Power Products | P532455 | Chainsaw and Frame | \$25,670.00 |
| 16 | Taro CBTC | Village Hardware Centre | 18028 & 18030 | Hand Tools | \$10,000.00 |
| 17 | Taylor RTC | Power Products | P1 532245 | Chainsaw and Frame | \$30,077.85 |
| 18 | Vanga Teachers RTC | Rendova Trading Company | 037885 | Electrical Tools | \$14,210.00 |
| 19 | Vatu RTC | Discount Electricals | 45523 | Electrical Tools | \$30,090.00 |
| Total Funding | | | | | \$482,190.15 |

ANNEX M

Summary of seed collection from Poitete seed sources in 2014

| Date | Species | Batch Number | Fresh (Wt.) | Stored (Wt.) | Remarks |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 12.02.2014 | <i>Eucd</i> | 6508 | 100g | 100g | L42 |
| 12.02.2014 | <i>Flueggea Flexuosa</i> | 6509 | 20g | | Provenance Trial (Poitete) |
| 21.03.2014 | <i>Eucd</i> | 6510 | 250g | 250g | L39 |
| 21.03.2014 | <i>Teak</i> | 6502 | 30 kg | 36 kg | L44 |
| 21.03.2014 | <i>Teak</i> | 6504 | 16 kg | 16 kg | L39 |
| 28.04.2014 | <i>Eucd</i> | 6511 | 50g | 50g | L43 |
| 28.04.2014 | <i>Flueggea</i> | 6512 | 200g | 200g | L46 |
| 14.05.2014 | <i>Eucd</i> | 6514 | 750g | 750g | L36 |
| 14.05.2014 | <i>Eucd</i> | 6513 | 150g | 150g | L38 |
| 18.06.2014 | <i>Swim</i> | 6515 | 23.5 kg | 18.5 kg | L44 |
| 17.07.2014 | <i>Swim</i> | 6515 | 55.0 kg | 55.0 kg | L 44 |
| 17.07.2014 | <i>Swim</i> | 6521 | 30.25 kg | 30.25 kg | L52 |
| 17.07.2014 | <i>Teak</i> | 6516 | 26.5 kg | | L44 |
| 17.07.2014 | <i>Teak</i> | 6518 | 28.0 kg | | L39 (SPA) |
| 17.07.2014 | <i>Teak</i> | 6520 | 28.0 kg | | L38 (CSO) |

ANNEX N

Summary of seeds received in Honiara in 2014

| Date | Name of spp | Qty(kg/g) | B/No : | Sources |
|-------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 21.01.2014 | <i>Teak</i> | 40 kg | 6504 | L39 |
| 31.03.2014 | <i>Teak</i> | 40 kg | 6504 | L39 |
| 30.04.2014 | <i>Eucd</i> | 100g | 6510 | L39 |
| 16.05.2014 | <i>Eucd</i> | 0.4 kg | 0.4 kg | L36 |
| 30.05.2014 | <i>Teak</i> | 51.0 kg | 6504 | L 39 |
| 22.07.2014 | <i>Teak</i> | 25.0 kg | 6000 | unknown |
| 22.07.2014 | <i>Swim</i> | 55.0 kg | 6515 | L44 |
| 22.07.2014 | <i>Swim</i> | 30.25 kg | 6521 | L52 |
| 22.07.2014 | <i>Teak</i> | 50 kg | 6502 | L 44 |
| 28.07.2014 | <i>Swim</i> | 188 kg | 5801 | Takaboru |
| 01.08.2014 | <i>Swim</i> | 170.5 kg | 5801 | Takaboru |

ANNEX O

Seeds dispatched to Provinces from HQ and Munda

| Name of Provinces | Names of Species | | | Remarks |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------|
| | Teak | Swim | Eucd | |
| Malaita | 76.5 kg | 147.5 kg | 141 grams | |
| Isabel | 127.5 kg | 100.5 kg | 222 grams | |
| Central | 47 kg | 14 kg | 88 grams | |
| Temotu | nil | 15 .5kgs | nil | |
| Makira | 10 kg | 15 kg | nil | |
| Guad | 33.5 kg | 30.5 kg | 101 grams | |
| Renbel | 6 kg | nil | nil | |
| Choiseul | nil | 14.25 kg | nil | Distributed from Munda |
| Western | 2.75 kg | 11.75 kg | nil | Distributed from Munda |
| Honiara | 1 kg | nil | nil | |

ANNEX P

A summary of all propagated ornamental plants inside the nursery stand out beds.

| No | Scientific/Common Names | No. of plants |
|-----------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | <i>Jasmin sp</i> | 336 |
| 2 | <i>Thunbergia sp</i> | 106 |
| 3. | <i>Sheena's gold</i> | 190 |
| 4 | <i>Barleria sp</i> | 86 |
| 5 | <i>Cordyline sp</i> | 49 |
| 6 | <i>Croton sp</i> | 438 |
| 7 | <i>Caralia</i> | 589 |
| 8 | <i>Saraca indicum</i> | 16 |
| 9 | <i>Mangsteen</i> | 14 |
| 10 | <i>Royal Palm</i> | 203 |
| 11 | <i>Bouganvillia sp</i> | 75 |
| 12 | <i>Plumeria sp</i> | 52 |
| 13 | <i>Acalypha</i> | 45 |
| 14 | <i>Graftophyllum</i> | 6 |
| 15 | <i>Pseudranthumum sp</i> | 153 |
| 16 | <i>Ixora</i> | 20 |
| 17 | <i>Mussaenda sp</i> | 77 |
| 18 | <i>Gardenia sp</i> | 22 |
| 19 | <i>Carpentaria sp (palm)</i> | 110 |
| 20 | <i>Palm sp</i> | 36 |
| 21 | <i>Gulubia sp</i> | 52 |
| 22 | <i>Balaka seemanii</i> | 66 |
| 23 | <i>Ptychosperma sp</i> | 26 |
| 24 | <i>Lantana white</i> | 36 |
| 25 | <i>Duranta green</i> | 180 |
| 26 | <i>Coliwa sp</i> | 29 |

ANNEXE Q

The diversity of orchids collected in 2014 and raised within the gardens ex-situ nursery

Graph Showing Genus diversity of the Orchidaceae collected in 2014

