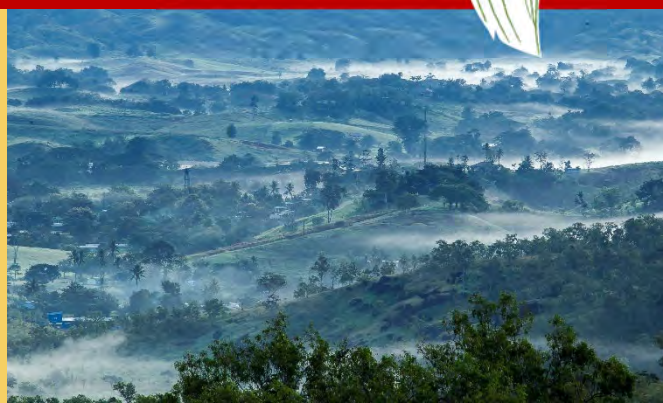


# Technical Cooperation CEPA - JICA Biodiversity Project 2015-2020

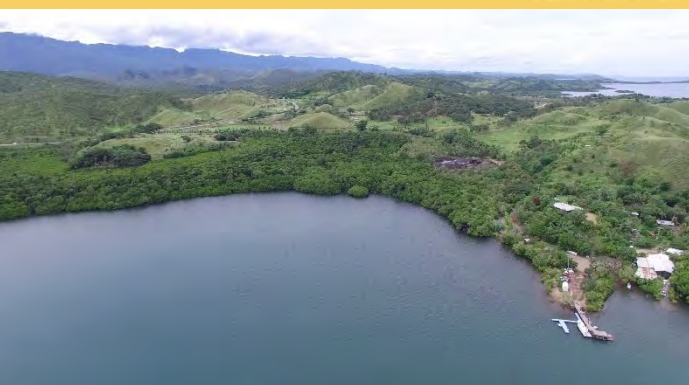


## Annual Report 2019

The Project for Biodiversity Conservation through  
Implementation of the PNG Policy on Protected Areas



**CEPA - JICA  
Biodiversity Project**



Project Period: Five (5) years commencing from June 2015

Targets: Provincial administration(s), district administration(s) and LLG government(s) surrounding the target Protected Areas

Implementing Agency: Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA),  
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Target Protected Areas: Terrestrial – Varirata National Park,  
Marine/Coastal – to be defined



## Background

PNG is one of the richest biodiversity countries in the world, while among the total population of 7.3 million in PNG, over 80% of them are in rural areas and still directly dependent on the natural environment with the rich biodiversity for their subsistence and livelihoods.

To address biodiversity conservation, the government of Papua New Guinea and Japan jointly launched a technical cooperation called the Project for Biodiversity Conservation through Implementation of the PNG Policy on Protected Areas. The project commenced in June 2015 and will run for a five (5) year period. The implementing agencies are Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

## Project Framework

### Project Purpose

Institutional capacity of CEPA for protected area (PA) management is strengthened through enhancing national-level PA governance and sustainable use of natural resources with local communities in the model PA(s) as per the provision of the Policy on Protected Areas (PPA).

### Overall Goal

Protected Area Network is effectively managed by applying PA management (and establishment) model(s), which were developed by the Project.

### Outputs

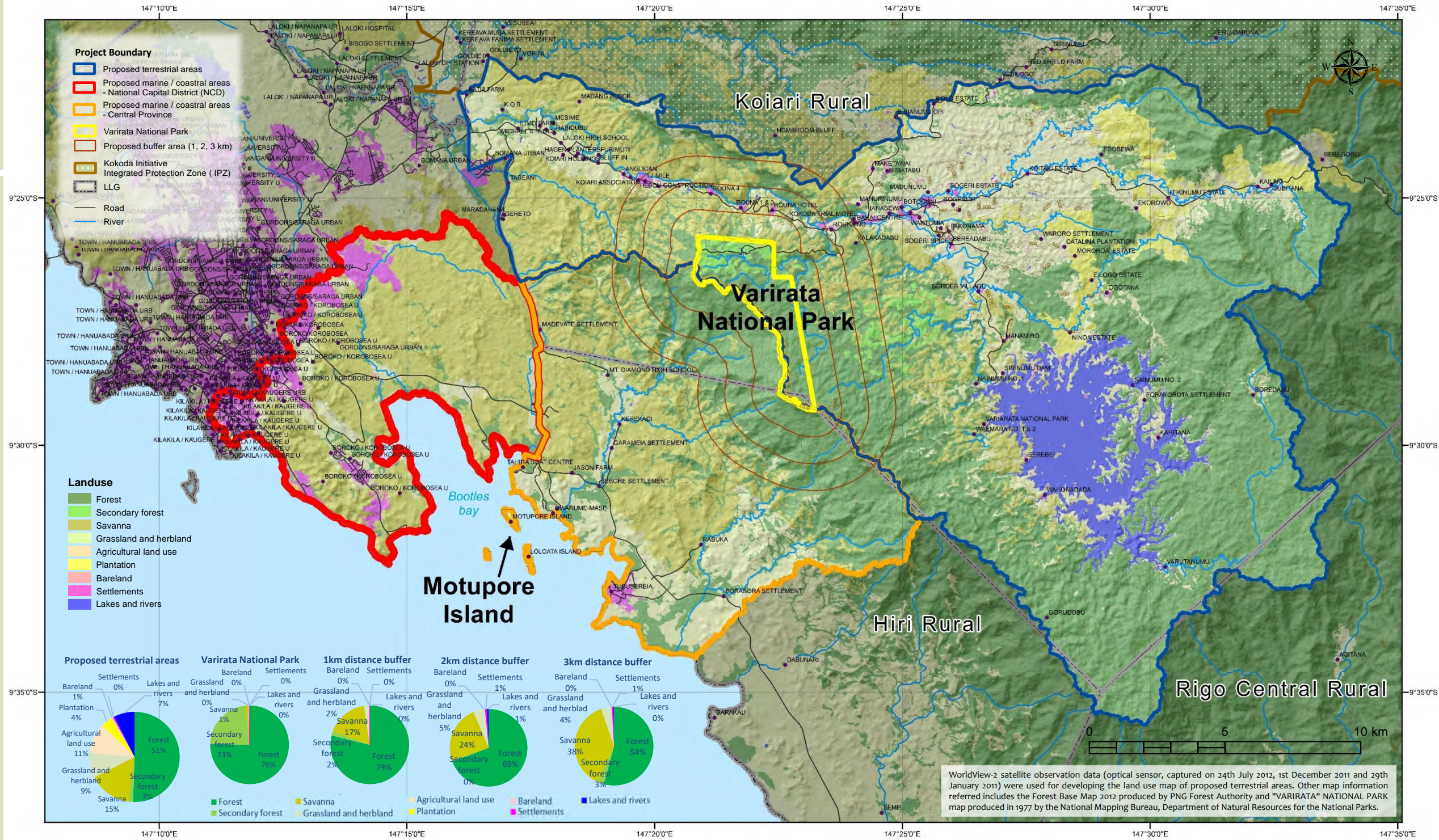
- 1.National-level governance and management arrangement for Protected Area Network (i.e., PPA Action Plan, National Conservation Council (NCC)) is strengthened.
- 2.The Varirata National Park (VNP) is enhanced as a terrestrial PA management model in accordance with PPA.
- 3.A model of establishing a new marine PA is developed as per the provision of PPA and concerned laws.
- 4.Public relations/awareness for biodiversity conservation is improved by disseminating project related information.

The project design can be interpreted to have three distinctive tasks; 1) enhancement of administrative function of national government for PA network (Output 1), 2) enhancement of PA management and establishment functions of both national and local governments (Output 2 & 3) and 3) enhancement of information dissemination and public relation function of national government (Output 4). While Output 2 & 3 are core components to the project purpose, Output 1 & 4 are supporting components of the Output 2 & 3.

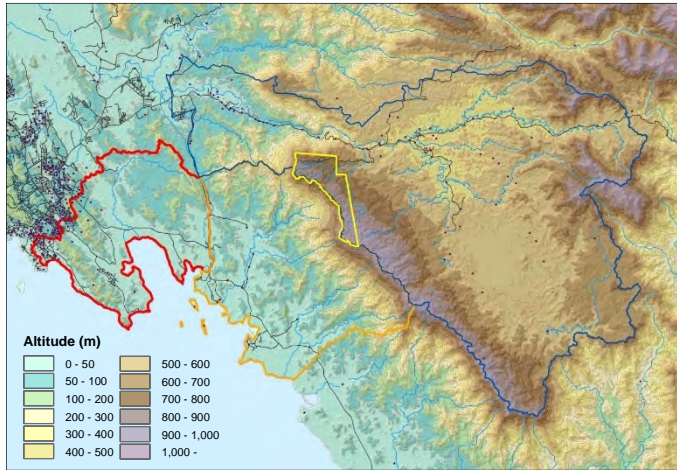
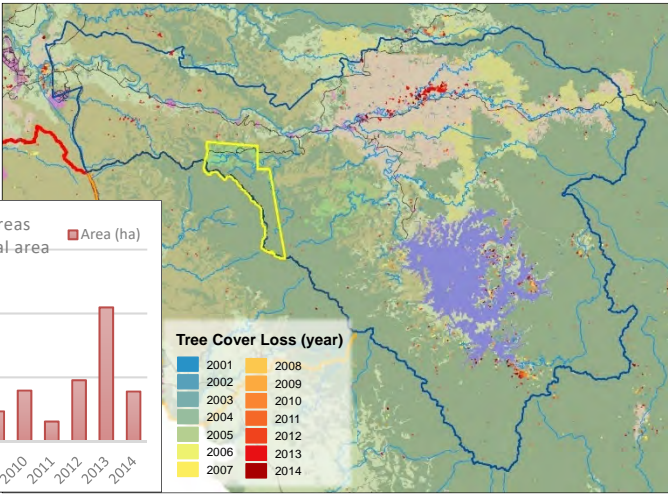
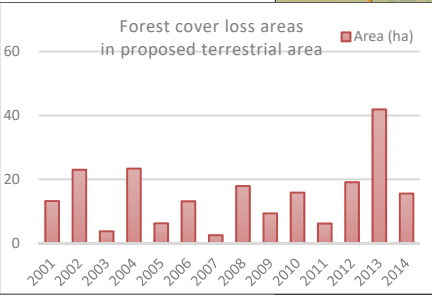
### Target Areas

Proposed project target area covers approximately 612 km<sup>2</sup>, which can be divided into two major types; terrestrial areas (396 km<sup>2</sup>) and marine/coastal areas (216 km<sup>2</sup>), as indicated below. The target PA for the Output 2 is the VNP to develop a terrestrial PA management model, and Koitari Rural LLG is the target LLG for livelihood related activities. Besides, the Output 3 targets Bootless Bay and its coast for the establishment of a new marine/coastal PA model.

# Land Use Map of Project Target Areas



Tree cover loss published by Professor Hansen, et al. in Maryland University, USA. shows yearly forest reduction between 2001 and 2014 based on an algorithm to extract areas where decrease of vegetation taller than 5m in height was occurring utilizing imagery of LANDSAT 7 and LANDSAT 8.



ASTER GDEM data were utilized for creating an altitude map.



SRTM DEM data were utilized for analyzing slope.



## Output 1 Strengthen National Level Protected Area Governance !!!

Strengthening **national-level governance and management arrangement** for Protected Area Network

**Better Protected Area Governance and Coordination**

**NCC Establishment**

**NCC Operation**

For strengthening PA governance and management, we work for

- **National Conservation Council (NCC)** to be clarified and actually installed.
- Related bodies such as **National Protected Area Round Table (NPART)**, **Regional Protected Area Round Table (RPART)** to be clarified.
- **Ensure initiative of Central Provincial Government (CPG)** to establish provincial protected area in Bootless Bay.

### Achievements by December 2019

- Clarified all related issues and make **NPART as an Interim NCC** ready to be established.
- Extensively reviewed existing framework, identified approach, finalized necessary documents, and established **VNP Management Committee**.
- **MoU between CPG and CEPA** to promote marine protected area establishment was signed.
- Drafted various instruments such as ToR for **Protected Area Working Group (PAWG)** for **Bootless Bay National Marine Sanctuary**.

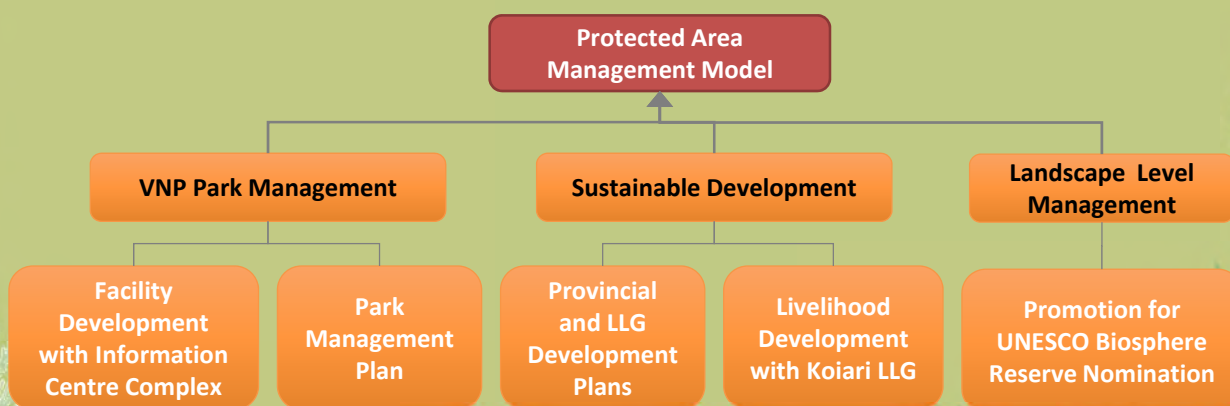


### Targets for 2020

- Officially establish **NPART** as an interim body of NCC.
- Collaborate with CPG for PA establishment.
- Construct CEPA Marine Station at Tahira to promote **Bootless Bay National Marine Sanctuary**.
- Promote concept of MAB program as a mean of landscape-level management.

## Output 2 Varirata National Park as the State's Management Model !!!

The Varirata National Park (VNP) has been enhanced as a **Terrestrial Protected Area Management Model**.



For contributing to public reputation/appreciation of VNP, we work for

- **Various park facilities** to be restored and developed.
- **Park management plans** to be developed and to be used.
- **Biodiversity conservation of VNP landscape** to be integrated into the **local governments' development plans**.
- **Livelihood development options** to be developed with Koiari communities.





## Achievements by December 2019

### Developed and improved the Information Center (IC) and surrounding area as new IC Complex in September 2018

- Constructed new **Information Center**.
- Renovated old information center as **Kumul Auditorium**.
- Wood deck was installed as **Kibung Squire**.

### Key activities as per Park management plan prepared by the Project

- **Camera trap** was installed at the park gate to tighten security.
- Cars visiting the Park were continuously monitored.
- **The park management committee of VNP** was established in November 2019.
- First and second meeting of park management committee were held.
- **Relevant forms** such as ticket and receipt for collecting admission fee were prepared.
- Park staff has continuously collected **admission fee** at the park gate since March 2019.



### Development Planning of local governments surrounding VNP

- Finalized **Central Province development plan** by Central Provincial Government.
- Made final report of achievement for **Koiari LLG and Central province development planning**.



### A series of Livelihood Development Activities

- **KAE Association Inc.** (livelihood development groups) provided their **performance** at the total of three events in 2019 (total of seven times).
- **Study/exposure tour** was held with 20 participants to improve their performance to international/national tourists.
- **First book-keeping training** was carried out to improve their ability of financial management.
- **Bank account for KAE Association** was opened in October 2019.
- **Packaged tour** was developed with KAE Association and **first trial tour** was conducted in November 2019.
- Monitored **livelihood development activities** based on the livelihood development plan.





## Targets for 2020

### Continuous Park Management improvement

- Information Center Complex utilization (ICC)
- Financial management
- Security management
- Camera trap

### MAB nomination form

- Draft MAB nomination form

### Livelihood development with KAE Association Inc.

- Performance and service of social groups to be improved.
- An evaluation workshop for KAE Association Inc. to be conducted.
- KAE to be developed as a partner for the park management.



## Output 3 New Marine Protected Area to be created !!!

A model of establishing a new Marine Protected Area (MPA) as per the provision of PPA and concerned laws



For a model of MPA establishment, we work for

- **Easement for MPA** to be declared.
- **MPA Proposal** to be prepared.
- **MPA Management Plan** to be prepared.



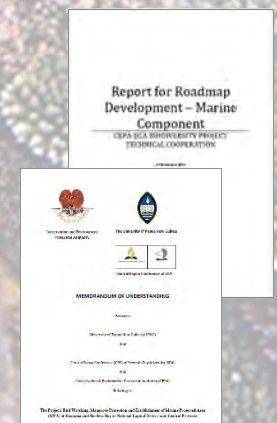
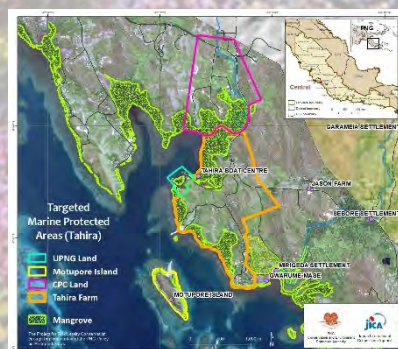
## Achievements by December 2019

### MPA establishment

- A roadmap for the establishment of a new MPA in PNG was prepared.
- Rapid marine biodiverse survey was carried out.
- Five target sites were selected for MPA establishment.
- Four memorandum of understanding with landowners of Bootless Bay area were signed.
- Deeds and conservation easements were drafted.

### Officialization of MPA

- Bootless Bay Marine Conservation Initiative (BBMCI) was established as stakeholder network.
- The road map was approved by BBMCI.
- Three workshops and eight meetings have been carried out under BBMCI.
- Coastal clean-up event was carried out under BBMCI.
- Bootless Bay National Marine Sanctuary Working Group was established.
- MPA proposal was finalized.







### MPA management

- Facility construction was planned.
- **MPA awareness signboards** were installed.
- **MPA awareness activities** have been carried out.
- **Marine biodiversity survey** was conducted.
- ToR of MPA management committee was drafted.
- MPA management plan was drafted.
- **Mangrove identification guide** was prepared.



### Other Key Achievements

- **Proposal form for Establishment of a PA** was prepared.
- **Training in Japan on MPA** was carried out.
- **Boat with motor and Kayaks** for mangrove monitoring were purchased.

### Targets for 2020

#### MPA establishment

- Conservation easements to be signed.

#### Officialization of MPA

- Series of meetings and workshops under BBMRI to be held.

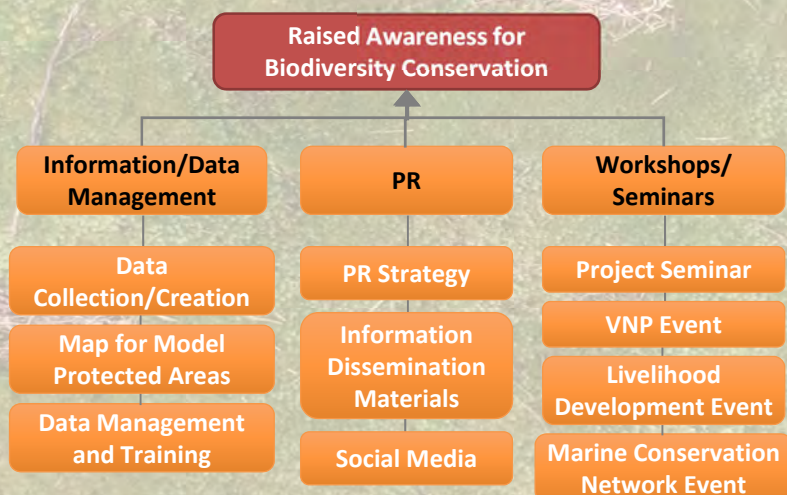
#### MPA management

- MPA management office construction at Tahira to be completed.
- Socio-economic survey to be completed.
- MPA management committee to be established.
- MPA management plan to be prepared.
- Bird guide to be printed and distributed.



## Output 4 Raising Awareness for Biodiversity Conservation and Data Management !!!

Public Relations (PR)/awareness for biodiversity conservation by disseminating project related information



For raising awareness for biodiversity conservation and the Project activities, we work for

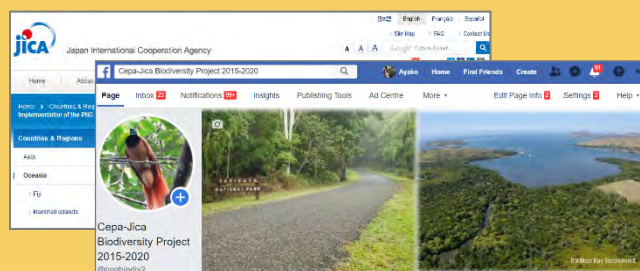
- **Data and information for model Protected Areas (PA)** to be collected and managed.
- **Strategy for PR/awareness** to be developed, and **information dissemination materials** to be elaborated and disseminated through appropriate media as per the PR strategy.
- **Workshops/seminars** to be conducted for better PR/awareness.



## Achievements by December 2019

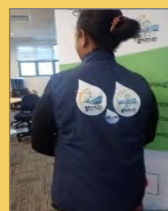
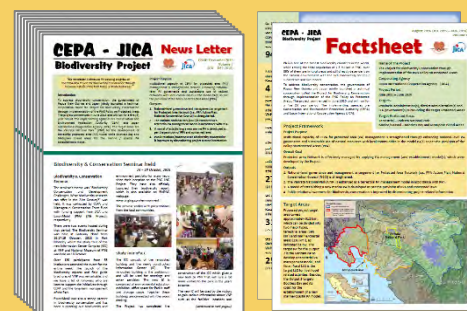
### Information/Data Management for Model PA

- **WorldView-2 imagery** (Terrestrial areas: 494km<sup>2</sup>, Marine / coastal areas: 223km<sup>2</sup>) was purchased.
- **GIS database** has been developed, and also **data and maps for each output** have been prepared.
  - ✓ **facility maps** of VNP,
  - ✓ **detailed land cover/use map** of proposed terrestrial areas,
  - ✓ **mangroves map** of Bootless Bay, Dogura Inlet and Tuna Bay including Joyce Bay in the NCD and Central Province,
  - ✓ **reef map** of targeted MPA,
  - ✓ **management zone map**,
  - ✓ **Bootless Bay National Marine Sanctuary map**, etc.
- **Manuals for updating VNP facility database** and others have been created.



### PR of the Project Activities for biodiversity Conservation

- A **Public Relations/awareness strategy and Action plan** for the Project has been developed at the beginning, and reviewed and revised in the middle of the Project.
- A variety of **project PR tools** have been created as per the PR strategy.
  - ✓ Project webpage (11 posts), facebook page (358 posts),
  - ✓ brochures (volume 1-6 and Marine ver.: 3,100 copies),
  - ✓ news letters (volume 1-9: 4,200 copies), factsheet (volume 1-2: 800 copies), Project Atlas (100 copies),
  - ✓ sign boards (22), banners (19), posters (56),
  - ✓ Guide map of VNP (5,500 copies), Field Guide brochures for VNP (1,000 copies), Biodiversity report book (110 copies), Mangrove identification guide of Bootless Bay (500 copies), Common birds field guide of Bootless Bay (500 copies)
  - ✓ polo shirts (69), T-shirts (200), stickers (3,062 copies), vest (60),
  - ✓ logos for VNP and BBMCI, stamps of VNP, etc.
- Project activities were disseminated through **media and events**.
  - ✓ more than 17 news articles appearances in newspaper,
  - ✓ promotion of the Project in the World Wildlife Day,
  - ✓ running of a booth and made a presentation at the World Oceans Conference in UN HQ, in New York,
  - ✓ major sponsorship of the World Environment Day event at VNP,
  - ✓ acceptance of students of Pacific Adventist University on internship,
  - ✓ event of community awareness on Bootless Bay MPA,
  - ✓ VNP one day tour packages, etc.



### Workshops/Seminars for Better PR/Awareness

- **Seminars/workshops** has been held more than 22 times.

### Targets for 2020

- Technical transfer for managing GIS database including VNP facility data to be implemented.
- Public relations strategy for the Project to be reviewed with the view to evaluate outcomes and efficiency, and created the final report.
- A variety of project PR tools to be created continuously, including VNP promotion video.
- Seminar/workshop to be held.



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<https://www.facebook.com/pngbiodiv2/>  
<http://pngcepa.com/projects/>

