

Progress Towards VCS Validation/Verification

Dr Carly Green



Presentation Outline

- Introduction to EAS
- VCS Project Milestones
- Project Scope and Boundaries
- Fieldwork
- Deforestation/Degradation Modelling and GHG Calculations
- Documentation Development
- Validation/Verification

INTRODUCTION TO EAS



Introduction to EAS

- Environmental Accounting Services (EAS) established in 2008
- Boutique consultancy providing strategic and technical consulting services for the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector
- Five full time staff plus five associates active in more than ten countries

EAS Experience

 More than 2000 hours of lead auditing against the Verified Carbon Standard and Climate Community and Biodiversity standard





 Successfully completed more than 50 carbon related projects in the AFOLU sector

Dr Carly Green

- Founder of EAS
- VCE independent expert
 - Improved Forest Management
 - Agriculture Land Management
 - Peatland Rewetting and Conservation
 - Reduced Emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (application pending)

VCS PROJECT MILESTONES

VCS Milestones

Key	Item	Completion in %
Milestone 1	Project Scope and Boundaries	100%
Milestone 2	Fieldwork and Biomass Estimates	100%
Milestone 3	Project Modelling and GHG Calculations	50%
Milestone 4	Monitoring Report	80%
Milestone 5	Finalise PD	20%
Milestone 6	Validation	10%
Milestone 7	Registration / Sale	

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PROJECT SCOPE AND BOUNDARIES



Project Scope

- Aims to avoid deforestation and degradation of primary forest of cultural and biological importance
- Will address education and health through the alleviation of poverty



Project Scope

Expected results

- CCB validation approved
- VCS validation / verification under development
- Carbon credits used to expand education and health services, and support sustainable enterprise development in the project region



Project Scope

- Improved Forest Management (IFM) Logged to Protected Forest
- Reduced Emissions from Deforestation (RED) logging infrastructure and illegal land use conversion post logging
- Peatland Rewetting and Conservation (PRC) Avoided conversion of Peatlands
- Three separate VCS methodologies (complex but complete accounting of activities)

Project Challenges

- Discovery of peat soils in the project area lead to variation of project boundary
- Persistent cloud cover in the project area and the leakage belt lead to approximately 1000 hectares (0.3% of the area) being excluded
- Size of the reference region lead to significant remote sensing requirements
- VCS methodology accounting lead to the need to separate REDD and IFM projects to cover the baseline activities completely

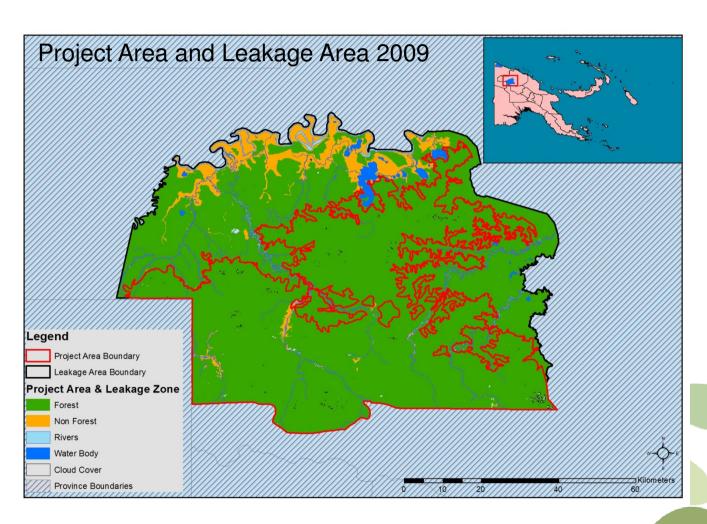
Project Boundaries

- Project boundary 366,000ha
- Leakage belt 277,000 ha
- Reference Region 1,900,000 ha

It is LARGE!

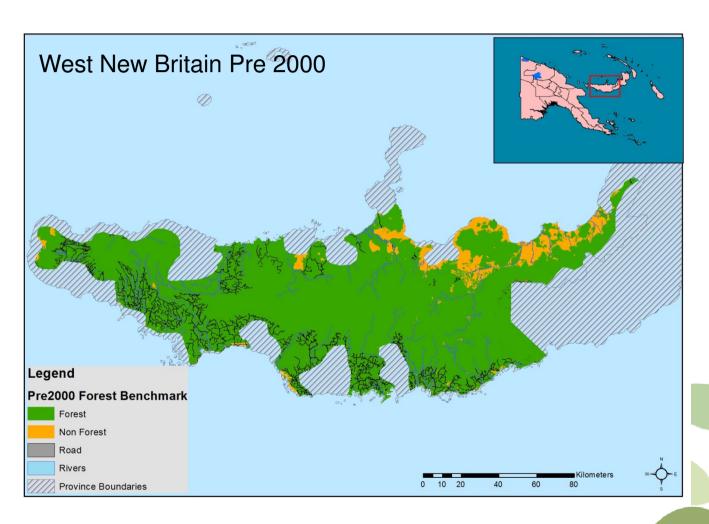


April Salumei Project Boundary

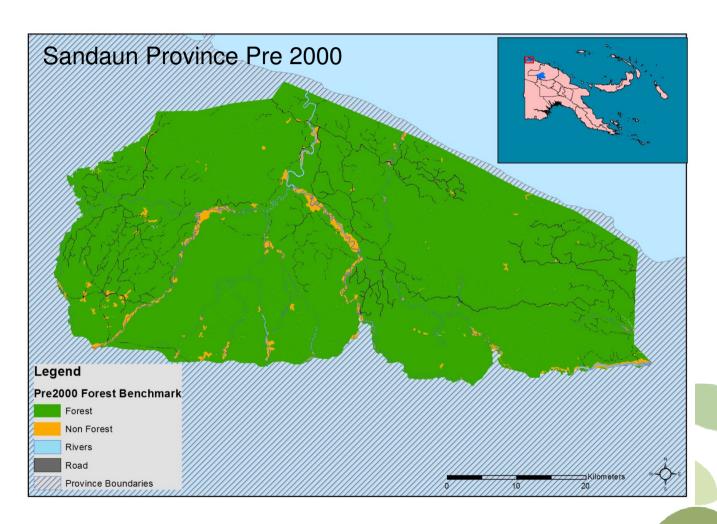


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Reference Region



Reference Region



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FIELDWORK



Summary

Field work was conducted in May/June 2012:

- More than 20 plot were established and measured in three project areas
- Identified more than 100 tree species
- Diameter and height of all trees in a 20x20m plot were measured
- Litter and non-tree aboveground biomass



Fieldwork





Fieldwork



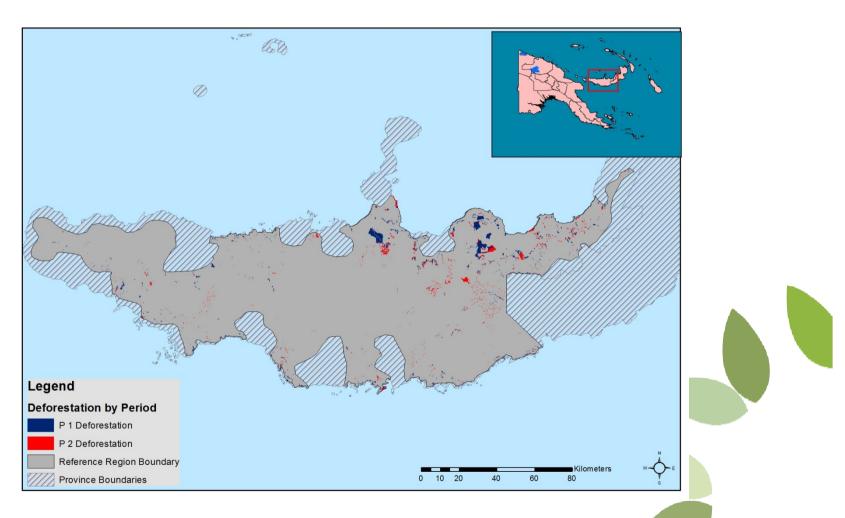


Fieldwork



PROJECT MODELLING AND GHG CALCULATIONS

Deforestation Map P1 and P2



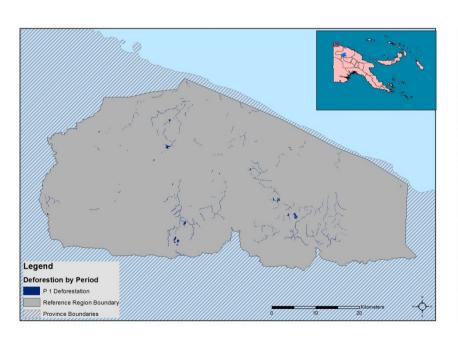
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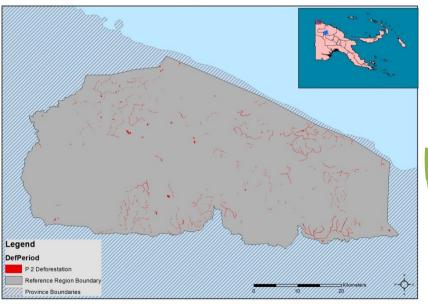
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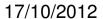
make it count

Sandaun Province

Deforestation Map Period 1 Deforestation Map Period 2

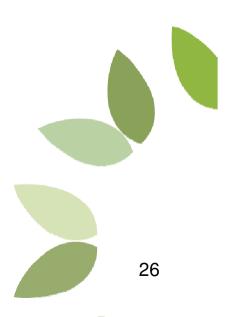






Deforestation 2000 - 2009

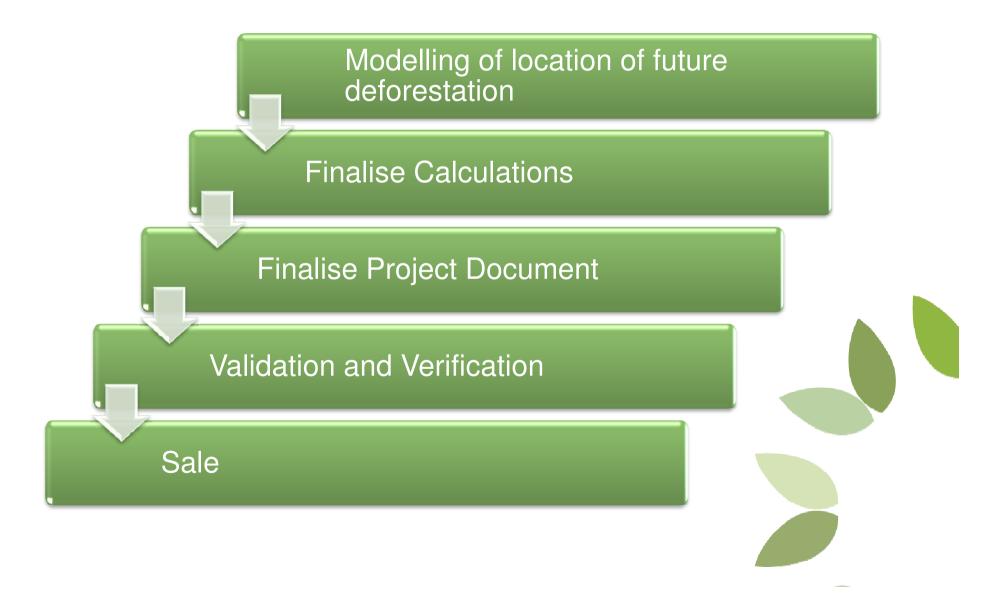
- Deforestation in the Reference Region
 - 2.26% between 2000 2009
 - Equivalent to 0.25% per year
- Deforestation in the Project Area
 - 0.12% between 2000 2009
 - Equivalent to 0.013% per year



NEXT DEVELOPMENTAL STEPS



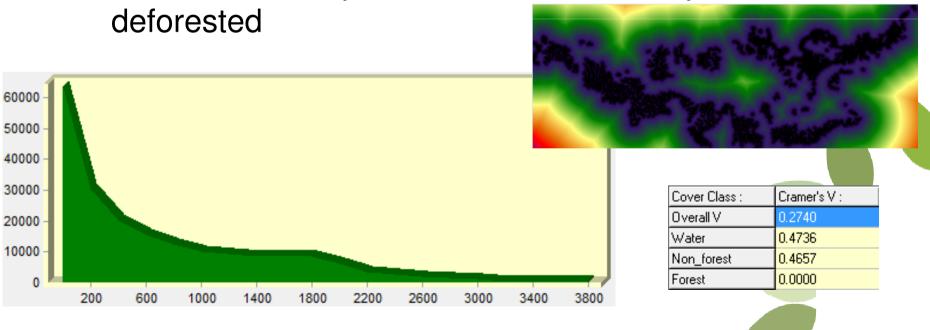
Next Steps



Testing of Deforestation Drivers

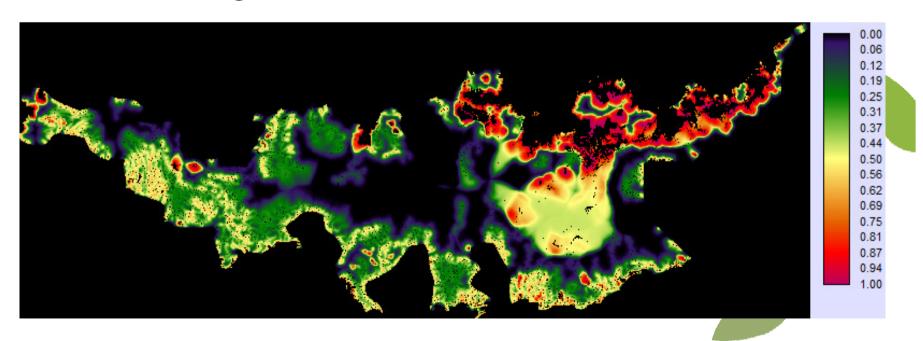
- 1. Distance from transition to forest edge (pre2000 open areas)
 - Relatively strong explanatory power

→ Areas close to open areas are more likely to be



Spatial Model Scenarios: Risk Map

- Risk map describes the modelled potential of each pixel to transition from forest to non-forest.
 - Value close to zero is low risk, value close to one is high risk



GHG Calculations

 Developed project specific calculation tool in Excel

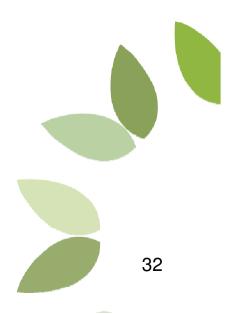
$$\Delta CBSLPA_t = \sum_{i \in t=1}^{lot} ABSLPA_{icl,t} * Ctot_{icl,t} - \sum_{f \in l}^{Fot} ABSLPA_{fcl,t} * Ctot_{fcl,t}$$

$$\Delta REDD_t = (\Delta CBSLPA_t + EBBBSLPA_t) - (\Delta CPSPA_t + EBBPSPA_t) - (\Delta CLK_t + ELR_t)$$



Finalise Project Documentation

- Project document will exceed 400 pages
 - Current estimate to have more than 20 supporting documents



Validation/Verification

- Project has engaged Rainforest Alliance as the project auditor
 - Excellent reputation
 - 'local' based in Indonesia
- Process
 - Pre-validation (desk audit)
 - Field trip (7-10 days)
 - Issuance of valdation report
 - Process typically takes 3 6 months

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Registration and Sale

Register the project on VCS approved registry

 Good demand for voluntary credits, particularly forestry related

 Voluntary credits are currently selling at higher prices than mandatory credits

NESTED AND JURISDICTIONAL REDD



Why nested REDD

- Allows ongoing recognition of 'projects' in the transition to national or sub-national based REDD
- Why do we want ongoing recognition of projects?
 - Utilizes the 'early action' REDD experience of projects
 - Allows for more site-specific tailoring of REDD interventions
 - Allows for more direct distribution of project benefits
 - More attractive to private sector investment (due to greater control)
- Why do we want to transition to sub-national or national based REDD?
 - Increases emissions reduction potential (due to larger area)
 - Allows for full accounting for leakage
 - Ensures credits 'add up' across the entire jurisdiction





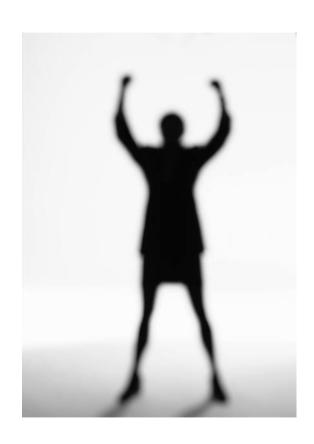


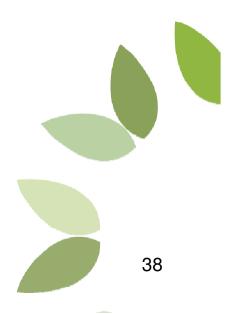
VCS jurisdictional and nested REDD initiative

Objectives:

- To develop guidance and criteria for jurisdictional REDD programs to enable crediting at multiple scales
- To create a pathway for projects to "nest" within larger scale jurisdictional programs (both sub-national and national)
- —To develop a framework that can serve multiple markets (voluntary, bilateral, pre-compliance, potentially compliance)
- —May also inform the UNFCCC framework

Successful completion is close





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