

# **‘Strengthening regional support to national forest monitoring systems for REDD+ in the Pacific’**

## **Workshop on Data Analysis in Forest Inventory**

**Skylodge Hotel, Nadi, Fiji. 17<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> June , 2015.**

Building capacity for Pacific Islands in carrying out a comprehensive national forest inventory has been an ongoing effort of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) led project on “*Strengthening regional support to national forest monitoring systems for REDD+ in the Pacific*” in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), since its implementation in May, 2014. To add onto the number of workshops previously held to build capacity in NFI, the project team held a three day Forest inventory backstopping workshop on ‘*Data Analysis (emission factors)*’ from the 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> of June this year in Nadi, Fiji. This auspicious event was officially opened by Mr. Samuela Lagataki, the Conservator of Forests, Fiji.



**Figure 1: Participants to the FIDA training workshop, 2015.**

Led by Dr. Andrew Haywood, the training workshop was attended by 15 participants from five Pacific Island countries (Vanuatu, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Fiji), FAO and SPC, representing forestry and environment, management and technical personnel involved in national forest inventory (NFI) (Figure 1).

The main objectives of the workshop was to introduce participants to the various calculations necessary to calculate carbon for the various carbon pools in a forest and more so, estimating the net changes in carbon stock. The workshop also aimed at identifying gaps in skills and the main needs of each country, exploring opportunities for regional support and training where common needs are identified, and specific support for particular issues in specific countries.

The workshop program focused on methods of calculating forest inventory field datasets to obtain results that are internationally acceptable. This involved training participants in the statistical measures for forest assessment and primarily estimating emission factors. The training exercises and plenary discussions by the participants at the end of each presentation were designed to build on their analytical skills.

The workshop ended with a high note, with participants walking away with valuable knowledge and skills on data analysis. Generally, feedbacks from the participants were positive with progressive recommendations for another data analysis workshop, which would enable countries to improve on their NFI data quality and reporting.

**For more information,** please contact Dr. Andrew Haywood, Project Coordinator ([Andrew.Haywood@fao.org](mailto:Andrew.Haywood@fao.org)) or Mr. Jalesi Mateboto of the Land Resource Division of SPC ([jalesim@spc.int](mailto:jalesim@spc.int))



Figure 2: Training exercise



Figure 3: Workshop in progress



Figure 4: Group activity; Participants from the Solomon Islands & Vanuatu