



Forest Finance to Papua New Guinea Growing, but Not Yet Sufficient

7 March 2016 | WASHINGTON, D.C. | Forest Trends, a non-profit organization that tracks global forest developments, has released the [most comprehensive analysis to date](#) of forest conservation finance flowing to Papua New Guinea (PNG).

The report shows that despite the scale and global importance of PNG's forests, the country has received far less forest conservation finance under the UN's Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) initiative than most other countries with large tropical forests—even though the tropical forests of New Guinea are the third-largest in the world, after the Amazon and Congo basins.

“While funding commitments grew consistently over the six-year period, the \$45 million in total finance committed thus far is not commensurate with the scale of Papua New Guinea's forest resources, and more finance is needed to incentivize conservation of this national and global treasure,” said Brian Schaap, REDDX senior program associate.

Papua New Guinea has used the funding it has received to build the foundation of a REDD+ program, including development of forest mapping tools and capacity building for government agencies, as well as developing site-based demonstration projects and trialing REDD+ activities with communities. But the country needs more funding to move beyond capacity building, toward actual implementation of these programs.

The research by Forest Trends' [REDDX](#) (REDD eXpenditures) initiative in partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Papua New Guinea program tracked the flow of REDD+ finance to PNG for the years 2009 to 2014, identifying \$45.3 million in total finance that had been pledged or committed to support REDD+ programs in the country.

Key findings of the new report show:

- Of the \$45.3 million committed, \$27 million came directly from individual donor countries. Japan, the largest donor by far, committed \$17.9 million, mostly through in-kind and technical support. Australia, the United States, and Germany committed a combined total of more than \$8.7 million; and the multilateral UN-REDD Programme contributed \$6.2 million.
- Payments of promised funds have grown steadily, with 56 percent of all committed funds paid out by the end of 2014.
- The vast majority of funding has supported preparatory activities, including development of forest mapping tools and capacity building for government agencies, which are intended to lay the foundation to enable better forest conservation policies and actions.
- The government of Papua New Guinea, represented by both the Office of Climate Change and Development (OCCD) (recently renamed as the Climate Change and Development Authority - CCDA) and the PNG Forest Authority (PNGFA), will receive 68 percent of the total funding.
- International NGOs and UN Agencies operating in PNG will each receive 16 percent of funding.

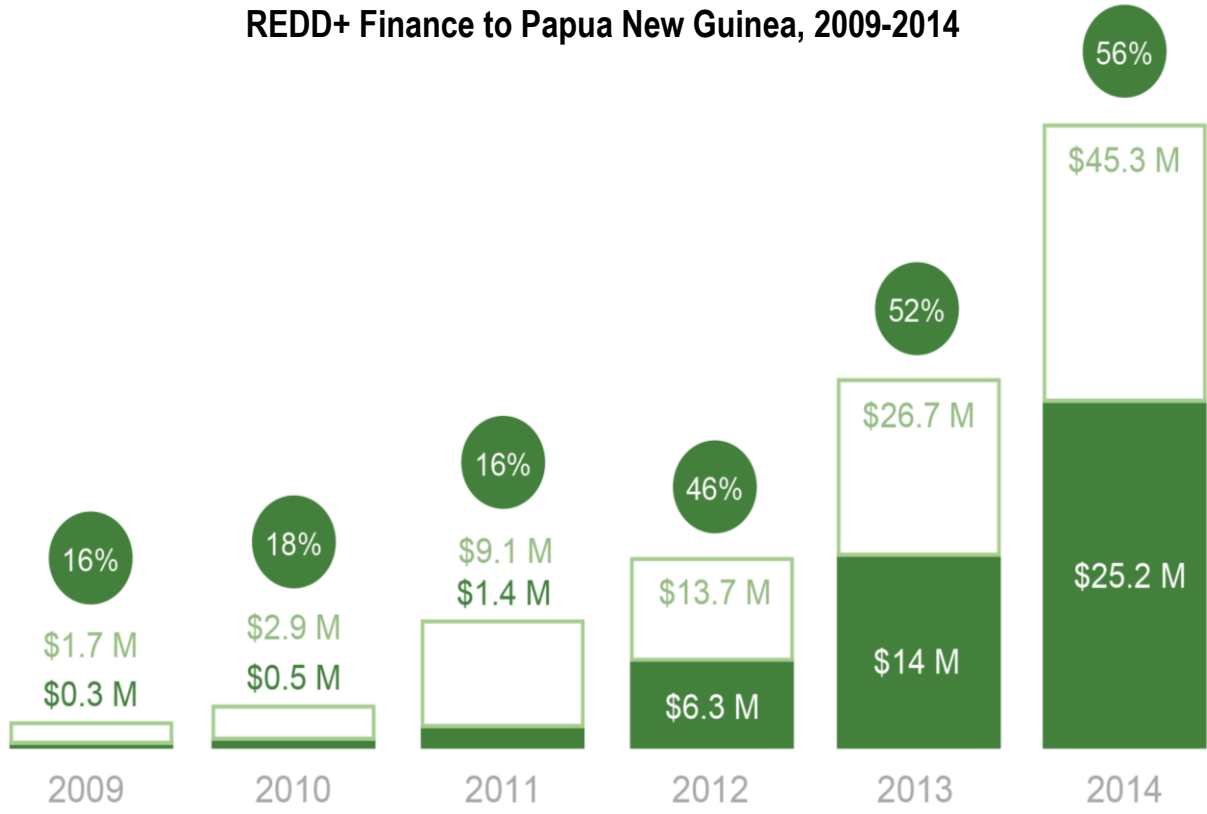
Among several organizations in this field, the research conducted by Forest Trends and WCS is unique in that it is based on annual surveys and in-person interviews on financial flows, but also validated by in-country stakeholders.

For more information, read the [full report](#) and visit our [website](#).

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REDD+ Finance to Papua New Guinea, 2009-2014



○ Funds committed ● Proportion of funds committed already disbursed

Donors

