



Nakau Conservation Programme Solomon Islands

PADEZAKA FOREST CARBON PROJECT
BABATANA REGION, CHOISEUL PROVINCE, SOLOMON
ISLANDS

PROJECT DESIGN DOCUMENT
PART A (PROJECT-SPECIFIC INFORMATION)

Version 1.3

30/03/2026



Developed by:



The Nakau Programme Pty Ltd
Level 2, Donkey Wheel House, 673 Bourke Street
Melbourne 3000, Victoria, Australia

Validated by:



Mutu International
PT Mutuagung Lestari Tbk

OVERVIEW	3
DOCUMENT HISTORY	3
PADEZAKA PDD CONTENTS	4
1. GENERAL INFORMATION	1
1.1 PROJECT INTERVENTIONS.....	1
1.2 MANAGEMENT RIGHTS	1
2 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT	4
2.1 STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS.....	4
2.2 PROJECT COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT	9
2.3 PROJECT PARTICIPANTS	10
2.4 PARTICIPATORY DESIGN.....	11
2.5 STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION	14
2.6 FREE, PRIOR AND INFORMED CONSENT (FPIC)	17
3 PROJECT DESIGN	19
BASELINES	19
3.1 BASELINE SCENARIO	19
3.2 CARBON BASELINE.....	26
3.3 LIVELIHOOD BASELINE	26
3.4 ECOSYSTEM BASELINE	27
THEORY OF CHANGE	29
3.5 PROJECT LOGIC.....	29
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION	32
3.6 PROJECT ACTIVITIES.....	32
3.7 ADDITIONALITY.....	32
3.8 CARBON BENEFITS.....	37
RISK MANAGEMENT	37
3.9 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS	37
3.10 ACHIEVEMENT OF CARBON BENEFITS.....	40
3.11 REVERSAL OF CARBON BENEFITS.....	40
3.12 LEAKAGE	41
3.13 DOUBLE COUNTING	41
AGREEMENTS	41
3.14 LAND MANAGEMENT PLANS	41
3.15 CREDITING PERIOD	43
3.16 BENEFIT-SHARING MECHANISM	43
3.17 GRIEVANCE MECHANISM	43
3.18 PROJECT AGREEMENTS.....	43
4 MONITORING AND REPORTING	43
4.1 PROGRESS INDICATORS	44
4.2 CARBON INDICATORS	45
4.3 LIVELIHOOD INDICATORS	46
4.4 ECOSYSTEM INDICATORS	49

MONITORING	52
4.5 MONITORING PLAN	52
4.6 PROGRESS MONITORING	52
4.7 CARBON MONITORING	54
4.8 LIVELIHOOD AND ECOSYSTEM MONITORING	54
REPORTING	57
4.9 ANNUAL REPORT	57
4.10 RECORD KEEPING	57
5 GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION	57
5.1 PROJECT GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE	57
5.2 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES	58
5.3 LEGAL AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE	59
5.4 FINANCIAL PLAN	59
5.5 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	59
6 ANNEXES	60
ANNEX 1 – PADEZAKA PROJECT BOUNDARIES	60
ANNEX 2 – PADEZAKA REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE AND PARTNER AGREEMENTS	60
ANNEX 3 – INITIAL PROJECT AREAS UNDER THE NCP-SI	60
ANNEX 4 – PADEZAKA PROJECT PARTICIPATORY DESIGN EVIDENCE	60
ANNEX 5 – PADEZAKA FPIC PROCESSES AND EVIDENCE	60
ANNEX 6 – PADEZAKA CARBON CALCULATIONS	60
ANNEX 7 – PADEZAKA TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS	60
ANNEX 8 – EXCLUSION LIST	60
ANNEX 9 – PADEZAKA ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SCREENING REPORT	60
ANNEX 10 – ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT REPORT	60
ANNEX 11 – PADEZAKA PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN	60
ANNEX 12 – PADEZAKA PROJECT AGREEMENTS	60
ANNEX 13 – PADEZAKA PROJECT MONITORING PLAN	60
ANNEX 14 – PADEZAKA PROJECT DATABASE	60
ANNEX 15 – PADEZAKA PROJECT LETTER OF APPROVAL	61
ANNEX 16 – PADEZAKA PROJECT FINANCIAL PLAN	61
ANNEX 17 – PADEZAKA PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM	61

Table of Contents

Overview

Project title:	Padezaka Forest Carbon Project
Location:	Babatana Region, South-West Choiseul, Choiseul Province, Solomon Islands
Version:	Version 1.3
Programme operator:	Nakau (The Nakau Programme Pty Ltd). Mr Robbie Henderson robbie.henderson@nakau.org
Project coordinator:	Natural Resources Development Foundation (NRDF) Mr Fred Tabepuda nrdf@solomon.com.sb
Carbon Standard	Plan Vivo Climate v.4
Validation Verification Body	Mutu International PT Mutuagung Lestari Tbk lvvservices@mutucertification.com
Validation date:	tbc
Project intervention(s):	Avoidance of baseline logging activities and placement of project area into a legally constituted protected area.
Project participants:	Padezaka tribal group
Project area:	Padezaka Protected Area: 4823.0 hectares Padezaka eligible forest area: 3792.8 hectares
Project period:	30 years (1 January 2019 – 31 December 2048)
Carbon Methodology:	Nakau approved approach
Expected carbon benefit:	Annual PVCs during project period: 54,127 t CO ₂ e
Expected ecosystem benefit:	Biodiversity protection, maintenance of healthy hydrological system, climate change resilience through reduced impact of extreme weather events.
Expected livelihood benefit:	Increased financial capital available for investment into activities that directly or indirectly support livelihoods. Improved community governance, community development outcomes, job creation, and empowerment of women and girls.

Document History

Document Version	Version details	Date
PDD 1.0	Initial submission	30/10/2023
PDD 1.1	TRP review completed	15/05/2024
PDD 1.2	Desktop validation audit completed	11/10/2024
PDD 1.3	Validation and verification audit completed	30/03/2026
PDD 1.4	Validated PDD	tbc

Padezaka PDD contents

Figure ID	Section heading	PDD Part A	PDD Part B
1	General information		
1.1	Project interventions	✖	✓
1.2	Management rights	✓	✓
2	Stakeholder engagement		
2.1	Stakeholder analysis	✓	✓
2.2	Project coordination and management	✓	✓
2.3	Project participants	✓	✓
2.4	Participatory design	✓	✓
2.5	Stakeholder consultation	✓	✖
2.6	Free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)	✓	✓
3	Project design		
3.1	Baseline scenario	✓	✖
3.2	Carbon baseline	✓	✖
3.3	Livelihood baseline	✓	✓
3.4	Ecosystem baseline	✓	✓
	Theory of change		
3.5	Project logic	✖	✓
3.5.1	Outputs and results	✓	✓
	Technical specification		
3.6	Project activities (technical)	✖	✓
3.7	Additionality	✓	✖
3.8	Carbon benefits	✓	✖
3.9	Environmental and social safeguards		
3.9.1	Exclusion list	✓	✖
3.9.2	Environmental and Social Screening	✓	✖
3.9.3	Environmental and Social Assessment	✖	✓
3.9.4	Environmental and Social Management Plan	✓	✖
3.9.5	Native Species	✓	✖
3.10	Achievement of carbon benefits	✓	✖
3.11	Reversal of carbon benefits	✖	✓
3.12	Leakage	✓	✓
3.13	Double counting	✖	✓
3.14	Land management plans	✓	✓
3.15	Crediting period	✖	✓
3.16	Benefit-sharing mechanism	✓	✓
3.17	Grievance mechanism	✓	✓
3.18	Project agreements	✖	✓
4	Monitoring and reporting		
4.1	Progress indicators	✓	✖
4.2	Carbon indicators	✓	✖
4.3	Livelihood indicators	✓	✖
4.4	Ecosystem indicators	✓	✖
4.5	Monitoring plan	✓	✓
4.6	Progress monitoring	✓	✖
4.7	Carbon monitoring	✓	✖

Figure ID	Section heading	PDD Part A	PDD Part B
4.8	Livelihood monitoring	✓	✗
4.9	Ecosystem monitoring	✓	✗
4.10	Sharing monitoring results	✓	✓
4.11	Annual report	✓	✓
4.12	Record keeping	✗	✓
5	Governance and administration		
5.1	Project governance structure	✓	✓
5.2	Equal opportunities	✓	✓
5.3	Legal and regulatory compliance	✗	✓
5.4	Financial plan	✗	✓
5.5	Financial management	✗	✓

1. General information

1.1 Project interventions

The project activity (intervention) in Padezaka is avoided commercial logging and legal forest protection. Table 1.1 in the Padezaka PDD Part B describes the expected impacts on emissions and community livelihood benefits that are common to all Nakau projects implementing this intervention.

1.2 Management rights

1.2.1 Project boundaries

The Padezaka project area lies within the Babatana region of Southern Choiseul Province.

The Padezaka Tribe is the third tribe to declare their land a protected area under the Protected Areas Act 2010 and establish a forest carbon project under the Nakau Methodology. Padezaka land was registered as a legal protected area on 15 October 2021 (see Annex 2 Padezaka registration and partner agreements– item 1.5 Padezaka Protected Area Certificate), with the intention of establishing an avoided logging forest carbon project to support community development.

To develop the forest carbon project, the Padezaka Tribal Association signed a Forest Carbon Project Development Agreement with Natural Resources Development Foundation (NRDF) on 19 August 2019 (see Annex 2 Padezaka registration and partner agreements– 2.2 Project Development Agreement and Annex 12 Padezaka Project agreement).

The maps in

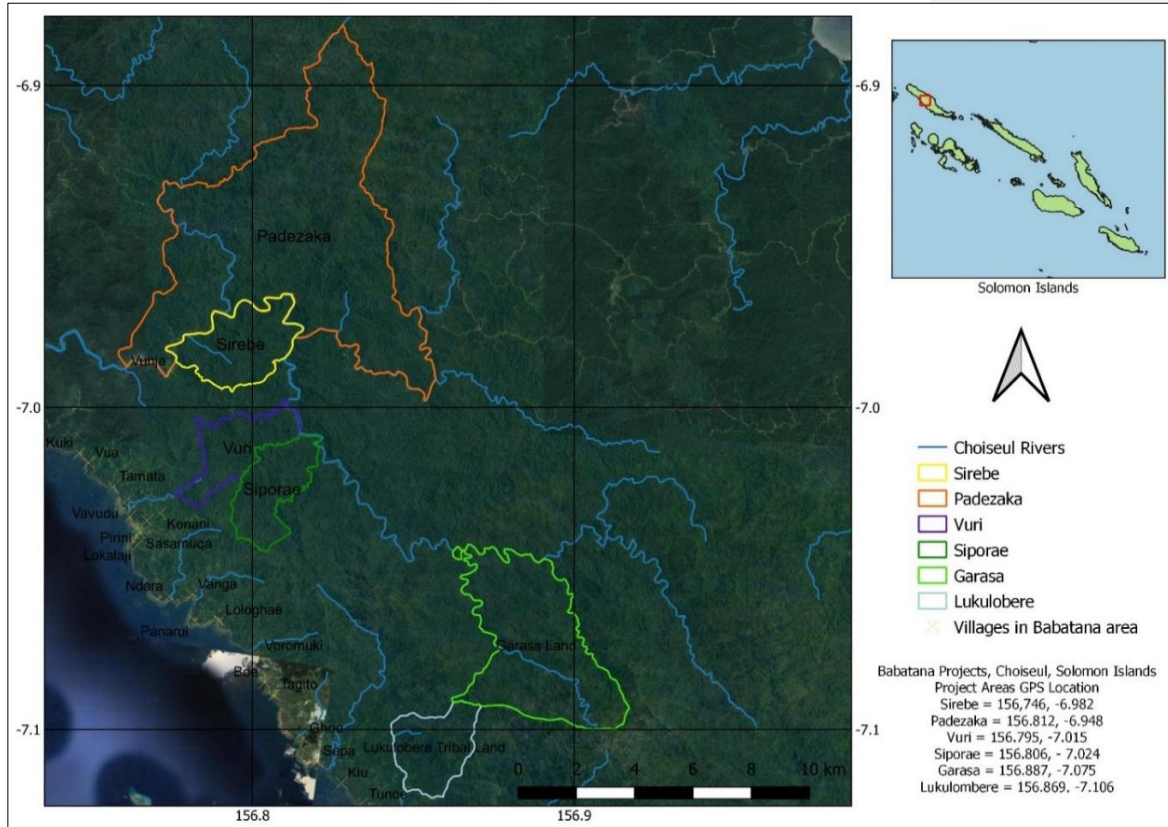


Figure 1.2.1 and Figure 1.2.2 show the locations of the Padezaka tribal land that has been declared a protected area. The Padezaka project area (eligible forest area- EFA) covers 3792.8 hectares and is located at longitude E 156°.81'20" and latitude S06°.948. The project area is located within Padezaka tribal land that covers 5782 hectares. The spatial files of the Padezaka land, PA and EFA are provided in PDD Annex 1 Padezaka project boundaries.

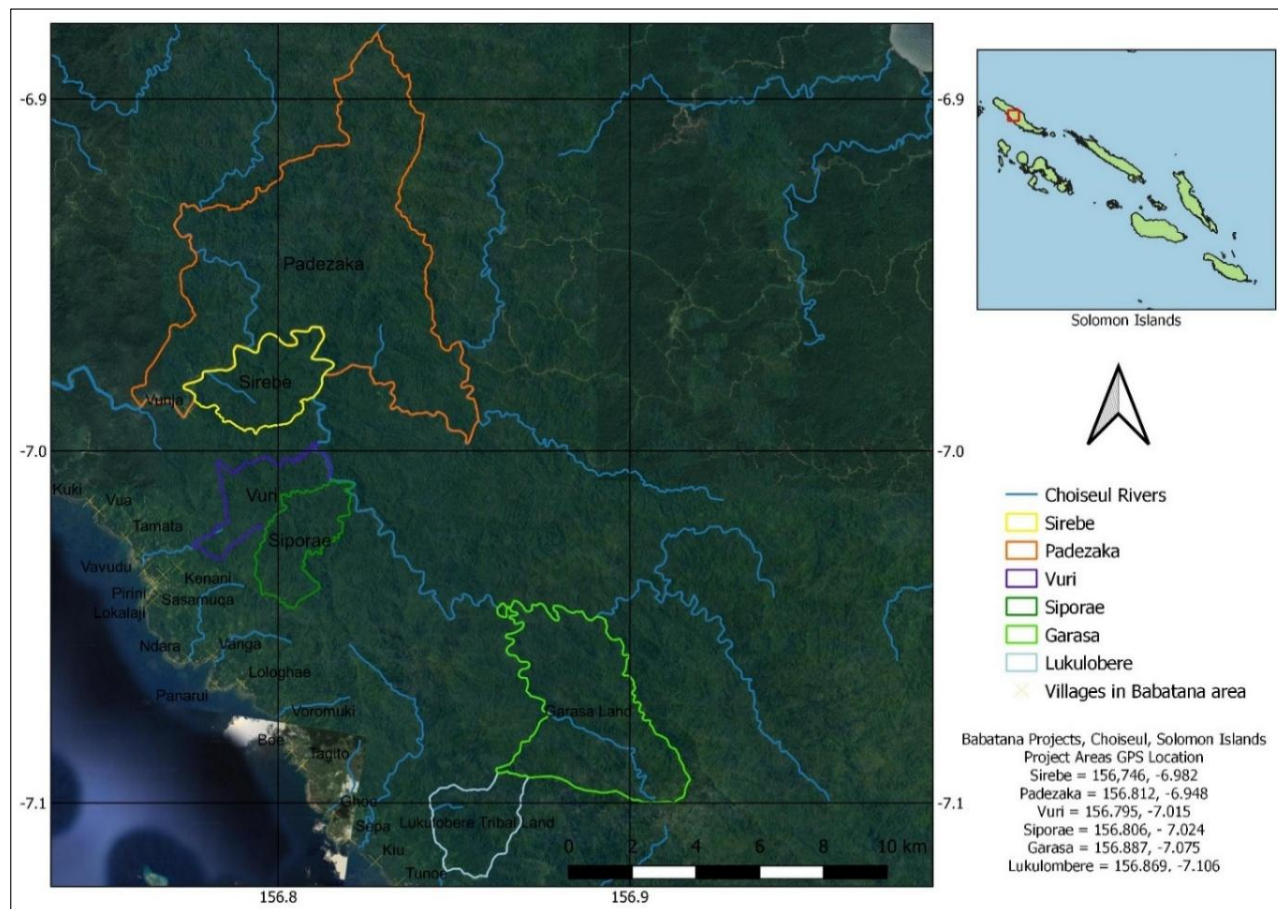


Figure 1.2.1: Project area boundaries within Choiseul, and their locations to settlements and populations along the coast

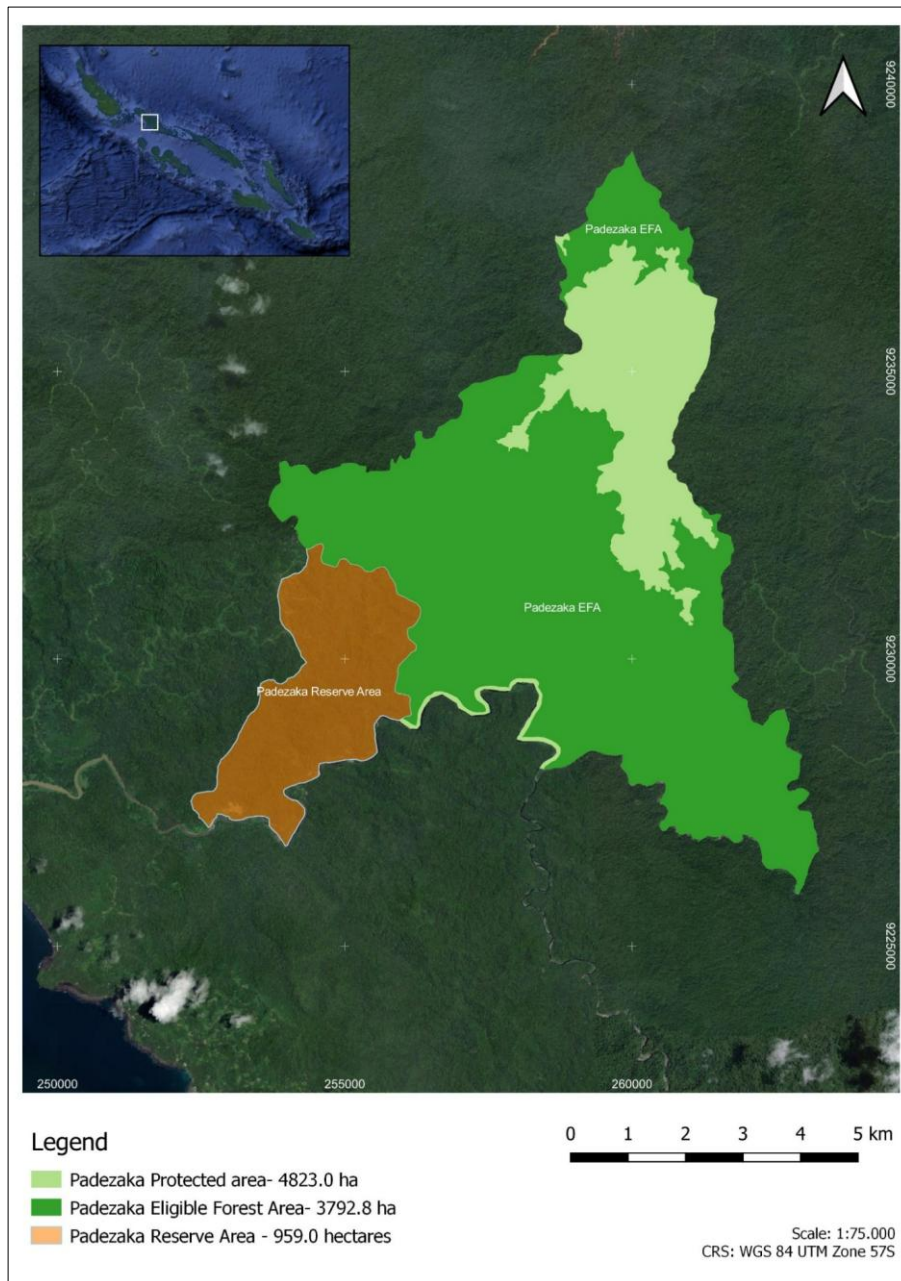


Figure 1.2.2. Location of Padezaka customary land, protected area and EFA boundary and reserve area

1.2.2 Land and carbon rights

An overview of land and carbon rights in the Solomon Islands is provided in Padezaka PDD Part B, section 1.2.2.

The Padezaka project is on customary land and communally owned by the Padezaka tribe. Project beneficiaries have demonstrated clear and secure land-ownership rights through genealogy research that was done together with the Lauru Land Conference of Tribal Communities (LLCTC), a registered organisation representing all the tribes within the Choiseul Province in 2015.

During this process, the landowning clans of the Padezaka Tribe were identified and registered as the true and rightful landowners (see PDD Annex 4, item 4.4). According to Choiseul custom, the landowners own all the rights of the available resources on the land.

As part of the protected area process, Padezaka and neighbouring tribal land boundaries have been surveyed and confirmed by the Ministry of Lands and LLCTC. Neighbouring tribes of Padezaka have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in which they formally agree to the land boundaries on the maps presented and to the declaration of the area as a protected area under the Protected Areas Act 2010 (see Annex 5, item 3.6).

In the protected area process, two parts of land were objected. One portion of land in the west was objected by the Subavalu Tribe. This objection was settled by leaving out the disputed land from the protected area application (see reserve area in Figure 1.2.2). The second objection was challenged by Padezaka through a customary Chief Hearing Process in which the objecting tribe (Qoqopele Tribe) were overturned (see also section 2.1.3).

Table 1.2.2. Land and carbon rights in the Padezaka project

Project area	Ownership and user rights status	Carbon rights	Evidence
Padezaka customary land	Customary land	Padezaka Tribe has proven ownership rights to the forest and, by implication, also the carbon rights.	LLCTC Letter (Annex 4, item 4.4) MoU's with neighbouring tribes (Annex 5 – item 3.6)

2 Stakeholder engagement

2.1 Stakeholder analysis

2.1.1 Stakeholder identification

The stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Padezaka project are identified in the table below.

Table 2.1.1. Stakeholder groups in the Padezaka project

Stakeholder group	Type of stakeholders	Description of stakeholder group in the Padezaka project context	How impacted	Influence	Engagement
Padezaka customary landowners (Project owner)	Local	The Padezaka Tribe are the indigenous owners of Padezaka customary and resources and are represented through the Padezaka Tribal Association.	Positively impacted through community development, improved livelihoods, increased resilience to climate change and conservation of native forest habitats and ecosystem services High impact	Project owner and primary decision maker on project governance High Influence	Project owner is engaged through close collaboration and consultation with Nakau and NRDF during all phases of project development and implementation
Neighbouring tribal landowners	Local	MoUs that confirm agreement on land boundaries have been signed between the Padezaka Tribe and the neighbouring Zondi, Sikiposo, Miquisava, Sirebe and Tasolomo tribes (see Annex 5 - item 3.6).	Positively impacted through clarification of land rights (boundaries) and spill-over from community level benefit-sharing. Low impact.	Possible negative influence if they were to contest land rights or boundaries. However, these must be settled prior to protected area (PA) declaration. High influence.	Invited to join PA consultation meetings to determine land boundaries as well as receive information on protected areas and the possible impacts that these will have on them. When the land boundaries are agreed to, the neighbouring communities sign a MoU with the project participants. This process is a regulatory requirement to establish a protected area.
Babatana Council of Chiefs (CoC)	Secondary	<u>The Babatana CoC is a traditional local governance entity with regards to land rights and genealogy and can be engaged to resolve land disputes.</u>	Positively impacted through financial compensation of services when engaged Moderate impact	Positive or neutral influence. CoC decisions in favour of PA applicant that are recognized by the opposing party have a positive influence on the PA process. Decisions that are not recognized can be challenged in formal courts however, with no positive outcome from CoC hearings. Moderate Influence	<u>The Babatana CoC was engaged in a hearing to resolve a dispute with the Oqopele tribe over a part of the Padezaka boundary. The hearing was successful with a ruling in favour of the proponents (see section 2.1.3).</u>

Stakeholder group	Type of stakeholders	Description of stakeholder group in the Padezaka project context	How impacted	Influence	Engagement
Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM)	Secondary	The MECDM has the mandate to regulate the PA process under the PA Act 2010 and PA regulations 2012. Through the PA, it vests legal rights into the community forest rangers. Regulates development consent for the issuance of felling/milling licenses. National Designation Authority overseeing participation in the Green Climate Fund financing mechanism. Lead agency in addressing Solomon Islands' obligations as a Party to the UNFCCC, including responsibility for the NDC.	Positively impacted Projects will contribute to MECDM goals for protected areas that are otherwise not being achieved. Project may increase MECDM capacity and expertise in carbon markets for impact on policy formulation. Projects could positively contribute to emission reduction targets from the forest sector once these are formulated in the nationally determined contributions (NDCs) Medium impact.	Positive influence Responsible for declaration of protected areas and regulation of PA rules. Potential positive or negative influence: Influence on Solomon Islands carbon market strategies and policy. High influence.	Close collaboration on PA application process. Nakau engages regularly with MECDM on policy issues, including with the Permanent Secretary. The MECDM has formally endorsed the institution of the Padezaka protected area through the protected area certificate (see PDD Annex 2- item 1.5).
Ministry of Forestry and Research (MOFR)	Secondary	The MOFR regulates logging activities and concessions (e.g. issuance of felling/milling licenses) and needs to be consulted in the PA process regarding potential overlap of the PA boundary with areas under logging licenses.	Negative and positive impact Negative: The establishment of Protected Areas and forest carbon projects reduce the forest area available for logging and associated government revenue and therefore represent a conflict with the interests of the MoFR. Positive: At the same, the MOFR is the national authority responsible for	Potential positive or negative influence Positive: Could help to enforce regulations to reduce encroachment of logging / illegal logging. Negative: Could oppose PA process in lowland forest. Positive or negative: Influence on Solomon Islands carbon market strategies and policy. Moderate influence.	During the PA process, MOFR is consulted on any potential overlap between the Padezaka PA area and logging concessions. Nakau engages regularly with MoFR on forest sector policy and governance issues, through participation in forest sector working groups. MoFR expertise utilised to support project field work (e.g. government botanist, REDD+ officers).

Stakeholder group	Type of stakeholders	Description of stakeholder group in the Padezaka project context	How impacted	Influence	Engagement
			the programme to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradations (REDD+), to which the carbon projects could contribute. Low impacts due to the small size of the forest carbon projects		
Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification (MMERE)	Secondary	The MMERE regulates mining activities and needs to be consulted in the PA process regarding potential overlap between the PA boundary and mining tenements	Negative, due to the legal prohibition of mining activities in PA areas. Low impact due to the small size of the forest carbon projects	Potentially negative influence: Could oppose PA process in areas with mining potential. Low influence	Limited engagement, mainly during PA consultation.
Choiseul Provincial Government	Secondary	The Choiseul Provincial Government provides provincial government services; administers provincial budgets (e.g. infrastructure projects). Regulates through provincial ordinances. Has a role in determining timber rights acquisition under the <i>Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Amendment) Act 2000</i> .	Positively impacted Contributes to provincial economy and development. Avoids ecosystem destruction and social impacts of logging Moderate impact.	Positive influence Can assist to build trust with communities; can support project replication; can partner on livelihood initiatives. Low influence.	The Provincial Land Division confirms land boundaries (shape files conform with protected area maps) of proposed protected areas.
Donors	Secondary	Nakau and project partners rely on donor funding to develop PES projects. The Padezaka-project was developed with funding from the Bread for the World,	Positive- without donor funding, Nakau and project coordinators could not operate. High impact	Positive influence on communities and forest ecosystems through funding of PES activities. High influence	Donors are engaged in project activities through regular coordination meetings, provision of progress reports and site visits.

Stakeholder group	Type of stakeholders	Description of stakeholder group in the Padezaka project context	How impacted	Influence	Engagement
		Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund and New Zealand MFAT Carbon Financed Forest Conservation Project (CFFCP).			
Logging companies	Secondary	Mostly foreign-owned logging companies that operate under felling licenses issued by the MOFR and practice unsustainable, highly damaging commercial logging.	Negatively impacted through prohibition of logging activity in protected area Low impact through small size of protected areas	Negative influence, logging companies have been known to manipulate community leaders and cause disagreements and conflicts within communities. This in turn can lead to disruptions in forest conservation efforts. Logging companies have been known to encroach into and illegally extract trees in conservation areas causing environmental damage and potential loss of carbon credits	Nakau does not directly engage with logging companies but supports project owners in their efforts to protect their forests from logging interests and potential violations of PA regulations

2.1.2 Indigenous Peoples and local communities

The project owners in the Padezaka project are Indigenous customary landowners that hold the customary rights as described in section 2.1.2 of the Padezaka PDD Part B.

Participants in the Padezaka project hold the customary rights over the Padezaka land and resources. In Choiseul's patrilineal society it is traditionally the men who make the decisions over land. The tribes' women (by birth) have full land (use) rights but under custom need to seek approval from male tribal leaders when planning any developments on the land. These can be either relatives or the tribal chief. People who become part of the tribes (for example, through marriage) have access to the land and the use of its resources but don't have customary landowner rights. Children born to at least one member of the Padezaka Tribe inherit customary rights.

Table 2.1.2. Customary landowners in the Padezaka project

Customary landowners	Rights to land or resources in the project area(s)	Governance structure and decision-making processes	Involvement of women and marginalised groups
Padezaka Tribe	Members of the Padezaka Tribe have the customary rights to their land and resources. The right-holders have been confirmed through a genealogy study carried out with support from the LCCTC.	Padezaka Tribe has established the Padezaka Tribal Association (PTA) registered under the Charitable Trust Act. The PTA legally represents all tribal members and is the overarching governance and decision-making body for the Padezaka project. In practice, the tribal chief(s) make decisions over land and land use in consultation with the tribal members.	Women are seated in committees as members or executives in the Padezaka Tribe's governance structures.

2.1.3 Disputes over land or resources

For an overview of disputes over land and resources in the Solomon Islands, refer to section 2.1.3 in the Padezaka PDD Part B.

During the development of the Padezaka project there were two external land disputes formally recorded and resolved. During the protected area process, when the Padezaka Tribe released the protected area public notice, they received two formal objections to the PA boundary. The first was from the Suvavatu Tribe, located to the west of Padezaka land. The land objection was resolved by the tribes, with the Padezaka Tribe removing the disputed area from the protected area application and nominating the land as a reserve area.

The second objection was received from the Qoqopele Tribe, located east of the Padezaka land. The Qoqopele objection was challenged by the Padezaka Tribe in a customary Chief hearing process in March 2012 – a formal legal process to determine land ownership. The hearing outcome determined Padezaka Tribe as the rightful landowners over the disputed area. All documents regarding the objections to landownership and the Chief Hearing Process are provided in the PDD Supporting Documents - Padezaka PA objection documents. There are no internal land or resources disputes among the Padezaka Tribe.

2.2 Project coordination and management

The Padezaka project operates under the Naku project coordination and management arrangements described in section 2.2 of the Padezaka PDD Part B.

For the Padezaka project, the Natural Resources Development Foundation (NRDF) was selected for the role of project coordinator and has been involved in project development since inception in 2016.

NRDF is a local NGO registered under the Charitable Trusts Act (CAP 67) on 28 July 2004 (see Annex 2 Padezaka registration and partner agreements – item 1.2 NRDF Registration Certificate 2004). NRDF was created to address the problem of increasing degradation of forests and forest resources by commercial logging companies in the Solomon Islands. NRDF is built on the core values that natural resources are fundamental to the wellbeing of local people and they provide sustainable resource management opportunities to communities that protect natural resources for current and future generations.

NRDF is a small organisation consisting of highly experienced expatriate and local staff. Local extension officers and consultants add to the team's capacity. NRDF's head office is in Gizo, the provincial capital of Western Province. A field office is operated from the Sasamunga village in the Babatana area of Southern Choiseul. Starting out as a very small organisation, NRDF is now recognised by communities, national and international NGOs, and the Solomon Islands Government as a key stakeholder in forest management and conservation activities and programs in the Solomon Islands.

NRDF's engagement in forest conservation with carbon market activities began in 2012 when the organisation was introduced to the Nakau Conservation Programme. Since the inception of the partnership, NRDF has been building its position and capacity as a leading forest conservation organisation in the Solomon Islands. NRDF has supported six tribal communities so far to initiate their protected area process and has supported Sirebe, Siporae and Padezaka Tribes and Vuri Clan to achieve the first terrestrial protected areas in the country. Due to the successful development of the Sirebe, Siporae and Padezaka projects, NRDF has demonstrated the skills and experience in project governance and management to bring Nakau forest carbon projects to market. Today, NRDF is the project coordinator responsible for developing projects under the Nakau Conservation Programme in the Western and Choiseul Provinces of the Solomon Islands.

The NRDF team is particularly skilled at setting up project governance and community development components at the community level. This includes community engagement and participatory processes, establishing project governance groups and developing benefit-sharing systems. Throughout these processes, NRDF is guided by the principles of inclusion, fairness and transparency – and by free, prior and informed consent.

Nakau and NRDF signed a license agreement (see Annex 2 – item 2.1) for the ongoing management of the Padezaka project, with defined roles and responsibilities in project coordination and management.

2.3 Project participants

The Padezaka project satisfies Nakau's project participant requirements described in section 2.3 of the Padezaka PDD Part B.

The Padezaka project participants – which are also referred to as project owners in this PDD – are the recognised customary landowners of the project area. Customary landowners have customary rights (including decision-making and management rights) to the land but do not live in the project area. The majority of landowners reside downstream of the Kolombangara River or in settlements along the south and north coast south of Choiseul Island. Some reside further afield in townships on Vella Island, or in the capital Honiara.

Most Padezaka participants reside in south Choiseul in the villages of Panarui, Saqigae and Ngarione. There are also less populated settlements in north Choiseul – Molevanga and Loemuni (see

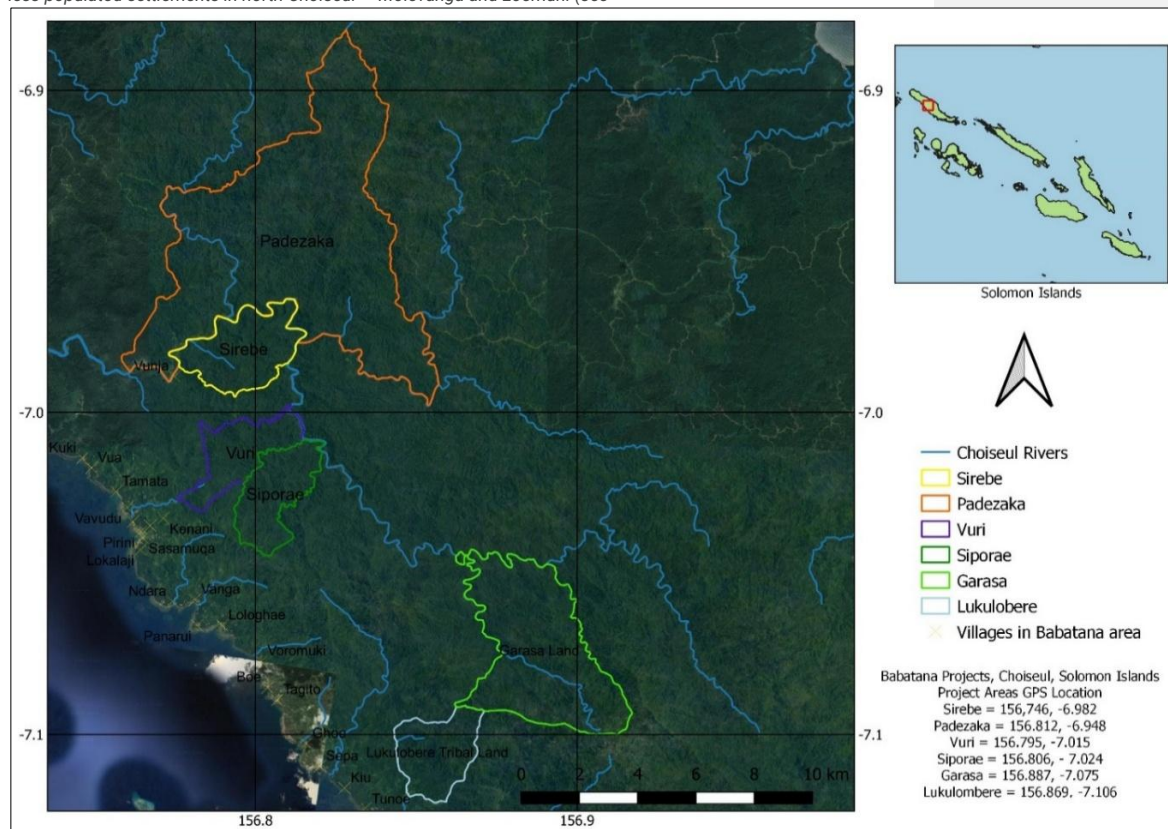


Figure 1.2.1). Stakeholder engagement occurs mainly with customary landowners in south Choiseul. Information is shared with northern communities, by bringing representatives from the north to stakeholder engagement meetings in the south. Table 2.3 below describes the Indigenous participants of the Padezaka project area.

Table 2.3: Padezaka project participants (grouped by village, area, or region)

Project participant	Participant type*	Location of residence	Typical land holding	Land and natural resource use
Padezaka Tribal Association	Type II	Panarui, Saqigae, Ngarione, Molevanga and Loemuni villages, Babatana Region, South Choiseul. Located along the coastline. A smaller proportion of participants reside in other locations in Choiseul Province (north) and	Padezaka tribal land (group ownership)	Harvesting of non-timber forest products, hunting, and some limited gardening. Except for some small patches of land, the whole area is a protected area with

		Solomon Islands, including Honiara and Gizo.		special user rules and protocols.
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* Type I = Project participants that do not meet the Type II definition; Type II = Project participants that are not resident within the project area, do not manage land or natural resources within the project area for small-scale production, or are structurally dependent on year-round hired labour for their land or natural resource management activities.

2.4 Participatory design

The Padezaka project has employed a participatory approach to project development and implementation as informed in sections that follow. This includes strategies to include people who may otherwise be marginalised due to gender, age or cultural group.

2.4.1 Representation

An overview of Nakau's approach for representation is provided in the Padezaka PDD Part B, section 2.4.1.

All project design activities involving free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) engaged representatives of all clans and family lines relevant in Padezaka. A tribe/clan structure is provided in the Padezaka genealogy report provided in PDD Annex 4– item 4.2.

All formal communication was done through the executives and members of the Padezaka Tribal Association which represents all members of the tribe and shares relevant information among the clans regarding their required participation in the project.

2.4.2 Indigenous Peoples' participation

Although most members from Padezaka live near the project area, some tribal members reside outside the area, as far as other provinces and provincial capitals. The project has engaged tribe members who live away from the tribal area by keeping them updated on any project updates and meeting outcomes.

All meetings held with the project owners were announced well in advance and, if needed, members were transported by canoe to the meeting venues. All meetings, gatherings and workshops were open for every member and associate. For fieldwork, plot surveys were conducted by rangers. For the boundary survey, knowledgeable Padezaka customary landowners were selected to assist.

2.4.3 Inclusion of potentially marginalised groups

For a description on Nakau's approach to include marginalized groups, please refer to section 2.4.3 in the Padezaka PDD Part B. This approach was applied in the Padezaka project context.

2.4.4 Level of participation

To ensure an adequate level of participation in Nakau projects, Nakau and NRDF take guidance from tables 2.4.4a and 2.4.2b in the Padezaka PDD Part B. These guidelines were followed throughout the project development process.

Table 2.4.4 below describes the participatory processes undertaken during the development of the Padezaka project. This section is linked with Annex 4, where evidence (for example, meeting notes, photographs, and attendee lists) is provided for each of the participation steps.

Table 2.4.4: Summary of participatory processes in the Padezaka-project

Participation steps	Participatory process in the Padezaka project	Tools and resources used
1. Education for forest carbon	Education about forest carbon activities is a cross-cutting issue and an ongoing process undertaken	Implementation of all activities within the <i>Climate Change and REDD+ Education manual</i> . Developed

Participation steps	Participatory process in the Padezaka project	Tools and resources used
project participation	by NRDF and Nakau throughout the project development period in Padezaka. All participatory steps listed in this table include elements that share information and raise the project owners' understanding of the forest carbon concept and project activities under the Nakau Programme. Forest carbon education and information was delivered through presentations, Q&A sessions and videos.	specifically for the Nakau Programme and published by Live & Learn https://livelearn.org/what/resources/cli-mate-change-and-community-based-redd-education-manualcommunity-based-redd-education-manual Animated film: <i>Climate Change: Everyone's Business</i> in English and Solomon Islands Pijin. Developed specifically for the Nakau Programme and published by Live & Learn https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roKlfqvJPQ0 Animated film: <i>Ready for REDD+?</i> in English and Solomon Islands pijin. Developed specifically for the Nakau Programme and published by Live & Learn: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kUGyZnAhdmw
2. Establishment of project owner groups (to act on participants behalf)	The Padezaka legal project owner group is the Padezaka Tribal Association (PTA), registered under the Charitable Trust Act of the Solomon Islands 1996 on 5 June 2018. NRDF supported Padezaka to register their Tribal Association over several years. The activities and requirements to set up the project owner group and project governance structure were shared and discussed with the project owners during several PTA meetings. The meetings were held in the north and south settlements of Choiseul, to engage all Padezaka members. The members of the PTA were re-confirmed and endorsed during a tribal meeting in 2019 (see Annex 5 Padezaka FPIC processes and evidence – items 1.1 - 1.4 minutes from protected area MP constitution presentation).	Padezaka Tribal Association constitution and certificate Solomon Island Charitable Trust ACT 1996 Solomon Islands Companies ACT 2009
3. Determine respective roles and responsibilities of project owners and project coordinator	The Project Agreement between NRDF, Nakau and the Padezaka Tribe describes the role of the project owner, project coordinator and project operator and has been informed by decisions by the PTA regarding the project governance structure and benefit-sharing preferences. The roles and responsibilities of the PTA and Protected Area Management Committee are stipulated in the Padezaka Tribal Association Constitution, the business plan and the protected area management plan and have been developed and consulted during meetings with NRDF and the PTA. An introductory workshop to consult on the draft formal Project agreement for Padezaka was held on 28 October 2022. During this meeting the agreement was explained to the tribal members and copies of the draft	Padezaka Project Development Agreement Padezaka Project Agreement Padezaka Business Plan

Participation steps	Participatory process in the Padezaka project	Tools and resources used
	agreement were shared. Feedback from Padezaka was reported back to Nakau after which feedback was given back to the Padezaka Tribe. After mutual agreement between all parties the Project Agreement was signed (Annex 5 Padezaka FPIC processes and evidence).	
4. Development of benefit-sharing arrangements (within project agreements)	The development of benefit-sharing arrangements took place through regular meetings with the Padezaka Tribe over a two-year period between 2020–2022. This included elements of financial and community development planning. The process also included a social livelihood survey, business and benefit-sharing workshop. The livelihood survey captured the social baseline for the Padezaka project and was used to guide community priorities. The livelihood survey was also used to develop social monitoring indicators. The first benefit-sharing workshop was facilitated by Nakau and NRDF on 23–25 June 2023. The first benefit-sharing workshop focused on the principles of benefit sharing, roles and responsibilities and benefit-sharing priorities. The workshop also discussed potential benefit-sharing models and made a draft model for the Padezaka Tribe. NRDF revisited the benefit-sharing model with the PTA members in north Choiseul in September 2023. A third benefit-sharing workshop was held in mid-September where the information and tentative model were shared with the more remote Padezaka communities in the north and west of Choiseul. Lastly, the benefit-sharing plan was signed off by the Padezaka Tribal Association on September 2023.	Money story tools Padezaka Business Plan Solomon Islands Companies ACT 2009 Padezaka genealogy and beneficiary mapping
5. Protected area management plan	A participatory process was undertaken to establish the protected area and develop the Padezaka protected area management plan, which led to its registration under the Protected Areas Act 2010 on 15 October 2021. Initial meetings were held with Padezaka tribal community members, starting in 2018. The legally required protected consultation meeting was held in November 2018. The Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology visited the Padezaka Tribe and conducted their verification visit in November 2019. The reports from the participatory sessions were endorsed and presented during this verification visit. The endorsement of the protected area management plan by the Padezaka Protected Area Management Committee representatives is documented in Annex 5 – FPIC, item 3.1 minutes from Protected Area Management Committee meeting – Padezaka Tribe.	Protected area toolkit 2010 Guidelines for writing a protected area management plan, August 2013 (Part of Protected area toolkit) (Annex 11 Padezaka protected area management plan) Protected Areas Act 2010 and Regulations 2012

Participation steps	Participatory process in the Padezaka project	Tools and resources used
6. Project owner technical capacity building	Trainings focused on forest ranger roles and responsibilities, forest inventory data collection and forest monitoring procedures. Technical advisors from Nakau, NRDF and the Ministry of Forestry and Research (MOFR) trained Padezaka community members in the use of forest inventory instruments and forest data collection. The forest inventory fieldwork for Padezaka was carried out in 2021 by Padezaka rangers with assistance from NRDF and MOFR officers. A forest monitoring training was conducted with the Padezaka rangers in October 2022. The rangers implemented the first monitoring cycle in March 2023.	Nakau forest inventory manual Nakau Avenza guide and manual
7. Project design document (PDD) submission	Presentation of PDD summary to the project owner in a simple format.	Padezaka PDD Presentation of Padezaka PDD contents

2.5 Stakeholder consultation

2.5.1 Design phase consultations

The Padezaka project has followed a broad stakeholder consultation process. Table 2.5.1 describes the design phase consultations undertaken by stakeholder groups. Documented evidence of consultations provided in the annexes 4 and 5 of this PDD.

Table 2.5.1: Stakeholder consultation and feedback mechanism during Padezaka project development

Stakeholder group	How stakeholders are informed of and can provide feedback on the project	Feedback sought
Padezaka customary landowners (primary participants)	Central involvement as project owners. Refer to sections 2.3, 2.4, and 2.6	- Determine Padezaka project area boundaries - Define project participant group membership - Determine benefit-sharing arrangements
Neighbouring landowners: Zondi, Sikiposo, Miquisava, Sirebe and Tasolomo tribes	All neighbouring tribes (tribal groups with land adjacent to the project area) are consulted on the PA through face-to-face meetings. All projects must obtain signed MoUs with all neighbouring tribes as part of the protected areas (PA) application process (coinciding with the carbon project eligible area). Each MoU must endorse the establishment of the PA and confirm that the PA applicant and project participants are landowners with user rights to the land in question.	- Assist to determine or confirm Padezaka project area and PA boundaries - MoUs have been signed that confirm agreement on land boundaries (see PDD Annex 5)
Solomon Islands Government	Relevant Solomon Islands Government agencies are consulted and kept informed during project development and implementation. This involves direct meetings or seeking support	Consultations as part of the PA approval and declaration process (Copies of confirmation letters from government agencies are

Stakeholder group	How stakeholders are informed of and can provide feedback on the project	Feedback sought
	letters), to ensure there is appropriate coordination between agencies, and there are no unforeseen barriers to project development. - Ministry of Forestry and Research (MoFR) to show there are no logging licences overlapping with the proposed PA. - Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification (MMERE) to show there are no mining leases or prospecting licences in the proposed PA. - Ministry of Lands, Housing and Survey to determine if there is any registered land in the proposed PA. - Participation in multi-disciplinary forest policy/governance working groups at the national level - Regular meetings of <i>Provincial working group for conservation and PES</i> to share information regarding project activities.	provided in Annex 4 of the PDD) - PA objection process under the <i>Protected Areas Act 2010</i>. - Ongoing information sharing in working groups at the national and provincial level
Donors/project proponents	Nakau and project coordination partners utilised donor (grant) funding to finance Padezaka project development activities (Bread for the World, Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund and New Zealand MFAT Carbon Financed Forest Conservation Project). Donors routinely require regular monitoring and reporting against activity progress, budget expenditure and achievement of expected results. Further details are not included in the PDD as this engagement is obligatory under grant contracts and can be assumed to occur.	As per donor requirements

2.5.2 Stakeholder engagement plan

Table 2.5.2 provides a localized stakeholder engagement plan for the Padezaka project.

Table 2.5.2: Stakeholder consultation approach and feedback mechanism during project period

Stakeholder group	Consultation approach and information sharing	Feedback mechanism
Local Padezaka customary landowners (through tribal association)	Central involvement as project owners. Tribal association reports quarterly and annually to Nakau and the project coordinator.	- Quarterly feedback to reports. - Throughout the project period the project owners can contact the project coordinator whenever needed.

Stakeholder group	Consultation approach and information sharing	Feedback mechanism
		Any complaints, issues or grievances will trigger Nakau's grievance mechanism (see section 3.17).
Local Neighbouring landowners: Zondi, Sikiposo, Miquisava, Sirebe and Tasolomo tribes	- Engaged through face-to-face dialogue and provided with maps and other information as relevant. - Consulted on land boundary or matters that arise during forest monitoring activities.	Face to face consultation as required
Secondary Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM)	- Ministry is to be informed on PA management. - Any PA offences need to be reported to the MECDM to issue infringement notices but also updating the Ministry on the PA work. - Padezaka PA management committees must provide annual reports to the Ministry. - The Ministry will be timely in informing the Padezaka PA management committee if any changes in the PA legislation occur - Engagement via project or sector working groups, information sessions etc.	- MECDM provides feedback directly to the project owners by contacting the Padezaka PA management committees. - Feedback through working groups and meetings.
Secondary Ministry of Forestry and Research (MoFR)	- MoFR is to be engaged if there is any encroachment of logging in the vicinity of the project areas. - Engagement via project or sector working groups, information sessions etc.	- MoFR contacted directly in the case of logging encroachment. - Feedback through working groups and meetings.
Secondary Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration (MCILB)	- Provide annual return reports of the Padezaka tribal association to Company Haus. - Inform Company Haus on any organisational changes in company or association.	Feedback to annual returns.
Secondary Choiseul Provincial government	- Regular meetings of <i>Provincial working group for conservation and PES</i> to share information regarding project activities. - Engaged if there is any encroachment of logging in the vicinity of the project areas.	- Feedback during meetings. - Direct contact in the case of logging encroachment.

Stakeholder group	Consultation approach and information sharing	Feedback mechanism
Secondary Donors/project partners	- Information shared through reporting as required by each donor. - Media releases on project activities and milestones by donor.	Feedback to reports provided.

2.6 Free, prior and informed consent (FPIC)

2.6.1 FPIC legislation

The Padezaka project has followed the statutory requirements for FPIC and the FPIC process for projects in the Solomon Islands outlined in Table 2.6.1 of the Padezaka PDD Part B.

2.6.2 FPIC process

The Padezaka project has implemented Nakau's FPIC procedures for project development as outlined in Table 2.6.2 of the Padezaka PDD Part B.

2.6.3 Initial FPIC

The FPIC processes and resources used in the Padezaka project are described in the right-hand columns of Table 2.6.3. This section is linked to Annex 5 Padezaka FPIC processes and evidence, where evidence of key decisions (for example, signed meeting minutes and attendance lists) is provided.

Table 2.6.3: Initial FPIC processes in the Padezaka project

FPIC trigger	FPIC process in the Padezaka project	Evidence documents	Resources and tools used
1. Register a legally constituted Tribal Association to act on behalf of landowner rights holders	Decision-making on project governance structure Decision-making on the appointment of individuals to manage the Padezaka Tribal Association.	1.1 Padezaka Tribe meeting minutes-PAMP _ constitution-presentation-Sasamunga _ Panarui-Padezaka-2019 1.2 Padezaka Tribe meeting minutes-PA MP _ constitution-presentation-Susuka-Padezaka-2019 1.3 Padezaka Tribe meeting minutes-PA MP _ constitution-presentation-Loemuni-Padezaka-2019 1.4 Padezaka Tribal Association constitution revised.	Solomon Islands Charitable Trust ACT 1996 Solomon Islands Companies ACT 2009
2. Agreement with the terms and conditions of the Project Agreement	Consultation and signing of the Padezaka Project Agreement by the Padezaka Tribal Association Committee.	2.1 Project Development Agreement between NRDF and Padezaka 2.2 Project Development Agreement signed 2.3 Project Agreement Report	Workshop materials Padezaka Project Agreement terms

FPIC trigger	FPIC process in the Padezaka project	Evidence documents	Resources and tools used
3. Agreement to protected area management plan including project boundaries and management regime for the project area	Endorsement of rules and regulations in the Padezaka protected area land management plan. Consultation process and signing of MoU on boundaries with neighbouring tribes.	3.1 Padezaka Tribe minutes-PA management committee meeting-Padezaka Tribe 19_08_2019 3.2 Padezaka Tribe minutes-PA MP _ constitution-presentation-Sasamunga _ Panarui-Padezaka-2019 3.3 Padezaka Tribe minutes-PA MP _ constitution-presentation-Susuka-Padezaka-J2019 3.4 Padezaka Tribe minutes-PA MP _ constitution-presentation-Loemuni-Padezaka-2019 3.5a Confirmation letter- Com of Ministry of Forestry Padezaka 3.5b Confirmation letter- Com of Ministry of Lands Padezaka 3.5c Confirmation letter- Com of Ministry of Mines Padezaka 3.6 MoUs with neighbouring Padezaka tribes	Padezaka protected area management plan rules and regulations (Annex 11 Padezaka protected area management plan) Protected Area Toolkit 2010 Protect Areas Act 2010 and Protected Areas Regulations 2012 Spatial data on tribal boundaries
4. Agreement for the PDD to be submitted for validation	PDD summary delivered in a simplified format for endorsement by the project owners before submission to Plan Vivo.	4.1 Letter endorsing the PDD submission	Padezaka PDD workshop presentation and materials

3 Project design

Baselines

3.1 Baseline scenario

In this section, we provide a stepwise analysis to demonstrate that commercial logging is the most realistic and credible baseline scenario in Padezaka. The baseline assessment is conducted through an investigation of barriers that would prevent alternative land-use scenarios. Documented evidence is provided that underpins the credibility of each alternative land-use scenario and the existence and significance of the identified barriers. The baseline assessment follows the procedures of the CDM A/R tool 02 version 1.0 approved by Plan Vivo.

Step 0 – Preliminary screening of the project activity

This step involves confirmation that incentive from the planned sale of Plan Vivo Certificates was seriously considered in the decision to proceed with the project activity. In the context of the Padezaka project, this is evidenced by demonstrating that the registration of the Plan Vivo project through a Project Idea Note (PIN) occurred before the registration of the protected area.

Table 3.1a: Evidence of the preliminary screening in the Padezaka-project

Action	Requirement	Documentation/evidence in the Padezaka project
Start of project activity	Carbon trading was seriously considered in the decision to proceed with the forest conservation activity	The South Choiseul PIN that covers the Babatana area was submitted to Plan Vivo in 2013. The Padezaka PA was declared on 15 October 2021 (see Annex 2- item 1.5)

From the evidence, we can substantiate that the incentive from the planned sale of Plan Vivo Certificates was seriously considered in the decision to proceed with the project activity.

Step 1 – Identification of the alternative land-use scenarios

Step 1 consists of a compilation of credible and realistic future land-use scenarios which would occur in the Padezaka project in the absence of the project intervention. Justification for the credibility of the land-use scenarios stems from the fact these are the predominant land-use types in the region.

Sub-step 1a:

Identification of credible alternative land-use scenarios in the Padezaka project. Identification of realistic and credible land-use scenarios that would have occurred on the land within the Padezaka project boundary in the absence of the project intervention.

Table 3.1b: Outcome of sub-step 1a in the Padezaka project

Land-use scenario	Rationale for credibility of land-use scenarios in the Padezaka project context
1. Commercial logging and timber milling	The whole eligible forest area (EFA) in Padezaka is undisturbed forest with high commercial timber stocks that would ensure profitable commercial logging and milling operations.
2. Forest conservation without carbon finance	The Padezaka project is eligible for legal protection. The project area is located within the Mount Maetambe-Kolombangara River Basin Key Biodiversity Area that constitutes the habitat of species of wild fauna and flora of unique national importance. Source: https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/kba-data

Sub-step 1b:

Verification of consistency of identified alternative land-use scenarios with enforced mandatory applicable laws and regulations.

Table 0.1c: Outcome of sub-step 1b – Legal compliance of potential baseline scenarios and legal compliance in the Padezaka project area

Land-use scenario	Rationale for land use in the Padezaka project context	Requirement of Solomon Islands legislation
Commercial logging and timber milling	The whole eligible forest area (EFA) in Padezaka is located below 400 metres elevation and eligible for commercial logging. Areas above 400 metres elevation were stratified and excluded from the EFA. Source: Topographic map of Padezaka EFA provided in PDD Annex 1	There are no legal restrictions to commercial logging in areas below 400 metres elevation according to the Solomon Islands legislation. Source: Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Amendment) Act Chapter 40 (2000), Cap. 133 (44r), in Padezaka Supporting Documents SD10
Forest conservation without carbon finance	The Padezaka project is eligible for legal protection. The project area is located within the Mount Maetambe-Kolombangara River Basin Key Biodiversity Area that constitutes the habitat of species of wild fauna and flora of unique national importance. Source: https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/kba-data	Under Solomon Islands legislation, only areas that possess significant genetic, cultural, geological or biological resources are eligible to become protected areas. Solomon Islands Protected Areas Act 2010 Part 3A, in Padezaka Supporting Documents SD11

Step 2 – Barrier analysis

In the second step, a barrier analysis is carried out for each credible land-use scenario. The objective of the barrier analysis is to substantiate which alternative land-use scenarios would be prevented by barriers.

Documented evidence is provided that proves the existence and significance of the identified barriers. The outcome of the barrier analysis is a list of land-use scenarios that are not prevented by any barriers.

Sub-step 2a:

Identification of barriers that would prevent alternative land-use scenarios in the Padezaka project.

Outcome sub-step 2a:

List of barriers that may prevent one or more land-use scenarios identified in the Step 1b.

Table 3.1d: Barrier analysis of commercial logging/milling in the national and Padezaka project context

Barrier type	Description and sources of evidence in the Solomon Islands context	Description and sources of evidence in the Padezaka project context
Investment barriers	There are no investment barriers to prevent commercial logging/milling in the Solomon Islands. Tribal groups do not need funds to enable logging operations. These are carried out by logging contractors with strong financial capacity to cover operational costs.	There are several logging concessions in the vicinity of the Padezaka-project which demonstrates logging companies are active and not experiencing investment barriers in the project region. Source: Map of logging concessions in central Choiseul Province, Solomon Islands (Figure 3.1). Spatial data is provided in in Annex 1 Project boundaries.
Institutional barriers	Logging revenue is the mainstay of the Solomon Islands economy and therefore is incentivised by the Solomon Islands Government where legally possible. There are no institutional barriers from the Solomon Islands Government to prevent the issuance of felling licenses in	The whole eligible forest area of the Padezaka project is located in production forest below 400 metres elevation. There are active and expired logging licenses that were issued that cover most of the landmass of Choiseul Province and demonstrate the lack of institutional barriers to commercial logging.

Barrier type	Description and sources of evidence in the Solomon Islands context	Description and sources of evidence in the Padezaka project context
	production forest below 400 metres elevation.	Source: Map of logging concessions in central Choiseul Province, Solomon Islands (Figure 3.1). Spatial data is provided in Annex 1 Project boundaries.
Technological barriers	There are no technological barriers that would prevent commercial logging/milling in the Solomon Islands. Contractors own or can provide access to the necessary machinery and skilled human resources to carry out operations.	The timber harvesting plan from a logging concession that borders the Padezaka project includes a description of the equipment and machinery used in the logging operation. Source: Delta Timber Ltd. Timber Harvesting Plan, operation summary, in Padezaka Supporting Documents SD4
Barriers related to local traditions	There are barriers related to local traditions to prevent logging/milling on cultural (tambu) sites. These only cover a minimal extent of the harvestable forest area and do not prevent logging itself or threaten the feasibility of operations.	There are barriers to carry out commercial logging/milling on sites of cultural significance. These sites are of very limited extent in Padezaka and do not prevent logging itself or threaten the feasibility of operations. Source: Spatial files on Padezaka cultural sites in Annex 1 Project boundaries.
Barriers related to prevailing practice	There are no barriers related to prevailing practice to prevent logging/milling in the Solomon Islands. Commercial logging is a prevailing practice in the country as shown by numerous active and inactive logging licenses covering all provinces.	Commercial logging/milling has been and is a prevailing practice in the forests surrounding the Padezaka project as shown by numerous active and inactive logging licenses. Logging encroached into 3 hectares of the Padezaka protected area in 2021, as well as into 43 hectares of their reserve are Sources: Map of logging concessions in central Choiseul (Figure 3.1) Spatial data is provided in in Annex 1 Project boundaries. Supporting Document 15: Report on logging infringement on Padezaka tribal land – Padezaka PDD Supporting Documents
Barriers related to environmental conditions	There are no ecological barriers to prevent commercial logging/milling in undisturbed lowland rainforests in the Solomon Islands. Undisturbed and moderately disturbed forests hold valuable commercial timber stocks that would allow for feasible logging/milling operations. The majority of legally permissible production forest area is suitable for logging in terms of topography and access.	The whole Padezaka-project area is covered by undisturbed, (unlogged) forest (aside from the logging incursions mentioned above). Forest inventory results show significant commercial timber stocks. Source: Annex 6a – Babatana forest inventory.
Barriers related to socioeconomic conditions	There are few socioeconomic barriers that can prevent logging/milling in the Solomon Islands. At the remote village level, people often welcome logging as a rare opportunity for development that carries the promise of money, jobs, roads and services. Decision making on logging in the communities is not participatory and is often made by elite groups who can allow logging without the consent of other rights holders and customary landowners who may have objections. Source: Minter. T. et al. 2018, From Happy Hour to Hungry Hour: Logging, Fishing and	There are no socioeconomic barriers that would prevent logging/milling in the Padezaka project. Most tribes in the region are currently logging or have previously logged the forests on their land. Source: Map of logging concessions in central Choiseul (Figure 3.1)

Barrier type	Description and sources of evidence in the Solomon Islands context	Description and sources of evidence in the Padezaka project context
	Food Security in Mailata, in Padezaka Supporting Documents SD5	
Barriers related to land tenure	There are no barriers to prevent logging/milling in areas of customary land tenure. Although the transfer of interests in customary land is prohibited in the Solomon Islands Constitution, the Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Amendment) Act 2000 provides a legal pathway to separate timber rights from customary land ownership, thereby enabling timber rights to be legally transferred to third parties. Source: Forest Resources and Timber Utilisation (Amendment) Act 2000 Part III: Approved timber agreements affecting customary land, in Padezaka Supporting Documents, SD10	There are no barriers to transfer timber rights in Padezaka customary land to third parties.

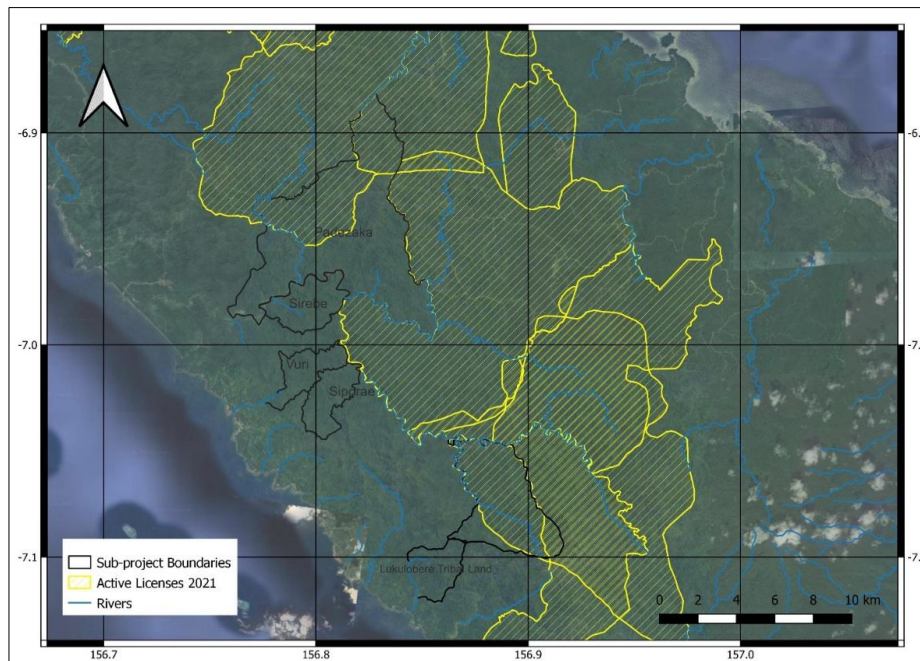


Figure 3.1: Active logging concessions surrounding project areas in the Babatana region, in 2021. Source: Ministry of Forestry and Research¹.

¹ Note: The overlap between the logging concessions and the Padezaka PA shown in the map does not actually exist, but is the result of inaccuracies of the spatial boundaries of the logging concessions which do not necessarily correspond with the areas under felling licenses. The MOFR was consulted during the PA process and has confirmed that there is no spatial overlap between the Padezaka PA and any felling licenses (See Padezaka PDD, Annex 4. Item 5.7).

Table 3.1e: Barrier analysis of forest conservation (without a forest carbon project) in the national and Padezaka project context

Barrier type	Description and sources of evidence in the Solomon Islands context	Description and sources of evidence in the Padezaka project context
Investment barriers	There are investment barriers that prevent the establishment of protected areas by rural communities in the Solomon Islands without external support and finance. The protected area development costs amount to approximately SBD 200,000. Protected area requirements include a biodiversity assessment, meetings and verification visits from the Solomon Islands Government. Additional costs exist for procedures to settle objections. Source: Information on protected area process requirements are provided in the Land Advisory and Legal Support Unit Protected Areas Toolkit, Supporting Documents SD12.	There are investment barriers that prevent the establishment of a legal protected area in Padezaka. The whole protected area process was donor-funded through the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Integrated Forest Management Project (operational costs and human resources). Without donor finance, it is unlikely the Padezaka community would have been able to finance the protected area process and achieve legal protection over the project area.
Institutional barriers	There are institutional barriers to prevent the widespread establishment of protected areas in production forest in the Solomon Islands. The Solomon Islands Government disincentivises forest conservation in production forests (below 400 metres elevation) due to the importance of logging for the Solomon Islands economy. Source: Information on the importance of annual revenue from round log exports is provided in the Central Bank of Solomon Islands annual reports. https://www.cbsi.com.sb/publications/annual-report/	There are no institutional barriers to prevent the establishment of a protected area in the Padezaka project. All projects in the Babatana region enjoy government support from the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology due to their location within the Mount Maetambe-Kolombangara River Basin Key Biodiversity Area. Source: Critical Ecosystem Partnership, East Melanesian Islands: https://www.cepf.net/our-work/biodiversity-hotspots/east-melanesian-islands
Technological barriers	There are technological barriers to prevent the establishment and adequate management of protected areas by rural communities in the Solomon Islands without external support and finance. The protected area establishment process involves the preparation of a biodiversity survey and conservation management that require specialised expertise which is not readily available in rural communities. Source: Information on protected area establishment and implementation activities. Protected Areas Toolkit, Supporting Documents SD12.	There are technological barriers to prevent the establishment and adequate management of a protected area in Padezaka without external support. The protected area process involves the preparation of a biodiversity survey and conservation management plan that require specialised expertise which is not readily available in Padezaka and surrounding communities.
Barriers related to local traditions	There are barriers related to local traditions to prevent the establishment of a protected area in the Padezaka project. Traditionally, nature conservation follows customary law. There is a lack of knowledge on the legal protected area instrument that leads to concerns among customary landowners about the loss of ownership and customary rights on their land. These concerns can initially provide barriers to landowner interest in legal protection. To overcome this, significant time is needed for awareness-raising and community	There are barriers related to local traditions to prevent the establishment of a protected area in the Padezaka project. Nature conservation in Padezaka traditionally follows customary law and not the protected area instrument, which was not well known before the start of the forest carbon project. Tribal members were educated on protected areas and their implications in many meetings with the project coordinator before making an informed decision regarding protected area establishment.

Barrier type	Description and sources of evidence in the Solomon Islands context	Description and sources of evidence in the Padezaka project context
	consultation from the project coordinator side. Source: Price, S. (2022) Protected area memo, in Supporting Documents, SD16.	Source: Annex 5 Padezaka FPIC processes and evidence – item 3.1 Padezaka Tribe minutes Protected Area Management Committee meeting – Padezaka Tribe
Barriers related to prevailing practice	There are barriers related to prevailing practice to prevent the establishment of protected areas in the Solomon Islands. More than a decade after the institution of the Protected Area Act 2010 and its regulations, the instrument is still relatively unknown and there are currently only four established protected areas in the country, all located in the Babatana region. Source: Source: Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology data portal, https://solomonislands-data.sprep.org/search?query=protected%20areas	There are barriers to prevailing practice in the Padezaka project. Padezaka is only the third terrestrial protected area established in the country (declared a protected area in 2021). Most of the area surrounding the Padezaka project is covered by logging concessions. Source: Annex 2 Padezaka registration and partner agreements – item 1.5 Padezaka Protected Area Certificate
Barriers related to ecological conditions	There are barriers related to ecological conditions to prevent the establishment of a protected area in the Solomon Islands. Protected areas by law can only be established in areas that possess significant genetic, cultural, geological or biological resources. Source: Solomon Islands Protected Areas Act 2010 Part IIIa, in Supporting Documents, SD11.	There are no barriers related to ecological conditions to prevent the establishment of a protected area in the Padezaka project. Padezaka is located within the Mount Maetambe-Kolombangara River Basin Key Biodiversity Area which is recognised by the Solomon Islands Government to hold significant biodiversity values. Source: Critical Ecosystem Partnership, East Melanesian Islands: https://www.cepf.net/our-work/biodiversity-hotspots/east-melanesian-islands
Barriers related to socioeconomic conditions	There are socioeconomic barriers to prevent the establishment of protected areas in the Solomon Islands. There is little incentive for landowners to establish protected areas without the option of forest carbon finance because on their own they cannot contribute enough capital to community income and development. This is demonstrated by the fact that all terrestrial protected areas in the Solomon Islands are linked with forest carbon projects.	There are socioeconomic barriers that would prevent the establishment of a protected area in the Padezaka project. The protected area establishment was dependent on the option of forest carbon finance and the opportunity for socioeconomic development. The intention of a forest carbon project is documented in the Padezaka protected area management plan. Source: Annex 11 Padezaka protected area management plan.
Barriers related to land tenure	There are barriers related to land tenure to prevent the establishment of protected areas in the Solomon Islands. The protected area process requires the demarcation and agreement of land boundaries between protected area proponents and neighbouring tribes. Typically, customary land boundaries are not marked and often disputed, making boundary mapping and achieving land agreements onerous and expensive. This represents a barrier for landowners to achieve without external support.	In the Padezaka project, there are barriers related to land tenure. There were two objections to establishing a protected area which are related to land tenure disputes. One part (959 hectares) of the project area is being claimed by the neighbouring Subavalu Tribe. NRDF facilitated a meeting between the disputing parties to come to an agreement. As a result, the area in question was excluded from the protected area application and became a reserve area. The tenure rights over the reserve area will be determined through a customary hearing. A second part of the project area (approximately 800 hectares) was claimed by the Qoqopele Tribe. This claim was rejected through a customary Chief Hearing Process which was financially supported through NRDF.

Barrier type	Description and sources of evidence in the Solomon Islands context	Description and sources of evidence in the Padezaka project context
		There are no further internal or external disputes over land ownership or boundaries in the project area. The land boundaries were successfully demarcated and agreed on with neighbouring tribes in the protected area process. Areas where land boundaries were contested, were removed from the project area and designated as a reserve. Further, there were no internal land tenure conflicts that emerged during project development. Source: Supporting documents – Padezaka protected area objection documents

Sub-step 2b: Elimination of land-use scenarios that are prevented by the identified barriers:

In this step, we determine which land-use scenarios identified in the sub-step 1b are prevented by at least one of the barriers listed in sub-step 2a.

Outcome of sub-step 2b:

Table 3.1f: Results of barrier analysis

Alternative land-use scenario	Number of barriers identified in the Padezaka project
Land-use scenario 1: Commercial logging/milling	0
Land-use scenario 2: Forest conservation (without forest carbon finance)	6

We can substantiate that in the context of the Padezaka project, the barriers identified as preventing realisation of land-use scenario 2 are valid and conclusive.

Sub-step 2c – Determination of the baseline scenario:

Sub-step 2c consists of the application of a decision tree to the outcome of sub-step 2b guided by the question if the land-use scenario 'forest conservation (without a forest carbon project)' is prevented by any barriers in the project area.

Outcome of sub-step 2c:

The outcome of sub-steps 2a and 2b demonstrates commercial logging is the only land-use scenario that is not prevented by any barriers and therefore is the baseline scenario in the Padezaka project.

Step 3 – Investment analysis

An investment analysis is required only if the outcome of sub-step 2b reveals more than one land-use scenario that is not prevented by any barriers and if the land-use scenario 'forest conservation (without a forest carbon project)' is not prevented by any barriers.

Outcome of step 3:

Not applicable in the Padezaka project context because commercial logging is the only land-use scenario that is not prevented by any barriers.

Step 4 – Common practice analysis

The common practice analysis shall complement the barrier analysis under step 2 with an analysis of the extent to which forest conservation activities have already diffused in the geographical area of the proposed project activity.

Outcome of step 4:

There are no legal forest conservation activities under use of the protected area instrument that were previously established or are underway in the Padezaka project region. The whole project region was included to create a large forest conservation area covering south-west Choiseul in 2009, which ultimately

failed. This shows forest conservation activities have not diffused into the geographical region of the Padezaka project. All current protected areas in the region were established through the Nakau Programme and with the intention to access forest carbon finance.

Source: WWF 2009, Report on the biodiversity of three proposed protected areas on south-west Choiseul Island, in Supporting Documents SD9.

3.2 Carbon baseline

The net baseline emissions (NBE) in the Padezaka project are shown in Table 3.2 below. **The carbon baseline is updated every 5 years.**

Table 3.2: Net baseline emissions (NBE) by rotation in the Padezaka project

Rotation	Years	Net baseline emissions NBE (t CO ₂ e yr ⁻¹)
Annual average rotation 1	01–15	1,523,893
Annual average rotation 2	16–30	510,547
Annual average over crediting period	01–30	2,034,440

3.3 Livelihood baseline

3.3.1 Initial livelihood status

The Padezaka project has followed the guidance in section 3.3.1 of PDD Part B to determine the initial livelihood status of the project owner communities.

The baseline data was collected through updated formal standardised questionnaires consisting of open-ended and close-ended questions. The interviews were conducted at 40 households in six villages located along the south coast (Sasamunga, Panarui, Ngarione, Sagigae) and north-west coast (Molevanga, Loemuni) of Choiseul. These six villages are where most of the customary landowners of the Padezaka Tribe reside. Padezaka landowners also reside in the village of Susuka in the far North of Choiseul, but in very few numbers. The total number of households within these villages is around 500 and so the survey covered 8% of the households within this group.

The survey questions focused on the values of the household and not of an individual or the head of the household, and differentiations were made between male and female occupants when appropriate. Across the 40 households, interviewees included 141 women and 131 men. All respondents indicated they understood the purpose of the survey. The methodology and results of the Padezaka social survey are provided in PDD Supporting documents- Baselines. An updated livelihood baseline report is provided together with the Annual Report at each verification.

Table 3.3.1. Summary of livelihood status prior to project start in the Padezaka project

Livelihood criteria	Livelihood status	
Access to land	Secure	
Access to resources	Secure	
Main land uses	Subsistence and commercial agriculture Collection of non-timber forest products Hunting Small-scale timber harvesting for domestic purposes	
Livelihood activities and income sources	Cash crops	51%
	Own business	10%
	Informal employment	27%
	Formal employment	12%
Employment rate Men	Formal:	12%
	Informal:	25%

Livelihood criteria	Livelihood status	
Employment rate Women	Formal:	12%
	Informal:	25%
Income level (SBD per month)	0–500:	76%
	500–1000:	12.5%
	1000–2000:	2.4%
	>2000:	10%
Main expenditures	Food, household goods, school fees	
Expenditure level (SBD per month)	0–500:	75%
	500–1000:	17.5%
Percentage of households which can save some money	Yes:	75%
	No:	21%
Power source	90% of households use solar energy as the only power source	
Water source	Rainwater tank:	70%
	River:	50%
Sanitary	Flush toilet:	37%
	Seaside or bush:	72%
Housing	Permanent house:	47.5%
	Leaf house:	27.5%
	Semi-permanent house:	25%

3.3.2 Expected livelihood change

Section 3.3.2 of the Padezaka PDD Part B summarises the expected livelihood change for project participants under a commercial logging baseline that is common to all Nakau projects with avoided logging interventions in the Solomon Islands.

3.4 Ecosystem baseline

3.4.1 Initial ecological conditions

This section describes the ecological conditions in the Padezaka project immediately prior to the start of the project intervention. Refer to section 3.4.1 in the Padezaka PDD Part B for the guidance on determination of the initial ecological status for projects under the NCP-SI.

The Padezaka project area is located within the Mount Maetambe-Kolombangara River Basin Key Biodiversity Area that constitutes the habitat of species of wild fauna and flora of unique national and international importance and therefore meet the eligibility criteria for legal protection under the PA Act 2010. The project area is completely covered by undisturbed old-growth forest. According to data from the National Forest Resource Inventory, the main forest habit types in the area are lowland (LM) and hill rainforest (HM) on well-drained soils and varying degrees of canopy cover (see forest types map in Figure 3.4.1).

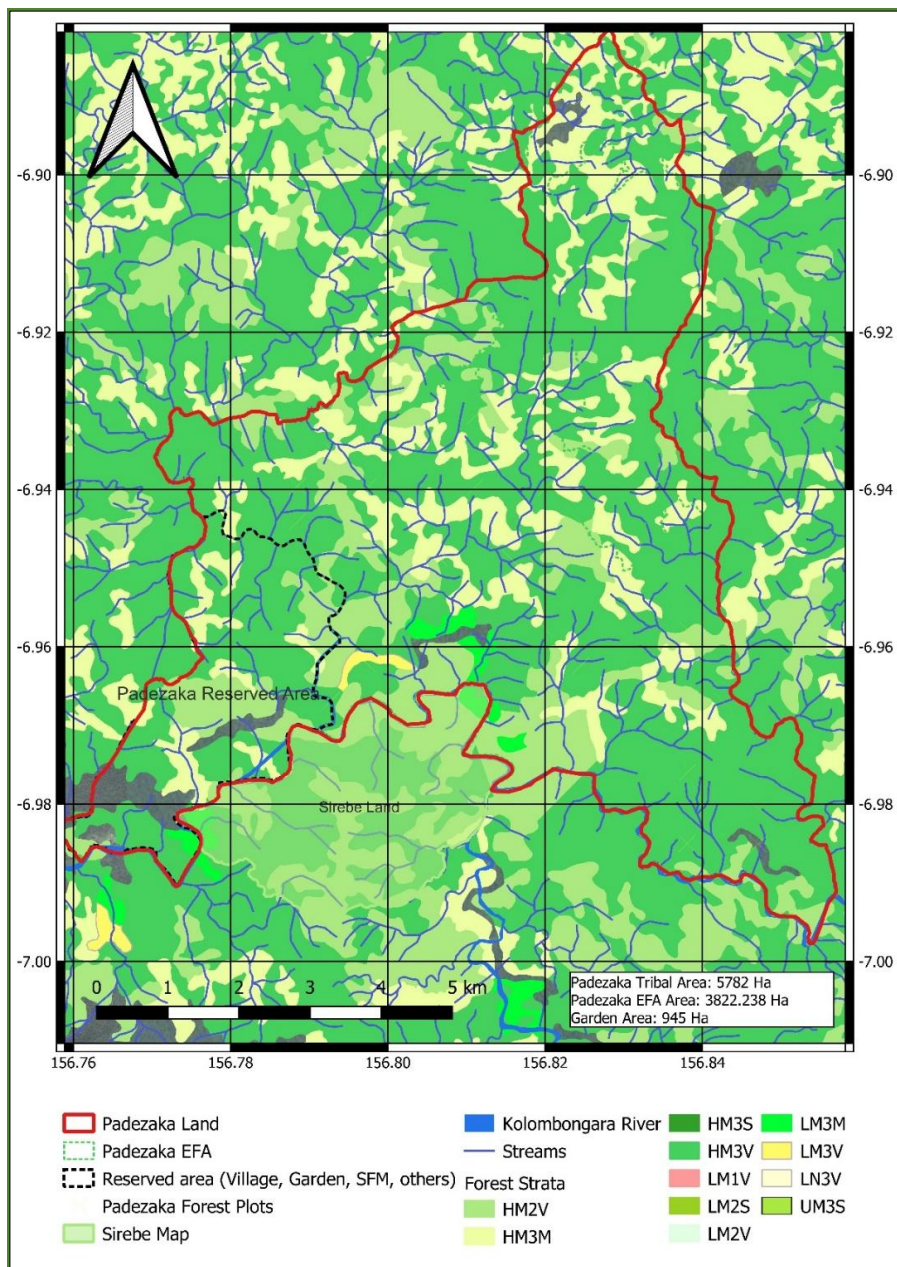


Figure 3.4.1: Map of forest types in the Padezaka project area and surrounds, hill forest with different degrees of canopy closure (HM2V to HM3V), lowland forest (LM1V to LN3V), and upland forest (UM3S).

A comprehensive baseline biodiversity inventory was carried out in 2014, which gathered data on the flora and fauna found in the forest habitats in the Mount Maetambe-Kolombangara River Basin, which includes the Padezaka project area (see Supporting Documents SD13 Choiseul Expedition 2014 Final Report).

An additional biodiversity survey was completed in June 2022 by Ecological Solutions Solomon Islands (ESSI), which further identified the flora and fauna present in the Padezaka protected area and surrounding protected areas, resulting in a comprehensive biodiversity list for Padezaka. The team used intensive field methods to collect the data, including mist netting, spotlighting, audible and visual observations in systematic and random plots across the protected area. The comprehensive species list for Padezaka is provided in Supporting Documents SD14 Flora and fauna checklist ESSI.

The results from these studies reveal several species that have been attributed high conservation value due to one or several of the following criteria: IUCN red listing of near-threatened or above, endemism/limited geographical range and/or threats from human disturbance. 13 of these were selected as key species for ecosystem monitoring (see Table 3.4b for details on the key species).

3.4.2 Expected ecosystem change

Section 3.4.2 of the Padezaka PDD Part B provides the description of the expected ecosystem change under a commercial logging baseline scenario that is common to all Nakau projects with avoided logging interventions.

Theory of change

3.5 Project logic

Please refer to section 3.5 of the Padezaka PDD Part B for the theory of change of avoided logging projects developed under the Nakau Conservation Programme Solomon Islands, including project logic and results diagram.

Table 3.5 details the outputs and activities required to achieve project outcomes in the Padezaka context, including the expected results and assumptions.

Table 3.5: Outputs and activities in the Padezaka project.

Outputs/Activities	Expected results	Assumptions
Output 1. Padezaka Protected Areas (PA) legally protected under the Protected Areas Act	Logging and mining legally excluded from project area	MEDCM supports PA application
Activity 1.a Land demarcation process and PA boundary mapping. Activity 1.b Appointment of the Padezaka PA management committee. Activity 1.c Development of PA bi-laws. Activity 1.d Conducting PA Biodiversity Assessment. Activity 1.e PA application process under MEDCM		
Output 2. Padezaka PA Management Plan incorporating Indigenous Ecological Knowledge (IEK)	Rangers and communities managing forests according to sound scientific and cultural practices	Padezaka PA management plan is used by rangers to guide their activities
Activity 2.a Participatory land use planning. Activity 2.b Development of PA maps using spatial data. Activity 2.c Development of the Padezaka PA management plan with inputs from the landowner community.		

Outputs/Activities	Expected results	Assumptions
Output 3. Implementation of forest management and monitoring activities as per PA management plan	Padezaka PA rules enforced; Conservation land management plans implemented	Padezaka rangers have capacity to undertake conservation work
Activity 3.a Padezaka PA Rangers appointed/employed. Activity 3.b Education and enforcement of Padezaka PA management plan rules and regulations. Activity 3.c Implementation of forest management actions (as per PA management plan).		
Output 4. Padezaka carbon baseline and monitoring	Forest cover loss detected and quantified Padezaka carbon benefits quantified according to Plan Vivo standard requirement	Carbon methodologies used meet standard requirements
Activity 4.a Mapping/stratification of Padezaka Eligible Forest Area (EFA). Activity 4.b Forest inventory. Activity 4.c Establishment of technical specification Activity 4.d Development of forest/carbon monitoring plan Activity 4.e Participant-led forest monitoring using mapping application Activity 4.f Forest cover change assessment (remote sensing)		
Output 5. Padezaka ecosystem monitoring	Padezaka ecosystem and biodiversity values identified	Literature, data and/or expertise available
Activity 5.a Biodiversity survey or literature review. Activity 5.b Creation of biodiversity/ecosystem indicators Activity 5.c Development of ecosystem monitoring plan Activity 5.d Field Monitoring of ecosystem indicators.		
Output 6. Padezaka livelihood monitoring	Padezaka livelihood indicators measured	Padezaka communities / households agree to participate
Activity 6.a Livelihood baseline survey. Activity 6.b Livelihood monitoring survey . Activity 6.c Develop livelihood monitoring reports.		
Output 7. Project participation and FPIC	Informed Padezaka landowner participation and ability to provide or withhold FPIC	Participation is effective; accessed by a broad cross-section of the participant group
Activity 7.a Broad project owner participation and FPIC in design of forest carbon activities. Activity 7.b PES Education embedded within participatory design activities.		
Output 8. Padezaka Project Validation and Verification	Padezaka project is validated or verified to the PV Standard	VVBs are available; Padezaka PDD meets PV Stand requirements
Activity 8.a Preparation of Padezaka Project Design Document (PDD). Activity 8.b Padezaka PDD verification/validation process.		
Output 9. Padezaka Benefit Sharing Mechanism (Plan)	Padezaka tribal association receiving PES income and distributing benefits fairly; reinvesting into other livelihood activities	All parties implement the benefit sharing plan as designed

Outputs/Activities	Expected results	Assumptions
Activity 9.a Padezaka beneficiary mapping (recording of rights holders) Activity 9.b Co-development of benefit sharing plan. Activity 9.c Facilitate community development/livelihood reinvestment plan (optional) Activity 9.d Education, consultation and FPIC for signing of Padezaka Project Agreement.		
Output 10. Execution of Padezaka benefit sharing mechanism	Padezaka tribal association receiving PES income and distributing benefits fairly; reinvesting into other livelihood activities	All parties implement the benefit sharing plan as designed
Activity 10.a Execution of Padezaka Project Agreement; disbursement of sales revenue in accordance with benefit sharing plan. Activity 10.b Monitoring of benefit distribution by Padezaka tribal association		
Output 11. Padezaka Grievance redress mechanism	Grievances or disputes communicated and addressed	Participants agree to utilise dispute resolution system
Activity 11.a Education and consultation on grievance redress mechanism Activity 11.b Implementation of grievance redress mechanism (if grievances arise)		
Output 12. Padezaka business entity established and supported	Transfer of carbon rights to Padezaka landowner business	Transfer of rights is supported by landowners (FPIC) and allowable under law
Activity 12.a Participatory design/establishment of Padezaka tribal association (TA). Activity 12.b Padezaka TA business plan development. Activity 12.c Padezaka TA business operation, monitoring and reporting		
Output 13. Marketing, visibility, and sales of Plan Vivo Certificates	Buyer, donor and investor support for the project	Positive response to marketing and visibility actions
Activity 13.a Development of marketing materials for Nakau channels including stories, photos and case studies. Activity 13.b Produce project stories for credit buyer platforms and channels. Activity 13.c Prepare case studies and reports for knowledge and learning, including annual reports.		
Output 14. Ongoing Project coordination and implementation support	Adherence to and maintenance of project implementation systems; meeting all PV requirements	Ongoing capacity and viability of Nakau and NRDF
Activity 14.a Technical support & training for project monitoring. Activity 14.b Technical support & training for project governance. Activity 14.c Technical support & training for business management. Activity 14.d Provision of data management services. Activity 14.e Assessment and reporting of project monitoring results and project impacts. Activity 14.f Support for annual and monitoring cycle reporting.		

Technical specification

3.6 Project activities

A summary of the avoided logging and forest conservation project activity is provided in section 3.6 and table 3.6 in the Padezaka PDD Part B. A detailed description of the project activities in Padezaka, and inputs delivered by Nakau and NRDF is provided in section 4 of the Padezaka technical specification (Annex 7).

3.7 Additionality

This section provides an analysis of the main barriers to the implementation of forest carbon project activities in the Solomon Islands and a description and documented evidence of how these barriers will be overcome in the Padezaka project context.

Table 3.7: Description of barriers to development and implementation in the Padezaka-project and mitigating measures taken by Nakau and NRDF to overcome the barriers

Main barriers	Description of barriers (national context)	Description of barriers in the Padezaka project context	Measures taken to overcome barriers in the Padezaka project	Evidence of measures taken
Investment barriers	Project participants are remote rural communities that do not possess the financial resources to develop a PA and Plan Vivo project in the absence of external project support.	The Padezaka tribal association and landowners do not have sufficient funds to finance protected area establishment and forest carbon project development. In 2022, the Padezaka Protected Area Committee was awarded a small climate grant from the Green Climate Fund. It was mainly used to purchase equipment used in protected area establishment however and was much too little to be able to support forest carbon project development.	NRDF have supported the Padezaka protected area process with funding from Bread of the World and the Food and Agriculture Organisation – Intensive Forest Management project since 2018 Nakau has sourced donor funding through the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) Carbon Financed Forest Conservation Project to finance project development in Padezaka since 2021	Grant agreements between NRDF and Bread for the World and Integrated Forest Management Project (FAO) Grant agreement between Nakau and MFAT
Institutional barriers	The Solomon Islands economy heavily relies on logging revenue and there is still limited political support for the widespread establishment of legal protected areas in production forest areas due to concerns over revenue losses. Source: Information on the dimension of annual revenue from round log exports is provided in the Central Bank of Solomon Islands annual reports ²	In the Padezaka project context, there are no institutional barriers to forest protection. The project area is located in the Mount Maetambe-Kolombangara Basin Key Biodiversity Area ³ which enjoys full support for protected area development through the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM).	n/a	n/a

² <https://www.cbsi.com.sb/publications/annual-report/>³ <https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/kba-data>

Main barriers	Description of barriers (national context)	Description of barriers in the Padezaka project context	Measures taken to overcome barriers in the Padezaka project	Evidence of measures taken
Technological barriers	Project participants are remote rural communities with generally low levels of formal education that lack the specific skills and infrastructure required to successfully develop and implement the project activity in the absence of the project intervention.	The Padezaka customary landowners lack the technical skills and infrastructure to develop a protected area and forest carbon project without external support. For this purpose, they have signed a project agreement with Naku and NRDF.	To overcome these barriers, the Padezaka Tribal Association has signed a project development agreement with Naku and NRDF who provide project participants with guidance in the project development phase.	Annex 2 Padezaka registration certificate and partner agreements – item 2.2
Barriers related to local traditions	Some of the traditional governance norms may not correspond to and represent a barrier to inclusive approaches required for forest carbon projects under PV Climate (i.e related to gender balance).	Establishment of a protected area and carbon project requires more inclusive governance and participation that would normally happen under customary tradition.	The NCP-SI overcomes these barriers by strengthening gender equity through broad stakeholder engagement, participatory processes and the application of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) throughout project development.	Annex 4 Padezaka participatory design and Annex 5 Padezaka FPIC processes and evidence Naku GEDSI plan.
Barriers related to prevailing practice	Legal forest protection and forest carbon approaches are relatively new and unknown concepts in the Solomon Islands which landowners often struggle to understand.	As per national barriers (left)	To overcome these barriers, project development involves ongoing community engagement and inclusive information sharing and awareness raising that aim to educate project participants to achieve full understanding of protected area and forest carbon development processes.	Annex 4 Padezaka participatory design – item 1 General PES awareness and education and item 6 Project owner capacity building
Barriers due to environmental conditions	The forest in the proposed site may not be eligible for legal protection under Solomon Islands protected area regulations.	There are no barriers due to ecological conditions in Padezaka. The Padezaka-project area is located within the Mount Maetambe-Kolombangara River	n/a	n/a

Main barriers	Description of barriers (national context)	Description of barriers in the Padezaka project context	Measures taken to overcome barriers in the Padezaka project	Evidence of measures taken
		Basin Key Biodiversity Area ² that constitutes the habitat of species of wild fauna and flora of unique national and international importance and therefore meet the eligibility criteria for legal protection.		
Barriers related to social conditions	Local leadership systems may present barriers to establishing inclusive project governance and equal benefit-sharing mechanisms in the absence of the project intervention.	Local leadership systems may present barriers to establishing inclusive project governance and equal benefit sharing mechanisms in the absence of the project intervention.	To overcome social barriers, Nakau provides guidance to the community to establish a project governance system including fair and transparent benefit distribution.	Padezaka PDD Annexes 4- and 5- Evidence documents of participatory design and FPIC.
Barriers related to economic conditions	There is an increasing need for cash and a lack of alternative income opportunities for people in rural communities of the Solomon Islands. Logging is often viewed as the only option for income and community development. At the village level, people welcome logging for different reasons, all of which have to do with a promise for a better life. This includes money, jobs, roads and services (Minter, 2018). The prospect of establishing a protected area may cause objections from tribal members with conflicting economic and land use aspirations that can delay or	The prospect of logging income represents a socioeconomic barrier to the project activities in Padezaka. Like many other communities, In the absence of forest carbon finance, Padezaka project participants would have likely opted for logging due to external and internal pressure and incentives.	To overcome economic barriers Nakau and NRDF have acquired significant funding and invested years or work into the establishment of the Padezaka protected area and the development of the forest carbon project. In the project implementation phase, Padezaka beneficiaries will obtain significant income through the sales of carbon credits that can compensate any forgone income from alternative (non-conservation) land uses in the project area.	Padezaka financial plan (Padezaka PDD Annex 16)

Main barriers	Description of barriers (national context)	Description of barriers in the Padezaka project context	Measures taken to overcome barriers in the Padezaka project	Evidence of measures taken
	permanently stall project activities..			
Barriers related to land tenure	The existence of current and/or historical disputes over land ownership and boundaries may disrupt or inhibit project development.	In Padezaka, there are barriers related to land tenure. There were two objections during the PA process that relate to land tenure disputes: The first objection concerns an area that is being claimed both by the Padezaka the Subavalu Tribe. A second objection concerned the eastern part of the protected area (approx. 800 hectares) which is claimed both by the Padezaka and the Qoqopele Tribe. There are no further internal or external disputes over land ownership or boundaries in the project area. The land boundaries were successfully demarcated and agreed on with neighbouring tribes in the protected area process.	NRDF mediated a meeting between the Subavalu and Padezaka tribes to come to an agreement over the disputed area. Since an agreement could not be reached, the area was excluded from the PA. The tenure rights over this area will ultimately be determined through a customary or court hearing. The claim from the Qoqopele tribe was defeated through a customary chief hearing which was financially supported by NRDF.	Documentation on protected area objections, in Padezaka Supporting Documents

3.8 Carbon benefits

This section provides a summary of the expected carbon benefits from the Padezaka project over the crediting period. Full details of procedures for estimating carbon benefits **using the Nakau approved approach** are provided in Annex 6- Padezaka Carbon Calculations, and in Annex 7 - Padezaka technical specification.

Table 3.8a: Expected carbon benefits summary in the Padezaka project

Project	Baseline	Project	Leakage	Net carbon benefit
Padezaka project	t CO ₂ e ha ⁻¹	t CO ₂ e ha ⁻¹	t CO ₂ e ha ⁻¹	t CO ₂ e ha ⁻¹
Total emissions	712.6	0	35.9	
Total removals	-176.2	-34.7	0	
Net benefits	536.4	34.7	-35.9	535.2

Table 3.8b: Plan Vivo Certificate potential in the Padezaka project

Project	Net carbon benefit	Project area	Total net carbon benefit	Risk buffer	Potential PVCs
Padezaka project	t CO ₂ e ha ⁻¹	ha	t CO ₂ e	t CO ₂ e	t CO ₂ e
	535.2	3792.8	2,029,749	405,950	1,623,799

Risk management

3.9 Environmental and social safeguards

3.9.1 Exclusion list

No activities in the Padezaka project are part of the Plan Vivo exclusion list (see PDD Annex 8).

3.9.2 Environmental and social screening

A summary of the environmental and social risk screening results in the Padezaka project is provided in the Table 3.9.2 below. The full details of the environmental and social screening of the Padezaka project are provided in PDD Annex 9.

Table 3.9.2: Summary of environmental and social risks in the Padezaka project

E&S topic/risk area	Likelihood (1-5)	Magnitude (1-5)	Significance (low, moderate, severe, high)
Vulnerable groups	1	3	Low
Gender equality	2	3	Moderate
Human rights	1	3	Low
Community, health, safety & security	2	2	Low
Labour and working conditions	3	1	Low
Resource efficiency, pollution, wastes, chemicals and GHG emissions	1	3	Low
Access restrictions and livelihoods	1	3	Low
Cultural heritage	1	2	Low
Indigenous Peoples	1	1	Low
Biodiversity and sustainable use of natural resources	1	3	Low

E&S topic/risk area	Likelihood (1-5)	Magnitude (1-5)	Significance (low, moderate, severe, high)
Land tenure conflicts	3	1	Low
Risk of not accounting for climate change	3	3	Moderate
Other – e.g. cumulative impacts	1	3	Low

3.9.3 Environmental and social assessment

The environmental and social circumstances and risks of Nakau projects operating under avoided logging interventions are comparable across the Solomon Islands. Therefore, Nakau has taken a high-level approach to assessing environmental and social risks that is applicable across Nakau projects of this intervention in the country. The environmental and social risk assessment (ESRA) provides a thorough analysis of potential environmental and social risks and describes the strategies and activities designed to avoid, minimise or mitigate the risks that have been identified. The details of the ESRA are contained in the 'Environmental and social risk assessment' report, provided in PDD Annex 10.

3.9.4 Environmental and social management plan

This section presents a localized matrix of environmental and social risks and mitigation measures in the Padezaka project

Table 3.9.4: Environmental and social management plan for the Padezaka project.

Risk/Impact PDD Annex 10)	Mitigation Measures	Reference to Outputs (Section 3.5)
Social		
Elite capture of decision making or benefit sharing by landowner participants who are educated or have power.	1. Padezaka beneficiaries (carbon rights holders) of the project area are mapped and identified. 2. Selection of a representative landowner group (Padezaka tribal association) triggered FPIC process requiring a broad landowner mandate. 3. The Nakau benefit distribution system requires fairness & transparency and will be monitored & audited	Outputs 9, 10, 12,14 Participatory processes and FPIC are employed across project design and implementation (PDD sections 2.4 and 2.6.
Landowner participants misuse or mismanage funds.	1. Nakau system for fair & transparent benefit sharing and financial discipline. 2. Provide financial literacy and management training to participants. 3. Undertake livelihood monitoring to track impact of money on social outcomes.	Outputs 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14 Benefit sharing mechanism is described in PDD Section 3.16.
Failure to consider broad community development needs, including food security, land for housing and	1. Participatory land use and community development planning to ensure PES was developed in the context of other needs. 2. PES methodology and protected area regulations allows for continued	Output 2

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Risk/Impact PDD Annex 10)	Mitigation Measures	Reference to Outputs (Section 3.5)
short-term needs for income	customary use of forests (e.g. harvesting of fuel wood and timber for local building). 3. Project activities (i.e forest monitoring, ecotourism) provide income opportunities for local people	
Community expectations are not met (for example delays in generating income, income less than expected).	1. Effective and ongoing engagement and education to ensure realistic expectations. 2. Nakau invests in marketing to stimulate demand for PES units / off-take agreements from Nakau projects	Outputs 7, 13. Refer to the education component of the Participatory Process (PDD Section 2.4)
Project diminishes landowners land and resource rights (e.g. land registration)	1. Identify customary rights holders under the Protected Areas Act (FPIC process)	Outputs 1, 7, 11
Lack of support from central government, and/or relevant line ministries	1. The Padezaka PA was declared and protected under the Protected Area ACT 2010; expected to receive all the SIG support under the regulations of this ACT. 2. Padezaka rangers monitor and report illegal logging in the area. 3. Nakau and NRDF actively engage with relevant SIG ministries (at national and provincial level)	Outputs 1, 4 Refer to Stakeholder consultation PDD Section 2.5
Insufficient local capacity to deliver project	1. Nakau engages (licences) a local NGO as Project Coordinator (NRDF) that has sufficient capacity to support local implementation. 2. Nakau and NRDF provide capacity building activities support and technical backstopping for Padezaka project participants. 3. Nakau fosters knowledge exchanges between participant groups.	Output 14 Capacity building is built in and cross cutting across all activities. Refer to PDD Section 2.2
Land disputes	1. Assess project sites using the Nakau site screen criteria to avoid developing projects in areas where land rights are contested. 2. Ensure that a Chiefs Hearing is undertaken as part of the PA Application process to increase the reliability of boundary determination and strengthen the case for the PA in the instance of an appeal.	Outputs 1, 7, 11 Nakau site screening process (occurs prior to project development)
Environmental		
Non-native / invasive species	1. The project intervention does not involve tree planting.	Outputs 2, 3

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Risk/Impact PDD Annex 10)	Mitigation Measures	Reference to Outputs (Section 3.5)
Biosecurity- introduction of wildlife diseases	1. The Padezaka PA management plan contains a code of conduct for overseas visitors that aims at minimizing the introduction of wildlife diseases 2. The code of conduct will be enforced by Padezaka forest rangers	Outputs 2, 3
Habitat loss	1. The project intervention will not include the clearing of vegetation that represents an important natural habitat for wildlife species	Outputs 2, 3
Unsustainable harvesting	1. The Padezaka PA does not allow harvesting of any species for commercial purposes. 2. The protected area management plan includes activities aimed at conservation, education or for sustainable use of resources, for instance small-scale timber harvesting for domestic purposes	Outputs 2, 3
Soil erosion	1. The project intervention does not involve any activities that would lead to soil erosion	Outputs 2, 3
Pollution	1. The project intervention does not involve activities that would lead to significant pollution 2. The Padezaka PA management plan includes measures to minimize pollution from solid and liquid waste	Outputs 2, 3
Use of herbicides and pesticides	1. The project intervention does not involve the use of herbicides and pesticides	Outputs 2, 3

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3.9.5 Native species

Section 3.9.5 of the Padezaka PDD Part B provides general guidance on the use of non-native species in forest carbon projects under the Plan Vivo Climate standard.

The Padezaka project does not involve introduction of any non-native species (plant or animal).

3.10 Achievement of carbon benefits

The Padezaka project will not generate PVCs based on projected future emission reductions or removals

3.11 Reversal of carbon benefits

The risks related to forest loss and reversals are comparable across projects of avoided logging interventions in the Solomon Islands. Therefore, Nakau has taken a high-level approach to describing these risks and associated mitigation measures, that is provided in section 3.11 of the Padezaka PDD Part B.

3.12 Leakage

Section 3.12 in the Padezaka PDD Part B provides an overview of leakage risks and mitigation measures that is relevant for all Nakau forest conservation projects in the Solomon Islands. Table 3.12 below details the site-specific leakage risks and mitigation measures for the Padezaka project.

Table 3.12: Potential leakage risks and mitigation measures in the Padezaka project

Leakage type	Leakage risk	Mitigation measures
Market leakage from displacement or intensification of commercial logging due to forest conservation activities	Currently low due to small scale of Nakau conservation projects	Difficult to mitigate as Nakau has no influence over activities carried out by logging companies
Activity shifting leakage from displacement of slash-and-burn agriculture to areas outside the project area due to forest conservation management.	Low. Potential leakage risks and impacts in the Padezaka project have been mitigated through adequate land-use planning.	Potential leakage from farming activities occurring in the EFA has been mitigated through excluding potentially farmable areas from the EFA by creating a reserve area.
Activity shifting leakage from displacement of timber milling to areas outside the project area due to forest conservation management.	High. Intensification of commercial timber milling in reserve area is expected to occur due to forest conservation activities in the project area	Difficult to mitigate as commercial timber milling is an important livelihood activity. Instead of mitigation, expected leakage emissions have been discounted from carbon benefits

3.13 Double counting

Nakau has developed procedures to assess and monitor the potential occurrence of double counting (of carbon benefits) at the national level in the Solomon Islands. A description of these measures is provided in section 3.13 in the Padezaka PDD Part B and sections 4.2 and 4.7 in this PDD.

Agreements

3.14 Land management plans

In the context of Nakau projects that avoid logging and formally protect forest through protected areas, land management plans are referred to as "Protected Area Management Plans"

The participatory land-use planning that precedes the elaboration of PA management plans follow the general procedures for all Nakau forest conservation projects as outlined in section 3.14 of the Padezaka PDD Part B. Table 3.14 below demonstrates the alignment of Nakau's participatory land use planning procedures with Plan Vivo requirements.

Table 3.14: Plan Vivo requirements for land management plans and measures taken in the Padezaka project

Plan Vivo requirements	Description of participatory land-use planning measures in the Padezaka project context
Protected area management plan shall provide information on	Maps are provided that show the boundaries of Padezaka customary land, protected area and neighbouring tribes, land cover and topography.

Plan Vivo requirements	Description of participatory land-use planning measures in the Padezaka project context
location and extent of project area	
Protected area management plan shall provide details how to estimate carbon benefits	The first steps of the protected process focused on awareness and consultation with Padezaka customary landowners and members of neighbouring tribes to create an understanding of the protected area process and the implications of establishing a protected area and forest carbon project in the proposed area. This includes education on the concepts of a forest carbon project and how benefits from emission reductions are generated and quantified. Due to the low education levels of many tribal members, the information was transmitted in a simplified and verbal/visual format to ensure it can be understood by as many tribal members as possible.
Measures have been taken to ensure details of estimating carbon benefits are fully understood and agreed to by tribal members	
Protected area and forest carbon activities have the potential to enhance the livelihoods of the project participants	During protected area management and land-use planning, the Padezaka Protected Area Management Committee and tribal members defined additional future activities to be developed at the community level to enhance livelihoods. Planned activities include creating small enterprises such as ecotourism, commercial fishing, prawn farming, and women savings clubs which can be financed through forest carbon project income. These activities are documented in the Padezaka protected area management plan and the business plan.
The establishment of the protected area and forest carbon project do not risk undermining the food security and/or income security of project participants	The protected area category in the Padezaka-project is the 'Resource Management Area'. Under this category, project owners are allowed to carry out gardening or other sustainable livelihood activities inside the protected area boundary as long as these are sanctioned in the management plan. The Padezaka protected area management plan includes activities that are permitted, restricted and prohibited in the protected area. During the writing process, the community was informed and consulted on all proposed protected area management actions, rules and regulations. The eligible forest area for the Padezaka-project was further demarcated through a participatory land-use planning process, where farming areas that are important for current and future food and income security are stratified and excluded.

The Padezaka project applies scenario a) where the project area is located remotely from villages or areas where landowners are residing (see section 3.14 in the Padezaka PDD Part B). Most of the project area is not readily accessible for gardening or daily use, and gardening occurs only in limited areas which have been mapped and excluded from the EFA (see Figure 1.2.2).

The Padezaka PA management plan is presented in PDD Annex 11. The final draft was presented to and consulted on during meetings with members of the Padezaka Tribe. The protected area management plan was submitted to the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology, and was adjusted by the tribe after a review and verification visit by ministry staff on 25 November 2019 (Annex 4– item 5.5). The final management plan was submitted and approved by the Ministry on 15 October 2021 (Annex 2– item 1.5).

3.15 Crediting period

The project period for all Nakau avoided logging projects is 30 years. For a rationale on the 30-year crediting period, please refer to section 3.15 in the Padezaka PDD Part B.

The start date and project period for the Padezaka project is specified in Clause 1.5 of the Padezaka Project Agreement (see Annex 12) as from 1 January 2019 until 31 December 2048 (30 years).

3.16 Benefit-sharing mechanism

Nakau follows a standardized approach to develop the benefit-sharing mechanism at the project level, which is described in sections 3.16.1 to 3.16.9 in the Padezaka PDD Part B.

The Padezaka benefit-sharing mechanism was developed through a series of community consultations and workshops (see Annex 4– item 4). The steps included identifying beneficiaries through a genealogy survey, holding business and benefit-planning workshops (see Annex 4– items 4.1-4.3) and the development the Padezaka business and benefit sharing plan (see PDD Annex 16).

The Padezaka Project Agreement was signed between the responsible parties through the free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) process as per PDD section 2.6. The signed Project Agreement is provided in Annex 12. The process for ensuring FPIC prior to signing the Project Agreement is documented in Annex 5– item 2.3. The benefit-sharing plan is included as a section in the Padezaka Tribal Association’s business plan (see Annex 16).

3.17 Grievance mechanism

Nakau applies a standardized approach to develop a grievance mechanism in all projects in the Solomon Islands, as described in section 3.17 in the Padezaka PDD Part B.

The localized Padezaka grievance mechanism is provided in Annex 17. This project-specific grievance mechanism was designed by Nakau and NRDF during the project development phase, with the following steps to be completed during year one of the project:

- Consultation with projects owners regarding the details of the grievance mechanism (see PDD Annex 4, item 4.3)
- Confirmation of nominated roles, responsibilities and procedures related to grievance management.
- Details of grievance mechanism shared with all relevant tribal members and stakeholders.

The Padezaka Project Agreement includes contractual provisions for disputes (see PDD Annex 12, section 10) and was signed between the responsible parties through the free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) process as per section 2.6 of this PDD. The signed Project Agreement is provided in Annex 2 -item 2.2. Evidence of the process for ensuring FPIC prior to signing the PES Agreement is provided in Annex 5 – items 2.2 - 2.5.

3.18 Project agreements

The Padezaka Project Agreement was established in accordance with the general requirements for Nakau Project Agreements described in the Padezaka PDD Part B, section 3.18.

Nakau, NRDF and the Padezaka Tribal Association (representing the project owners), are the three parties that have entered into the Project Agreement. The Signing of the agreement signing followed prior consultation with the Padezaka community and free, prior and informed consent (see section 2.6), which is detailed in the Project Agreement Report (see Annex 5 item 2.3). The signed Project Agreement between the responsible parties for the Padezaka project is provided in PDD Annex 12.

4 Monitoring and reporting

4.1 Progress indicators

Table 4.1 presents an overview of progress indicators used to measure and monitor the performance of the Padezaka project, based on project outputs and activities as per section 3.5. The full details of progress indicators, targets and monitoring procedures are described in the project monitoring plan (see PDD Annex 13). The progress monitoring results are reported annually in the annual reports.

Table 4.1: Progress indicators used in the Padezaka project (noting that only recurring indicators will be included in project monitoring plans)

Output/activity	Progress indicators	Means of verification	Monitored (Recurring)
Output 1. The Padezaka project area is legally protected under the Protected Areas Act 2010	1.1 Absence of notice to change or revoke the PA status	Notice change or revoke the PA status	Yes
	1.2 Effective enforcement of Padezaka PA regulations	- Description enforcement actions and outcomes in quarterly land management reports - Annual reports	Yes
Output 3. Implementation of forest management activities as per PA management plan	3.1 Quantity and type of ranger-led forest management actions as defined in the PA management plan	- Data reported in quarterly land management reports - Annual reports	Yes
Output 4. Forest carbon baseline and monitoring	4.1 Padezaka forest inventory and carbon baseline updated	Original and updated forest inventory data and analysis results (Padezaka PDD Annex 6)	Yes
	4.2 Completion of forest field monitoring - Level of effort (days, personnel) - Area monitored	- Data collected by rangers - Annual forest monitoring field reports	Yes
	4.3 Forest change assessment (remote sensing) completed annually	- Forest cover change analysis report - Annual report	Yes
Output 5. Padezaka ecosystem monitoring	5.1 Ecosystem monitoring completed including Level of effort (days, personnel)	- Data collected by rangers - Annual forest monitoring field reports	Yes
Output 6. Padezaka livelihood monitoring	6.1 Livelihood monitoring conducted and results reported once per monitoring cycle, as per sections 4.3 and 4.8	- Livelihood monitoring results in annual report - Annual benefits sharing results in annual reports	Yes
Output 10. Execution of benefit sharing mechanism	10.1 Value of service fee commissions and participant payments	Annual reports	Yes
	10.2 Value of participant payments	Quarterly reports	Yes
	10.3 Padezaka tribal association reports business and benefit distribution expenditure	Quarterly reports	Yes
	10.4 Results of community benefit investments (e.g. goods,	Quarterly reports	Yes

Output/activity	Progress indicators	Means of verification	Monitored (Recurring)
	services, infrastructure, savings)	Annual reports	
Output 11. Grievance redress mechanism	11.2 Grievance redress mechanism SOP applied as needed	Livelihood monitoring report in verification monitoring reports	Yes
Output 12. Padezaka business entity established and supported	12.2: Padezaka tribal association business health	- Quarterly finance reports from tribal association - Tribal association annual report	Yes
Output 13. Marketing, visibility, and sales of Plan Vivo Certificates	13.1 Annual volume and value of PVC sales or sales commitments	- Emission reduction purchase agreements (ERPAs) - Annual reports	Yes
Output 14. Ongoing project coordination and implementation support	14.1 Training and support activities delivered as planned in annual general meetings (project level)	- Padezaka Annual general meeting minutes - Annual reports	Yes

4.2 Carbon indicators

Table 4.2 below provides a summary of carbon indicators monitored in the Padezaka project, including methods of measurement, monitoring frequency, groups involved, and resources and capacity requirements.

Table 4.2: Overview over carbon indicators in the Padezaka project.

Carbon Indicator	Methods of Measurement	Monitoring frequency	Groups involved	Resources required	Capacity required
Forest cover loss	Field Measurement of forest cover loss incidents and quantification of loss of carbon benefits	Annual	Forest rangers with support from Nakau and NRDF	Forest rangers and technical expertise	Technical expertise in monitoring procedures and equipment use, mapping and spatial analysis
	Remote assessment of forest cover loss and quantification of loss of carbon benefits	Continuous, reported annually	Nakau and NRDF support remote monitoring, results shared with project owner	Recent high-resolution satellite imagery and analysis tools	Technical expertise in remote monitoring procedures and spatial analysis
Baseline scenario	Periodic assessment of potential forest sector policy and regulatory changes that could affect baseline assumptions and project additionality	Continuous	Nakau and NRDF experts	Professional networks in forest and environmental sectors	Expertise in forest sector policy and governance
Carbon baseline	Monitoring of the commercial stock and net baseline emissions	Every 5 years	Forest rangers with technical support from Nakau and NRDF	Trained forest rangers Forest inventory equipment	Forest mensuration techniques Forest data analysis skills

Carbon Indicator	Methods of Measurement	Monitoring frequency	Groups involved	Resources required	Capacity required
Activity shifting leakage	Not monitored (leakage has been mitigated through land-use planning or discounted from carbon benefits, see Table 4.2)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Market leakage	Comparison of foregone log export volumes from protected areas under the NCP-SI versus actual timber export volumes at the national level	Once per verification period	Nakau experts	Data on logging volumes (export and domestic markets) Data on avoided logging volumes by Nakau projects	Expertise in forest data analysis and carbon accounting
Double counting	Gathering and assessing information on changes to the Solomon Islands national REDD+ programme, or other emerging emission trading schemes, and the impacts of these on Nakau projects	Continuous	Nakau experts	Professional networks in forest and environmental sectors	Expertise in forest governance and emission trading schemes

The carbon indicators and monitoring procedures are described in the Padezaka project monitoring plan, see PDD Annex 13.

4.3 Livelihood indicators

Livelihood monitoring in the Padezaka project is guided by the livelihood indicators described in Table 4.3. Indicators may be revised or new indicators added where appropriate at project scale.

The detailed livelihood indicators and monitoring procedures and targets are described in the Padezaka monitoring plan (see PDD Annex 13).

Table 4.3: Overview over livelihood indicators in the Padezaka project

Livelihood indicator and sub-indicators	Methods of measurement	Sampling approach	Frequency	Groups involved	Resources	Capacity required
Livelihood indicator: Food Security 1. Food purchased from the store won't adversely change (increase or decrease) on average. 2. The average size of the household or family garden does not decrease as a result of the project. 3. How often food is harvested from the garden does not decrease. 4. The types of crops sold does not impact food security over time. 5. Households do not run out of food more often as result of the project. 6. The frequency that food and other items are harvested from the forest does not decrease.	Measurement of indicators relating to household food security compared over time	Random selection of participating households 1 man or 1 woman interviewed at each household	Once per verification period	Nakau, NRDF	Kobo Toolbox and data collection device, survey questionnaire	Social survey skills and proficiency in local language
Livelihood Indicator: Water Security 1. Households will not run out of water more frequently as a result of the project. 2. Water sources available to households will remain the same or improve as a result of the project. 3. The types of toilets used will remain the same or improve a result of the project. 4. Percentage of project owner budget spent on infrastructure each year. 5. Number of households receiving water tanks (or equivalent water supply infrastructure) each year. 6. Number of households receiving improved sanitation infrastructure (toilets etc.) each year.	Measurement of indicators relating to household water security compared over time	Random selection of participating households 1 man or 1 woman interviewed at each household	Once per verification period	Nakau, NRDF	Kobo Toolbox and data collection device, survey questionnaire	Social survey skills and proficiency in local language

Livelihood indicator and sub-indicators	Methods of measurement	Sampling approach	Frequency	Groups involved	Resources	Capacity required
Livelihood Indicator: Financial Security 1. The housing conditions will not get worse as a result of the financial benefits. 2. The sources of electricity will not be negatively impacted. 3. School attendance will not decrease. 4. The main expenditures will not increase as a result of the project. 5. Households' ability to save income will remain the same or improve. 6. Use of alcohol or other drugs will not increase. 7. Percentage of community benefit-sharing allocation spent on education each year. 8. Number of households receiving school fee support each year. 9. Percentage of community benefit-sharing allocation spent on supporting livelihoods projects each year. 10. Number of households benefiting from supported livelihoods initiatives each year (microloans etc.). 11. Percentage of community benefit-sharing allocation spent on women saving club accounts each year. 12. Number of women/household members of savings groups supported by project.	Measurement of indicators relating to household financial security compared over time	Random selection of participating households 1 man or 1 woman interviewed at each household	Once per verification period	Nakau, NRDF	Kobo Toolbox and data collection device, survey questionnaire	Social survey skills and proficiency in local language
Livelihood Indicator: Project Participation 1. The community's ability to access information about the carbon project has improved. 2. The community feels that they are learning skills from the project. 3. Participation in the project is increasing. 4. More community members trust the project and feel that it is improving community wellbeing.	Measurement of indicators relating to trust and perceptions of the project compared over time	Random selection of participating households 1 man or 1 woman interviewed at each household	Once per verification period	Nakau, NRDF	Kobo Toolbox and data collection device, survey questionnaire	Social survey skills and proficiency in local language

The livelihood indicators and monitoring procedures are described in the Padezaka project monitoring plan, see PDD Annex 13.

4.4 Ecosystem indicators

Table 4.4a provides a rationale for the selection of ecosystem indicators and Table 4.4b provides a list of the indicator (key) species.

Table 4.4a: Rationale for definition of ecosystem indicators in the Padezaka project

Ecosystem Indicator	Description	Monitoring frequency
Presence of key flora and fauna elements	Large scale forest degradation is prohibited in the PAs and EFAs, therefore no significant changes in ecological conditions or loss of biodiversity are expected to occur under the project activities. There are however human activities that are allowed or expected to occur in the project areas which could impact certain flora and fauna species. Species that are vulnerable to human impacts are considered indicative of any changes in biodiversity in the project context. Key species should have one or several of the following characteristics: • Characteristic of undisturbed forest habitats • Possess high conservation value (Legal protection, IUCN red list status and/or endemism) • Must be threatened by human disturbance (hunting/harvesting, pet trade) • Must be threatened by non-native predators (feral cats, feral dogs, wild boars) • Well-known and conspicuous -can be easily identified and monitored by forest rangers The key species in the project area are monitored by forest rangers through opportunistic observations and recording of sighting locations. Changes in species observations over time are used as a proxy to identify potential populational changes.	annually

The ecosystem monitoring procedures are described in the Padezaka project monitoring plan, see PDD Annex 13.

Table 4.4b: List of key species used as ecosystem indicators in the Padezaka project

Taxonomic group	Common name	Species name	IUCN red list status (2023)	Conservation value	Threats in project area	Other relevant information
Flora	Rosewood	<i>Pterocarpus indicus</i>	EN ⁴	Very high	Logging and timber milling	
Mammals	Bougainville giant rat	<i>Solomys salebrosus</i>	VU ⁵	High	Hunting	
	Poncelet's giant rat	<i>Solomys ponceleti</i>	CR ⁶	Very high	Hunting	
	Solomon flying fox	<i>Pteropus rayneri</i>	NT ⁷	High	Hunting	Endemic to Choiseul and Bougainville
	Admiralty flying fox	<i>Pteropus admiralitatum</i>	LC ⁸	Medium	Hunting	Endemic to Solomon Islands
Birds	Sanford's sea eagle	<i>Haliaeetus sanfordi</i>	VU ⁹	High	Wildlife trade	Endemic to Solomon Islands
	Blyth's hornbill	<i>Aceros plicatus</i>	LC ¹⁰	Medium	Hunting and wildlife trade	
	Crested cuckoo dove	<i>Reinwardtoena crassirostris</i>	NT ¹¹	High	Hunting and wildlife trade	
	Eclectus parrot	<i>Eclectus polychloros</i>	LC ¹²	Medium	Wildlife trade	
Amphibians	Solomon Islands leaf frog	<i>Cornufer guentheri</i>	LC ¹³	Medium	Wildlife trade	Endemic to Solomon Islands

⁴ Barstow, M. 2018. *Pterocarpus indicus*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2018.⁵ Dando, T. 2021. *Solomys salebrosus*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2021.⁶ Leary, T., Seri, L., Flannery, T., Wright, D., Hamilton, S., Helgen, K., Singadan, R., Menzies, J., Allison, A. & James, R. 2008. *Solomys ponceleti*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2008.⁷ Lavery, T.H. 2017. *Pteropus rayneri*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2017.⁸ Lavery, T.H., Bonaccorso, F.J. & Hamilton, S. 2020. *Pteropus admiralitatum*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2020.⁹ BirdLife International. 2016. *Haliaeetus sanfordi*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2016.¹⁰ BirdLife International. 2020. *Rhyticeros plicatus*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2020.¹¹ BirdLife International. 2016. *Reinwardtoena crassirostris*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2016.¹² BirdLife International. 2019. *Eclectus roratus*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2019.¹³ IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group. 2020. *Cornufer guentheri*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2020.

Taxonomic group	Common name	Species name	IUCN red list status (2023)	Conservation value	Threats in project area	Other relevant information
	Solomon giant tree frog	<i>Cornufer hedigeri</i>	LC	Medium	Wildlife trade	Endemic to Solomon Islands
Reptiles	Solomon Islands prehensile-tailed skink	<i>Corucia zebrata</i>	NT ¹⁴	High	Hunting and wildlife trade	
	Western crocodile skink	<i>Tribolonotus pseudoponceleti</i>	LC ¹⁵	Medium	Wildlife trade	Endemic to Choiseul and Bougainville

¹⁴Hagen, I.J., Harlow, P., Allison, A., Hamilton, A. & Tallwin, O. 2021. *Corucia zebrata*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2021.

¹⁵ Harlow, P. 2013. *Tribolonotus pseudoponceleti*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2013.

Monitoring

4.5 Monitoring plan

The Padezaka project monitoring follows the general guidelines established for Nakau forest conservation projects in the Solomon Islands, as described in the Padezaka PDD Part B, section 4.5.

The monitoring plan of the Padezaka project (see Annex 13) was developed by Nakau and NRDF and describes the detailed procedures to monitor progress, carbon, livelihood and ecosystem indicators according to the Plan Vivo project requirements v.4. The Padezaka monitoring plan will be implemented by the project owner and NRDF, with technical support from Nakau.

Prior to the verification of the Padezaka PDD, Nakau and NRDF have begun training the Padezaka Protected Area Management Committee and forest rangers in forest and ecosystem monitoring through monitoring and data collection workshops (see Annex 4 – items 6.1 to 6.6). The workshops covered the basic principles of the community participation in monitoring in alignment with the PDD, and how to use field mapping applications to monitor indicators. Rangers were specifically trained to use the Avenza mapping and data collection app to measure potential forest cover loss in the field and to collect data on ecosystem indicator species.

NRDF will continue to strengthen the capacity of the project owners in project monitoring as long as necessary. The trainings will happen based on mutual agreement and at times, opportunistically, during NRDF field visits.

4.6 Progress monitoring

Table 4.6 provides milestones or thresholds for the progress indicators in the Padezaka project. Progress of indicators are numbered in relation to outputs, as per Table 4.6. Progress monitoring activities will focus on recurring outputs (as opposed to one-off outputs), as is explained in section 4.1.

Table 4.6: Progress indicators, milestones and potential corrective actions in the Padezaka project

Progress indicators	Milestone/thresholds	Corrective action if milestone is not met
1.1 Permanence of legal protection status	Absence of notice to change or revoke the Padezaka PA status	Delay verification events until PA reinstated
1.2 Effective enforcement of PA regulations	- Absence of illegal logging incidents - Absence of penalties issued for illegal logging	- Delay verification events until PA reinstated - Update carbon accounting with reversals
3.1 Quantity and type of ranger-led forest management actions as defined in the Padezaka PA management plan	Targets of Padezaka PA management activities met	NRDF to provide additional support and training as required
4.1 Forest inventory and carbon baseline completed/updated by project verification	Padezaka forest inventory and carbon baseline updated as by Plan Vivo requirements (every 5 years under PV v4)	Delay verification events until completion
4.2 Forest field monitoring completed	Padezaka rangers achieve targets for forest/carbon monitoring	- Ensure forest carbon accounting can be confirmed prior to verification - NRDF to provide additional support and training as required

Progress indicators	Milestone/thresholds	Corrective action if milestone is not met
4.3 Remote forest monitoring completed	Forest cover change assessment completed at least annually	Delay verification events until completion
5.1 Ecosystem monitoring completed	Padezaka rangers achieve targets for ecosystem monitoring	NRDF to provide additional support and training as required
6.1 Livelihood monitoring completed	Padezaka livelihood monitoring carried out and results reported at each verification	- NRDF to provide additional support and training as required - Delay verification events until completion
10.1 Value of service fee commissions and participant payments	Target max. 40% for services fees from Nakau and the project coordinator, and min. 60% to Padezaka Tribal Association	Actions to remedy payment amounts for compliance
10.2 Value of participant payments		
10.3 Padezaka tribal association reports business and benefit distribution expenditure	- Quarterly finance report - Monitor tribal association financials for misuse of funds or 'elite capture'	- Nakau/NRDF to provide support and capacity building for reporting - For funds misuse or elite capture, implement localised strategy to remedy - For serious non-compliance, delay payments until remedied
10.4 Results of community benefit investments	Padezaka tribal association meets targets and/or priorities established in the project community benefit sharing plan	NRDF to provide additional support and training as required
11.2 Grievance redress mechanism SOP applied as needed	Assess effectiveness at project monitoring meeting before each new verification event	Nakau to work with NRDF and Padezaka tribal association to improve system
12.2 Padezaka tribal association business health	- Budget has been reviewed annually - Finance reports produced and presented at least quarterly - Budget / actual expenditure reports aligned	NRDF to implement activities for continual support and improvement
13.1 Annual volume and value of PVC sales or sales commitments	Sales targets met	Nakau increases efforts in sales and marketing
14.1 Training and support activities delivered as planned in annual general meetings (project level)	Delivery of training and support needs identified for the next 12 months in the annual general meeting	Nakau to work with NRDF and Padezaka tribal association to improve delivery of training and support

The Padezaka-progress indicators and targets are described in the project monitoring plan, see PDD Annex 13, and the monitoring results are reported in the annual reports.

4.7 Carbon monitoring

The carbon monitoring follows of the Padezaka project monitoring plan (see PDD Annex 13), and technical specification (see Annex 7).

Table 4.7 below describes the carbon monitoring schedule in the Padezaka project throughout the project period.

Table 4.7. Monitoring schedule for carbon indicators in the Padezaka project

Carbon indicators	Activity	Verification period					
		2019–2022	2023–2027	2028–2032	2033–2037	2038–2042	2043–2048
Forest cover loss	Field monitoring	annually	annually	annually	annually	annually	annually
	Remote monitoring	once	annually	annually	annually	annually	annually
Carbon baseline	Re-assessment of commercial stock and harvest rate	Initial values	once	once	once	once	once
Baseline scenario	Review of policy/legislative changes	Initial status	once	once	once	once	once
Activity shifting leakage	Not monitored						
Market leakage	Review of significance of market leakage (national level)	once	once	once	once	once	once
Double counting	Review of changes to national GHG reduction programmes	Initial status	once	once	once	once	once

4.8 Livelihood and ecosystem monitoring

4.8.1 Livelihood monitoring

General rules around livelihood monitoring applicable to Nakau projects in the Solomon Islands are described in section 4.8.1 of the Padezaka PDD Part B.

The livelihood indicators were measured at the household level across the Padezaka community. The target values are derived from the Padezaka livelihood baseline survey results (initial values). The livelihood indicators are reassessed, and project impacts are evaluated once per verification period.

Table 4.8.1: Livelihood indicators and targets in the Padezaka project

Livelihoods indicators	Initial value	Target value
Food Security		
No change in how often food is purchased from the store or market on average	4 days a week	≤4 days a week
No decrease in the average size of a household/family garden	0.30 hectares	≥0.30 hectares

Livelihoods indicators	Initial value	Target value
No decrease in the average number of days food is harvested from the garden	≥2.5 days a week	≥3 days a week
Fewer households report running out of food	17.5% of households run out of food	≤18% of households run out of food
The average frequency food is harvested from the forest will not decrease	1 Days a month	≥1 Days a month
Water Security		
On average, fewer households run out of clean water	30%	≤30%
Water sources available to households will remain the same or improve	70% households use mains water or rainwater tanks	≥70% households use mains water or tanks
Access to toilets and sanitation improves, with more than 37.5% of households using a pour/flush toilet	37.5% of households having access to a toilet	≥38% of households having access to a toilet
% of project owner budget spent on infrastructure each year		Confirmed annually at AGM
Number of households receiving water tanks (or equivalent water supply infrastructure) each year		Confirmed annually at AGM
Number of households receiving improved sanitation infrastructure (toilets) each year		Confirmed annually at AGM
Financial Security		
The housing condition will remain the same or not get worse due to finances	47.5% of people live in a permanent house	≥48% of people live in a permanent house
Access to electricity is consistent or improves	≥90% of households have access to solar or other sources	Same or more
School attendance will not decrease	95% of children attend school	≥95% of children attend school
More households can save some money on a monthly basis	55% of households can save some money	≥55% of households can save some money
The household main expenditures will not increase due to the project	Food and household items are the biggest expenditures	Same
Alcohol and drug consumption doesn't increase	57.5% people observe alcohol consumption increasing	≤58% people observe alcohol consumption increasing
% of community benefit sharing allocation spent on education each year	n/a	Confirmed annually at AGM
Number of children (or households) receiving school fee support each year	n/a	Confirmed annually at AGM
% of community benefit-sharing allocation spent on supporting livelihoods projects each year	n/a	Confirmed annually at AGM

Livelihoods indicators	Initial value	Target value
Number of households benefiting from supported livelihoods initiatives each year (micro loans)	n/a	Confirmed annually at AGM
% of community benefit-sharing allocation spent on Padezaka women saving club accounts each year	n/a	Confirmed annually at AGM
Number of women/households members of savings groups supported by project	n/a	Confirmed annually at AGM
Project participation		
The community's ability to access information about the carbon project has improved	35% of households can access information	≥35% of households can access information
The community feels they are learning skills from the project	67.5% of households have gained skills	≥68% of households have gained skills
Participation with the project is increasing.	n/a	Increase vs baseline
More community members trust the project and feel it is improving community well-being	85% of households feel the project is improving community wellbeing	≥85% of households feel the project is improving community wellbeing

4.8.2 Ecosystem monitoring

This section provides an overview of the Padezaka ecosystem monitoring schedule and targets throughout the project period. The ecosystem monitoring system follows the ecosystem indicators described in section 4.4.

Table 4.8.2: Ecosystem monitoring schedule and targets in the Padezaka project.

Verification Period	Ecosystem Indicator	Target Value
2019-2022	Presence of key species	Not yet started (training phase)
2023-2027	Presence of key species	The project area is monitored annually
		Recorded key species are reported annually
2028-2032	Presence of key species	The project area is monitored annually
		Recorded key species are reported annually
		Change in number of recorded key species is reported at verification
2033-2037	Presence of key species	The project area is monitored annually
		Recorded key species are reported annually
		Change in number of recorded key species is reported at verification
2038-2042	Presence of key species	The project area is monitored annually
		Recorded key species are reported annually

Verification Period	Ecosystem Indicator	Target Value
		Change in number of recorded key species is reported at verification
2043-2048	Presence of key species	The project area is monitored annually
		Recorded key species are reported annually
		Change in number of recorded key species is reported at verification

The site-specific ecosystem monitoring procedures are described in the Padezaka project monitoring plan (PDD Annex 13).

4.8.3 Sharing monitoring results

General guidance on sharing monitoring results across Nakau projects is provided in section 4.8.3 in the Padezaka PDD Part B.

NRDF has the responsibility of conducting monitoring activities according to the Padezaka monitoring plan (see PDD Annex 13) and sharing and consulting the monitoring results with the Padezaka Tribal Association and the broader community during the annual general meetings. The initial livelihood baseline has informed the business plan and benefit sharing priorities (Annex 16) while the carbon baseline and carbon accounting have informed project owner financial benefits which enable planning community investment options. The results of both baselines were shared with the Padezaka TA and broader community during the business and benefit sharing workshop (see Padezaka PDD Annex 4, item 4).

Reporting

4.9 Annual report

The Padezaka project annual reporting follows the project requirements of Plan Vivo Climate as outlined in section 4.9 of the Padezaka PDD Part B.

A (simplified) annual report (AR) for the Padezaka project will be prepared to cover the first verification period (2019-2022) and annually starting from 1 January 2023 onwards. In line with Plan Vivo requirements, ARs will be submitted before 31 December of the following year.

4.10 Record keeping

A summary of Nakau's filing system is provided in section 4.10 of the Padezaka PDD Part B. PDD Annex 14 contains a report on the project database structure. At verification events, the third-party validation and verification body (VVB) and Plan Vivo will be given access to the Padezaka project database and documentation for auditing.

5 Governance and administration

5.1 Project governance structure

The following section describes the project owner groups and governance structure of the Padezaka project. The project governance structure was established in accordance with the general project governance requirements under the NCP-SI, as described in section 5.1 of the Padezaka PDD Part B.

Figure 5.1 shows the governance structure at the project level.

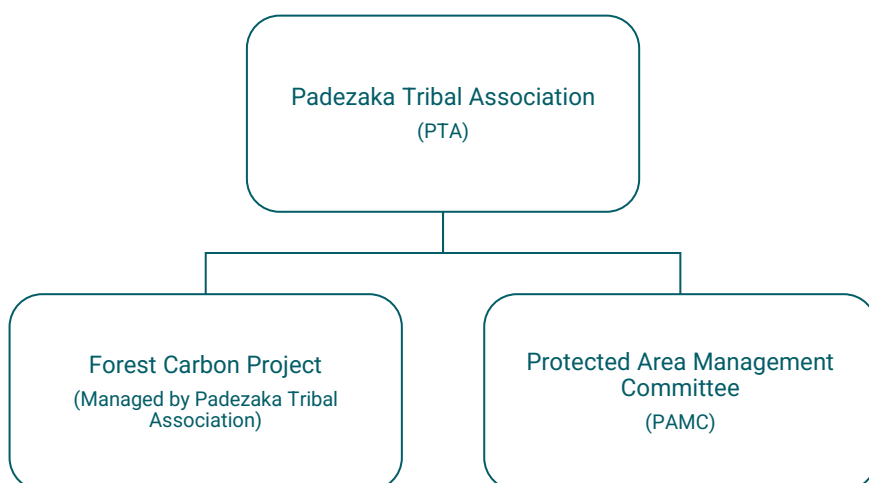


Figure 5.1: Padezaka project local governance structure

The Padezaka Tribal Association

The Padezaka Tribe established and registered the Padezaka Tribal Association (PTA) on 9 June 2022 (see Annex 2 – item 1.3). During the readiness process, tribal members agreed the PTA to be responsible for the coordination and management of the Padezaka project (see Annex 4 – items 2.1–2.2). The responsibility to manage the PTA is placed on the Executive Committee consisting of 9 appointed members (1 chairman, 1 vice-chairman, 1 secretary, 1 treasurer, 5 executive members) and 9 trustees. All the mandates of the PTA are captured in the constitution of the PTA (see Annex 2 – item 1.4).

The Padezaka Protected Area Management Committee

The Protected Area Management Committee was formally established under the Protected Area Regulations 2012 on 1 July 2019. Members are responsible for the management of the Padezaka protected area, the enforcement of rules and regulations of the Padezaka protected area management plan (see Annex 11) and forest monitoring. The Protected Area Management Committee is comprised of 11 committee members committee, 19 rangers and one inspector.

5.2 Equal opportunities

5.2.1 Employment procedures

The employment procedures applied by Nakau and its partners in projects under the NCP-SI are described in section 5.2.1 of the Padezaka PDD Part B.

5.2.2 Avoiding elite capture

Measures to avoid elite capture in the Padezaka project are described in section 3.9.4 of this PDD.

5.2.3 Women's projects

Throughout the project development, NRDF and Nakau prioritized the inclusion of women in all project design processes (see Annex 4 Padezaka participatory design evidence) in a manner that does not result in cultural subjugation of Choiseul's patrilineal society.

The Padezaka Tribal Association has established 12 women's savings clubs, with a total of 319 participants. The savings clubs act as a micro-banking service for women and provide small loans for household economic development. In their business and benefit-sharing plan, the Padezaka Tribal Association formalized to dedicate a share of their income from carbon credit sales to be allocated to women through the saving clubs (the percentage is determined annually, at the annual general meeting, see Annex 16). The women's savings club participants have also received access to training, including financial literacy, computer literacy, bookkeeping and hospitality/catering for functions and workshops (see PDD Annex 4 – items 6.7–6.11).

5.3 Legal and regulatory compliance

Section 5.3 of the Padezaka PDD Part B provides an overview of legal and regulatory compliance of projects under the NCP-SI.

5.4 Financial plan

The Padezaka project financial plan is developed in accordance with procedures outlined in sections 5.4 of the Padezaka PDD Part B and follows the template used in all projects under the NCP-SI (see PDD Annex 16). The project coordinator (NRDF) has developed and maintains annual budgets for its activities to support the Padezaka project. A financial forecast of income and expenses during each verification period is contained in the financial plan (Annex 16). The Padezaka Tribal Association annual budget is contained within the business plan (Annex 16) that is updated in quarterly intervals each year (after the start of credit sales).

5.5 Financial management

The Financial management procedures implemented within the Padezaka project follow the requirements of the NCP-SI, as outlined in the Padezaka PDD Part B, section 5.5. The full financial management plan for the Padezaka project is provided in Annex 16.

6 Annexes

Annex 1 – Padezaka project boundaries

Contains spatial data and maps of the Padezaka-project area

Annex 2 – Padezaka registration certificate and partner agreements

Contains the partner certificates and agreements for the Padezaka-project

Annex 3 – Initial project areas under the NCP-SI

Contains the list of initial projects, and as each project is verified it will be added to the table.

Annex 4 – Padezaka project participatory design evidence

Contains evidence documents of participatory processes during the Padezaka project design phase

Annex 5 – Padezaka FPIC processes and evidence

Contains evidence documents of the FPIC processes during the Padezaka project design phase

Annex 6 – Padezaka carbon calculations

Contains the Padezaka project carbon calculations and forest inventory spreadsheets.

Annex 7 – Padezaka technical specifications

Contains the Padezaka technical specification document.

Annex 8 – Exclusion list

Contains the Plan Vivo exclusion list applicable to the Padezaka project.

Annex 9 – Padezaka environmental and social screening report

Contains the Padezaka Environmental and social screening report

Annex 10 – Environmental and social assessment report

Contains the NCP-SI Environmental and Social Screening Report

Annex 11 - Padezaka protected area management plan

Contains the Padezaka protected area management plan document

Annex 12 – Padezaka project agreements

Contains the signed Padezaka project agreement document.

Annex 13 – Padezaka project monitoring plan

Containers the Padezaka project monitoring plan document.

Annex 14 – Padezaka project database

Contains a description of the of the Padezaka project file management system.



[Annex 15 – Padezaka project letter of approval](#)

Contains a government letter of no objection of Nakau projects in the Solomon Islands

[Annex 16 – Padezaka project financial plan](#)

Contains the Padezaka business and benefit sharing plan and the financial plan

[Annex 17 – Padezaka project grievance mechanism](#)

Contains the Padezaka project grievance mechanism document.