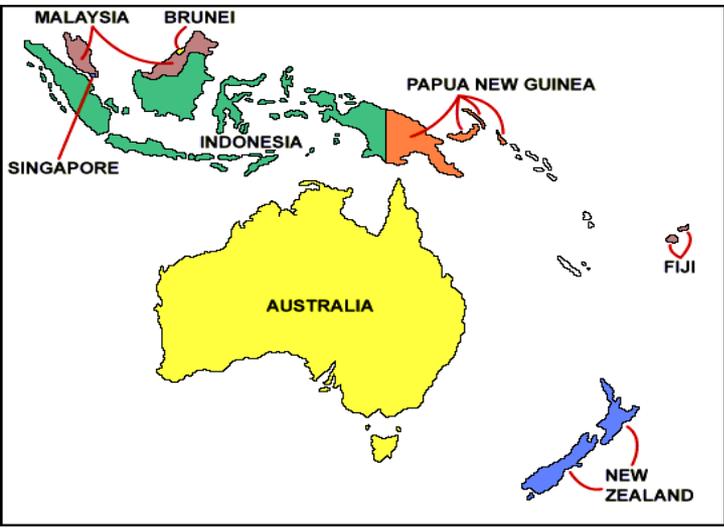
An aerial photograph of a vast, dense tropical forest. In the center, there is a small clearing with a white building, a solar panel array, and other structures. The forest extends to the horizon under a clear sky.

The Contribution of a Protected Area to Climate Mitigation and Adaptation:

Lessons from  
WANANG CONSERVATION AREA  
Papua New Guinea

PAGI TOKO and PHILIP DAMEN  
Wanang Conservation Area, Papua New Guinea

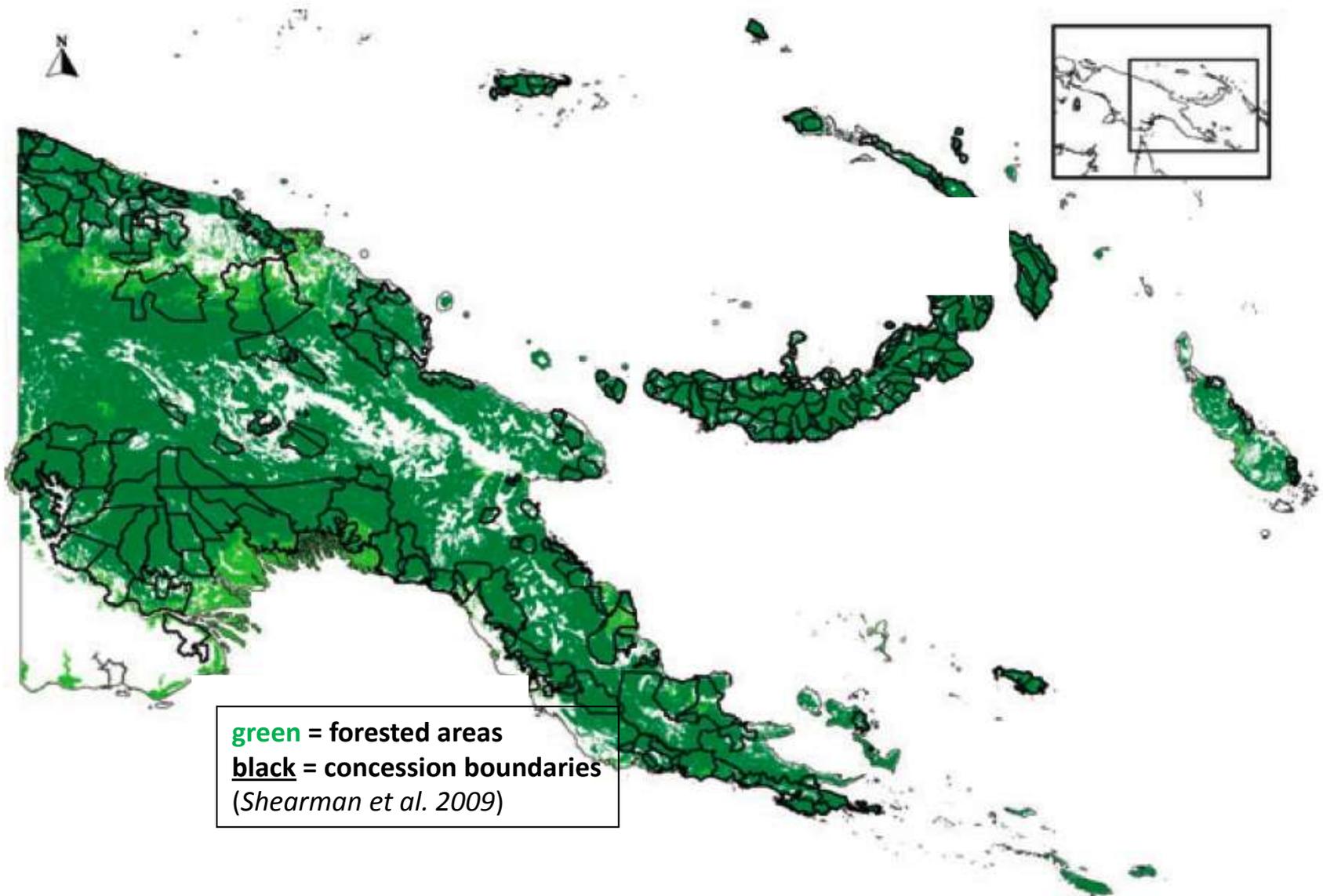


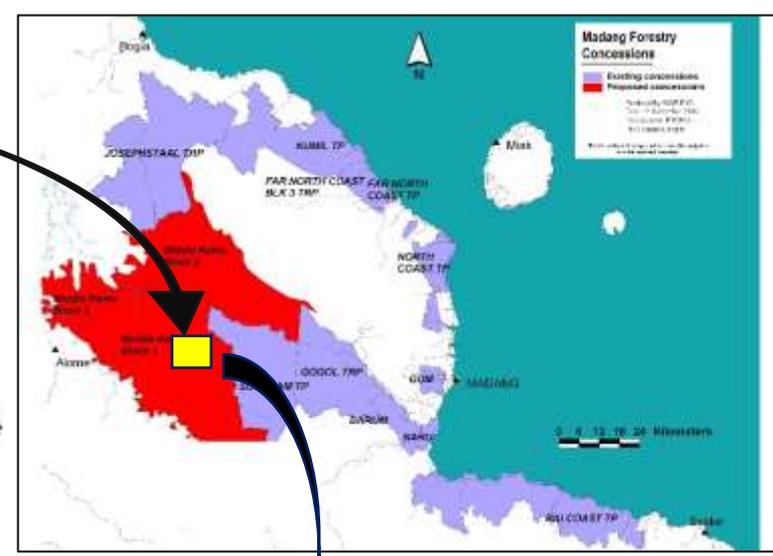
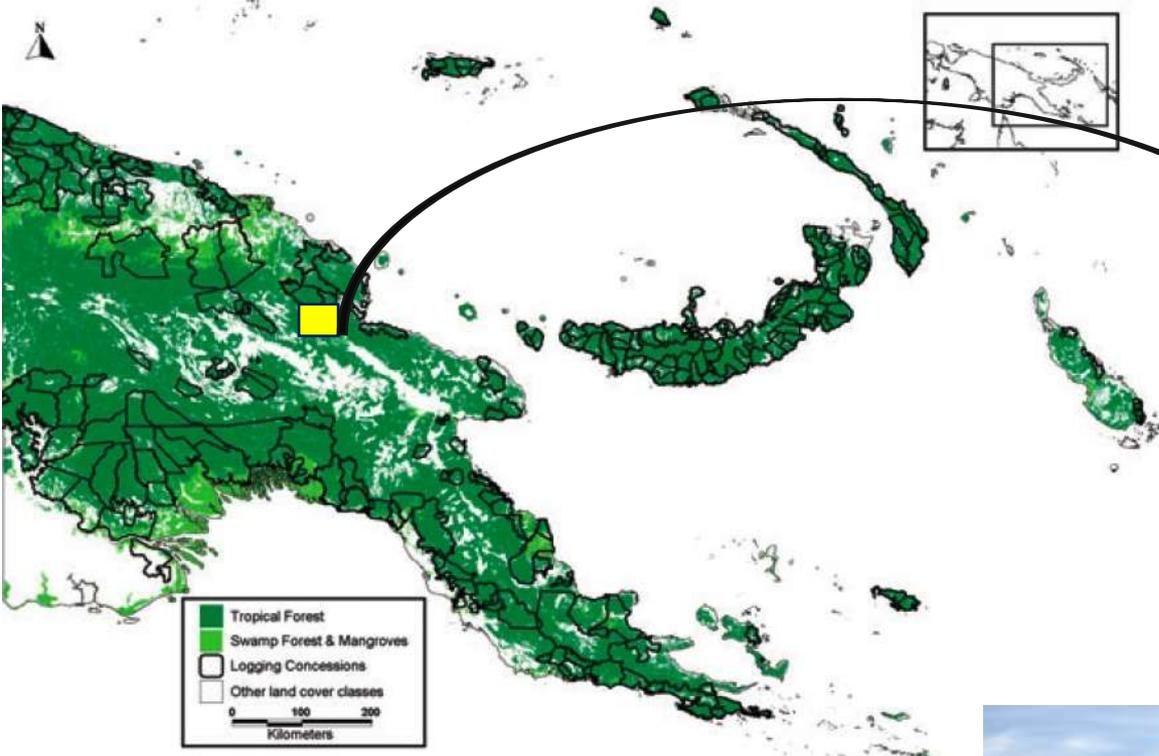
# Papua New Guinea (PNG)

- world's third largest remaining tropical forest wilderness
- 5% of global plant & animal diversity (Sekhran & Miller 1995)
- 98% ownership of land by tribal communities
- Culturally diverse: over 800 different language



# logging concessions dominate PNG lowland forests





# Wanang Village, Papua New Guinea



10 clan leaders



Philip Damen

## How have Wanang Conservation helped in avoiding sources of greenhouse gas emissions?



One main source of green house gasses emission is  
**DEFORESTATION**

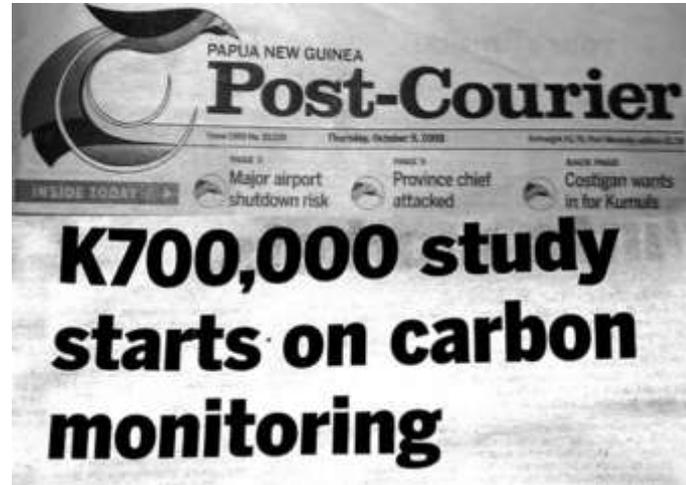
- 10 tribal clan leaders formed Wanang Conservation Area
- Successfully conserved 10,000 ha of pristine lowland rainforest



Not easy to do conservation in PNG, with landowners issues & expectations

# Contribution to Climate Change Data

- **50ha Plot** – one of 63 global forest dynamic plots in 63 countries, essential for monitoring climate change.
- 288,000 individual plants with stems above 1 cm monitored, from 568 species, for every 5 years



# Collaboration between national and international partners



- **Wanang Conservation School**
- **Socio- Economic benefit through training and permanent employment in biological researches**



“It warms our hearts to see that what we did was meant for our own people, but now we understand that it means something to everyone on Earth. We are recognized by a global community, which means we are part of a global family. We will continue our conservation efforts, and be a role model to other communities”

*(Wanang People, Papua New Guinea)*



**Thank you very much UNDP Equator Initiative.  
God bless your hearts as you continue your  
wonderful work around the world**