

# World Bank - Grant Reporting and Monitoring (GRM) Report

Report to Donor

Ref. TF019203  
Printed On: 12/02/2016

Reporting Period: 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016  
Report Type: Progress Report  
Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF019203

## Vanuatu - IInd Grant Agreement for FCPF Readiness Preparation Proposal FCPFR - FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY

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Approving Manager: 00000066054 - Iain G. Shuker

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV
Recipient Country	Vanuatu
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	9269 - GEN2A
Grant Start Date / End Date	04/20/2015 to 12/31/2019
Original Grant Amount	3,600,000.00
Grant Amount	3,600,000.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	362,540.11 as of 06/30/2016
Disbursed 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016	176,908.03
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

This GRM report includes the following sections: Overview, Components, Outcome, Execution, Program(FCPFR), Disbursements.

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## OVERVIEW

### Overall Assessments

#### Grant Objectives:

The development objective of Grant is to assist Vanuatu to carry out the Readiness Preparation Activities by supporting the preparation of its REDD+ strategy through a participatory and inclusive process and by producing technical and policy advice to help strengthen sustainable land and forest management practices.

#### Overall progress from 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

##### Comment:

The project is on track to achieve its development objectives. Despite some delay due to slow start-up the project has made significant progress in the past year. The institutional set up and capacity building activities are being implemented well with the REDD+ management arrangements in place and working effectively at the national and decentralized level, including the REDD+ Unit and PMU being operational, support to National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction underway, and Provincial Technical Advisory Committees established. The contract will be signed shortly for a critical part of the national REDD strategy development - Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment. And the analytical studies consultancy to inform REDD+ strategy options and the Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism consultancy are expected to be recruited by end of 2016. including the drivers study, land tenure, benefit sharing and strategy options. The Mid-term-Review is scheduled for June 30, 2017 as indicated in the Grant Agreement. Government of Vanuatu is planning to apply for up to USD 5 million additional financing at the time of MTR. In order to help Vanuatu to better achieve the objective of readiness the Department of Forestry has been seeking resources either through bi-laterals or through government funds to implement the remaining set of activities in the Readiness-Preparation Proposal that are not covered by the Readiness Assessment Note and thus not funded by the FCPF grant. This has become increasingly important due to the MTR and AF request. In the interim, the mission discussed with DoF the possibility of revisiting the grant to see how funding/savings can be re-allocated from other activities to make progress on a very important component under RPP - Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) /Reference Emission Level (REL) to make progress on these activities until more resources are secured for them. This may require restructuring of the project as well as revision of the grant agreement. The REDD+ Unit is working on the proposal to be submitted to the Bank for review.

#### Overall progress from 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

##### Comment:

The Government of Vanuatu has signed the Grant Agreement on April 20, 2015. The FCPF Project was officially launched on May 26, 2015. Project implementation has since begun. Due to the government's strong commitment and support to the Project and concerted efforts made by all the relevant parties the project has made significant progress: i) all key staff and consultants are fully on board in the REDD unit and are working effectively as a team; ii) PMU has done a good job providing fiduciary support to the Project and coordinating with MOF. The coordination and cooperation between the PMU and REDD+ Unit has been improved significantly; iii) the CSO platforms are established at the national level as well as in three provinces with Vanuatu Association of Non-Government Organizations (VANGO) working as its secretariat; iv) Provincial Technical Advisory Committees have been established and training provided to committee members; v) communication strategy has been developed, extension outreach materials prepared, and training workshops carried out at national, provincial and regional level; vi) Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) consultancy recruitment is near completion and contract expected to be signed by end November. The overall disbursement is USD 362,540 million, accounting for 10% of the total grant amount and commitment accounts for 17%. Project management and coordination between the REDD+ Unit and Project Management Unit have been improved. The REDD+ Unit and PMU are making joint efforts to further catch up and meet the MTR date.

### Grant follow-up and structure

#### Description and context of Grant:

Expected follow up (if any): Expanded capacity

#### Comment on follow up:

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As mentioned above, GoV is planning to apply for up to USD 5 million to finance the remaining activities under RPP that are not financed by the existing FCPF Readiness Grant, including REL/MRV activities. They aim to submit the application to the FCPF Participants Committee at the time of the MTR by June 30th, 2017.

End Date of Last Site Visit:

Restructuring of Grant:

## OUTCOME

### Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2015 to 06/30/2016

### Grant Outcome Indicators

No Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

## COMPONENTS

### Output and Implementation by Component

**Institutional Strengthening for REDD+ Management Arrangements at the national and decentralized level (US\$ 1.30 million)**

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: REDD+ Unit, Technical Committee, and Provincial technical committees set up and operational; Capacity building for NAB provided, PMU provides fiduciary support

Actual Output: REDD+ Unit, Technical Committee, and Provincial technical committees set up and operational; PMU has been providing fiduciary support, capacity building for NAB will be implemented soon

### Strengthening of the stakeholder engagement process at the decentralized level

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: Strengthened decentralization structures for stakeholder engagement, and assessment and strengthening of FGRMs for REDD+.

Actual Output: Farmer association and CSO networks set up in Santo and Malekula. FGRM contract to be signed by end of 2016

### Development of a REDD+ strategy for Vanuatu

Status: Under Implementation

Planned Output: Analytical work to inform REDD+ strategy options, SESA process and development of the ESMF, Consultation and participation activities

Actual Output: Contract for analytical work to be signed by end 2016, SESA by end November, Consultation and participation activities underway

### Comment on planned and actual Output

### Comment on component implementation progress

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## EXECUTION

### Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name: P124806 - Vanuatu- FCPF Readiness Plan Preparation  
Project Status: Lending  
Global Focal Area: Climate change  
Product Line: CN - Carbon Offset

### Implementing agency and contact details

Agency: Department of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry & Fisheries  
Contact: Director Tate Hannington  
Address: Airport Road, Port Vila, Vanuatu  
Phone: +678 23171 Email: htate@vanuatu.gov.vu  
Website:

## PROGRAM

### Program Specific Questions

**1. Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those funded by Describe progress in how the Grant activities are being coordinated with other REDD+-related initiatives, including those f**

Several development partners have engaged in REDD+ and climate change related activities in Vanuatu. For example GIZ has funded preparatory work on MRV and REL and tested these approaches on Santo Island, as well as the Commission and AusAID. Vanuatu has also joined the UN-REDD program and has been receiving training. The main CSO is Live and Learn Vanuatu, an environmental education NGO, which has supported the development of the Consultation and Participation Plan. The Department of Forestry (DOF) has been look for other sources of funding and has had discussions with GIZ, UNREDD etc. But so far no concrete funding has been identified. DOF will make more fund raising efforts to finance the remaining activities under RPP that are not funded by the existing FCPF Readiness Grant. At the same time DOF is revisiting the budget versus the current activities and planning to reallocate some resources to finance a very important technical component among the remaining activities - REL and MTR. The proposal is expected to be submitted to the Bank for review in November 2016.

**2. Describe any important changes in the technical design or approach related to the Grant activities.**  
NA.

**3. Describe progress in addressing key capacity issues (implementation, technical, financial management, procurement) related to this Grant.**

Capacity building activities are being implemented both at the national level and decentralized level, providing support to the REDD+ Unit, NAB, PMU, Technical Advisory Committees, Provincial Technical Committees and CSOs and Farmer Association Networks. Training workshops, awareness building activities, and study tours are or will be carried out for various levels. Project management has improved significantly with all staff in REDD+Unit on board, trained and working effectively as a team. The PMU has received FM and procurement training and also provided training to DoF and REDD+ Unit. Three training workshops have been held for the Provincial REDD+ Technical Committee members, including government representatives, women and youth groups, church, forest and agricultural extensions officers, farmers associations to help create awareness and learn about REDD+ program. The NAB capacity building activities are delayed but are expected to start implementation soon, including (a) REDD+ Workshop for NAB Members (b) NAB/PMU Project Coordination workshop (c) NAB/PMU Sector-wise Policy Stock-taking for CCDRR and REDD+ main-streaming (d) REDD+ South-South Exchange etc. 22.#A total number of 19 CSOs networks have been set up in 3 out of the 5 REDD+ islands: Santo - 6 CSO networks with 35 members, Malekula - 6 networks with 16 members, and Efate - 7 networks with 14 members. Three CSO REDD+ consultation workshops have been held in Santo,

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Malekula and Efate, targeting Farmers Association, CSO networks at provincial level, Women's and Youth Groups, and Churches with over 200 participants.

#### 4. Describe progress in addressing social and environmental issues (including safeguards) related to the Grant. Is the SESA conducted in accordance with the Common Approach?

The selection process from the DoF is complete and that a Firm has been selected to prepare their technical proposal. This process is expected to be completed with contract negotiation completed and awarded by November 15th. Once the contract is signed and SESA consultancy will start working it will be conducted in accordance with the Common Approach.

#### 5. Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach?

The SESA will develop an ESMF that outlines the procedures for managing potential environmental and social impacts resulting from REDD+ implementation including guidance for the preparation of future environmental and social safeguard instruments. It will be prepared in accordance with the Common Approach.

#### 6. Describe progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, disclosure of information, and the FGRM related to this Grant.

Under Consultation and Participation component the following activities were implemented namely (a) consultation workshop for development of REDD+ Key Messages (b) Designing of awareness materials (c) Development of Communication Strategy (draft) (d) Development of REDD+ website.

## DISBURSEMENTS

### Disbursements Summary in USD

Date From	Date To	Planned Cumulative	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
01/01/2015	06/30/2015	0.00	0.00	185,632.08	185,632.08
07/01/2015	12/31/2015	0.00	0.00	185,632.08	0.00
01/01/2016	06/30/2016	0.00	0.00	362,540.11	176,908.03
07/01/2016	12/31/2016	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2017	06/30/2017	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2017	12/31/2017	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2018	06/30/2018	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2018	12/31/2018	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2019	06/30/2019	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2019	12/31/2019	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00