

# REDD + ANNUAL COUNTRY PROGRESS REPORTING (with semi-annual update)

**COUNTRY:** [Vanuatu]

**PERIOD:** [September 2016 to March 2017]

**Background:** This country reporting framework has been developed following the structure of the FCPF Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, its logical framework and Performance Measurement Framework (PMF), so as to facilitate and systematize the data analysis. The semi-annual country reporting should provide the FCPF's Facility Management Team (FMT) with indications of REDD+ countries' progress towards the achievement of their readiness activities and the implementation of their Emission Reductions programs overtime, in a way that data are easily consolidated and provide indications on the level of achievement of the FCPF output, outcome and impact indicators as defined in the FCPF M&E Framework.

**Report preparation:** Submitted country reports should draw upon the country M&E system for REDD + (component 6 of R-PP) and should be prepared in consultation with members of REDD task force or equivalent body. Inputs from stakeholders including IPs and CSOs should be integrated into national reporting, and divergent views indicative of lack of consensus on specific issues should be recorded in the country report.

**Reporting schedule:** It is expected that the annual progress country reporting will be submitted to the FMT by August 15<sup>th</sup> each year. The reporting should be based on a self-assessment of progress. An update of this country reporting will also be submitted by March 15<sup>th</sup> each year.

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## 1. SUMMARY OF REPORT

This section should provide a short description of FCPF support in country (bullets on FCPF-financed activities only). Information should summarize progress, key achievements with a focus on higher level results and important issues/problems that arose during the reporting period. Highlights of next steps in following period should also be provided (key bullets only).

SUMMARY:

### **Main activities implemented during the Reporting Period**

#### **Component 1**

(a) **Briefing Meeting between the Director General, Ministry of Agriculture and REDD+ Unit:** A Meeting was organized, on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016, to brief the Director General of the Ministry of Agriculture about the REDD+ Project. Power point presentation was made by the Project to inform about the objectives and modalities of implementation of the Project. The Meeting was fruitful and the objective of disseminating the information, about REDD+ Program, at senior level of the Government was also achieved.

(b) **Briefing Meeting between the Minister of Agriculture and REDD+ Unit:** Another round of briefing meeting was organized, on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2016, by the REDD+ Unit. The objective

was to brief the Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture about the REDD+ Project. Project Management made presentation about the REDD+ Project, its objectives and purposes. The Meeting was very useful for disseminating the REDD+ objectives, co-benefits. The Minister was very keen to know about the Project implementation and the duration of the Project. The Director General of the Ministry of Agriculture was also present in the meeting. The briefing was organized in a very cordial atmosphere.

**(c) Construction of REDD+ Office Building in Port Vila:** The construction of REDD+ Office building started in last week of November 2016. The materials required for the construction was funded through the the REDD+ Project while the labour cost was borne by the Department of Forests. Good progress has been made by the contractor and the work is expected to be completed by soon.

**(d) Structural and Architectural Drawings and Estimates for renovation of four buildings:** The REDD+ Engineer has submitted the structural and architectural drawing and Cost estimate for renovating four Forest Department's buildings in Santo, Malekula, Tanna and Erromango. These buildings are the office buildings of Regional Forest Officers (RFO) who are very important partners for implementing the REDD+ readiness activities in the islands. The cost for the materials will be supported by REDD+ Project through the FCPF fund whereas the labour cost will be borne by the Forest Department. The Forest Department is in the process of selecting the contractor for awarding the works.

## **Component 2**

**(a) MOU between VANGO and Department of Forests and MOU between REDD+ Project and CSO Platform:** Two MOUs were signed on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017, between (i) DOF and VANGO and between (ii) REDD+ Unit and CSO Platform. These MOUs were long over-due but finally both the documents were signed. These documents will be useful tools in implementing the REDD+ readiness activities in the field.

**b) Study on Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism (FGRM):** Study on FGRM has started with effect from 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2017. Mr Frank Williams, a Consultant from Canada is conducting the study. He has completed the consultation works in Sannto, Malekula, Erromango and Tanna. Three Workshops are scheduled in March 2017 to present the findings as well as for filtering the issues and obtaining consensus and feedbacks from the stakeholders.

**(c) REDD+ CSO Consultations:** Two consultation workshops were organized (one each in Tanna and Erromango) to inform and update the CSO members in the islands about the REDD+ Program and its objectives. Consultation in Tanna was conducted with effect from 24<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> of October 2016 whereas in Erromango it was organized from 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> February 2017. The CSO members represent Women Groups, Youth Groups, and Church, including Government Departments like Forest, Livestock, Agriculture, Fishery, Environment, and Provincial Administration. In Tanna 59 CSO participants took part in the consultation workshop and in Erromango 36 participants attended the consultation workshops.

**(d) National CSO REDD+ Report Writeshop:** CSO Coordinator will conduct three days writeshop with the Platform members. The objective is to develop Reports on consultations

which CSO conducted in five REDD+ islands. The writeshop will also be used for consensus building on the issues that were identified and flagged during the consultations. About 10 CSO Platform Members will participate in the writeshop.

### **Component 3.2**

**(a) Study on Four Analytical Studies:** The Consultant has started the works on four Analytical Studies with effect from February 2017 after presenting the inception report and work plan. The works was awarded to a consulting Firm (UNIQUE) from Germany. They have completed the consultation in Santo, Malekula, Erromango and Tanna. The work is still under progress and is expected to be completed by June 2017.

**(b) The SESA Study:** Contract has been signed with the Consulting Firm in the last week of March 2017. One round of preliminary Meeting was conducted on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 between the IAS/USP and REDD+ Team and Forest Department. The work is scheduled to begin by April 2017 and complete by March 2018.

### **Component 3.3**

**(a) Production and Distribution of REDD+ Extension Materials:** The following categories of REDD+ extension materials were produced and distributed to the CSO Networks Members, PTC Members including the RFOs. The extension will be very useful in disseminating the REDD+ messages in the islands. The description of the extension materials are as follows:

SI No	Name of the extension materials	Quantity/Nos.
1	Posters	600
2	Calendars	200
3	T-Shirts	500
4	Polo Shirts	200
5	Corporate Shirts	50
6	Caps	500

**B) International Day of the Forests:** The Department of Forests, in collaboration with other Government Departments and organizations celebrated the international Day of the Forests on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017. The theme of the Day was “Forests and Energy”. Main highlights of the Day were marked by show-casing of different forest products by various industries. The key messages for the day were: (a) wood energy from the forests: a major source of the worlds renewable energy (b) wood energy: powering economic development (c) wood and trees: optimal urban living and lower energy bills (d) wood energy: mitigating climate change and fostering sustainable development (e) Forests for energy: now and in future global green economy. There was poster presentation and quiz competition also by the school children. The REDD+ Project funded part of the expenditure for the celebration.

**c) REDD+ Website Development:** The consultant has completed the development of website. Basic elements required for the website has been completed. REDD+ Project has asked the consultant to conduct one day briefing and familiarization training for the REDD+ Extension Officer and hand over the website management to the Project immediately.

### **New proposed component**

**(a) TOR for Design and Establishment of MRV and FRL:** This activity is not included in the 'Assessment Note' for funding by FCPF WB REDD+ Project. Therefore based on WB TTL advice, the REDD+ Project was asked to prepare a detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for designing and establishment of National Forest Monitoring System including MRV and FRL and database for Vanuatu. The restructuring proposal is still under progress and is expected to be completed by April 2017.

## **2. MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS AND RESULTS DURING THE PERIOD**

*The section below should provide qualitative and quantitative data on the progress towards expected results along the following subsections. Information is to be provided cumulatively. If the information requested is not available or not relevant at the time of the reporting, mention "does not apply – n/a".*

<b>Amount of non-FCPF investments received under R-PP process (FCPF M&amp;E Framework Indicator I.2.B.i.):</b>	
<b><u>Source:</u></b>	<b><u>Amount provided:</u> "does not apply-n/a"</b>
<b><u>Source:</u></b>	<b><u>Amount provided:</u> as per 2016 country report</b>
<b><u>Source:</u></b>	<b><u>Amount provided:</u> "does not apply-n/a"</b>
<b>Amount of non-FCPF investments received for implementation of activities relevant to ER Programs (e.g. FIP, bilateral donors, private sector), if relevant (FCPF M&amp;E Framework Indicator I.2.B.i.):</b>	
<b><u>Source:</u></b>	<b><u>Amount provided:</u> "does not apply- n/a"</b>
<b><u>Source:</u></b>	<b><u>Amount provided:</u> "does not apply-n/a"</b>
<b><u>Source:</u></b>	<b><u>Amount provided:</u> "does not apply-n/a"</b>

**Describe how stakeholders are participating and engaging in REDD+ decision making processes (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 1.3.A):**

**Provide examples of how IPs and CSOs are represented in institutional arrangements for REDD at the national level.**

At the national level, CSO Platform has been established. The Members of this Platform meets as and when required and are composed of CSOs/NGOs, women Group, Youth Groups and local IPs are also represented as a Member of the Platform. There is one CSO coordinator who acts a bridge between the CSO Platform and REDD+ Program and also VANGO Secretariat. The Members of the Platform discuss the issues pertaining to the objectives, importance and co-benefits of the REDD+ Program. The Executive Members of the Platform are elected by the CSO Platform. The Platform is very important Forum for stakeholders to participate and engage themselves in REDD+ decision making process.

**Examples of stakeholder engagement platforms in country which meet regularly to discuss and provide inputs to the REDD+ readiness process (FCPF M&E Framework 3.2.a.):**

**Frequency:**

Technical Committee Meetings *(as and when required)*

At the National Level there is a Technical Committee (TC) that has been established to oversee and provide inputs to the REDD+ readiness preparation. The members of the Committee represent the Government Departments like Agriculture, Forestry, Livestock, Environment and Tourism. This is very important Platform to discuss issues about the REDD+ Program.

Executive Meeting of the CSO Platform *(as and when required)*

Executive Meeting of the CSO Platform is another important Forum for stakeholder engagement. The Executive Members of the Platform meets occasionally and discuss issues pertaining to the REDD+ Program. The Meetings are organized by the National CSO Coordinator.

Provincial Technical Committee Meetings (PTC). *(as and when required)*

At the Provincial and local level, there is Provincial Technical Committee (PTC) whose members are representatives of the CSOs/NGOs, local Provincial Administration, Government Department representatives, women Groups, Youth Groups, church. They discuss the benefits, and objectives of the REDD+ Program as and when required. The local Regional Forest Officers acts as Chairman of the PTC. The Minutes of the PTC Meetings are received by the National CSO Coordinator for record and also for taking further necessary action.

Trainings/Workshops *(as per work plan of the project)*

The Provincial Technical Committee (PTC) is established up under the overall chairmanship of the Regional Forest Officers in all REDD+ islands. All relevant stakeholders in these islands are engaged through Workshops, trainings etc. Since the PTC Members represents Government Departments like Forestry, Agriculture, Horticulture, Livestock, Fishery, Women groups, Youth groups, Churches, local Provincial Administration they discuss the issues

<p>International day of the Forests <i>(Once in a year)</i></p>	<p>that are pertaining to their Department or their organizations.</p> <p>Every year on 21<sup>st</sup> March the International day of the Forest is celebrated where dignitaries, guests, students take part in the celebration. The day is marked with fun fare, tree planting by the guest and students. The students also organize quiz competition. Different Departments and organizations show-case their works and products. The day has become good Platform to disseminate the objectives of the REDD+ Program.</p>
<p>Consultation Workshops <i>(as per the work plan)</i></p>	<p>Consultations Workshops are organized in the REDD+ islands for discussing the issues pertaining to REDD+ Program. The Representatives of the CSOs in the REDD+ islands engage the indigenous local people, CSO/NGOs Provincial Government officials, extension officers from Agriculture Department, Forestry, Livestock, Environment, women groups, youth groups and church take part in the consultation. This is one of the most important Platforms for stakeholders engagement for discussing the REDD+ Program issues and objectives.</p>

**Examples of resources made available to enable active participation of IPs , CSOs and local communities in national REDD+ readiness.**

The resources are made available to enable active participation of IPs, CSOs and local communities in the following manner:

- Work Plan and Budget are prepared and the resources are made available to the CSOs, IPs through the CSO National Coordinator. They organize various activities as per the work plan that enables the active participation of CSO and IPs.
- CSO Coordinator receives budgetary support to organize consultation workshops and conduct CSO Platform Executive Meetings.
- Necessary equipment like laptops, cameras and printers are also supplied to the CSO Coordinators and CSO representatives in all REDD+ islands.

Number and type of policy reforms initiated, completed or underway complying to REDD+ standards, if any (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator I.3.B.):

Number of policy reforms during the reporting period that are:

**Underway: The Tree Planting Act**

**Completed: The National Forest Policy of Vanuatu**

Please describe these policy reforms:

- The drafting of the National Forest Policy coincided with the drafting of REDD+ R-PP therefore there were opportunities to include REDD+ related activities complying with the REDD+ objectives in the National Forest Policy document.
- Drafting works for the Planted Forest Act also started about the same time as drafting of REDD+ Readiness R-PP therefore the Act also has many elements of sustainable management of Forest resources.
- The Forest Act was also reviewed and the outputs from the review exercise can be incorporated while drafting the Forest Act.

**Design of national REDD+ Strategies addresses indicators for enhancement of livelihoods of local communities and for biodiversity conservation (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 3.B.):**

**Provide examples of how national REDD Strategies address livelihoods of local communities and biodiversity conservation.**

- Consultation workshops were held in all the five REDD+ islands. During the Consultations issues, objectives and co-benefits about the REDD+ program are discussed intensively. People are also explained about the strategy options in their own areas.
- The study on deforestation and forest degradation is under progress and based on the drivers identified through the study the Strategy Options will also be developed and refined. These options will help the local people to address the issues pertaining to their livelihood. It is also seen that local people have adequate knowledge about the landuses that are most appropriate options.
- The Strategy Options that will be developed based on the identified drivers will be through consultation with the local people and should be able to address and enhance their livelihood issues and biodiversity conservation.
- The Regional Forest Officers are engage in activities that pertains to biodiversity conservation like (a) identification and conservation of plants species that have conservation significance (b) identification and conservation of animals that have conservation significance (c) The local people and the Government Organizations are also involved in conservation efforts in (i) watershed management (ii) management of introduced species (iii) management of cultural heritage (iv) conservation of significant species and places.
- The local people are fully consulted and engaged and technical supports are provided to the local communities and farmers in their conservation efforts.



### 3. PROGRESS AT R-PP sub component level

#### 3.1. REDD Readiness Progress

As a synthesis of the following output level assessments, please briefly describe here the progress made during the reporting period in developing the country Readiness Package (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 1.A.): up to 300 words, if applicable

#### Progress made during the reporting period in developing the country Readiness Package:

**1. Implementation Framework:** The Department of Forests is the Lead Agency for implementation of REDD+ readiness activities in the field. The institution Framework is in place but more capacity building exercise is required. Implementation capacity of the Forest Department's staffs, in the field, is very low. In addition to the above-mentioned, the CSO System is also very active and institutional framework required for implementing the REDD+ activities are in place. In a similar line, capacity building is utmost important for these categories of staffs and CSOs as well. During the reporting period consultations, trainings workshops were held in different REDD+ islands through CSO system as well as through the Regional Forest Officers. The CSO National Platform is also an important institution for implementation of REDD+ activities.

**2. National REDD+ Strategy:** In order to inform the National REDD+ Strategy, the following studies are conducted. Study on Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism is underway. It started in February 2017 and is scheduled to be completed by May 2017.

Beside the above-mentioned study, four Analytical Studies are under progress. The results of these studies will be inputs to the development of National REDD+ Strategy. The studies started in February 2017 and are scheduled to be completed by June 2017. The four Analytical Studies are (a) drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (b) Strategy Options (c) Legal harmonization of land tenure and carbon rights and commercial landuse activities and (d) Benefits sharing mechanism.



















**3. SESA and the Development of ESMF:** Contract Agreement has been signed and the work is awarded to the Consulting Firm IAS/USP from Fiji. One round of preliminary Meeting is conducted on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and the work is scheduled to begin by April 2017. The duration of the consultancy is 12 months and the outputs for the SESA works will be available by March 2018.

**4. Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV):** The sub-component is not supported by FCPF funding. REDD+ Project Management is trying its best to secure fund, to implement this sub-component, by restructuring the REDD+ Project.

**5. Design and establishment of Forest Reference Level (FRL):** This sub-component is also not supported by FCPF funding therefore the REDD+ Project is trying its best to secure fund, to implement this sub-component, by restructuring the REDD+ Project.

Please indicate which of your country R-PP components and sub-components have received support from FCPF through the Readiness Preparation Grant (>3.4 million USD)		
Components	Sub-components	Support from FCPF (Yes/No)
1. Readiness Organization and Consultation	1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Yes
	1b. Consultation, Participation, and Outreach	Yes
2. REDD+ Strategy Preparation	2a. Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Yes
	2b. REDD+ Strategy Options	Yes
	2c. Implementation Framework	Yes
	2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	Yes
3. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels		No
4. Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards	4a. National Forest Monitoring System	No
	4b. Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	No

Level of overall achievement of planned milestones according to approved FCPF-financed Readiness Fund Grant (>3.4 million USD) (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.b.):

Planned Milestones:	Level of Achievement <sup>1</sup> :	Tracking <sup>2</sup> :															
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Institutional Set up for REDD+</li> <li>○ Analytical Studies</li> <li>○ Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism</li> <li>○ SESA</li> <li>○ Participation and Stakeholders engagement</li> <li>○ Meetings and Briefing</li> <li>○ Production and distribution of extension materials</li> <li>○ REDD+ website development</li> <li>○ Celebration of international day of forests</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Progressing</li> <li>○ Progressing</li> <li>○ Progressing</li> <li>○ Progressing</li> <li>○ On-going activity</li> <li>○ Achieved</li> <li>○ Achieved</li> <li>○ Achieved</li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"></td> <td style="text-align: center;"></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>Significant progress</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>Progressing well, further development</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>Further development required</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>Not yet demonstrating progress</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><i>Non Applicable</i></td> </tr> </table>			<i>Significant progress</i>			<i>Progressing well, further development</i>			<i>Further development required</i>			<i>Not yet demonstrating progress</i>			<i>Non Applicable</i>
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		<i>Not yet demonstrating progress</i>															
		<i>Non Applicable</i>															
<p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Activities pertaining to non-carbon benefits</li> <li>○ MRV</li> <li>○ National Forest Inventory</li> <li>○ Remote Sensing</li> <li>○ Development of FRL</li> </ul>	<p>-----</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Not achieved</li> <li>○ Not started. Fund mobilizing</li> <li>○ Not started. Fund mobilizing</li> <li>○ Not started. Fund mobilizing</li> <li>○ Not started. Fund mobilizing</li> </ul>	<p><i>Please explain why:</i></p> <p>There is no FCPC support to implement these activities. Therefore REDD+ Project Management is restructuring the Project to mobilize the fund to implement these activities.</p>															

<sup>1</sup> Countries are expected to provide data on the overall level of achievement of planned milestones as defined in their Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement, and, if applicable, on their Supplementary Grant Agreement for an additional grant of up to \$5 million. For instance, under their Preparation Readiness Grant Agreement (>3.4 million USD), Countries should provide data on (i) the support to the Coordination of the REDD+ Readiness Process and Multi-Stakeholder Consultations; (ii) the contribution to the Design of a National REDD+ Strategy; and (iii) the preparation of a National Reference Scenario for REDD+







<sup>2</sup> The level of achievement of planned milestones according to approved RF grant will be summarized through progress scores related to the synthesis of an overall achievement, qualitatively expressed on a four-color 'traffic light' scale and then explained. In case the assessment is not applicable, a fifth color scale "Non Applicable" can be selected.

*This 'traffic light' scale is based on the system contained in the R-Package Assessment Framework*







**Degree of achievement of planned milestones per R-PP component and sub-component (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.c).**  
**Countries are expected to rate progress toward the implementation of R-PP sub-component only once a year, as part of the reporting submitted by August 15<sup>th</sup> each year**



















	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> <i>(Please select your light rating)</i>
		Planned milestones	Achievements	

<sup>3</sup> The level of achievement of planned milestones per R-PP component should be self-assessed and reported, as well as summarized through progress scores related to the synthesis of this overall achievement, qualitatively expressed on a four-color 'traffic light' scale and then briefly explained. In case the assessment is not applicable, a fifth color scale 'Non Applicable' can be selected. This 'traffic light' scale is based on the system contained in the R-Package Assessment Framework, The R-Package assessment criteria are included to assist countries identify, plan and track their readiness preparations progress with the core aspects and desired outcomes of readiness preparation activities as contained in R-Package Assessment Framework.






	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)		
		Planned milestones	Achievements			
R-PP Component 1 – Readiness Organization and Consultation	<p><b>Sub-Component 1a</b> – National REDD+ Management Arrangements</p> <p><i>Purpose: setting-up national readiness management arrangements to manage and coordinate the REDD-plus readiness activities whilst mainstreaming REDD-plus into broader strategies</i></p> <p><i>Country Self-Assessment Criteria: (i) accountability and transparency; (ii) operating mandate and budget; (iii) multi-sector coordination mechanisms and cross-sector collaboration; (iv) technical supervision capacity; (v) funds management capacity; (vi) feedback and grievance redress mechanism</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Institutional Set up:</b> Basics Institutional set-up for implementing REDD+ activities are in place.</li> </ul>	Achieved			Significant progress
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Work plan and budget:</b> Budget and work plan for 2017 is under preparation.</li> </ul>	Under progress			Progressing well, further development required
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Studies to inform the National REDD+ Strategy:</b> Four Analytical Studies are under progress and scheduled to be completed by June 2017. Study on Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism is also progressing. Schedule to be completed by May 2017.</li> </ul>	Under progress			Further development required
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Fund Management Capacity:</b> PMU is conducting trainings to build the capacity of the Project staffs</li> </ul>	Achieved			Not yet demonstrating progress
						Non Applicable
Please explain why:						













Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)																
	Planned milestones	Achievements																	
<p><b>Sub-Component 1b</b> – Consultation, Participation, and Outreach</p> <p><i>Purpose: broad consultation with and participation of key stakeholders for future REDD+ programs, to ensure participation of different social groups, transparency and accountability of decision-making</i></p> <p><i>Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) participation and engagement of key stakeholders; (ii) consultation processes; (iii) information sharing and accessibility of information; (iv) implementation and public disclosure of consultation outcomes</i></p>	<p><b><u>Participation and engagement of key stakeholders:</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ (a) Participation of key stakeholders are achieved through establishment of National CSO platform (b) Consultation, training workshops for getting feedbacks from the stakeholders (c) Frequent meetings of the Technical Committee. At the Provincial level, there is Provincial Technical Committee (PTC) to oversee the implementation and also CSO Representatives in all REDD+ islands for organizing participation of key stakeholders.</li> <li>○ Consultations are also conducted by the Regional Forest Officers in the islands.</li> <li>○ Important information are uploaded in the REDD+ website . Radio and TV program and extension materials like T-Shirts, stickers are used to disseminate the REDD+ messages.</li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Significant progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Progressing well, further development required</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Further development required</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Not yet demonstrating progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table>			Significant progress			Progressing well, further development required			Further development required			Not yet demonstrating progress			Non Applicable	<p>Please explain why:</p>
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	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)		
		Planned milestones	Achievements			
R-PP Component 2 – REDD+ Strategy Preparation	<p><b>Subcomponent 2a:</b> Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance</p> <p><i>Purpose: identification of key drivers of deforestation and/or forest degradation, as well as activities concerning conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks</i></p> <p><i>Country Self-Assessment Criteria: (i) assessment and analysis; (ii) prioritization of direct and indirect drivers/barriers to forest enhancement; (iii) links between drivers/barriers and REDD+ activities; (iv) actions plans to address natural resource right, land tenure, governance; (v) implications for forest law and policy</i></p>	<p>The following four Analytical Studies are being conducted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Study on deforestation and forest degradation</li> <li>○ Study on Strategy Options</li> <li>○ Study on legal harmonization of land tenure and carbon rights and commercial landuse activities</li> <li>○ Study on benefits sharing mechanism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Study on the four Analytical Studies is progressing. The Consultants started the study with effect from February 2017 and scheduled to be completed by June 2017.</li> </ul>			Significant progress
						Progressing well, further development required
						Further development required
						Not yet demonstrating progress
						Non Applicable
				Please explain why:		

Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)																	
	Planned milestones	Achievements																		
<p><b>Subcomponent 2b:</b> REDD+ Strategy Options</p> <p><i>Purpose: Develop a set of policies and programs for addressing the drivers of deforestation and/or forest degradation</i></p> <p><i>Country Self-Assessment Criteria: (i) selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategy options; (ii) feasibility assessment; (iii) implications for strategy options on existing sectoral policies.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Selection of REDD+ Strategy Options:</li>   <li>○ Implication of these Strategy Options on existing sectoral policies:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The Study of REDD+ Strategy Options is progressing. Developing policies and program to address deforestation and forest degradation will commence after completing the study.</li>   <li>○ The sectoral policies need to be reviewed based on the recommendations of the study.</li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Significant progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Progressing well, further development</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Further development</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Not yet demonstrating progress</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table>			Significant progress			Progressing well, further development			Further development			Not yet demonstrating progress			Non Applicable		
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		Non Applicable																		
			<i>Please explain why:</i>																	



Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)	
	Planned milestones	Achievements		
<p><b>Subcomponent 2c:</b> Implementation Framework <i>Purpose: Set out credible and transparent institutional, economic, legal and governance arrangements necessary to implement REDD+ strategy options</i> <i>Country Self-Assessment Criteria:</i> (i) adoption and implementation of legislation/regulations; (ii) guidelines for implementation; (iii) benefit sharing mechanism; (iv) national REDD+ registry and system monitoring REDD+ activities</p>	○ Institutional arrangement:	○ Basic elements of institutional arrangement are in place. Strengthening required.		Significant progress
	○ Legislation and Policy:	○ Forest Act reviewed. Policy is in place.		Progressing well, further development
	○ Guidelines for implementation:	○ Guidelines need to be developed.		Further development
	○ Benefit Sharing Mechanism:	○ Study under progress		Not yet demonstrating progress
	○ National Registry and monitoring mechanism.	○ National Registry need to be developed. ○ Monitoring system should be developed.		Non Applicable
			<i>Please explain why:</i>	

	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)		
		Planned milestones	Achievements			
	<p><b>Subcomponent 2d:</b> Social and Environmental Impacts</p> <p><i>Purpose: Ensure compliance with the Common Approach and prepare a country specific Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)</i></p> <p><i>Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) analysis of social and environmental safeguard issues; (ii) REDD+ strategy design with respect to impacts; (iii) Environmental and Social Management Framework</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ SESA</li> <li>○ Development of ESMF</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The contract has been signed and the work is scheduled to begin by April 2017.</li> <li>○ ESMF development will be done along with the SESA study. The work is scheduled to be completed by March 2018.</li> </ul>			Significant progress
						Progressing well, further development required
						Further development
						Not yet demonstrating progress
						Non Applicable
				Please explain why:		
R-PP Component 3 – Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	<p><b>R-PP Component 3</b> - Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels</p> <p><i>Purpose: Development of the general approach to establish a REL/RL</i></p> <p><i>Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) demonstration of methodology; (ii) use of historical data, and adjusted for national circumstances; (iii) technical feasibility of the methodological approach, and consistency with UNFCCC/IPCC guidance and guidelines</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Development and Establishment of Forest Reference Level (FRL)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Not achieved.</u> The work on this sub-component is expected to begin after restructuring the REDD+ Project since there is no funding support from FCPF.</li> </ul>			Significant progress
						Progressing well, further development required
						Further development
						Not yet demonstrating progress
						Non Applicable
				And explain why:		

	Sub-component	Progress against annual targets		Tracking <sup>3</sup> (Please select your light rating)		
		Planned milestones	Achievements			
R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards	<p><b>Subcomponent 4a:</b> National Forest Monitoring System</p> <p><i>Purpose: Design and develop an operational forest monitoring system and describe the approach to enhance the system over time</i></p> <p><i>Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) documentation of monitoring approach; (ii) demonstration of early implementation; (iii) institutional arrangements and capacities- Forests</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ National Forest Inventory to generate emission factors</li> <li>○ Remote Sensing to generate activity data</li> <li>○ Development National Forest Monitoring System (MRV)</li> <li>○ Institutional arrangement for monitoring system</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Not achieved.</u></li> <li>○ Efforts are being made to restructure the REDD+ Project and implement these activities.</li> <li>○ Need further development</li> </ul>			Significant progress
						Progressing well, further development
						Further development
						Not yet demonstrating progress
						Non Applicable
				And explain why:		
	<p><b>Subcomponent 4b:</b> Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards</p> <p><i>Purpose: Specify the non-carbon aspects prioritized for monitoring by the country</i></p> <p><i>Country Self- Assessment Criteria: (i) identification of relevant non-carbon aspects, and social and environmental issues; (ii) monitoring, reporting and information sharing; (iii) Institutional arrangements and capacities – Safeguards</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Non carbon benefits</li> <li>○ Social and Environmental issues</li> <li>○ Forest Governance</li> <li>○ Monitoring, Reporting and information sharing and safeguards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The non carbon benefits need to be identified.</li> <li>○ Works of Safeguards, MRV, FRL and Database development will be implemented once the restructuring of the REDD+ Project is completed.</li> </ul>			Significant progress
						Progressing well, further development
						Further development
						Not yet demonstrating progress
						Non Applicable
				<p><u>And explain why:</u> Because of non availability of fund these activities could not be started.</p>		

Disbursement rate of FCPF-financed Readiness Fund Grant (>3.4 million USD), in percentage (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.d.):																	
	Rate	Tracking															
RF Grant - disbursement rate vs. planned disbursements	Actual disbursement till December 2016 is approximately 16%. The progress will improve after June 2017 once the studies start to pick up.	<p><i>Please select your rating:</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Up to 10% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Between 10-25% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Between 25-40% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>More than 40% variance</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table>			Up to 10% variance with plans			Between 10-25% variance with plans			Between 25-40% variance with plans			More than 40% variance			Non Applicable
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Disbursement rate of Total R-PP Budget in percentage (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3.d.):																	
	Rate	Tracking															
Total Budget in R-PP - disbursement rate vs. planned disbursements (including other funding sources and FCPF Readiness Grant)		<p><i>Please select your rating:</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Up to 10% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Between 10-25% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Between 25-40% variance with plans</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>More than 40% variance</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Non Applicable</td> </tr> </table>			Up to 10% variance with plans			Between 10-25% variance with plans			Between 25-40% variance with plans			More than 40% variance			Non Applicable
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		More than 40% variance															
		Non Applicable															

### 3.2. Engagement of stakeholders within the approach to REDD +

Examples of actions/activities where IPs, CSOs, and local communities participate actively, if relevant (FCPF M&E Framework 3.1.a.):	
Action/activity:	Describe IP, CSO, and local community participation:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Through CSO Platform</li> <li>○ Consultation Workshops</li> <li>○ Celebration of the international day of forests</li> <li>○ Workshops/trainings</li> <li>○ National Tree Planting Week</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ IPs and CSOs Executive Members are represented in CSO Platform</li> <li>○ CSOs and IPs fully partake in the consultation workshops</li> <li>○ CSOs and IPs are given opportunities to take part in the celebration and also to show-case their works</li> <li>○ CSOs and IPs are given opportunity for trainings conducted by the REDD+ Program.</li> <li>○ IPs and CSOs take part in tree planting.</li> </ul>

Number of IP and REDD country CSO representatives (men/women) having been successfully trained by FCPF training programs (FCPF M&E Framework 3.1.b.):						
<u>Please list the training conducted:</u>  The following consultation were conducted through coordinator:  <input type="radio"/> Consultation workshop in the island of Tanna  <input type="radio"/> Consultation workshop in the island of Erromango	<u>Duration</u> (# of days)	# of participants # of men / # of women			<i>Targets in terms of number of men and women to be trained by country to be defined</i>	
	6	59 (men=40 and Women= 19)				
	5	36 (Men= 29 and women=7)				
						<i>Non Applicable</i>

### 3.3. Knowledge sharing

Has your country developed and published REDD+ knowledge products with FCPF support:	
<u>Yes/No:</u>	<u>Please provide the list of published REDD+ knowledge products, if any during reporting period :</u>
Yes	<input type="radio"/> Pamphlets containing Key Messages of the REDD+ Program <input type="radio"/> Pamphlets about REDD+ Program and its activities <input type="radio"/> Extension materials like T-Shirts, Stickers <input type="radio"/> Development of REDD+ Website

How many people have been reached by these knowledge products, if any:
<u>Overall number by product:</u>
<u># of Men:</u> Over 4000
<u># of Women:</u> Over 2400

Have some experts of your country participated in any South-south learning activities? If yes, how many (men and women)?		
<u>Yes/No:</u>	<u>List the South-South learning activities:</u>	<u># of men:</u> (IP/CSO representatives, private sector representatives)
Yes	<input type="radio"/> <u>Capacity building Program on Regionalism Fiji</u> <input type="radio"/> <u>Indigenous Gender Responsiveness on REDD+, Vietnam</u> <input type="radio"/> <u>Regionalism Training, Fiji</u>	Men= 6 (IP=1, CSO = 5) <u># of women:</u> (IP/CSO representatives, private sector representatives) Women= 5 (All CSOs)

#### **4. ISSUES, CHALLENGES AND RISKS**

This section should present any problems, difficulties or constraints faced by the country in making progress towards the intended REDD+ results (outputs, outcomes and possible impacts), the main causes and their expected effect on the work plan. Actions that have been taken to overcome or manage these constraints/flaws/problems identified should be stated. Each problem/constraint should be stated as a separate point, along with associated proposed changes in work planning for the next six month/year to address it, as relevant.

It is expected that the country monitors any changes in the assumptions that underpin the logic of intervention of FCPF at the national level and other significant risks that may arise. This section should explain through a narrative any changes in the level of risk associated with the different assumptions, or describe new risks that may have emerged and have a significant bearing on the national work-planning with respect to FCPF support for the next year and beyond, along with the associated measures required to address this change.

The Project encountered the following issues and challenges. They are:

- The consultants are required to perform many other works that are not part of their TOR. This is hampering the progress of the work.
- Obtaining the imprest money for the work is also delaying the work.

#### **5. MAIN LESSONS LEARNED**

This section should be used to provide information on important lessons learned since the beginning of the readiness process. It is expected that this section will be fairly substantial, making reference to different lessons learned, analysis documents developed, and/or experiences made in dealing with issues of particular interest to REDD+.

- Selection of Consulting Firms, for the study, has taken much longer time than expected. This has resulted in delay in the implementation of the study.
- Lack of in-house technical Expertise is also posing problem which is delaying the works.
- The REDD+ islands being scattered and located very far away as such conducting consultations and training workshops is taking lot of time and resources.
- Involvement of CSOs/NGOs in disseminating REDD+ objectives was very helpful.