Report to Donor

Ref. TF019203 Reporting Period: 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

Printed On: 11/27/2019 Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Approved

Assignment: TF019203

# Vanuatu - IInd Grant Agreement for FCPF Readiness Preparation Proposal FCPFR - Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Task Team Leader: 00000188675 - Ms. Anisi

Approving Manager: 00000235980 - Ann Jeannette Glauber

Summary Information		
TF Status	ACTV	
Recipient Country	Vanuatu	
Executed By	Recipient	
Managing Unit	9269 - SEAE1	
Grant Start Date / End Date	04/20/2015 to 12/31/2020	
Original Grant Amount	3,600,000.00	
Grant Amount	6,100,000.00	
Outstanding Commitments	0.00	
Cumulative Disbursements	2,498,791.75 as of 06/30/2019	
Disbursed 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019	708,903.27	
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS	

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

Report to Donor Page 1 of 9

Report to Donor

Ref. TF019203 Reporting Period: 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

Printed On: 11/27/2019 Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Approved

## **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 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives: Comment:

The Government of Vanuatu continued to maintain strong commitment to the project. The activities mentioned below, have all contributed to the achievement of the grant objectives, including preparation of the REDD+ strategy options through a participatory and inclusive process, and production of technical and policy advice to help strengthen sustainable land and forest management practices. Overall disbursements of the project are still modest during the reporting period. Disbursement stands at USD 1,722,000, accounting for 58% (versus 52% by the end of FY18). Commitments account for 71% (versus 66% at the previous mission by the end of FY18). Per extension of the Readiness Fund, Vanuatu will request a 6 months extension to the closing date of the project to ensure full disbursement of the Grant and completion of activities. Considering this, they client will update/revise the disbursement and implementation plans to match the new revised date.

Project coordination has improved with the Department of Forest (DOF), REDD+ Unit, Project Management Unit (PMU), and Civil Society Organization Platform (CSO) platform working closely to advance policy dialogues, project management and coordination, stakeholder engagement, awareness building and knowledge dissemination. Ministry of Agriculture and Prime Minister#s Office were briefed for guidance and high-level support. The institutional arrangement required for the implementation of future REDD+ activities is in place both at the national and provincial level. A dedicated website for REDD+: reddplus.vu is now available.

The CSO platform has been engaged in project implementation at both national and provincial level. Provincial Technical Advisory Committees (PTACs) continued to be involved in project activities on the ground on the five islands. Furthermore, the REDD+ Unit is implementing its communication strategy and has developed and disseminated extension and outreach materials as well as carried out training workshops at national, provincial and regional level.

The National REDD+ Strategy is being developed in consultation with all concerned stakeholders. The study on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and policy brief on the drivers have been developed and submitted to the Government. Study on the REDD+ Strategy Option and its policy brief have been completed in support of the development of National REDD+ Strategy. All others including legal harmonization of land tenure and carbon rights, commercial land use activities, and benefits sharing mechanism; and feedback, grievance and redress mechanism (FGRM) have been completed. SESA consultants have been recruited and field work has started, while MRV consultancy is making significant progress. The Strategy is expected to be completed by April 2020.

Vanuatu is updating its National Forest Inventory (NFI) for the first time in more than 40 years. Training of forestry personnel for NFI data collection standard operating procedures is complete and data collection fieldwork is underway with approximately 1/3 of the clusters completed. Department of Forestry (DOF), PMU and REDD+ Unit have decided to increase human resources for data collection to expedite work. DOF are adequately responding to challenges faced and are modifying cluster locations to ensure data is collected in a representative and timely manner. DOF estimates that data from all clusters should be completed by December 2019 with the additional resources and logistical modification.

Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Consultancy. This consultancy is progressing well, and progress has been made in building DOF#s capacities in remote sensing. UNIQUE Land Use Consulting and the REDD+ Unit have agreed to adopt a step-wise approach to developing the FRL by commencing work on establishing a sub-national FRL for each island as data becomes available. UNIQUE will lead the completion of the Activity Data, while the DOF will lead the QA/QC elements. This is an efficient use of human resources in the remaining project time.

Overall progress from 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities:

Report to Donor Page 2 of 9

Report to Donor

Ref. TF019203 Reporting Period: 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

Printed On: 11/27/2019 Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Approved

#### Comment:

Component 1. Institutional Strengthening for REDD+ Management Arrangements at the national and decentralized level

Institutional Arrangements and Capacity Building:

REDD Unit: The project is supporting the institutional strengthening for REDD+ management arrangements at the national and decentralized levels. During the past year, REDD Unit was able to quickly mobilize support from the DoF, PMU, MoF, and CSO platform to mainstream REDD+, carry out multisectoral policy dialogues, facilitate CSO related activities, and undertake MRV and SESA procurement processes. It was commendable that REDD+ Unit worked with the DoF, PMU, MOF, and CSO platform to make further progress on mainstreaming REDD+, facilitating CSO related activities, and preparing proposals for the REDD implementation phase after Readiness phase ends in 2020. Two GIS and natural resource specialists have joined DOF and have been providing support to the MRV related work. A database management specialist has been hired to carry out data entry and data analysis to support the MRV work.

Technical Committee (TC): Regular TC meetings have been held since the previous mission to discuss the relevant issues for implementation of the REDD+ Program, project management, procurement, activities on the five islands, and a concept note for Green Climate Fund. The mission re-emphasized the importance to ensure the engagement of the key sectors that are related to the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and the linkage to NAB to achieve synergies and gain higher level policy support. The Provincial REDD+ Technical Committees in Santo, Malekula, Efate and Tanna continue to be actively involved in project implementation and awareness building activities. Provincial Technical Advisory Committees (PTACs) have been established in Santo, Malekula, Efate, Tanna, and Erromango islands representing a wide variety of key REDD+ sectors and stakeholders.

Project Management Unit (PMU): The PMU housed in VMGD continues to provide fiduciary support to the FCPF REDD+ Readiness Project, including support on procurement and financial management activities and coordination with MOF, VMGD and NAB. Originally the PMU had a strong team supporting three Bank financed projects and other domestic projects. The PMU manager and procurement officer have strengthened their support to the project and cooperation with the REDD Unit. Their effective work has been recognized and instrument. However, the mission was informed that that there have been significant delays in processing requests and payment requests to consultants. There has also been delays in submission of the IFRs and audited financial statements. The PMU has submitted the audited financial statements for Q2 to the Bank for comments.

National Advisory Board (NAB): It was agreed during the previous mission that the project will finance one staff in the NAB secretariat to strengthen the cooperation with the NAB and help mainstream REDD+. However, the government has already filled this position so there is no need to finance it under the project.

Component 2. Strengthening of Stakeholder Engagement Process at Decentralized Levels

## REDD+ CSDO: Platform

the CSO platform has submitted a work plan with budget and TOR to the REDD Unit. The work plan has been approved and incorporated into the overall work plan of the Readiness Project and the relevant activities have been implemented accordingly. A two-day CSO planning workshop was held with extensive discussion of the roadmap for implementing the National Forest Inventory that is planned to be conducted on different islands, establishing the NFMS, MRV and Forest Reference Level (FRL), including the role of CSO platform.

## Awareness Building Activities:

The REDD+ Unit is implementing the communication, consultation and participation activities to raise awareness within various stakeholder groups engaged in REDD+. A multi-faceted broadcasting program using radio, TV and print-media continued to be implemented: key REDD+ activities are being aired in the field. The outcomes from studies such as FGRM, Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Strategy Options and Benefits Sharing Mechanism were communicated to different stakeholders. REDD+ awareness raising activities for held targeting senior level officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and young people.

Component 3: Development of a REDD+ Strategy for Vanuatu

Report to Donor Page 3 of 9

Report to Donor

Ref. TF019203 Reporting Period: 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

Printed On: 11/27/2019 Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Approved

Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance:

The study on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and policy brief on the drivers have been developed and submitted to the Government.

#### Development of a REDD+ Strategy:

Study on the REDD+ Strategy Option and its policy brief have been completed in support of the development of National REDD+ Strategy. All others including legal harmonization of land tenure and carbon rights, commercial land use activities, and benefits sharing mechanism; and feedback, grievance and redress mechanism (FGRM) have been completed. The National REDD+ Strategy Document is expected to be completed by April 2020.

## Social and Environmental Impacts:

The country has started working on the development of SESA. Climate Policy and Law, an UK consulting firm, has been hired for carrying out the process. The inception report has been submitted to the REDD+ Unit on the 3rd of June 2019. A four-day workshop was held in June 2019 to discuss issues on work plan, methodology, and deliverables with the Government of Vanuatu and relevant stakeholders. The World Bank safeguards specialist visited Port Vila and has held extensive discussions with the consultants. They will continue to provide hands on support to make sure that the SESA consultancy will be completed by April 2020 with satisfactory quality.

Component 4. National Forest Inventory and National Forest Monitoring

#### National Forest Inventory NFI

Training of 45 forestry personnel for NFI data collection standard operating procedures is complete and data collection fieldwork is underway with approximately 1/3 of the clusters completed. Regardless of the progress made, a recent report by the Inventory Expert of UNIQUE found that the progress of the work is not satisfactory. In order to address this challenge, the REDD Unit in coordination with the DOF allocated more human resources to expedite data collection and thus, the development of the NFI. DOF is adequately responding to the challenge and clusters location has been modified to ensure data is collected in a representative and timely manner. DOF estimates that data from all clusters should be completed by December 2019 with the additional resources and logistical modification.

Vanuatu#s reference period is 2008-2018. A combination of emissions factors generated from the NFI data and the mapping of the land use classes will enable the generation of estimates of deforestation, forest degradation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks Reference period is being used for the elaboration of the country#s reference period. 4 staff members of the DOF have been trained on manual digitization methods and the team have been working to complete 6 land use classes on the 2018 imagery using Landsat. This work is being carried out in parallel with the NFI so that the outputs of the activity data analysis are available by the time NFI is complete.

The preparation of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) database management system is progressing well. The team of consultants and the REDD Unit#s Database Management Specialist are in the process of engaging with relevant government agencies to commence the development of the system. The database uses open source tools and the data can be accessed online at https://nfms.gov.vu/. The system is continually updated as new data becomes available. In addition to the database, UNIQUE has established an online wiki where all the documents related to the project such as SOPs, training videos, reports are available.

## Grant follow-up and structure

## Description and context of Grant:

The FCPF Participants Committee authorized grant funding of US\$ 3.6 million in March 2013 for Vanuatu#s REDD+ readiness activities. This grant funds key elements of the Readiness Preparation project (R-PP). This includes the development of a REDD+ Strategy through a highly consultative and participatory process, and assessment of the environmental, social and economic impacts associated with different land use options, the development of a range of technical and policy studies, and to support the elaboration of NFI and the strengthening of the Forest MRV system. The R-PP activities also aim to strengthen existing institutions and stakeholder engagement processes at the national and decentralized level, including the REDD+ Unit, the PMU, REDD+ TC, and the PTACs.

Report to Donor Page 4 of 9

Report to Donor

Ref. TF019203 Reporting Period: 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

Printed On: 11/27/2019 Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Approved

An additional funding of US\$2.5 million was approved for Vanuatu to finalize existing activities, such as ensuring the adoption of the National REDD+ Strategy, preparing relevant REDD+ policy measures and strategies, and capacity building for key stakeholders at national, provincial, and local levels, private sector, civil society, as well as community members.

Expected follow up (if any): Expanded capacity

Comment on follow up:

NA

End Date of Last Site Visit:

**Restructuring of Grant:** 

NA

## OUTCOME

## Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

## **Grant Outcome Indicators**

No Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

## **COMPONENTS**

There are no components defined for this trust fund / grant.

## Comment on planned and actual Output

NΑ

## Comment on component implementation progress

Component 1. strengthening institutional arrangements for REDD+ management at national and decentralized level:

the DoF, REDD Unit, PMU, and CSO platform are working jointly on REDD+ management in Vanuatu. REDD+ Unit was able to quickly mobilize support from the DOF, PMU, MoF, and CSO platform to mainstream REDD+, carry out multisectoral policy dialogues, facilitate CSO related activities, and undertake MRV and SESA procurement processes.

REDD+ Unit Under the leadership of the new director for the Department of Forestry the REDD+ Unit continues to work as a team with strong support from DoF. The REDD Unit has started working with the DoF, PMU, MOF, and CSO platform to make further progress on mainstreaming REDD+, facilitating CSO related activities, and preparing proposals for the REDD implementation phase after Readiness phase ends in 2020. In this regard, the REDD Unit is working on preparing a project concept note for the implementation stage of REDD+ to be submitted to GCF. Two GIS and natural resource specialists have joined DOF and have been providing support to the MRV related work. A database management specialist has been hired to carry out data entry and data analysis to support the MRV work.

Technical Committee (TC): TC meetings have been taking place regularly to discuss islands-based REDD+ activities, project management issues, contracts for MRV, SESA, and the development of a project proposal to the GCF. The Provincial REDD+ Technical Committees in Santo, Malekula, Efate and Tanna continue to be actively involved in project implementation and awareness building activities. They have also taken part in the planning of their involvement in the NFI, NFMS and SESA work.

Project Management Unit (PMU): The PMU housed in VMGD continues to provide support to the FCPF REDD+ Readiness Project, including support on procurement and financial management activities and coordination with the MOF and VMGD. The PMU manager and procurement officer have strengthened their support to the project and cooperation with the REDD Unit. Their effective work has been recognized. Nonetheless significant delays in processing payments requests to consultants have been

Report to Donor Page 5 of 9

Report to Donor

Ref. TF019203 Reporting Period: 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

Printed On: 11/27/2019 Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Approved

received. There has also been delays in submission of the IFRs and audited financial statements.

National Advisory Board (NAB) serves as the supreme policymaking and advisory body for all climate change and Disaster Risk Reduction programs in Vanuatu. A specific budget proposal has been developed to finance NAB secretariat, training, workshops and study tours. Further efforts are needed to integrate the REDD+ strategy options developed under the Readiness Project with national climate change strategies, and incorporated into the country#s sustainable green growth policies. REDD+ strategy options have been designed to not only generate carbon benefits, but also to generate significant #co-benefits# in the form of community resilience and ability to adapt to climate change. Vanuatu also has the opportunity to use its national REDD+ strategy as a driver for investment in sustainable rural economic development, including development of agroforestry, silvopastoral system, watershed management, etc.

Component 2. Strengthening of the stakeholder engagement process at decentralized levels.

#### REDD+ CSDO: Platform:

The REDD+ CSO platforms have been established and fully engaged in project implementation at both national and provincial levels in collaboration with the Vanuatu Association of Non-Government Organizations (VANGO). The broader role of the REDD+ CSO Platform in the REDD+ readiness process was further formalized in a cooperation agreement (MoU) signed between the REDD+ Unit and the CSO Platform, and the DoF and VANGO, respectively. The national CSO Platform and decentralized CSO networks for REDD+ carried out consultation and awareness building workshops to engage and update CSO members representing a wide variety of stakeholders on the REDD+ islands.

Two CSO platform Executive Committee meetings were convened in October 2018 and April 2019 respectively to brief its members about the REDD+ activities to be implemented in different islands by the CSO networks. The meetings were very effective and fruitful with agreements reached on most issues and a clear plan laid out for the cooperation and next step work, including training of trainers, awareness raising and capacity building activities, interface with the REDD+ Unit, reach out to the island networks, work plan and TOR. The CSO Coordinator has shared a semi-annual summary report on completed activities, as well as an updated detailed work plan of CSO Platform activities by the end of 2018. A two-day planning meeting was conducted from 6th to 7th of December 2018) to develop future roadmap for the CSOs in implementing the REDD+ readiness activities.

## Awareness Building Activities:

The REDD+ Unit has continued to carry out awareness raising and dissemination activities pertaining to FGRM, MRV, FRL and other Analytical Studies on five islands. Vanuatu Forestry Week was celebrated throughout the country from August 21 to 25, 2018 and the CSO platform participated in organizing the activities. Officers from the Government Departments including Forestry, Agriculture, Livestock, Horticulture, and Environment took participated of the event. The REDD+ Unit, in collaboration with CSO representatives and Forest Department organized the National Tree Planting day event on 21st June 2018 in Port Vila as well as on the five islands. It has also participated in the National Agriculture Week during July 16 to 20, 2018 in Santo where REDD+ Extension Materials were displayed, and information disseminated to the participants and visitors.

The REDD unit has renewed the contract with the Vanuatu Broadcast and Television Corporation (VBTC) to continue promoting REDD+ awareness. Contracted activities include: (a) advertisement of REDD+ twice a day (b) REDD+ related radio program once a week and (c) talk show once a month. This is proved to be instrumental in the communication and dissemination work, especially in Efate.

Component 3. Development of a REDD+ strategy for Vanuatu

## REDD+ Strategy:

The REDD+ Strategy is delayed due to lack of consultants applying and prolonged procurement process. The negotiation is ongoing, and contract is expected to be signed by end of September. The mission emphasized the urgency of this consultancy due to its close linkage to the SESA consultancy. PMU and REDD Unit should make efforts to ensure that there is no further delay in contract signing and completion of the assignment.

Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA):

Report to Donor Page 6 of 9

Report to Donor

Ref. TF019203 Reporting Period: 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

Printed On: 11/27/2019 Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Approved

As mentioned throughout this report, a new SESA contract was awarded to M/S Climate Law and Policy on 10th April 2019. An Inception Report was submitted to the REDD+ Unit on the 3rd of June 2019. A four-day workshop was held from 13th#14th, 17th-18th of June 2019 to discuss issues on work plan, methodology, and deliverables. The consultation with the stakeholders in five REDD+ islands were discussed and agreed upon.

Component 4. National Forest Inventory and National Forest Monitoring

#### **National Forest Inventory**

The contract on NFI and Generation of Activity Data using remote sensing method and database development was awarded to UNIQUE Land Use Consulting on 31st January 2019. The NFI field and mapping works are expected to be completed by November 2019 as per the work plan submitted by UNIQUE.

Field work on NFI started from 1st April 2019 after two weeks of training on the inventory methodology for the crew members. The NFI work in Efate island is completed (260 sample plots measured) and the crew are working in the island of Santo. For mapping work, two weeks of training was conducted by the consultant for the local GIS/RS staffs of the Forest Department. GIS Team of the Forest Department has learnt how to use an open source Quantam GIS to map and generate activity data. Pre-clarification of NFI sample plots for 12 islands has been completed. The team is working on delineation of land use. For database development, two weeks of training was also conducted for the database officer. OPEN FORIS was installed and used on all the local servers. Inventory data were received and uploaded in the database.

The NFI is estimated to be approximately 1.5 months behind schedule. Additional human resources have been allocated to compensate for delays. DOF is adequately responding to the challenge and clusters location has been modified to ensure data is collected in a representative and timely manner. DOF estimates that data from all clusters should be completed by December 2019 with the additional resources and logistical modification.

#### National Forest Monitoring System - NFMS:

The consulting team has suggested to take a step-wise approach for the development of the FRL. The proposal is to develop the National FRL one island at a time so that the methods and data can be tested early and regularly as the data becomes available. The current workplan is to develop a #pilot# FRLusing data for the island of Efate, making this available by the end of October. This stepwise approach will contribute to capacity building and lowers the risk of non-project delivery as all aspects of the NFMS and the FRL will be tested and operational prior to the data collection being completed.

Strengthening technical capacity of DOF in relation to NFMS. Department of Forestry in collaboration with UNIQUE have done a great job in upskilling and building capacity across the geographic information system (GIS) and remote sensing (RS), database, and monitoring and reporting tasks of REDD+ and forestry. The department has established a well-equipped GIS laboratory for its 4 trained remote sensing staff and they have engaged a very experienced database management specialist and the online database system and his support of electronic data collection of NFI field data. The team are being well supported by UNIQUE consultants and the progress made on all aspects of the NFMS.

## **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

Report to Donor Page 7 of 9

Report to Donor

Ref. TF019203 Reporting Period: 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

Printed On: 11/27/2019 Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Approved

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

While an additional funding of US\$2.5 million was approved for Vanuatu to finalize existing activities, DoF continues to fundraise for RPP activities that are not funded by the existing FCPF Readiness Grant or the AF. Several development partners including GIZ, UN-REDD, and AusAID have engaged in REDD+ and climate change related activities in Vanuatu. For example, GIZ and AusAID have funded the preparatory work for MRV and REL and tested these approaches on Santo Island. GIZ funded the REDD+ outreach officer and a few other DoF forest officers to join a study tour in Germany in September 2018. Government officials from Vanuatu have been receiving trainings from the UN-REDD program. A local NGO named Live and Learn Vanuatu, which is a member of the TAC, works closely with the REDD+ unit to support the development of consultation and participation plan.

The REDD+ Unit is encouraged to reach out to the consultant preparing the national Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework under a GCF funded project to make sure that there is information sharing between ESSF and SESA.

- 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 have been implemented at both the national level and decentralized levels. Staffs and members of the REDD+ Unit, PMU, Technical Advisory Committee, Provincial Technical Committees, CSOs and Farmer Association Networks have participated in training workshops, awareness building activities, and study tours. During the reporting period, eleven rounds of technical Committee (TC) meetings were held. Multiple stakeholder consultation events, capacity building / training, and awareness raising initiatives took place. A two-week training session on NFI, mapping, database development was held for technical staffs. Awareness raising activities reached out to senior officials in the Ministry of Agriculture, forest and agricultural extensions officers, women and youth groups, and farmers associations.

Staff in the REDD+ Unit, including REDD+ coordinator, technical advisor, communication and extension officer, and CSO coordinator have advanced in their project management and technical capacity. The REDD+ Unit hired one Database Officer in April 2019 to data and information for monitoring, reporting and verification of REDD+ activities in Vanuatu. The new data team is working closely with the international MRV consultancy to carry out national forest inventory, MRV, and NFMS related work. The PMU has also received FM and procurement trainings. Local staffs are able to perform their work with less support from international advisors.

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?

New SESA and MRV consultants have been recruited and field work has started to make sure that activities will be completed by grant closing date. A new SESA contract signed and issues on work plan, methodology, and deliverables were discussed in a four-day workshop to make sure that it will be developed in accordance with the Common Approach. The consultation with the

Report to Donor Page 8 of 9

Report to Donor

Ref. TF019203 Reporting Period: 07/01/2018 to 06/30/2019

Printed On: 11/27/2019 Report Type: Progress Report

Report Status: Approved

stakeholders in five REDD+ islands were discussed and agreed upon.

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

The SESA consultancy is developing 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 and expected to be submitted by November 2019. In addition, the REDD+ Unit was also encouraged to reach out to the consultant preparing the national Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework under a GCF funded project to make sure that there is information sharing between ESSF and SESA.

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

Under the Consultation and Participation component the following activities have been implemented: 1) the national CSO Platform and decentralized CSO networks for REDD+ carried out consultation and awareness building workshops to engage and update CSO members representing a wide variety of stakeholders on the REDD+ islands; 2) consultations regarding National REDD+ Strategy with the stakeholders in five REDD+ islands has been discussed and agreed upon; 3) awareness building materials were developed and are being disseminated in events, on dedicated REDD+ website, radio programs, and educational programs.

The communication, consultation and participatory activities have been and continue to be implemented to raise awareness of the various stakeholder groups engaged in REDD+. A multi-faceted broadcasting program using radio, and print-media has been prepared. The Vanuatu Broadcast and Television Corporation is introducing the project to more viewers with radio programs. Radio FM 107 is used to reach a broad rural area. Video programs were screened in other REDD+ islands in the future. The REDD+ Unit has been updating its REDD+ website www.reddplus.vu. Information sharing with the stakeholder groups is done through the website, research, study reports and radio program.

## DISBURSEMENTS

## Disbursements Summary in USD

<b>Date From</b>	Date To	<b>Planned Cumulative</b>	Planned Period	<b>Actual Cumulative</b>	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	634,327.68	271,787.57
01/01/2017	06/30/2017	0.00	0.00	829,264.86	194,937.18
07/01/2017	12/31/2017	0.00	0.00	1,404,639.54	575,374.68
01/01/2018	06/30/2018	0.00	0.00	1,789,888.48	385,248.94
07/01/2018	12/31/2018	0.00	0.00	1,929,169.24	139,280.76
01/01/2019	06/30/2019	0.00	0.00	2,498,791.75	569,622.51
07/01/2019	12/31/2019	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2020	06/30/2020	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2020	12/31/2020	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Report to Donor Page 9 of 9