

REDD Readiness Progress Fact Sheet

COUNTRY: Vanuatu

October, 2013

1. R-PP Preparation and FCPF Readiness grant

- US\$200K grant was provided in 2010 for development of the R-PP.
- September 2012: R-PP submitted for PC13 but not discussed; rough draft which required significant revision.
- March 2013: Revised R-PP presented at PC14: revised and presented for formal review; comments received from PC to be addressed.
- May 2013: Revised R-PP formally resubmitted to FMT. Resubmissions following corrections in August and October.
- October 2013: Completeness check completion of R-PP revision by FMT.
- World Bank is providing due diligence on proposed grant-financed activities.
- Review Meeting planned for November 2013.
- Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement proposed to be signed in February 2014.

2. National REDD Readiness Management Arrangements

- The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Quarantine, Forestry and Fisheries (MALQFF) has the overarching mandate for coordinating land use and productive sector strategies.
- Under the MALQFF, the Department of Forestry (DoF) has the administrative responsibility to manage forests and forest operations (Forestry Act 2001).
- Climate change activities are coordinated by the National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (NAB); the body that has been formally mandated by the Council of Ministers to act as Vanuatu's supreme policy making and advisory body for all climate change and disaster risk reduction programs, projects, initiatives and activities.
- NAB has been the governing body responsible for the overall coordination of REDD+ activities and of donor efforts supporting REDD+ or land use activities. It can be considered the 'Steering Committee' for the National REDD+ Program.
- The NAB formally executed the National REDD+ Technical Committee (TC).
- Day-to-day implementation of the overall REDD+ readiness process will lie with DoF within the MALQFF.
- DoF unit will work in close collaboration with the NAB, National REDD+ Technical Committee and the ad hoc Working Groups (AWGs) to be created during the readiness process.
- AWGs will be set-up when required to advise the National REDD+ coordinator and the TC on specific issues.

3. Stakeholder Consultations and Communication

- See R-PP for consultations held during formulation phase of R-PP.
- Since R-PP submission consultations have continued at national and provincial levels with the support of an SPC/GIZ regional project entitled: "Climate Protection through Forest Conservation in Pacific Island Countries".
- A consultant (Live & Learn) had been contracted by the NAB to prepare a REDD+ Communication and Participation Plan.

4. REDD Strategy Preparation

- Vanuatu's REDD+ strategy will take a jurisdictional or nested approach.
- REDD+ strategy options being developed to address the drivers not with a conventional area-based approach, but

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instead by developing a series of policy options, to be applied widely over the archipelago.

- Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) elaborated a regional policy framework for REDD+ in 2012. This document provides guiding principles for developing REDD+ in individual Pacific Island countries.

5. Implementation Framework

- Will be undertaken once the grant agreement is signed in Quarter 2 of calendar year 2013.

6. SESA

- A first draft of the TOR for the SESA has been prepared and will be finalized together with the Assessment Note that has been revised following a second World Bank mission in August 2013.

7. Development of a Reference Scenario

- No decision has yet been taken on the approach to developing REL/RL due to the different drivers, agents and underlying causes, but approaches will be developed for each of the 5 eligible REDD+ activities.

8. MRV

- MRV will be developed from subnational frameworks based on the five bigger islands but applying common approaches to be integrated into a national MRV.

9. Other