



Readiness Fund REDD+ Country Participants Progress Report Template

Vanuatu

Reporting Period: July 2018 to June 2019

REDD+ UNIT, Vanuatu
July: 2019



FCPF Readiness Fund: REDD+ Country Participant Annual Progress Report

About this document

This template is for use by Readiness Fund (RF) REDD+ Country Participants to report their annual progress on REDD+ readiness activities in general, and on FCPF-supported activities in particular. The data provided through these reports represents a central information source for measuring progress against the FCPF's expected results and performance indicators, as articulated within the FCPF Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework.

Report preparation

Reports cover progress through 30th June of each year.

When preparing the report, RF REDD+ Country Participants should draw upon the country M&E system for REDD+ (component 6 of the R-PP) and should consult members of the national REDD task force or equivalent body. Inputs from stakeholders including IPs and CSOs should be integrated, with any divergent views recorded as appropriate. Detailed, indicator-by-indicator definitions and reporting guidance are provided within the FCPF M&E Framework (<https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/monitoring-and-evaluation-0>).

Reporting schedule

Completed reports should be submitted to the FCPF's Facility Management Team (FMT) by **15th July** every year.

SECTION A: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. In brief, what were the main REDD+ readiness-related activities delivered within your country during the last year?
 - For example, strategy / policy drafting, stakeholder consultation events, capacity building / training, awareness raising initiatives
 - Please be as specific as possible, e.g. name, date and number of participants in consultation events (sex disaggregated, if available), name of policy being drafted, institutions involved in policy drafting

Technical Committee Meetings: Eleven rounds of technical Committee (TC) meetings were held during the reporting period. In general, discussion were held regarding (a) REDD+ activities that were implemented in different islands (b) management related issues about the REDD+ Project (c) Contract negotiations on MRV related issues, SESA and regarding recruitment of individual consultants for various other studies.

Participation of REDD+ Unit in the National Agriculture Week: The Department of Agriculture, Vanuatu, organized National Agriculture Week from July 16 to 20, 2018 in Santo. All Departments under the Ministry of Agriculture participated in this Agriculture Week. Local people and villagers from the Santo also participated in the Agriculture Week. REDD+ Unit also took part in the occasion. REDD+ extension materials were displayed and also explained to the people who had come to participate in the occasion.

Awareness Raising Activities on FGRM, MRV and deforestation and forest degradation, Strategy Options and Benefit sharing Mechanism: Awareness raising and also explanation, to different stakeholders were carried out pertaining to the outcome from the following studies like FGRM, Deforestation and Forest Degradation, Strategy Options and Benefits Sharing

Mechanism. Main objective was to inform the local people and other relevant stakeholders about the REDD+ readiness activities that are implemented in different islands. Seedlings were also distributed to the local for planting in their land. The dates were as follows: (a) Efate July 27, 2018 (b) Erromango Aug 6 – 10, 2018 (c) Tanna Aug 20 – 22, 2018 (d) Malekula Sept 17 – 21, 2018 and (e) Santo Sept 24 – 28, 2018.

National Forestry Week, August 2018: National Forestry Week was celebrated from August 21st to August 25th 2018. The CSO Network based on all REDD+ islands took the lead role in celebrating this activity. Besides the CSO Network the other important stakeholders like the officers from the Department of Forests, Agriculture, Fishery, livestock, Horticulture, Environment, women Groups, Youth Groups, and Provincial Administration also took active part in the celebration. The main objective of organizing this activity was to (a) create awareness about the REDD+ readiness activities in different islands (b) inculcate a sense of responsibility in planting trees in their surrounding areas including the backyards. The local people also showcased the items made out of forest products.

REDD+ Awareness Raising for Senior Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture: One day awareness raising as well as information dissemination workshop was held for the senior level officers of the Ministry of Agriculture on 13th September 2018. The senior officers were (a) Acting Director General of the Ministry of Agriculture (b) Director of Forest Department (c) Director of Agriculture Department (d) Director of Livestock Department (e) Director of Fisheries (f) Director of bio-security (g) and many other mid level officers from the above-mentioned Departments.

GIZ Sponsored Study Tour for Communication Officer of REDD+ Project: The REDD+ Extension and Out-reach Officer (including some other Forest Officers from the Department of Forests) took part in the study tour to Germany which was funded by GIZ. The study tour was from September 17 to 21, 2018. The participants were exposed to the forestry operations in Germany including agriculture activities, Timber industries and Forestry Research.

National REDD+CSO Platform Executive Committee Meeting: A one-day CSO Platform Executive Committee was convened by the REDD+ Unit on 25th October 2018. The objective was to brief the executive members of the Platform about the REDD+ activities that will be implemented in different islands by the CSO Networks.

National CSO Platform Planning Workshop: Two days planning Meeting (6th and 7th of December 2018) was conducted for the National CSO Platform Members. The aim was to develop future roadmap for the CSOs in implementing the REDD+ readiness activities more importantly the National Forest Inventory and SESA works. They also developed other activities related to REDD+ readiness program to be implemented in the coming months.

REDD+ Awareness Raising for the U-19 Vanuatu Soccer Team: One day awareness raising campaign was conducted for the U-19 Vanuatu Soccer Team. During the occasion extension materials produced by the Extension Section of the REDD+ Unit was also distributed to the players. The main was to disseminate the REDD+ key messages among the young sportsmen of the country.

Renovation of Forest Department's Offices in Erromango and Tanna: The Forest Department's Offices in Erromango and Tanna houses (a) the Regional Forest Officer Office and (b) CSO Representative Office. The Offices, in both these islands, were in dilapidated condition therefore the REDD+ Unit supported in renovating these Offices so that the concerned Officers from the Forest Department as well as the CSO Representative will have better place for working. The renovation was carried out successfully and completed on time. Renovation was done on a cost sharing basis. The materials cost was borne by the REDD+ Project and the labour cost was borne by the Forest Department. Now the Officers have better place for working.

Progress on National Forest Inventory, Activity Data Generation and Establishment of National Forest Monitoring System including MRV: Consultancy on National Forest Inventory (NFI), Generation of Activity Data using remote sensing method and database development was contracted to a German Consulting Firm M/S UNIQUE. The contract between UNIQUE and the REDD+ Unit Vanuatu was signed on 31st January 2019. After submitting the Inception report by the consultant a detail discussion was held in Port Vila thereafter the consultant started the work with effect from 1st April 2019. Main objective of this consultancy is to conduct national forest inventory and generate emission factor data, generate activity data on forest resources and forest cover change using remote sensing method for establishing the forest reference level, design the national forest monitoring system including the MRV and establish the database system in Vanuatu.

- ON NFI: The work on NFI started after 2 weeks refresher 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.
- On Mapping work: The main purpose of this exercise is to collect data on forest resources and forest cover and forest

cover change from all islands using the remote sensing methods to meet the IPCC Approach 3 requirement. Therefore for this purpose two weeks 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 Quantam GIS which is open source software used for mapping/generation of activity data. Till now, the Team has completed the pre-clarification works of NFI sample plots for 12 islands. The Team will now work on delineation of landuse.

- On Database Development: Two weeks training was also conducted for the Database Officer by the UNIQUE consultant. OPEN FORIS is used which has been installed on all the local servers. The inventory data are received and uploaded in the database. The NFI field and Mapping works are expected to be completed by November 2019 as per the work plan submitted by UNIQUE.

Celebration of International Day of Forests on 21st March 2019: The REDD+ Unit, in collaboration with the CSO Platform and the CSO Network in the islands and Forest Department organized and celebrated the international day of the forests. This is an annual event and celebrated every year on 21st March. The main aim was to disseminate the REDD+ messages to the urban dwellers and students including the people working in government offices and also in private sectors. The day was used for planting trees in the surrounding of the offices, empty space within the municipality and schools. In Port Vila the day was celebrated in Malapoa College with the students and teachers. The activity was implemented in all five REDD+ islands with the support of the CSO Networks and Forest Department.

Database Development: In order to design a functional National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) including the MRV system in the country, there was a need to assess and analyze the existing database on the forest resources available with the Forest Department and identify the requirement of data that will fulfil all requirements for establishing NFMS. With this background, the REDD+ Unit hired one Database Officer with effect from 23rd April 2019, who will be responsible for providing all necessary data and information for monitoring, reporting and verification of REDD+ activities in Vanuatu. OPEN FORIS Collect is installed and all the data received from the NFI are uploaded in this OPEN FORIS Collect and is functioning smoothly.

REDD+ CSO Platform Executive Committee Meeting: CSO Platform executive Meeting was held on 4th of April 2019. The aim was to apprise the members of the Platform regarding the National Forest Inventory and SESA that are implemented in the country. The Platform members were also requested to inform all the concerned stakeholders especially the villagers about the activities that are being implemented so that everybody is well informed in advance.

PTAC and CSO Network Committee Workshop: A Three-day Workshop was organized from 19th of March 2019 to 21st March 2019 in Malekula island for the all the PTAC Chairmen, CSO Network Members from all the REDD+ islands. Total number of participants who attended this Workshop was 21. (16 participants representing CSO Network, 3 Forestry Officials from Department of Forest and 2 participants representing REDD+ Unit). There were 5 women and 16 male participants. The aim was to introspect on the REDD+ readiness activities that were implemented in their respective jurisdiction. Identify implementation issues and recommend for future implementation smoothly.

Progress on the Study of Value Chain Analysis of Non Timber Forest Products: Individual Consultant (IC) has been hired to study on the value chain analysis of Non Timber Forest Products (NTFP) of Vanuatu. The main objective for commissioning this study is that the outcome from the study would be used to inform the National REDD+ Strategy development of Vanuatu. The contract, with the individual consultant has been signed on 29th of May 2019 and the inception report including the methodology and work plan was discussed on 19th of June 2019. Further work on this study will start from June 2019 and will be completed within September 2019.

Progress on SESA: The work on SESA has been awarded to one UK Consulting Firm M/S Climate Law and Policy. The contract was signed on 10th April 2019. The Consultant submitted the Inception Report to the REDD+ Unit on 3rd June 2019 for the work and thereafter a four-day Workshop was held from 13th and 14th of June 2019 to 17th and 18th of June 2019. Various issues especially on work plan, methodology of the study and deliverables to be submitted to client were discussed. The inception report was also shared with the World Bank Technical Team. The consultation with the stakeholders in five REDD+ islands were discussed and agreed. As per the work plan submitted by the Consultant the work will be completed by April 2020.

Awareness Raising and Information Dissemination about REDD+: REDD+ Unit have contract with the Vanuatu Broadcasting Television Corporation (VBTC) to air the key REDD+ messages and also important announcement pertaining to REDD+ activities that are being implemented in the field. The objective is to inform all the stakeholders including the Government Offices, CSOs, and Private Sector Organizations about the REDD+ Program. To reach more rural areas in different islands Radio FM 107 is also being used for this purpose.

2. What were the main REDD+ readiness-related challenges and/or problems during the last year?

- For example, lack of engagement from key stakeholders, political barriers, limited funding

1) Obtaining the imprest money, on time, for implementing the REDD+ activities in the islands is a challenge. This situation is delaying the implementation of activities in the field.

3. What are the main REDD+ readiness-related activities that you hope to deliver during the next year?

- For example, hold x consultation events, submission of R-Package to the PC, finalisation of SIS, commission research into REDD+ strategy options

The followings are the main REDD+ readiness related activities that will be delivered during the coming year.

- 1) Hold regular Technical Committee Meeting when such Meetings are felt necessary to sort issues related to REDD+ readiness activities to be implemented in the field.
- 2) Hold regular consultation/awareness raising activities with relevant stakeholders at the national and provincial level including the CSO Platform at Port Vila and CSO Network in the Provinces.
- 3) Complete the National Forest Inventory (NFI), mapping work to detect the landuse and landuse change in the country and generate activity data.
- 4) Establish the Database System for National Forest Monitoring System including the MRV
- 5) Complete the work on SESA and development of ESMF within April 2020.
- 6) Complete study on Value Chain Analysis of NTFP by September 2019.
- 7) Complete the development of National REDD+ Strategy Document by April 2020.
- 8) Develop R- Package and submit to the PC.

SECTION B: READINESS PROGRESS

4. Please provide your own assessment of national progress against all REDD+ readiness sub-components:


(Indicator OV.1.B: Number of FCPF supported countries that have in place a National REDD+ Strategy, FREL/FRL, NFMS and SIS; Output 1.3 indicators)

Progress rating key:

Complete	The sub-component has been completed
Significant progress	Significant progress
Progressing well, further development required	Progressing well, further development required
Further development required	Further development required
Not yet demonstrating progress	Not yet demonstrating progress
N/A	The sub-component is not applicable to our process

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
R-PP Component 1: Readiness Organisation and Consultation		
Sub-component 1a:	Complete	Implementation of the REDD+ readiness activities, in

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
National REDD+ Management Arrangements		<p>Vanuatu, is progressing very well with significant evidence of government commitment and ownership.</p> <p>The (i) institutions required for implementation of REDD+ activities, in future, are in place both at the national and provincial level (ii) Information sharing system about the REDD+ activities are done through the REDD+ website: reddplus.vu, literatures, study reports and radio program. (iii) Work on National Forest Inventory, and Mapping work for generating activity data has also begun from April 2019. The work will be completed by June 2020. (iv) Work on SESA has also started. The Consulting Firm has submitted their inception report. Four days work was held from 13th to 18 June 2019 and discussed on the work plan, methodology for the study and the deliverables to be submitted to the client by the consultant. (v) Study on Value Chain Analysis of NTFP has also begun from June 2019. The study will be completed by September 2019.</p>
	X	
	N/A	
Sub-component 1b: Consultation, Participation and Outreach	Complete	<p>Consultations, Trainings and Workshops were held in all five islands. Besides the regular consultations with the stakeholders, REDD+ Team has also tied-up the consultations with the stakeholders through national forest inventory and SESA. Consultations are carried out with the support of the Regional Forest Officers and the CSO Platform and CSO Networks in the islands. The consultations were very effective and useful while implementing the REDD+ readiness activities. Further there is also activities participation by the local people including the Government Officials from various Departments.</p>
	X	
	N/A	
R-PP Component 2: REDD+ Strategy Preparation		
Sub-component 2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance	Complete	<p>The study on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation has been completed. The agents responsible for deforestation and forest degradation including the underlying causes have also been identified and the drivers prioritized.</p> <p>Vanuatu already has Forestry Act which was enacted by the Parliament and the National Forest Policy was passed in the year 2013.and is valid till 2023. Policy Brief on deforestation and forest degradation have been developed and submitted to the Government for endorsement.</p>
	X	
	N/A	
Sub-component 2b: REDD+ Strategy Options	Complete	<p>Study of REDD+ Strategy Options has been completed. The outcome of the study is to inform the development of National REDD+ Strategy of Vanuatu. Policy Brief for Strategy Option has been developed and submitted to the Government for endorsement.</p>
	X	
	N/A	
Sub-component 2c: Implementation Framework	Complete	<p>Implementation Framework for implementation of the REDD+ activities is put in place both for the national level</p>
	X	

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
		as well as for provincial level. However more needs to be done especially on the capacity building of the staffs involved in implementation of the activities. Clear role and responsibilities needs to be developed and put in place for all the organizations and institutions involved in the implementation including the CSOs and the private sectors.
Sub-component 2d: Social and Environmental Impacts		SESA Work has been contracted to one UK-based Consulting Firm M/S Climate Law and Policy. The Consultant has submitted the Inception Report and the Work Plan. A four-day Workshop was held from 13 th to 14 th and 17 th to 18 th of June 2019 to launch the SESA. During the Workshop all concerned stakeholders from the Government, CSOs/NGOs were involved. Methodology on the development of SESA and ESMF were discussed in detail in the work plan. The work is scheduled to be completed by April 2020.
R-PP Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels		
Component 3: Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels		The work on construction of Forest Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels has not started yet. As per the work plan, the work on FRL/RL construction will started as soon as the work on National Forest Inventory and Generation of Activity Data will be completed and the results for these two activities calculated. Since the work on NFI and Activity Data Generation already started and planned to be completed by November 2019, thereafter the work on FRL/RL will be started. For Vanuatu the estimation of FRL/RL will take into consideration the drivers and the underlying causes of REDD+ activities like (a) deforestation (b) forest degradation and the (c) enhancement of forest carbon stocks and activity data based on remote sensing and GIS and emission factor data based on national forest inventory of selected 12 islands.
R-PP Component 4: Monitoring Systems for Forests and Safeguards		
Sub-component 4a: National Forest Monitoring System		(i) <u>Estimation of emission factor data based on forest inventory of 12 selected islands</u> The work on national forest inventory is underway and is progressing as planned. The work is contracted to a Germany-based Consulting Firm, UNIQUE. NFI work for one island has already been completed and the work on another island is progressing well. Information on forest resources is collected for estimating the emission and removal factors and to assess the amount of carbon in Vanuatu's forests. The works that are being carried out, as well as planned, to accomplish the work are (a) Refresher Training for the crews involved in the forest inventory (b) conduct of stratification, design of sampling approach, layout of sample plots and conduct of plot-wise measurement of carbon pools (c) analysis of data on carbon stock and

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
		<p>carbon stock change in different carbon pools and (d) estimation of emission and removal factors by the carbon pools and forest categories (e) assessment of uncertainties associated with the estimates of emission and removal factors.</p> <p>(ii) <u>Assessment/Generation of activity data on forest cover and forest cover change based on remote sensing</u></p> <p>The work on assessment/generation of activity data is underway and progressing as planned. The aim for carrying out this activity is to collect/generate data on forest cover and forest cover change of different islands of Vanuatu using remote sensing method that will meet the IPCC Approach 3 requirements for spatially explicit activity data of forests. The work is being done by the GIS Section of Forest Department with the technical support of the consultant. It will produce forest cover and forest cover change maps, conduct analysis required for estimation of activity data and assessment of its accuracy. The work on collecting/generating activity data is being carried out in parallel with the forest inventory and include (a) collection and organization of remote sensing data and imagery (b) generation of forest cover and forest cover change maps (c) interpretation of remote sensing data to estimate activity data on forest cover and forest cover change for the reference period (d) conduct accuracy assessment to generate stratified area estimates.</p> <p>(iii) <u>Development of Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)</u></p> <p>The activities planned to be carried out for the development of MRV system are (a) Development of a robust and transparent MRV system for monitoring and reporting REDD+ activities for estimation of emissions and removals and associated standard operating procedures (SOP) for collecting, analyzing, estimation and reporting (b) design of database and reporting and archival of data and information and (c) training and capacity building for implementing the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS).</p> <p>The design of framework and institutional arrangements for implementing the MRV will be led by consultant from M/S UNIQUE in collaboration with the staffs of Forest Department. The MRV System will be established and link to national GHG inventory for reporting on forest-related emissions and removals to the UNFCCC based on SOP that ensure compliance with the national and international reporting requirements.</p> <p>Training and capacity development will be carried out for implementing the NFMS since the <i>ni-Vanuatu</i> people are the owners of forest resources as such capacity development of communities and other stakeholders for implementing REDD+ activities is very important. The training and capacity building plan will also be developed</p>

Sub-component	Progress rating (mark 'X' as appropriate)	Narrative assessment (briefly explain your rating)
		as part of the MRV.
Sub-component 4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards	Complete	Vanuatu is progressing well in establishing a system for monitoring the multiple benefits, other impacts and governance. Information system for such multiple benefits will be developed as part of the database development system and the monitoring aspects will be in-built in the NFMS which is underway. The importance and value of the non-carbon benefits including the social and environmental safeguards are inherently recognized in all activities that are implemented during the readiness phase of the program. The National Forest Policy of Vanuatu has also placed strong emphasis on the protection, conservation and sustainable management of the country's forest resources. The following non-carbon benefits are important and their information will be part of the database like biodiversity monitoring, forest governance, monitoring of non timber forest products, and monitoring of the environmental services that may arise while implementing the REDD+ activities in the field. Report on Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism (FGRM) is completed but it is yet to be fully operationalized.
	X	
	N/A	

SECTION C: NON-CARBON BENEFITS

5. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at livelihoods; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates livelihoods)?

(Indicator 3.2.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods)

Yes		(delete as appropriate)
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If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach:

The aim of the national REDD+ program, of Vanuatu, is to sustain and enhance livelihood of the *ni-Vanuatu* people who are living in the rural areas. The Strategy Options study has identified many activities that were geared towards enhancing the livelihood of the common people by generating additional household income for their family. Some of the important activities which enhances livelihood of the rural people are Management of Protected Areas by involving local communities, management of non timber forest products, initiating agroforestry system by combining with more promising agriculture and horticulture activities and development of a national overarching landuse plan. The National REDD+ Strategy is yet to be developed. However action to initiate the development of National REDD+ Strategy is already underway. All such income generating schemes which will enhance livelihood of the rural people would be part of the National REDD+ Strategy. The Report on Strategy Options including the Policy Brief paper is available in REDD+ website: [Http://:www.reddplus.vu](http://www.reddplus.vu).

6. Does your national REDD+ Strategy or Action Plan include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity (e.g. one of your program objective/s is explicitly targeted at biodiversity conservation; your approach to non-carbon benefits explicitly incorporates biodiversity conservation)?

(Indicator 3.3.b: Number of RF REDD+ Country Participants whose REDD+ Strategies include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity)

Yes		(delete as appropriate)
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If yes, please provide further detail, including attachments and/or references to the documentation that outlines your approach

The National REDD+ Strategy document is not yet developed but biodiversity conservation has been prominently featured in the development of National Forest Monitoring System. Therefore as part of the NFMS the biodiversity information system (BIS) will be developed and will form one of the most activities of the National REDD+ Strategy. While drafting the National REDD+ Strategy, the biodiversity information system including the protocol for monitoring will form part of the National REDD+ Strategy.

The Institutions responsible for the biodiversity information and monitoring, both at national and sub-national level will be fully involved while developing the NFMS. The conservation initiatives related to convention of biological diversity already exists for Vanuatu but more work is required to be done to upgrade the capacity of the local staffs for monitoring the biodiversity.

SECTION D: FINANCE

7. Please detail the amount of all finance received in support of development and delivery of your national REDD+ readiness process since the date that your R-PP was signed. Figures should only include secured finance (i.e. fully committed) – ex ante, (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions should not be included: (Indicator 1.B: Amount of finance received to support the REDD+ Readiness process (disaggregated by public, private, grants, loans))

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Date committed (MM/YY)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
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USD 3,600,000	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	04/2015	Public	Grant
USD 2,500,000	FCPF Readiness Preparation Grant	05/2018	Public	Grant

8. Please detail any ex ante (unconfirmed) finance or in-kind contributions that you hope to secure in support of your national REDD+ readiness process:

Amount (US\$)	Source (e.g. FCPF, FIP, name of gov't department)	Public or private finance? (Delete as appropriate)	Grant, loan or other? (Delete as appropriate)
Not Applicable			

SECTION E: FCPF PERFORMANCE

9. To help build an understanding of the FCPF strengths, weaknesses and contributions to REDD+, please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.B: Participant Countries' assessment of FCPF's role within and contribution to national REDD+ processes)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree
The FCPF's support has had a central influence on the development our national REDD+ systems and processes					X
The FCPF's support has improved the quality of our national REDD+ systems and processes					X
The FCPF's support has improved national capacities to develop and deliver REDD+ projects					X
The FCPF's support has helped to ensure substantive involvement of multiple stakeholders (including women, IPs, CSOs and local communities in our national REDD+ systems and processes					X

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

10. To help assess the usefulness and application of FCPF knowledge products (publications, seminars, learning events, web resources), please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements:

(Indicator 4.3.a: Extent to which FCPF learning, evidence and knowledge products are used by Participant countries)

Mark 'X' as appropriate

Completely disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Completely agree

We regularly access FCPF knowledge products to obtain REDD+ related information					X
FCPF knowledge products are relevant to our REDD+ related information requirements					X
FCPF knowledge products are sufficient to address all of our REDD+ related information requirements				X	
The FCPF website is a useful resource for accessing FCPF and REDD+ related information					X

Comments / clarifications, if appropriate:

SECTION F: FINAL COMMENTS

11. If appropriate, please provide any further comments or clarifications relating to your work on REDD+ Readiness during the last year:

1. National REDD+ Strategy will be developed in consultation with all concerned stakeholders.
2. Launching of SESA work has been held. The field work will start soon.
3. National Forest Inventory is going on. One on one of the islands has been completed. The works on other 11 selected islands will be completed by November 2019.
4. Work on collecting/generation of Activity Data is also going on in parallel with the National Forest Inventory.
5. Lack of in-house technical expertise is posing problem to fast track the works on all REDD+ activities.
6. The islands are all scattered which poses difficulty in accessing them, communication and transport of materials.

ANNEXURE-1

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**1. Does the country have the following in place?**

REDD+ Strategy (yes/No): **No**

Report of Strategy Option is completed. However the Report on **National REDD+ Strategy/Action Plan** is yet to be prepared.

2. What is the country progress on the following Readiness Sub -Components? Choose one of the options in parenthesis

Note: Choices are provided in red colour with underlines.

- i) R-PP Component 1: Organize and Consult
 - a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements (The sub-component has been completed/Significant Progress/**Progressing well, further development required**/Further development required/Not yet demonstrating progress/The sub-component is not applicable to our process)
 - b. Consultation, Participation and Outreach (The sub-component has been completed/Significant Progress/**Progressing well, further development required**/Further development required/Not yet demonstrating progress/The sub-component is not applicable to our process)
- ii) R-PP Component 2: Prepare the REDD+ Strategy
 - a. Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest law, Policy and Governance (**The sub-component has been completed**/Significant Progress/Progressing well, further development required/Further development required/Not yet demonstrating progress/The sub-component is not applicable to our process)
 - b. REDD+ Strategy Options (**The sub-component has been completed**/Significant Progress/Progressing well, further development required/Further development required/Not yet demonstrating progress/The sub-component is not applicable to our process)
 - c. Implementation Framework (The sub-component has been completed/**Significant Progress**/Progressing well, further development required/Further development required/Not yet demonstrating progress/The sub-component is not applicable to our process)
 - d. Social and Environmental Impacts (The sub-component has been completed/Significant Progress/**Progressing well, further development required**/Further development required/Not yet demonstrating progress/The sub-component is not applicable to our process)
- iii) R-PP Component 3: Develop a National FREL
 - a. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels (The sub-component has been completed/Significant Progress/Progressing well, further development required/**Further development required**/Not yet demonstrating progress/The sub-component is not applicable to our process)
- iv) R-PP Component 4: Design systems for National Forest Monitoring and Information on Safeguards

- a. National Forest monitoring System (The sub-component has been completed/Significant Progress/Progressing well, further development required/**Further development required**/Not yet demonstrating progress/The sub-component is not applicable to our process)
- b. Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance and Safeguards (The sub-component has been completed/Significant Progress/Progressing well, further development required/**Further development required**/Not yet demonstrating progress/The sub-component is not applicable to our process)

3. What is the amount of finance mobilized to support the REDD+ readiness process. (provide number and breakdown in million USD)

- a) Under original grant agreement – USD 3.6 million
- b) Under the additional Financing - USD 2.5 million

(Please refer Section D –FINANCE, (g) above also)

4. Does the REDD+ Strategy (if they have one) include activities that directly aim to sustain and enhance livelihoods ? (Choose yes or No).

Yes (Refer Section C – Non Carbon Benefits , (e) above)

5. Does the REDD+ Strategy (if they have one) include activities that directly aim to conserve biodiversity ? (Choose Yes or No).

Yes (Refer Section (f) above under Section C – Non Carbon Benefits)

The National REDD+ Strategy has not been prepared yet but the biodiversity information system (BIS) including the protocol for monitoring the biodiversity will form one of the important components of the National REDD+ Strategy. The work on development of National REDD+ Strategy will begin soon.

6. Have there been any policy reform initiated, completed or underway complying with REDD+ standards in the country in FY 18 ? (Provide name of Policy, legislation, proclamation, Protocol, Act or Reform etc. And brief explanation/description).

The Department of Forests, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries and Biosecurity (MALFFB) has already developed the National Forest Policy and the Government of Vanuatu has also endorsed it. The National Forest Policy is in effect from 2013 to 2023.

7. Any examples of activities undertaken at national level to generate and institutionalize awareness on REDD+ in FY 18 ? (Provide description).

The Forest Officials at the National level are trained and they have been initiating various activities to generate awareness about the importance of forestry in general and REDD+ program in particulars. The Forest Department's Officials are supported by the National CSOs Platform Members in this endeavour. These Organizations are supposed to be institutionalized for initiating the awareness raising activities.

8. Has the country completed the following? Choose yes or No.

- a) SESA (yes/No): **No** The SESA Launching Workshop is held on 13th and 14th and 17th and 18th of June 2019. Further works for SESA will begin soon.
- b) ESMF (Yes or No): **No** The work on ESMF preparation will be taken up simultaneously with the SESA. The report on ESMF will be ready by April 2020.
- c) FGRM (Yes or No): **Yes** The report on FGRM is completed.