Report to Donor

Ref. TF019203 Reporting Period: 07/01/2014 to 06/30/2015

Printed On: 12/24/2015 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: 00000364876 - Stefanie Sieber Approving Manager: 00000066054 - lain G. Shuker

Summary Information	
TF Status	ACTV
Recipient Country	Vanuatu
Executed By	Recipient
Managing Unit	9061 - GENDR
Grant Start Date / End Date	04/20/2015 to 12/31/2019
Original Grant Amount	3,600,000.00
Grant Amount	3,600,000.00
Outstanding Commitments	0.00
Cumulative Disbursements	185,632.08 as of 06/30/2015
Disbursed 07/01/2014 to 06/30/2015	185,632.08
Donor	TF602001 - MULTIPLE DONORS

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

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#### **OVERVIEW**

#### **Overall Assessments**

#### **Grant Objectives:**

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

#### Overall progress from 07/01/2014 to 06/30/2015 with regard to Achieving Grant Objectives:

#### Comment:

The Government of Vanuatu has signed the Grant Agreement on April 20, 2015. The FCPF Project was officially launched by the former Minister of Education/Acting Minister of Finance and Economic Management, Hon. Bob Loughman, former Minister of Agriculture Livestock, Fisheries, Forestry and Biodiversity, Hon. David Tosul and World Bank Disaster Risk Management Specialist, Tevi Obed on May 26, 2015. Project implementation has since begun, focusing on administrative matters as well as the recruitment of key positions.

# Overall progress from 07/01/2014 to 06/30/2015 with regard to Implementation of Grant Financed Activities: Comment:

The Project was officially launched by the former Minister of Education/Acting Minister of Finance, Hon. Bob Loughman on May 26, 2015. The launch was witnessed by the former Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry Fisheries and Biodiversity, Hon. David Tosul, the Vanuatu Office World Bank Mission Team Members, Government representatives and civil society groups.

The Government has also started the procurement of key positions, including the advertisement of the REDD+ technical advisor, procurement officer and SESA consultancy. The first withdrawal application was also submitted manually and processed.

# Grant follow-up and structure

Description and context of Grant:

Expected follow up (if any): Expanded capacity

#### Comment on follow up:

As project implementation is only beginning, no follow-up activity has yet been identified.

End Date of Last Site Visit:

Restructuring of Grant:

#### OUTCOME

#### Comments on outcome achieved from 07/01/2014 to 06/30/2015

At the R-AN decision meeting it was agreed that no results framework would be developed. The main tool for monitoring progress are the semi-annual progress reports due to the FCPF FMT.

#### Grant Outcome Indicators

No Outcome indicators are defined or used for this grant.

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#### **COMPONENTS**

#### Output and Implementation by Component

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

Status: Procurement On going

Planned Output: Support structures responsible for REDD+ Readiness Preparation process, i.e. National REDD+ Unit within

DoF, the REDD+ Technical Committee, the NAB and its PMU, and the Provincial REDD+ Committees

Actual Output: Procurement of REDD+ Advisor ongoing, procurement officer hired

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

Status: Planned

Planned Output: Ensure broad stakeholder engagement and use of stakeholder feedback in shaping the REDD+ Readiness

program and the REDD+ strategy

Actual Output: Consultations are ongoing with the civil society and the multi-sectoral TC to ensure that activities under

this component are kick started once the first tranche is received

#### Development of a REDD+ strategy for Vanuatu

Status: Planned

Planned Output: Support the GoV in developing its REDD+ strategy

Actual Output: ToR for the SESA consultancy work has been advertised

## Comment on planned and actual Output

# Comment on component implementation progress

#### **EXECUTION**

#### Bank project related to the grant

Project ID / Name: P124806 - Vanuatu- FCPF Readiness Plan Preparation

Project Status: Lending
Global Focal Area: Climate change
Product Line: CN - Carbon Offset

### Implementing agency and contact details

Agency: Department of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry & Fisheries

Contact: Director Tate Hannington

Address: Airport Road, Port Vila, Vanuatu

Phone: +678 23171 Email: htate@vanuatu.gov.vu

Website:

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#### **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

The FCPF grant is currently the main REDD+ related initiative in Vanuatu. Other development partners will be identified to support the remainder of the activities outlined in the R-PP, most notably the MRV and REL. The achievement of the proposed REDD+ Readiness Activities under the FCPF grant will not depend on these more technical aspects of REDD+ Readiness, which will, however, need to be accomplished before Vanuatu can engage in a future performance-based system for REDD+. There are several partners currently active in climate change and natural resources management in Vanuatu, which are likely to fund follow-up work.

- 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.

Project implementation has begun only recently after the signature of the grant in May. First capacity building on FM and procurement as well as technical issues was delivered during the launch mission. A procurement officer was also hired to support the PMU. Additional support to FM was discussed and agreed upon during the mission in May. Procurement of key technical consultancies (REDD+ Advisor and SESA) is ongoing.

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

The SESA TOR has been prepared and the consultancy advertised.

- 5. Is the ESMF prepared in accordance with the Common Approach? NA
- 6. Describe progress in stakeholder consultation, participation, disclosure of information, and the FGRM related to this Grant.

The civil society groups will play a critical role in ensuring stakeholder engagement and consultations to include communication and outreach activities during Readiness. Hence, building their capacity and knowledge on REDD+ is significant. The GoV has agreed to work together with civil society organizations (CSOs) and has agreed to facilitate, with Bank support, the setting up of a systematic national CSO REDD+ platform. An umbrella CSO organization already exist. It is foreseen that this organization would conduct an independent self- selection process of national CSOs in the formation of the Platform. Once the Platform is established they will work with the REDD+ Unit to developed ToRs on how best the platform would support the Readiness activities. The Bank will provide guidance on selection criteria. It is discussed and agreed that the GoV is committed to allocating resources as part of institutional strengthening to set up the CSO platform as well as implementation of its outreach activities. It is expected that the Platform would be organized by November 2015. The decentralized CSOs within the provinces need to be engaged in REDD+ Readiness. The Platform will provide training information sharing to those CSOs in order for them to meaningfully engage in consultations and other activities to be implemented during Readiness. The process for the formation of the Platform has begun. A MoU will be signed between the Platform and DoF based on the Platform#s ToR and this will be submitted to the TC and the NAB for endorsement. Between now and up to the workshop, it was agreed that Vanuatu Association of Non-Government Organisations (VANGO) would initiate the self-selection process through a selection criteria to identify qualified and credible CSOs working in natural resource management, environment, land tenure/forest governance, gender etc. to form the Platform.

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# **DISBURSEMENTS**

# **Disbursements Summary in USD**

<b>Date From</b>	Date To	<b>Planned Cumulative</b>	Planned Period	Actual Cumulative	Actual Period
01/01/2015	06/30/2015	0.00	0.00	185,632.08	185,632.08
07/01/2015	12/31/2015	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2016	06/30/2016	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2016	12/31/2016	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2017	06/30/2017	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2017	12/31/2017	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2018	06/30/2018	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2018	12/31/2018	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
01/01/2019	06/30/2019	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
07/01/2019	12/31/2019	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

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