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1. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Introduction to the report, its main purpose and sections. Short description of FCPF support in country.

The REDD+ process in Vanuatu began in 2006 with the Vanuatu Carbon Credits Project (VCCP), which enabled Vanuatu to implement demonstration activities to inform intergovernmental policy development on REDD+. The project helped build Vanuatu's capacity to access carbon and ecosystem services financing for climate change mitigation and sustainable development in the forest and energy sectors. The VCCP also assisted Vanuatu in developing the R-PIN in 2007, which launched Vanuatu's participation in the FCPF when it became operational in 2008.

The R-PIN provided an initial overview of Vanuatu's land use patterns and causes of deforestation, as well as of the stakeholder consultation process, and potential institutional arrangements for REDD+ implementation. Based on the R-PIN, Vanuatu was awarded a US\$200,000 FCPF grant in 2008 to support establishment of a REDD+ Technical Committee (comprising Government agencies from the Forestry, Agriculture, Climate Change, Land Tenure, Trade, Commerce and Finance sectors) and prepare the R-PP. This committee, with significant assistance from the SPC and GIZ, led the drafting of the R-PP, which lays out the components and activities needed for Vanuatu to achieve REDD+ Readiness. In accordance with the FCPF framework and REDD+ Readiness processes, the R-PP has been widely reviewed and assessed by the World Bank task team, the FCPF Facility Management Team, independent reviewers on behalf of the TAP and the FCPF PC, as part of a multi-step review process and feedback mechanism culminating in its acceptance.

Based on submission of the R-PP in March 2013 the FCPF Participants Committee authorized grant funding of US\$3.6 million (about half the estimated budget of US\$7.3 million) to implement the Readiness Roadmap. The grant will finance analytical work on the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, to confirm the preliminary assumption that avoiding degradation and enhancing conservation have the greatest potential to slow deforestation. The grant will also finance the formulation of more detailed National REDD+ strategy options; institutional strengthening of relevant national and provincial government agencies and community organizations engaged in forest conservation; a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA); stakeholder consultations; and development of effective communication, feedback, and grievance redress mechanisms. Vanuatu is expected to leverage other resources to finance additional REDD+ Readiness components in the R-PP not financed by the grant, such as implementation of MRV and Reference Emission Level.

2. SUMMARY OF REPORT

Summary of 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 -- **key bullets only**

Progress:

US\$200,000 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 June 2014.

Readiness Preparation Grant Agreement proposed to be signed in September 2014.

Key Achievements with focus on higher level results:

does not apply – n/a

Important issues /problems that arose during the reporting period:

There are two main, interrelated issues. First, the R-AN for Vanuatu was prepared in time for the review meeting originally planned for October 2013. However, the Review Meeting was delayed because of an overdue audit report for the formulation grant thus preventing clearance of the R-AN by the Regional FM team. Second, given the limited capacity especially on fiduciary issues, concerns have been raised about the suitability of the proposed implementation arrangement.

Highlights of next steps in the following

The following next steps have been agreed with the client and management: The preparation of the audit is now underway, which is expected to be completed in the coming months. The fiduciary and management team are also undertaking missions to Vanuatu in April to follow-up on the preparation of the audit and to discuss the existing capacity constraints. After the mission, the task team will have a better sense of government's capacity and will be able to reach an agreement with the client on the placement of fiduciary functions (centralized or remain with sectors).

The R-AN will then be revised accordingly as needed. The Review Meeting is thus tentatively planned for June 2014. The PGA is proposed to be signed in September 2014.

3. 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”**.

3.1 PROGRESS AT THE IMPACT LEVEL (if any data available)

Please provide here any quantitative and qualitative information, if available on the following criteria/indicators.

does not apply – n/a

Number of tons of CO2 emissions from deforestation and forest degradation reduced in the country during the reporting period as compared to the measured REL/RL, if any :

National Forest Reference Emission Level (REL)/Reference Level (RL) defined:

Number of tons reduced during the reporting period as compared to REL/RL:

Amount of non-FCPF investments received under R-PP process:

Source:	<Select>	Amount Provided:
SPC-GIZ Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Programme (CCCP-IR) NB: funding is for entire program		19,200,000.00
free text	€ - Euro	
free text	Currency	
	Currency	

Amount of non-FCPF investments received for implementation of ER Programs (e.g. FIP, bilateral donors, private sector), if relevant:

Source:	<Select>	Amount Provided:
	Currency	
	Currency	
	Currency	
	Currency	
	Currency	

Level of multi-stakeholder participation and engagement in decision making processes related to emission reductions and forest resource management:

Please describe the process of engagement and consultation implemented, including describing the level of participation and engagement for the following stakeholder categories: Government Agencies, Indigenous Peoples, Other forest-dependent peoples, Women, Youth, Civil Society Organizations, Private Entities, Donors, and Others

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.

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

Number of policy reforms during the reporting period that are: <Select from dropdown list>

Underway:	#	
	#	
	#	
	#	
Completed:	#	
	#	
	#	

Please describe these policy reforms:

does not apply – n/a

3.2 PROGRESS AT THE OUTPUT and OUTCOME LEVEL (if any data available)

3.2.1. REDD Readiness Progress

OUTCOME LEVEL

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.) :

Briefly describe progress made during the reporting period in developing the country Readiness Package:

does not apply – n/a

OUTPUT LEVEL

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)

Component	Support from FCPF (Yes/No)
Component 1. Readiness Organization and Consultation	
1a. National REDD+ Management Arrangements	Yes
1b. Consultation, Participation, and Outreach	Yes
Component 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	No
2d. Social and Environmental Impacts	Yes
Component 3. REL/RL	
3. Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels	No
Component 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 implementation of R-PP as a whole:

Please describe the current R-PP implementation	0% Completed:
Implementation has not yet begun as the Readiness Preparation Grant has not been signed yet	

Level of achievement of planned milestones according to approved FCPF-financed Readiness Fund Grant (>3.8 million USD) (FCPF M&E Framework 1.3b):

Planned Milestones:	Level of Achievement:	Tracking:
		<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 100%; height: 20px; background-color: #2e8b57; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <input type="radio"/> Significant progress </div> <div style="width: 100%; height: 20px; background-color: #ffff00; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <input type="radio"/> Progressing well, further development required

3.2.1. CONTINUED Disbursement rate of FCPF-financed Readiness Fund Grant (>3.4 million USD), in %

RF Grant - disbursement rate compared to planned disbursement rate

Disbursement rate of FCPF-financed Readiness Fund Grant (>3.4 million USD), in percentage:		
	Select Actual Disbursement Rate	Tracking
RF Grant - actual disbursement rate compared to planned disbursement rate		<input type="radio"/> Up to 10% variance with plans <input type="radio"/> Between 10 and 25% variance <input type="radio"/> Between 25 and 40% variance <input type="radio"/> More than 40% variance <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Applicable

Disbursement rate of Total R-PP Budget in percentage:		
	Select Actual Disbursement Rate	Tracking
R-PP Budget - disbursement rate v planned disbursement rate		<input type="radio"/> Up to 10% variance with plans <input type="radio"/> Between 10 and 25% variance <input type="radio"/> Between 25 and 40% variance <input type="radio"/> More than 40% variance <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Applicable

3.2.1. REDD Progress Levels - Continued

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 (additional grant of up to \$5 million). 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+

The level of achievement of planned milestones according to the Readiness grant will be summarized through progress scores related to the synthesis of an overall achievement. This is qualitatively expressed with a four-color 'traffic light' scale and then explained. In case the assessment is not applicable, "Non Applicable" can be selected.

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 1a	Overall Progress		Progress Against Annual Targets		Tracking*
	Planned Milestones	Cumulative Progress Towards Milestones	Expected Annual Target	Achievements of the Annual Target	
1a - National REDD+ Management Arrangements Purpose: setting-up national readiness management arrangements to manage and coordinate the REDD-plus readiness activities whilst mainstreaming REDD-plus into broader strategies 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					

Sub-Component 1b	Overall Progress		Progress Against Annual Targets		Tracking
	Planned Milestones	Cumulative Progress Towards Milestones	Expected Annual Target	Achievements of the Annual Target	
1b – Consultation, Participation, and Outreach 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 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					

Sub-Component 2a	Overall Progress		Progress Against Annual Targets		Tracking
	Planned Milestones	Cumulative Progress Towards Milestones	Expected Annual Target	Achievements of the Annual Target	
2a: Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change Drivers, Forest Law, Policy and Governance Purpose: identify key drivers of deforestation and/or forest degradation, as well as activities concerning conservation, sustainable forest management, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks 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 rights, land tenure, governance; (v) implications for forest law and policy					

Sub-Component 2b	Overall Progress		Progress Against Annual Targets		Tracking
	Planned Milestones	Cumulative Progress Towards Milestones	Expected Annual Target	Achievements of the Annual Target	
2b: REDD+ Strategy Options Purpose: Develop a set of policies and programs for addressing the drivers of deforestation and/or forest degradation Assessment Criteria: (i) selection and prioritization of REDD+ strategy options; (ii) feasibility assessment; (iii) implications for strategy options on existing sectoral policies					

Sub-Component 2c	Overall Progress		Progress Against Annual Targets		Tracking
	Planned Milestones	Cumulative Progress Towards Milestones	Expected Annual Target	Achievements of the Annual Target	
2c: Implementation Framework Purpose: Set out credible and transparent institutional, economic, legal and governance arrangements necessary to implement REDD+ strategy options Assessment Criteria: (i) adoption and implementation of legislation/regulations; (ii) guidelines for implementation; (iii) benefit sharing mechanism; (iv) national REDD+ registry and system monitoring REDD+ activities					

Sub-Component 2d	Overall Progress		Progress Against Annual Targets		Tracking
	Planned Milestones	Cumulative Progress Towards Milestones	Expected Annual Target	Achievements of the Annual Target	
2d: Social and Environmental Impacts Purpose: Ensure compliance with the Common Approach and prepare a country specific Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) Assessment Criteria: (i) analysis of social and environmental safeguard issues; (ii) REDD+ strategy design with respect to impacts; (iii) Environmental and Social Management Framework					

Component 3	Overall Progress		Progress Against Annual Targets		Tracking
	Planned Milestones	Cumulative Progress Towards Milestones	Expected Annual Target	Achievements of the Annual Target	
R-PP Component 3 - Reference Emissions Level/Reference Levels Purpose: Development of the general approach to establish a REL/RL 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					

Sub-Component 4a	Overall Progress		Progress Against Annual Targets		Tracking
	Planned Milestones	Cumulative Progress Towards Milestones	Expected Annual Target	Achievements of the Annual Target	
4a: National Forest Monitoring System Purpose: Design and develop an operational forest monitoring system and describe the approach to enhance the system over time Assessment Criteria: (i) documentation of monitoring approach; (ii) demonstration of early implementation; (iii) institutional arrangements and capacities- Forests					

Sub-Component 4b	Overall Progress		Progress Against Annual Targets		Tracking
	Planned Milestones	Cumulative Progress Towards Milestones	Expected Annual Target	Achievements of the Annual Target	
4b: Information System for Multiple Benefits, Other Impacts, Governance, and Safeguards Purpose: Specify the non-carbon aspects prioritized for monitoring by the country 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					5

*This 'traffic light' scale is based on the system contained in the R-Package Assessment Framework, The R-Package assessment criteria are included to assess their readiness preparations progress with the core aspects and desired outcomes of readiness preparation activities as contained in R-Package Assessment Framework.

3.2.3. Engagement of stakeholders to sustain or enhance livelihoods of local communities and to conserve biodiversity within the approach to REDD+

OUTCOME LEVEL

As a synthesis of the following output level assessments, please describe indicators related to biodiversity conservation and forest community livelihood development included in the ER Program if relevant (FCPF M&E Framework indicator 3.A.):		
Amount provided:	Currency	
Please describe how these funds target biodiversity and forest community livelihood development:	does not apply – n/a	

Please provide relevant examples on the inherent social and biodiversity benefits of REDD+, if relevant (FCPF M&E Framework Indicator 3.B.):	
Examples of inherent social and biodiversity benefits of REDD+:	
does not apply – n/a	

OUTPUT LEVEL

Number of examples of actions where Ips, CSOs, and local communities participate actively, if relevant (FCPF M&E Framework 3.2.a.):	
#:	Please describe these actions on enhanced livelihoods and BD conservation, and restoration where Ips, CSO, and local communities participate actively:
	does not apply – n/a

Number of IPs, REDD Country CSO representatives (men/women) having been successfully trained by FCPF training programs (FCPF M&E Framework 3.1.b.):

Please list the training(s) conducted:	Duration (#of days)	# of participants		Rating
		# of men	# of women	
Free text				

- Significant progress
- Progressing well, further development
- Further development required
- Not yet demonstrating progress
- Not Applicable

Frequency of meetings of stakeholder engagement platforms (FCPF M&E Framework 3.2.a.):

Frequency:	Rating

- Significant progress
- Progressing well, further development
- Further development required
- Not yet demonstrating progress
- Not Applicable

Does your country R-Package (within the national REDD+ strategies and the monitoring systems) and/or ER Program include activities aiming at maintaining or enhancing livelihoods of local communities (FCPF M&E Framework 3.2.b.):

Yes/No:	Please describe these activities aiming at maintaining or enhancing livelihoods of local communities:
Yes no	does not apply – n/a

Does your country R-Package (within the national REDD+ strategies and the monitoring systems) and/or ER Program include activities aiming at conserving biodiversity (FCPF M&E Framework 3.2.c.)?

Yes/No:	Please describe these activities aiming at conserving biodiversity:
Yes no	does not apply – n/a

Does your country R-Package and/or ER Program include SESA, an operational Grievance Mechanism, and an	
Yes/No:	Please describe these activities aiming at conserving biodiversity:
Yes no	Free text

3.2.4 Knowledge Sharing

Has your country developed and published REDD+ knowledge products with FCPF support?	
Yes/No:	If yes, please provide a list of the published REDD+ knowledge products if any, during the reporting period:
Yes/No	1 does not apply – n/a
	2
	3
	4
	...

How many people have been reached by these knowledge products, if any?	
Overall number by product:	Please provide a list of the published REDD+ knowledge products if any, during the reporting period:

Knowledge Product 1:	
	# Total People Reached
	# of Men
	# of Women
Knowledge Product 2:	
	# Total People Reached
	# of Men
	# of Women
Knowledge Product 3:	
	# Total People Reached
	# of Men
	# of Women
Knowledge Product 4:	
	# Total People Reached
	# of Men
	# of Women

Have some experts of your country participated in any South-South learning activities? If yes, how many?			
Yes/No	List the South-South	# Men	# Women
Yes/No	does not apply – n/a		
Yes/No			
Yes/No			
Yes/No			

3.2.2. Key Elements of performance based payment systems for emission reductions generated from REDD+ activities

OUTCOME LEVEL

As a synthesis of the following output level assessments, please briefly specify:

Are carbon accounting, programmatic elements and pricing operating as planned in your pilot, if relevant?

Free text	Tracking
	<input type="radio"/> Significant progress <input type="radio"/> Progressing well, further development <input type="radio"/> Further development required <input type="radio"/> Not yet demonstrating progress <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Applicable

Is the benefit sharing scheme being implemented according to plans within your pilot, if relevant?

Free text	Tracking
	<input type="radio"/> Significant progress <input type="radio"/> Progressing well, further development required <input type="radio"/> Further development required <input type="radio"/> Not yet demonstrating progress <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Applicable

Percentage and/or amount of monetary benefits shared with beneficiaries in approved pilot, if relevant?

Free text	Tracking
	<input type="radio"/> Significant progress <input type="radio"/> Progressing well, further development <input type="radio"/> Further development required <input type="radio"/> Not yet demonstrating progress <input checked="" type="radio"/> Not Applicable

OUTPUT LEVEL

As a synthesis of the following output level assessments, please briefly specify:	
Has your country submitted early ideas or ER-Program to the Carbon Fund and or others?	
<u>No</u>	<u>Please briefly describe the content of these early ideas or ER-Program:</u>
Yes/No	Free Text

Has your country signed an ERPA?	
Has your country submitted early ideas or ER-Program to the Carbon Fund and or others?	
<u>No</u>	<u>Please briefly describe the content of this ERPA:</u>
Yes/No	Free Text

Amount and date of disbursements for ER Program according to plans, if relevant:			
<i>Date format:</i>	<i>mm/dd/yyyy</i>		<Select>
Date:		Amount provided:	Currency
Date:		Amount provided:	Currency
Date:		Amount provided:	Currency

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.

Issue, Challenge, Risk	Actions to overcome, Adjustments to plan
Operational	The R-AN for Vanuatu was prepared in time for the review meeting originally planned for October 2013. However, the meeting was delayed because of an overdue audit report for the formulation grant thus preventing clearance of the R-AN by the Regional FM team. The preparation of the audit is now underway, which is expected to be completed in the coming months. The fiduciary team is undertaking a mission to Vanuatu in April to follow-up on the preparation of the audit.
Institutional	Given the capacity constraints especially on fiduciary issues, concerns have been raised about the suitability of the proposed implementation arrangement. The management team is undertaking a mission to Vanuatu in April to get a better sense of government's capacity. After the mission, the team should be able to reach an agreement with the client on the placement of the fiduciary functions (centralized or remain with sectors). The R-AN will then be revised to represent the revised institutional arrangement if necessary. The Review Meeting is thus tentatively planned for June 2014. The PGA is proposed to be signed in September 2014.

5. Main Lessons Learned

This section should be used to provide information on important lessons learnt since the beginning of the readiness process. As this is a semi-annual report, it is expected that this section will be fairly substantial, making reference to different lessons learning documents, and/or events developed and dealing with issues of particular interest with respect to readiness of carbon funding under REDD+.

does not apply – n/a

