



Government of the Republic of Vanuatu

United Nations Development Programme

**Capacity Building and Mainstreaming for Sustainable Land Management in Vanuatu
Medium-Sized Project**

Brief description

This project under the UNDP-GEF LDC-Small Islands Developing States (LDC-SIDS) Portfolio Project will strengthen local and national capacity for Sustainable Land Management (SLM), including completion of a CCD National Action Plan (NAP) for combating land degradation; capacity building and strengthening legislative and policy frameworks; mainstreaming into national development strategies and policies; and the development of a Medium Term Investment Plan and its Resource Mobilization. The project will collect, acquire and generate good quality land resources information and raise awareness of land administrators and users of better land use management technologies through research, technology transfer, training, generation and compilation of reliable data. In so doing, it will strengthen and reinforce institutional capability providing a basis for comprehensive national land use planning and initiate practical on-farm sustainable land management technologies. The Project has a total budget of USD1096,200, of which USD 500,000 (including 25,000 GEF PDFA funding) is sought from GEF.”



**Expedited Medium Size Project Proposal
Under the
LDC-SIDS Portfolio Project for Sustainable Land Management
REQUEST FOR GEF FUNDING**

AGENCY'S PROJECT ID: PIMS No. 3716
GEFSEC PROJECT ID:
COUNTRY: Vanuatu
PROJECT TITLE: Capacity Building and Mainstreaming for Sustainable Land Management in Vanuatu
GEF AGENCY: UNDP
OTHER EXECUTING AGENCY(IES): Department of Lands, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources (MLNR)
DURATION: 3 years
GEF FOCAL AREA: Land Degradation
GEF OPERATIONAL PROGRAM: OP 15
GEF STRATEGIC PRIORITY: SP 1
ESTIMATED STARTING DATE: January 2008

FINANCING PLAN (US\$)	
GEF PROJECT/COMPONENT	
Project	475 000
PDF A	25 000
<i>Sub-Total GEF</i>	500 000
Co-financing	
GEF Agency	
Government	426 000
Bilateral	170 200
NGOs	
Others	
Sub-Total Co-financing:	596,200
Total Project Financing:	1096,200
FINANCING FOR ASSOCIATED ACTIVITY IF ANY:	

COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY: The Republic of Vanuatu ratified the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification on 28 May 1999 and is eligible for funding under paragraph 9(b) of the GEF Instrument.

RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT:

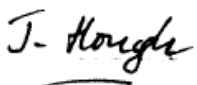
Russel Nari Director General, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources Tel. and email: +678 23105 email: rnari@vanuatu.gov.vu	Date: OFP Endorsement PDF A: December 7, 2005 OFP Endorsement: LDC-SIDS Umbrella Project: July 20, 2007
GEF Operational Focal Point Endorsement	Endorsement: 20 July 2007
CCD national Focal Point and date of approval	None- UNCCD Focal Point position vacant at the time of MSP endorsement
This proposal has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for the LDC-SIDS Portfolio Project for Sustainable Land Management.	
 John Hough UNDP-GEF Deputy Executive Coordinator, a.i.	Andrea Volentras Regional Coordinator Apia, Samoa Tel.: (685) 23670 Fax: (685) 23670 Email: andrea.volentras@undp.org

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ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
APR	Annual Project Report
AusAID	Australian Aid
CIDA	Canada International Development Assistance
COLP	Code of Logging Practice
CP	Country Program
DESP	Department of Economic and Sector Planning
DSAP	Development of Sustainable Agriculture Project
DARD	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
DoL	Department of Lands
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMCA	Environment Management and Conservation Act
EU	Energy Unit (of the Government of Vanuatu)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
Forsec	Forum Secretariat
FSP-V	People of the South Pacific-Vanuatu
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
IA	Implementing Agency
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
INC	Initial National Communications
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LDC	Least Developed Country
LSC	Lands Steering Committee
LUPO	Land Use Planning Office
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MSP	Medium-Sized Project
NACCC	National Advisory Committee on Climate Change
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NAP	National Action Plan
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan
NCSA	National Capacity Self Assessment
NEX	National Execution
NZAID	New Zealand Aid
PACC	Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Project
PEG	Project Executive Group
PIR	Project Inception Report
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SIDS	Small Island Developing State
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission
SPBCP	South Pacific Biodiversity Conservation Programme

SPC	Secretariat for the Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat for the Regional Environment Programme
STAP	Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel
NSO	National Statistics Office
UN	United Nations
UNCBD	United Nation Convention on Biological Diversity
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VEU	Vanuatu Environment Unit
VLUPO	Vanuatu Land Use Planning Office
VPAA	Vanuatu Priority Action Agenda
WED	World Environment Day

SECTION I: ELABORATION OF THE NARRATIVE

PART I: SITUATION ANALYSIS

1. Background and context

1.1 Introduction

1. Vanuatu is an archipelagic nation of 83 volcanic islands located between latitude 12° and 23° south and longitude 166° to 177° east, in the Western Pacific Ocean. The country has a total land area of ca 12,200 square kilometers and an oceanic exclusive economic zone of some 680,000 square kilometers. Fourteen main islands, arranged in a rough Y-shape extending some 1,300 km² from north to south have a surface area of more than 100 square kilometers. The two largest islands Espiritu Santo and Malekula comprise half of the total land area. About 68 islands are inhabited.

1.2 Environmental context

2. The volcanic origins of the archipelago make most of the islands steep and mountainous. 31% of the land is undulated lowland areas with the average slopes of 20 degrees; 22% are raised reef terraces and plateau that are highly dissected by creeks and 47% is high mountainous areas that forms the interior of the islands with slopes of 40 degrees and over. About 36.7% of the country is forested and only about 9.8% of Vanuatu's total land area is considered to be arable. 70% of the land area within the low coastline areas is used for agricultural activities and human settlement and industrial activities.

3. The proper utilization of land resources according to their appropriate capabilities, as well as vulnerabilities holds the key to sustainable land use management. There have been numerous changes in the way land is used in Vanuatu in the last decade particularly in Vila and Luganville for an urban area, and land under agricultural development or use in rural areas. In the rural communities, land remains primarily under customary ownership and a large proportion of it is under cultivation. Despite the importance of land as the foundation for sustainable development, the extent, trends and priority areas of land degradation in Vanuatu are largely unknown. The impacts of land degradation on local economic and subsistence activities and national economic and political aspirations have not been assessed.

4. Vanuatu has been listed as one of the five Oceanic countries important for their wealth of biodiversity (Given, 1992). Compared with the other priority countries, Vanuatu's biodiversity remains poorly known, with detailed studies of only a few genera and few studies of the biota of smaller or less accessible islands. However a review of studies of the flora and fauna of Vanuatu has shown that there are endemic species, rare species and uncommon variants within many of the genera that have been studied in detail (Taiki-Nimoho et al, 2002). Recent ethno-agronomic work described 30 varieties of coconut and 96 varieties of taro currently planted in one small community on the island of Vanua Lava (Caillon and Malau, 2002). Tanna is one of two centres of diversity of kava (*Piper methysticum*), with 16 common cultivars planted in one locality (Lebot and Cabalion, 1988). In general, diversity beneath the species level has only been classified by indigenous knowledge systems that vary from one language group to another.

5. There is considerable variation in the distribution of species within and between islands, and Vanuatu's biodiversity is of particular interest for its on-going processes of immigration, range extension and contraction, and sub-speciation. Larger and older islands support both a greater diversity of terrestrial ecosystems, and a greater diversity of plants and animals. However the sea separating islands and the

rugged interiors separating catchments and lowland habitats have created barriers to the movement of many species, which has led to relatively rapid sub-speciation and speciation. Frequent disturbance due to the passage of tropical cyclones, earthquakes and volcanic activity also exerts a profound effect on the distribution and abundance of species, especially on smaller islands. There is also significant variation with latitude, with species that occur at high altitudes in the tropical north occurring at much lower altitudes in the sub-tropical south.

6. Vanuatu's flora is thought to be more closely allied with that of Solomon Islands to the North, with some elements from Fiji, and very few from Australia or New Caledonia (Wheatley, 1992). However, there is considerable variation between different plant families. For example, 59% of palm genera are shared with Fiji and a lower proportion affiliated with palms in Solomon Islands. Similarly the fauna demonstrates closer affinities with Solomon Islands. Internally there is a biogeographic divide with islands to the north of Efate demonstrating significant differences to the islands to the south. A secondary divide has been described between the islands of the Banks and Torres groups (Tennant, 2002).

7. Vanuatu is ecologically fragile and vulnerable to environmental degradation through human-induced and natural factors. Unsustainable levels of forest clearance for agriculture or logging have led to significant declines in flora and fauna, and adverse impacts on water catchments, including reduced flows, flooding and erosion. The country is classified as highly vulnerable to all natural hazards: tropical cyclone, storm surge, coastal flood, river flood, drought, earthquake, land-slide, tsunami and volcanic eruption. (UNFPA,1996). With a tropical maritime climate, Vanuatu falls within the influence of the El-Nino Southern Oscillation/La Nina phenomena. It experiences large year-to-year variability of climate with periods of severe cyclones and excessive rainfall, alternating with periods with more extended dry seasons. El Nino has occurred in Vanuatu since 1541 and the country experienced severe droughts in 1968, 1982 and 1983 with the latest experienced from 1997 and 1998(Tigona 2007). These have resulted in water shortage, food shortage, increased bush fires, loss of livestock, soil erosion and land degradation.

8. Observation records since 1949 suggest a gradual increase in temperature which become more marked in the south of the country. It is likely these extremes of weather will be magnified under future climate change scenarios. Any increase in cyclone power or frequency is likely to affect national development by diverting resources intended for development into recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation. In addition, more extended dry periods will have significant human and health impacts arising from water scarcity and constrained food production. Coastal areas where population, economic activity, development infrastructure, and productive land are concentrated are vulnerable to flooding, wind and storm surge effects of tropical cyclones, which will be exacerbated by climate change-induced sea-level rise.

1.3 Socio-economic context

9. Vanuatu has a total population of about 209 000, 80% of which is located on seven main islands: Ambae, Ambrym, Efate, Malekula, Pentecost, Santo and Tanna. 20% of the population is located in two urban centres - the two largest cities of capital Port Vila (pop. 35000), situated on Efate, and Luganville (pop 11000) on Espiritu Santo. Population density is 17 people per square kilometre, although this average is misleading, due to the high concentration of communities along the coastlines and in the country's two main cities.

10. Despite the modest population size, Vanuatu is the most linguistically diverse nation on earth, with over 100 distinct language and cultural groups. The national language is Bislama, a form of Melanesian pidgin, while the principal languages of education and management are English and French. These different languages and accompanying traditional "custom" practices define and differentiate communities. Education levels are fairly poor. About 85% of children attend primary school, but this drops to 18% for high school attendance.

11. Vanuatu was classified as a least developed country in 1995. Today it is still part of this group even though its per-capita GDP exceeds the LDC threshold because it has a very high ‘vulnerability index’ (Mourgues,2005). The national Human Development Index of 0.659 ranks it 118th or at the “medium” range. Like many pacific islands, Vanuatu has a dual economy. The vast majority of ni-Vanuatu are engaged in informal subsistence economic activities. Seventy-nine percent of Vanuatu’s population live in rural villages, ranging from one family to a thousand people, meeting subsistence and cash needs from locally available terrestrial and inshore marine resources. This high proportion goes some way to explaining Vanuatu’s relatively low per capita GDP of USD3346 (2005 estimate), placing it 121st in per capita GDP. The monetized commercial sector accounts for less than one third of all economic activity.

12. The majority of the population that is engaged in the informal economy practices shifting subsistence farming (called “gardening”) based on taro, yam, banana, manioc, sweet potatoes and coconuts. Island cabbage (*Abelmoschus manihot*) and fruits such as paw paw and mango are widely grown. Introduced vegetables such as onions, carrots, pumpkin and corn are grown to a lesser extent. Cultivated crops are supplemented by a wide range of leafy vegetables, fruits, and nuts harvested from nearby forests. Birds and other animals including giant fruit bats and wild pigs are hunted for their meat. Domestic pigs and chickens are also commonly raised. The nearshore reefs are also commonly relied on for increasing household food security through reef gleaning and fishing activities. The long-term sustainability of land resources is critical for ni-Vanuatu survival. As nearshore reefs are traditionally and legally considered as land and are directly impacted by poor land management practices, an integrated approach to coastal zone management is also necessary.

13. Many landholders are also active in planting cash crops, and in leasing land to others for cash cropping and cattle grazing. The range of suitable crops varies throughout the islands but common commercial plantings include coconuts, kava (*Piper methysticum*), cattle pasture, cocoa, coffee and vanilla. It has become common practice to convert old gardens to coconut plantations, cattle pasture or other cash crops rather than leaving cleared land to fallow. On some islands a shift towards commercially preferred cultivars of food crops and kava has been observed.

14. The formal economy is constrained by the country’s geographical isolation, the distance between islands, lack of economies of scale, natural disaster vulnerability and narrow export base. Major exports are agricultural products (predominantly copra, beef and cocoa), fisheries and tourism. Promising exports of kava, have been curtailed by restrictions put in place by several industrialised countries. The agriculture sector has declined in importance in recent years, in part due to falls in world copra prices, but remains dominated by a narrow range of agricultural and forest products. Commercial forestry activities have taken place in the past, but virtually all commercial reserves are now depleted. There is significant potential for new forest plantations in specialty timbers such as sandalwood.

15. There is a small local manufacturing, construction, and transport and communications base. Further growth and development of the manufacturing sector is constrained by high cost structures. A recurrent trading deficit is largely offset by tourism, income from the off-shore finance centre and development aid. Over the past decade population growth has exceeded economic growth on an annual basis resulting in a decline in real per capita income. Vanuatu is one of the largest recipients of overseas development assistance, measured on a per capita basis: USD215 per capita in 2000, compared with a global per capita average of only USD10.

1.4 Policy, institutional and legal context

16. From 1906, Vanuatu was governed as a joint Condominium of the UK and France known as the New Hebrides. The country gained independence in 1980, becoming the Republic of Vanuatu. The country is governed centrally with a unicameral Parliament. For ease of administration, the country has been divided into 6 provinces: Malampa, Penama, Sanma, Shefa, Tafea, Torba. A national council of chiefs

(Malvatumauri) elected by district councils of chiefs to advise the government of aspects of ni-Vanuatu culture and language.

17. The national vision, contained in the current National Priority Action Agenda 2006-2015 (VPAA) is for the country to have achieved, by 2015 “a significant increase in real per capita incomes, along with steady growth in levels of employment. Within the region, Vanuatu will be among the leading countries in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in education, health, environmental management, and other key social indicators. Public sector reforms will have raised standards of governance, levels of productivity in the civil service, and will have resulted in higher standards of services and managerial accountability.”

Policy framework for SLM

18. As yet, there is no over-arching national policy dealing specifically with land management. Vanuatu is yet to develop their National Action Plan (NAP) for Combatting Land Degradation, as required under the UNCCD. There are, however, several policy instruments that demonstrate the government’s recognition of the need to safeguard the environmental sustainability of its economic development policies in sensitive resource sectors. These are outlined briefly below.

19. Ensuring sustainable use of natural resources is a national priority in the VPAA, and specific objectives include:

- To implement the Environmental Management and Conservation Act (EMCA) No.12 of 2002 through the application of EIA on all development activities;
- To ensure ecosystem management to support development activities such as ecotourism;
- To establish an urban development plan for tourism development;
- Develop a sustainable agriculture policy;
- To implement the forest policy to ensure sustainable forestry through the enforcement of the code of logging practice and promoting agro-forestry development; and
- To promote the use of renewable energy sources.

20. The *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 1999* aims to ensure protection or wise use of Vanuatu biodiversity (species and habitats). While its focus is on biodiversity, this depends upon significant in situ conservation and preservation of land resources.

21. The *Vanuatu National Forest Policy 1997* provides for the protection, development and sustainable management of forests. It calls for:

1. Land use planning for forest development
2. Afforestation of forested areas after logging operations
3. Promotion of agro-forestry
4. Assessment of forest land best suited for timber production, conservation and conversion.
5. Rehabilitating degraded land areas as a result of soil erosion
6. Fire management
7. Establishment and implementation of Code of Logging Practice. The *Code of logging Practice 1998* is a legally enforceable mechanism to minimize soil erosion, river pollution and degradation of water catchment areas as these are likely consequents of poor planning logging operations on steep slope terrain.
8. Conduct environmental impact assessments for forestry development prior to issuing logging permits and licenses.

The policy framework for forestry is a strong foundation, but it suffers from very limited application and enforcement. There are only three commercial logging operations in the country that are big enough to be regulated by the COLP. Small scale operations and forest clearance for agricultural activities fall outside

the scope of the policy and legislative framework, but are not then regulated by any equivalent agriculture instrument.

Laws

22. The legal regime governing land in Vanuatu is extremely complex. The Vanuatu Constitution confirms that ni-Vanuatu are the owners of all land and that use of the land is based on customary laws and practices. Land is viewed as being owned communally, with individuals earning specific individual use rights of certain parcels of land in particular circumstances. Customary land ownership is at the heart of Ni-Vanuatu identity, as well as being their primary asset and inheritance.

23. There are over ten different statutes governing the ownership, alienation, leasing, and use of land. These are listed and briefly described in Annex 2. These Acts have gaps and overlaps, inconsistencies and ambiguities which have enabled investors and landowners alike to circumvent the spirit of the law and exploit weaknesses. They have also led to a disempowerment of many ni-Vanuatu. Many areas of the country have been leased out for commercial plantations, tourism developments and residential subdivisions, without the full informed consent of all owners. This has caused many land owners to be marginalized from their land, and has forced a rural-urban drift which creates its own land degradation threats. It has also led to less customary land being available for the growing population, which adds to the existing pressures on land. Concerns over the framework for land management led the government to convene a Land Summit in September 2006. This major national event was preceded by extensive provincial and community consultations. The Summit considered land issues under the headings of:

1. Ownership
2. Fair dealings
3. Sustainable development.

The Summit produced 20 recommendations, which are set out in Annex 1 of this proposal. Key among these recommendations was the recognition that the system of land administration needed urgent reform.

24. Pursuant to this recommendation, the complex array of legislation was reviewed in detail in Lunnay et al 2007. A summary of their findings is set out in Annex 3. This review focused on the formal mechanisms of land alienation and administration, and the report acknowledges its limited coverage of the sustainable development/sustainable land management aspects. Some of these issues are briefly addressed in the broader legislative summary in Annex 1, referred to above. It is worth noting, however, that both the Land Summit and the Final National Action Plan of the National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) call for more comprehensive application of EIA requirements in respect of land uses that are likely to have adverse environmental impacts and greater awareness-raising of environmental issues in land dealings. The priority issues form the foundation of this MSP proposal. Without fundamental reform to the system of land titling, tenure, alienation, and leasing, efforts devoted to sustainable use of the land will be simply wall-papering over the underlying causes.

Institutions

25. An understanding of the key institutions that influence land management in Vanuatu demands an appreciation of the central role of landowners themselves. Except where land has been leased for other uses, it is the customary landowners who work the land for food, building materials, and cash income. Most landowning groups do so under the guidance of village or community chiefs. In recent years, the authority of these traditional leaders has declined, and this has resulted in a dilution of their power to influence land management behaviour. Improved land management aimed at safeguarding the ecosystem integrity of land resources will require close cooperation and participation from chiefs, as well as agencies of the formal government.

26. There are a range of institutions whose responsibilities have direct or indirect impacts on land management practices in Vanuatu. As a general observation, however, there is serious under-resourcing by Government for line Ministries having responsibility for agriculture, forestry and land use in general.

27. The Vanuatu Environment Unit (VEU) is the UNCCD National Focal point. The Head of the VEU is the Coordinator for UNCCD implementation in-country. The VEU is entrusted with administration of the Environmental Management and Conservation Act 2002, but the Act presupposed the conversion of the Unit not a fully-fledged government department. At the time of writing, the VEU was being converted into a Department. This MSP will continue to refer to the VEU, however given that this change has not been formalized. There are currently only three full-time staff employed in the VEU, and this severely constrains their ability to implement a complex statutory regime across the geographically dispersed nation, let alone to develop and implement new policy initiatives.

28. The VEU provides secretariat support to a number of national environmental advisory groups such as the National Biodiversity Strategy Advisory Group (NBSAP), the National Advisory Committee for the Climate Change (NACCC), National Capacity Needs Assessment Project (NCSA) Advisory group and the Local Conservation Initiative Advisory Group. Vanuatu has not yet established an over-arching Sustainable Development Advisory Committee, although a proposed inter-ministerial environmental advisory group is under discussion. Presumably this would take the place of the current proliferation of project-based advisory bodies.

29. The Vanuatu Land Use Planning Office (VLUPO) was established under the Department of Lands in 1996 through the AUSAID funding. Its remit was to establish a database on tenure, land quality, topography, existing use, and environmental issues. The output of the project was not, however, up to expectation of many stakeholders because the information focused on forest resources mapping unit from aerial photographs taken in 1986. While this information has been useful for forestry activities, its application to broader land use planning has not met expectations.

30. The Department of Lands is responsible for granting leases and enforcing compliance with lease conditions. As noted above, serious deficiencies have been identified in the way Lands has performed this role, which has led to the issuance of leases for activities that are ill-suited to the environment of the leased area, and the disregard of basic environmental management techniques by lessees.. The Vanuatu Cultural Centre has also documented a considerable amount of traditional land and resource management practices. It actively promotes the value and use of traditional practices and knowledge at the institutional and community levels, including through a national fieldworker network.

31. The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has no legislative basis for implementing sustainable agriculture policies. It is currently in the process of developing an Agriculture Policy, but at the time of submission of the MSP proposal, the contents or terms of reference of that policy had not been made publicly available. The Agriculture Department is relatively well staffed, with 56 officers based across the country. Of these, about 20 are based in Vila, with the remainder serving as extension officers in the provinces. Despite these numbers, expertise in the areas of agricultural extension, soil conservation, land use and environmental planning, management and enforcement is below critical mass. The resources devoted to soil conservation are inadequate for the implementation of significant measures, either in terms of providing information or incentives. There are currently no staff designated as soil conservation officers and the institutional memory of land husbandry practices is weak.

32. It is widely recognized that while each of these agencies has an important function to perform, there is both inconsistency and overlap in their activities. The NCSA M&E report concluded that “the key to long term solutions to capacity problems in Vanuatu is to share the responsibilities using effective partnerships with equitable, mutual benefits. This will require a change to a whole of Government approach with the

Department/Unit of Environment delegating some of its responsibilities and adopting a coordination role based on a system of reporting and accountability, coupled with monitoring for results.” (Tortell 2007)

33. It is also critical to note that that LDC-SIDS like Vanuatu have numerous assessments, strategies, policies, plans, the vast majority of which are never implemented. This is largely because they lack the human and financial resources to carry through on their ideals and vision. While it is important, therefore, that the UNCCD NAP be prepared, the key to the successful attainment of overall project goals will be truly adding to the implementation capacity of the country. This is why the focus of this project is on delivering on some of the specific priority capacity building needs identified in the country’s National Capacity Self-Assessment process and the 2006 Land Summit.

2. Land degradation in Vanuatu

2.1 Introduction

34. There are no comprehensive data on the extent and nature of land degradation in Vanuatu. The ni-Vanuatu people have practised traditional resource management techniques for centuries, and it is critical to the success of this project that the wealth of traditional knowledge be built upon and complemented, rather than replaced, by Western approaches to land management.

35. Despite this long history of resource management, there is abundant anecdotal evidence that land degradation is an increasingly important issue affecting agriculture. The traditional practice of shifting cultivation involving fallow periods of 5 to 10 years is no longer possible. The fallow periods are being shortened as population pressure on land grows. This has contributed to a significant rise in soil degradation.

36. There is a serious lack of land use planning due to the lack of knowledge of the capacity and complex function of the terrestrial ecosystem. Vanuatu has very limited land capability information, including the soil types, geology, geomorphology, soil drainage characteristics and existing land use. Farmers and planners are not well informed in their decisions on how best to use land, although the Department of Agriculture is starting to address this. Pilot projects on various islands have trialled farming techniques that promote soil fertility and conservation, and information on crop varieties and appropriate farming practices has been prepared and disseminated to some extent.

37. The level and standards of technology transfer from officials to farmers is inadequate on matters of land use diversification and intensification, farming systems and their development needs, new systems, costs of inputs and gross margins, post-harvest support and marketing.

2.2 Causes of land degradation

38. While there has been no systematic research into the causes of land degradation, the following issues are common themes in most discussions and analysis:

1. Conversion of forest for subsistence agriculture or commercial plantations/crops. This is exacerbated by the use of slash and burn agricultural practices and loosening of soil in subsistence gardening which encourages loss of nutrients through leaching. Large tracts of land are regularly burnt. The entire cover is lost due to total combustion and extremely hot fires. This results in a high percentage of bare ground and exposure to the impacts of heavy rainfall. Deterioration in land quality is also exacerbated by the commercialization of livestock farming without good pasture management, with unfenced paddocks, no protection of riparian zones, and overstocking.

2. Limited commercial logging

3. Conversion of customary land to residential subdivision and development, especially including clearance of mangroves and other waterfront vegetation buffers, and poor management/enforcement of

excavation works. The expansion of mining operations for aggregate for construction is a major and growing issue surrounding the urban areas of Port Vila and Luganville.

4. Intensification of agriculture, arising from population pressures especially around urban areas, including reduced fallow periods and the expansion of agriculture to marginal lands such as steep slopes and riparian areas.

5. The introduction and spread of alien invasive species (IASs). Traditionally gardens were planted for three to four years then allowed to fallow for over ten years, during which time they revert to bush. Neglected garden plots often become invaded by species such as *Merremia peltata* or *Leucaena sp.* with consequent loss of biodiversity. Other common IASs are African snails, elephant grass (*panicum purpureum*), agriculture rope (*glycine*) and *cordia alidora*.

39. The root causes of these proximate causes are economic necessity, inadequate knowledge of impacts and alternatives, institutional and policy failure, and poor governance – including an erosion of traditional or *kastom* resource management arrangements. As noted above, the recommendations of the land summit must be addressed as priority actions in any attempt to enhance SLM.

2.3 Past activities aimed at combating land degradation

40. There have been a small number of projects and activities aimed at restoring degraded land or promoting good farming or forestry practices. Probably the most noteworthy regeneration program took place on the small island of Aneityum. It suffered serious erosion in the 20th century as a result of excessive burning of grassland that had replaced forest following earlier logging operations. A New Zealand funded project in the 1970s replanted a degraded area of several hundred hectares with pine trees. The community is generating some economic return from the small scale-selective logging operation on trees that were re planted, affording a good example of a community that has achieved maximum biophysical, socio –economic and environmental benefit to a land that was once considered as wasteland. A later NZ-funded project planted vetiver grass to discourage soil erosion, and the success of this project is being felt in improved fisheries in adjoining coastal waters.

41. Vanuatu is also participating in the Development of Sustainable Agriculture Program (DSAP), a regional project being implemented in 10 Pacific Island Countries under the auspices of SPC and the FAO. The main purpose is to increase sustainable agricultural production on family farms by disseminating technologies based on the farmer livelihood needs and building national institutional capacity in the use of participatory approaches in sustainable agriculture developments. This project is dovetailing with traditional agricultural methods – seeking to reinstate practices that promote land stewardship (such as shifting cultivation with bush or grass fallow, composting associated with the production of pit-grown taro on some islands like Maewo and Aneityum, terracing cultivation on steep slopes and soil mound building and prohibitions on felling of certain trees), and discourage practices that contribute to degradation (including excessive use of fire).

42. The Sustainable Agriculture Programme, Food Security Programme and Farming Systems, programmes of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development share common purpose of conserving and reviving traditional farming systems and integrating traditional practices of cultivation, control of pests and diseases and related activities into improved farming systems. This work with local communities helps to reinforce and strengthen local resource capacity to recognise and preserve traditional knowledge and to use available environmental resources in a sustainable manner. Agro-forestry is also being promoted, although only in a limited way, with the use of intercropping to reduce soil erosion. (DESP, 2006)

2.4 Barriers to sustainable land management

43. There are fundamental barriers to sustainable land management at the individual, community, institutional and policy/legislative levels.

44. Firstly, there is limited information about the nature and health of land resources. The VANRIS mapping exercise was never completed and cannot perform its role as the information base for future planning activities.

45. Secondly, there is no coherent policy statement in the form of a NAP, regarding the objectives and strategies for sustainable land management. There is a lack of clear guidelines on what constitutes ‘bad’ land husbandry practices, and poor institutional understanding about the magnitude of the soil erosion problem. Without an underpinning policy and comprehensive guidelines to which all departments, provincial governments, and communities can refer, other activities are simply building on a faulty foundation.

46. The third barrier stems from the second. There are serious inconsistencies and incoherence in the legislative and policy mandates of the agencies currently responsible for decisions affecting land. For example, it appears that Lands does not comply with EIA requirements when deciding whether to issue leases; agriculture and livestock do not consider the guidelines contained in the Code of Logging Practice when advising farmers on stocking and pasture arrangements.

47. Fourth, the measures that are in place are rarely enforced or monitored. Where successful practices have been trialled, those trials have not been replicated or progressed. The lack of monitoring and enforcement derives from a serious lack of institutional capacity in the key sectoral agencies. However, these problems are also a result of agency culture. There are widely held views in some influential ministries, despite the rhetoric of their missions statements, that conservation and environmental management are obstacles to economic development. This attitude must change.

48. This perception arises from a poor understanding of the true cost of unsustainable practices, or the long-term benefits of sustainable practices, which distorts the exercise of institutional and individual cost-benefit analyses. At the individual level, this can be compounded by the operation of customary practices, which reward and recognize those who clear land for the sake of establishing their control over that area, even if they do not subsequently use the land for productive purposes. Having said this, it might also be said that an acknowledgment of and return to many of the traditional community resource management approaches will be an integral part of this project.

49. Some of these issues are evidence in the Vanuatu NCSA’s treatment of the CCD. While the final NAP identifies important priority areas, it also reflects a lower understanding of, and priority accorded to, CCD obligations relative to the CBD and UNFCCC. Its recommendations are all worthwhile, but by no means a complete or comprehensive account of the country’s capacity needs in respect of sustainable land management. It is hoped that the process of NAP preparation can address this shortfall.

50. The gender dimension of land degradation has not been assessed for Vanuatu. Given that women are responsible for most subsistence farming, and bear the burden of having to work degraded land, a gender analysis will form one of the first components of the MSP proposal.

PART II: PROJECT STRATEGY

1. Project Description

1.1 Baseline course of action

51. The process for preparation of Vanuatu's NAP has not yet commenced. Many activities have taken place that are aimed at promoting sustainable land management and that will help inform the NAP process, but it is fair to say that understanding of, and compliance, with formal CCD obligations is limited. Given the high level of interest at both a community and government level in the need for land reform, including to ensure that land is developed in a sustainable manner, it is anticipated that the process of NAP preparation will proceed smoothly, especially if it is a priority action under the SLM MSP.

52. The National Land Summit held in 2006 has given rise to a comprehensive and integrated set of recommendations for reform.. The recommendations of the Land Summit are set out in Annex 1. The reform agenda is an impressive package of initiatives ranging from changes to tribunals for resolving ownership disputes, to improving the processes for negotiating, approving and enforcing leases. At present, the Government of Vanuatu does not have resources to implement the recommendations of the Land Summit, which means that progress will be slow and piecemeal.

53. In addition to these land sector initiatives, the Department of Agriculture is continuing its sustainable agriculture research and extension activities. Its Development Plan proposes to continue with the preparation and modest dissemination of information about sustainable agricultural practices. It is also working with AusAid on a Pasture Development Project aimed at encouraging the plating of pasture crops that are most appropriate for their specific location, in order to minimise the need to clear new areas of forest, and to retain the integrity of soil resources on steep slopes.

54. The Department of Forestry will also be continuing to work with local communities to promote agro-forestry opportunities and extensive replanting programs. Forestry officers are promoting replanting of well-adapted tree species that can provide local landowners.

55. In addition, several civil society groups will continue to support local communities to better manage their natural resources. FSP-Vanuatu will continue to work with coastal communities in managing their coastal resource, including mangrove replanting and reforestation. This will build the resilience of coastal land to salt-water encroachment and erosion associated with sea level rise. Initiatives such as the FSPV Wild Yam project are also trying to reduce forest conversion by rekindling interest in favoured foods such as wild yams that can only be produced in forest environments.

56. Live and Learn are actively engaged in a number of environmental education and community governance education programs, including a new Forest Education Program designed to improve community decision making processes relating to forest management.

57. The Vanuatu Cultural Centre has also documented a considerable amount of traditional land and resource management practices and actively promotes the value and use of traditional practices and knowledge at the institutional and community levels including through a national fieldworker network.

1.2 Capacity and mainstreaming needs for SLM

58. The current baseline reflects a genuine commitment to improving the quality of land management for the benefit of current and future generations of ni-Vanuatu. Yet significant gaps remain. The bulk of the reform agenda has yet to be implemented and a business-as-usual approach will prevent progress from occurring. Several critical activities need to take place that are not currently within the Government's workplans.

59. The 2006 Land Summit effectively served as a capacity needs assessment in respect of the sustainable use of land. It showed that comprehensive reform of the land tenure and administration system in Vanuatu is essential to reduce conflict over land dealings and ensure that the gains from land dealings and development are shared equitably among all land owners. It contemplates policy, legal and procedural reforms; and enhancement of administrative institutional capacity over land administration and environmental impact assessment. It also includes a wide-ranging public education program regarding land rights, obligation and the effects of an undesired development which may cause hazard or destroy the destiny of a tribe. There is currently no capacity to implement these urgently needed reforms. For example the proposals relating to legal reform will falter in the absence of enhanced capacity in the area of legal drafting. An important omission from the Summit process, moreover, was explicit attention to the gender dimension of land management. To be sure, women were involved in the Summit processes, including the consultations leading to it, but their specific needs were not addressed, but more work is needed to assess whether their unique concerns are fully reflected in the Summit recommendations.

60. There is also nothing in the existing baseline that would see the development of the UNCCD NAP. The MSP, with co-financing from UNCCD GM and AusAid can develop this important policy as a matter of priority.

61. The current baseline will also not address some of the key recommendations of earlier strategies and capacity assessments, many of which are as relevant today as they were when they were prepared, and have not been rendered obsolete by subsequent processes. The 1993 *National Conservation Strategy* prepared as part of the region SPREP initiative following the UNCED conference and would have considerably advanced sustainable land management goals had they been implemented. These priorities are set out in Annex 4. In particular, the Strategy calls for institutional strengthening of the Environment Unit, conversion of the Unit to a Department, and enhancing of its capacity to implement and enforce its legislative mandate. It is noteworthy that this priority is again included, fourteen years later, as a key action in the NCSA NAP. This MSP can advance the institutional strengthening and capacity building of the Environment Unit

62. The Conservation Strategy also set out bushclearing and land use planning guidelines for landowners. These simple principles are still a useful starting point for a wider landowner and farmer awareness program about SLM, and would have been achieved had the priority action of widespread community education programs about these and other environmental issues been achieved. There is, however, very little awareness of these earlier recommendations and their dissemination and implementation are extremely limited. Again, this is reflected in the fact that the NCSA NAP 2007 still contains a priority education campaign about land management issues. The MSP can address this gap.

63. None of the baseline activities will address the gender dimensions of land degradation. The capacity needs of women, or indeed of marginal groups in general, are poorly understood. Consultations in the development of this proposal suggest that the impacts of leasing of customary land are felt particularly by women, who lose access to land for farming or collection of firewood and may not receive the financial reward from the lease, but who remain responsible for providing the family with food. The Lands Steering Committee established under the Land Reforms discussed above contains a Women's representative from both civil society and one from government, so it has already been recognised that gender issues are important and women's voices need to be heard. The limited understanding of these

issues, and how they need to be integrated into the preparation of the NAP, mainstreaming activities and capacity building efforts means that a detailed gender analysis should be the first activity pursued under the project.

64. The goal of this project is to contribute to mitigation of land degradation, in particular through capacity development and mainstreaming of sustainable land management in Vanuatu. Its overarching objective is to ensure that Government at the highest level considers the long-term environmental health of land resources and the adverse effects of land degradation when making economic and development decisions through capacity building for SLM horizontally across sectors and vertically from the individual landowner, to community leaders, to provincial and national governments, and the

1.3 Project rationale and objective

By the end of this project, the Government and ni-Vanuatu people should be equipped to make more informed decisions about appropriate land uses, based on improved information and better understanding of the costs and benefits of development options. The objectives of the project are to improve the system of land administration and decision-making and ensure that Government at the highest level considers the long-term environmental health of land resources and the adverse effects of land degradation when making economic and development decisions; and to build capacity for SLM horizontally across sectors and vertically from the individual landowner, to community leaders, to provincial and national governments. This will be done in a way that centralizes the concerns of women and other marginal groups, and uses as its starting point the centuries of traditional knowledge regarding resource management that current land owners possess.

65. While there would undoubtedly be progress in advancing some of these objectives, more resources and attention would be devoted to economic issues, with the sustainability elements receiving relatively less attention. Improving the systems for ownership, transfers, dispute settlement and development are essential elements of a broader program of sustainable land management. Without clarity over tenure and safeguards against unfair land alienation, land owners and managers will have no incentive to protect their resources or to enforce the protective obligations imposed on lessors. In short, without the GEF MSP, Vanuatu would not be in a position to fully address the threats of unsustainable land management and practices and mainstream SLM policies into the national development framework.

1.4 Expected project outcomes, and outputs

66. The project will have four main outcomes, excluding project management costs which are provided for in the Project Budget presented in this Proposal. Further detail of the Project Outcomes and Outputs are provided in the Logical Framework Matrix, set out in Section II of this proposal.

67. The project outcomes are:

1. The UNCCD National Action Plan (NAP) is completed, through co-financing;
2. Sustainable Land Management principles and priorities, as elaborated in the NAP, are mainstreamed into national economic and development planning and considered during development decision-making;
3. Capacity for Sustainable Land management is developed at systemic, institutional and individual levels; and
4. Medium Term Investment Plan and Resource Mobilization Plan is developed.

Outcome 1: Completion of the National Action Plan for Combatting Land Degradation.

Output 1.1 Gender Needs Assessment for SLM

Output 1.2 Elaboration of NAP by National Team - Draft NAP (including draft National SLM Policy) prepared by national team (using gender analysis, country analysis, problem analysis) and validated with input from relevant stakeholders

Output 1.3 Formal adoption of NAP by Government

Outcome 2 Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management

Output 2.1 - Integration of SLM principles into national development plans

Output 2.2 Integration of SLM principles into sector/thematic action plans (agriculture policy, forestry policy, urban plans, infrastructure, tourism), through a process of awareness raising, training and policy review

Output 2.3 Harmonization of SLM priorities between existing environmental frameworks (e.g. BSAP, POPs, NAPA)

Output 2.4 Incorporation of land degradation issues into decision-making processes for all new project proposals, across all sectors.

Outcome 3 Capacities developed for sustainable land management

Output 3.1 Legal framework for promoting SLM is enhanced

Output 3.2 Institutional capacity for implementing SLM legal framework is enhanced

Output 3.3 National decision-makers' knowledge and understanding of SLM and land degradation issues is improved, through training workshops, dissemination of materials

Output 3.4 Landowners, women, and traditional leaders capacity to implement SLM in day-to-day land management is enhanced, particularly in vulnerable areas and with vulnerable groups, through technical training local and national knowledge networks that embrace and build upon traditional knowledge

Outcome 4: Medium Term Investment Plan

Output 4.1 Identification of specific on-the-ground investments required in the medium to long term

Output 4.2 Development of a Medium Term Investment and Resource Mobilization Plan (MTIRMP) for continuing the promotion of SLM

Output 4.3 Analysis of sources of funding, including national and provincial resources, and donor funding and discussions with donors on resource mobilization

Output 4.4 Adoption of MTIRMP by Council of Ministers and funding secured.

1.5 Global and local benefits

68. This project can serve as a global model for addressing the issues of land tenure, indigenous self-determination, development, and environmental protection. There are many countries around the world whose indigenous people have experienced displacement and land alienation as a result of colonization. This has led to often-violent conflict over land and land use, which has prevented people from making truly productive, sustainable use of their land, and in some cases has actually exacerbated unsustainable practices. This project will enable Vanuatu to demonstrate new culturally-appropriate ways of working within western-style legal systems for land ownership and use while remaining firmly embedded in traditional decision-making and governance systems for land management. The lessons learnt from this project will be of wider interest in many countries, including those of its Pacific near neighbours, for whom development is often constrained by disputes over land ownership and management deriving from the overlay of old and new systems of law.

69. The principal global environmental benefit is to mitigate land degradation enhancing capacity for ecologically sustainable land management in Vanuatu. This is expected to:

- Protect biodiversity of global significance, by reducing deforestation and sedimentation in lagoons and improving health of coral reefs and coastal fisheries;
- Enhancing carbon sequestration and reducing GHG emissions through improved capacities for sustainable forest management, sustainable agriculture and reduced deforestation;
- Safeguarding the health of international waters by reducing upstream soil erosion that leads to sedimentation and siltation downstream; and
- Enabling Vanuatu to achieve the Millennium Development Goals in respect of environmental sustainability.

The project will enhance capacity for economic and financial sustainability of the agricultural, pasture and forest use systems of the country; lead to greater empowerment and self-sufficiency of resource users and stakeholders to participate directly in the conception, monitoring and adaptive management of lands and resources; and improve planning for sustainable land management resulting in fewer conflicts over land use and greater economic gains from land uses.

70. The project complies with the overall aims and methods of the SLM Portfolio Project through its focus on building the capacity of Vanuatu promote GEF's priorities of ecosystem integrity, functions and goods and services, by implementing a comprehensive regime for sustainable land management and ensuring that SLM is mainstreamed into all levels of decision-making. This project will help achieve the objectives of Operational Programme 15 and Strategic Priority 1 relating to Target Capacity Building for sustainable land management. With the GEF support, Vanuatu will be able to strengthen its institutional and human resource capacity to improve sustainable land management planning and implementation. It will also enable the country to strengthen policy, regulatory and economic incentive frameworks to facilitate wider adoption of sustainable land management practices across sectors.

71. More localized national environmental benefits include:

- Maintenance of the structure and functions of soil and ecological integrity.
- Enhanced productivity and livestock production from improved pastures.
- Enhanced crop production through improved soil fertility maintenance;
- Identification of new commercial uses of forest plantations;
- Identification of alternative species for reforestation purposes;
- Healthier lagoons and coral reefs for tourism and fishing;
- Improved technical human capacity and early warning systems for drought
- Reduced impacts from natural disasters through greater ecosystem resilience.

72. National economic and developmental benefits include:

- Safeguarding the land as the foundation for ni-Vanuatu culture, identity and food security;
- Providing a platform to support ni-Vanuatu people to practise their traditional subsistence way of life in the face of population growth and environmental change;
- To promote sustainable livelihoods an economic development by giving people the skills and knowledge required to apply some of their lands to commercially productive use.

73. The success of the project in delivering these benefits will depend upon:

- Full support for and ownership of the project by the Government at both central and provincial levels.
- Willingness of various institutions to move across sectoral boundaries to collaborate on integrated approaches to sustainable land management and on sharing access to land information systems;
- Recognition by landowners and farmers that the long-term benefits of sustainable land use practices outweigh any short-term costs of burdens;

- The cooperation of extension workers in the Departments of Agriculture and Forestry; and other stakeholders with the Department of Lands;
- Support and participation by traditional leaders and relevant civil society groups;
- Natural disasters do not completely destroy or undermine the project's activities or objectives.

1.6 Linkages to IA activities and programs

74. The UNDP program in Vanuatu emphasizes meeting the MDG targets and the protection of the environment. Under the framework of the Country Program (CP) 2005-2007, UNDP's support for Vanuatu in the energy and environment sector focuses mainly on the provision of upstream policy advice, technical backstopping, partnership building and resource mobilization for the formulation and implementation of a number of strategic initiatives. The SLM MSP will help Vanuatu achieve UNDP-CP goals and objectives at the country level.

75. The project will complement other UNDP activities. UNDP is actively supporting the UN process for the 10-year review of the Barbados Plan of Action regarding sustainable human development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Vanuatu participated in the Barbados +10 SIDS Conference which was hosted by the Government of Mauritius in January 2005. Two other projects complement the focus on capacity building in this SLM-MSP. Firstly, the Commercial Approach to Micro-Finance Services for the Poor and Disadvantaged promotes financial self-reliance. The SLM project complements this objective by safeguarding the land resource base upon which small-scale enterprises can be based. Secondly, the governance gains arising from the *Building Resilient Communities Towards Effective Governance* project such as participation of women, encouraging and supporting local participation in decision making, involving traditional leaders/chiefs, church, women, youth, indigenous communities, and improved coordination and central-provincial-community linkages can be effectively deployed to achieve improvements in decision-making over land issues.

1.7 Links with other GEF activities

76. Vanuatu has implemented a number of enabling activities funded by GEF to meet some of its obligations under the CBD, UNFCCC and recently with the UNCCD.

77. A National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) was completed in 1998 and now serves as the guiding blueprint for the protection and conservation of our environment. The NBSAP was the culmination of extensive research and multi-sectoral consultative activities. The strategy outlines the state of Vanuatu's biological resources and identifies actions to curb their degradation and achieve sustainable development. The outcomes of the National Project for the formulation of the National Biosafety Framework are awaiting endorsement by Vanuatu's cabinet – the Council of Minister. The MSP SLM project ties in closely with the existing National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (NBSAP) as well as the newly formed National Invasive Alien Species Implementation Action Plan (NIASIAP) addressing the "Biosecurity" theme of the NBSAP.

78. This Medium-Sized Project proposal adopts the recommendations contained in the key outcomes of the *National Capacity Self-Assessment Project* – the National Capacity Building Action Plan. These include recommendations specific to the CCD as well as cross-cutting thematic issues. The key elements of the NCSA NAP are set out Annex 4. The MSP will also complement the key priority areas of the NAPA report dealing with safeguarding food security and promoting eco-tourism, and will coordinate closely with the proposed UNDP-GEF Pacific Adaptation Initiative, which is to be regionally executed by SPREP. The PACC project for Vanuatu will focus solely on protecting coastal infrastructure and is therefore highly relevant to the climate-related threats to coastal land.

1.8 Stakeholder Involvement Plan

79. A detailed stakeholder involvement matrix is contained in Annex 8. The executing agency for the project will be the Department of Lands within the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources. The DoL will be responsible for coordinating and involving other sectoral agencies and provincial governments in key elements of the project. The agencies include:

- Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Departments of Forestry
- Department of Quarantine and Livestock
- Department of Forestry
- Department of Womens Affairs
- Department of Internal Affairs.

80. The various civil society groups in Vanuatu will be integrated into the project as beneficiaries and also used as resource persons where appropriate. It is expected that several NGOs will actively participate as con-financing partners to give effect to project activities. Other NGOs, such as the Vanuatu Cultural Organisation, the NCW, Won Smol Bag Theatre group, Oxfam, and World Vision will contribute to traditional knowledge sharing in reviews, workshops and meetings.

81. The project will benefit a wide range of institutions and individuals. The ultimate beneficiaries of improvements in land management will be land owners, farmers, and others whose livelihoods are drawn from the land. Since 80% of the nation's population still resides primarily on their own customary land, this pool of beneficiaries is significant. Several government agencies will also benefit. The DoL will itself benefit from enhancements to the lands management and resource information system. The project will enhance the capacity of the Vanuatu Environment Unit to give effect to its statutory obligations to implement EIA processes. As noted earlier, this unit currently has only three staff servicing the entire suite of environmental policy and implementation needs of the country. It will also extend the Department of Agriculture's good farming practices work. The agricultural extension package will be modified to incorporate SLM best practices and extension officers will receive additional training for this. While the Department of Agriculture is better staffed than environment, its resources are still severely stretched owing to the need for personnel to be based throughout the country.

82. The major municipal councils, notably in Port Vila and Luganville will perform an important role as urban planners for land use and development purposes since they regulate the use of land through development consents prior to establishment or implementation of development on land.

83. The project will ensure cross-sectoral integration between relevant ministries, civil society, private sector by emphasizing:

- a) the development of land information systems with agreed protocols for data access and sharing;
- b) participatory, multi-stakeholder approaches, including the participation of women and young people;
- c) mainstreaming SLM and best practices and lessons learned into land use planning;
- d) the use of environmental economics for analyzing and prioritizing SLM options; and
- e) SLM knowledge generation and knowledge sharing.

Moreover, the nomination of the multi-stakeholder Lands Steering Committee as the project steering committee will promote high-level cross-sectoral ownership of project activities and outcomes.

84. The project will adopt the following mechanisms to sustain local participation:

- Regular awareness-raising newsletters and community information meetings;
- Training activities for key stakeholders, including chiefs, local farmers and landowners;
- Consultation and involvement of provincial governments and chiefs in project decision-making and evaluation.

85. The key social and participation issues of the project are to ensure that the role of women and young people are adequately addressed in capacity building activities. Women in particular are primarily responsible for most subsistence gardening activities, so land degradation directly affects their ability to provide for their families. Enhancing their capacity to use and apply sustainable farming techniques, especially on marginal land, will be a key component of this project. One of the first project activities – a prerequisite to completing the NAP - is to undertake a gender needs analysis, to ensure that gender issues are fully incorporated into the NAP process and content, and into all other activities throughout the life of the project.

86. There are three potential adverse social impacts as a result of the project, all of which can be managed. The first is the risk that training activities will take local people away from their vital subsistence activities for short periods of time, and what might be described as “consultation fatigue”. These risks will be addressed by ensuring that the timing and location of meetings and training sessions is as convenient as possible, and by combining project consultations with other planning processes for related activities. The second is the risk that project activities will discontinue at the end of project funding, causing disappointment and failed expectations. This risk can be overcome by taking seriously the fourth outcome of the project, namely the preparation of a longer term investment and resource mobilisation strategy.

87. The third and potentially most intractable risk is that individuals and groups who have a vested interest in the weaknesses and flaws of the current system will attempt to undermine the reforms attempted by this MSP. This can be addressed using three parallel strategies. Firstly, the project must align as much as possible with the priorities that have already been identified by the community and government – in other words it should aim to build on the consensus emerging from the Land Summit and not be seen to distract attention or undermine that process. Secondly, the project must operate in culturally-appropriate and conflict-sensitive ways. The precise techniques will depend upon which element of the project is being implemented (e.g. legal, institutional, local/community etc), but a clear commitment to these principles of working will minimize the risk of unnecessary conflict. The third strategy is to maintain strong communications and information dissemination, in order to prevent the risk of disinformation, and to promote the project’s successes and progress, and thus consolidate existing support.

1.9 Communication of Project results

88. These risks can be addressed using strong communications and information dissemination, in order to prevent the risk of disinformation. An effective communications strategy will also promote the project’s successes and progress, and thus consolidate existing support.

89. The project will pursue a two-pronged approach:

- A. Encourage stakeholder support for the project, through the inception workshop, stakeholder training and other stakeholder activities; and
- B. Advocate project results to promote and sustain SLM initiatives.

90. To ensure long-term effectiveness of the SLM activities, the proposal aims to support the improvements in current institutional & community capacity for SLM and monitoring, support. The MSP aims to build a better framework for cooperation among local stakeholders (particularly government, NGOs, CBOs, private sector and communities) and provide mechanisms enabling broad stakeholder participation in decision-making and management of land resources, by enhancing landowner power over their land-use decision-making, and improving access to information and networking.

2. Financial Plan

2.1 Project scope

91. The project will develop a comprehensive range of interventions to build capacity for sustainable land management, to address the root causes of land degradation, and to overcome barriers to SLM. The project will address identified problems of policy and legislative gaps and poor implementation, poor farming practices, and the absence of community-based land use planning on customary land.

2.2 Streamlined Incremental Costs Assessment

92. The project seeks GEF incremental funding to complement other financing sourced from the Government of Vanuatu, Australian Aid, NZ Aid, and SPREP to complete the NAP, undertake a program for mainstreaming SLM into national plans and strategies, for human resource development in key sectors, and for developing knowledge management capacities for integrated SLM. The requested GEF contribution of US\$475,000 (excluding PDF-A funds) reflects the current real needs and concerns of the country in order to build capacity and mainstream sustainable land management to address land degradation. Despite some past and ongoing activities, including capacity-building activities, further capacity-building, including training, for the project team members are still needed so that they can carry out the task in a sustainable manner and deliver the expected benefits of this project.

93. This budget has been realistically estimated in consultation with key persons and institutions involved in the development and subsequent implementation of this proposed project and also in full consultation with the UNDP. It has also been thoroughly reviewed by the Department of Lands, the Department of Agriculture, the Vanuatu Environment Unit, and has been fully endorsed by the national GEF Operational Focal Point.

2.3 Project Budget (1,000 US dollars)

Component	GEF	Co-finance		Total
		Govt Co-finance	Other co-finance	
Completion of NAP	0	4	25.2	29.2
Mainstreaming	40	50	0	90
Capacity Development for SLM	310.6	336	140	786.6
Medium Term Investment Plan and its Resource Mobilization	25	10	5	40
(Project management & lessons learnt)	99.4	26		125.4
PDF-A	25			25
TOTAL MSP	500	426	170.2	1096.2

Table 1. Detailed description of estimated co-financing sources

Co-financing Sources				
Name of Co-financier (source)	Classification (Govt, NGO, multilateral, bilateral)	Type (cash on in-kind)	Amount (1000 US dollars)	Status (committed, confirmed, under neg)
Government of Vanuatu, MLNR	Government	In-kind	426	committed
SPREP	Multilateral	Cash	7.2	committed
AusAid	Bilateral	Cash	68	confirmed
		In-kind	5	confirmed
NZAid	Bilateral	Cash	90	confirmed
Sub-Total Co-financing			596.2	

Table 2. Project Administration Budget

Component	Estimated consultant weeks	GEF(\$)	Other sources (\$)	Project total (\$)
Local consultants/project staff	140	40,000	0	40,000
International Consultants		0	0	0
Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications		10,000	16,000	26,000
Travel		4,000	0	4,000
Miscellaneous		0	0	0
Total		54,000	16,000	70,000

Table 3. Consultants Working for Technical Assistance Components

Component	Estimated consultant weeks	GEF(\$)	Other sources (\$)	Project total (\$)
Local consultants/project staff	150	98,400	318,200	416,600*
International consultants	30	56,000	40,000	96,000*
Total	180	154,400	358,200	512,600

Budget Notes

Regional and Locally recruited consultants will provide support for technical assistance. Travel will be strictly in-country, but required in order to provide training to outer island communities both in the demonstration sites as well as in other key sites to be determined in the course of implementation.

Short term service contractors (national and regional) will provide support in the following areas: review of policy and regulatory frameworks in order to identify and define gaps, undertaking national and community consultations; training in integrated EIA/GIS mapping/remote sensing, and development of training modules; and Participatory technical development and community catchments appraisals

Two-three regional/international consultants will be hired to provide basic support in the training, legislative reviews under outcomes 2 and 3, and undertake evaluations as detailed in the monitoring and evaluation and workplan.

*Costs for local and international consultancy are high in Vanuatu, given the high cost of living of the country. Minimum consultancy rate is at US\$500, and reaches as high as

US\$800-1000/day. This includes living and traveling allowances as well as other incidentals. Travel within country is mostly by planes and boats (mostly for smaller islands), which infrequent and expensive.

PART III: MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

1. National executing agency

94. The GEF implementing agency for the project will be the UNDP Multi-Country Office based in Suva, Fiji. The project will be executed under UNDP National Execution (NEX) modality and procedures and in accordance to the appropriate GEF guidelines for SLM Medium Sized Projects.

95. The Executing Agency will be the Department of Lands, within the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources. The executing agency for this project assumes primary accountability to UNDP and Government in ensuring that outcomes, outputs and activities are delivered in line with signed project document and following accepted rules and regulations. It endorses the project and its execution modality, ensures coherence with national policy and objectives through participation in the appraisal process, and participates in monitoring and evaluation. It is also responsible for the coordination of all the reporting requirements (Financial Reports, Quarterly Progress Reports, and Audit Reports) and their subsequent submission to UNDP.

96. A stakeholder involvement plan and organigram of the project management arrangements are set out in Section III.

2. Regional execution agency for technical assistance

97. There is no specific regional execution agency nominated for this project. The body nominated to provide technical assistance will depend upon the type of assistance sought. It may be SPREP, SPC or the Forum Secretariat.

3. Overall execution arrangements

98. As noted above, the project will be executed by the Department of Lands, under the guidance of a Project steering Committee (PSC) and with the support of a Project Executive Group (PEG). The PEG is the group responsible for making executive management decisions for a project when recommended by the Project Manager following consultation with the Project Advisory Group, including approval of project revisions. The Project Executive Group will consist of UNDP, the Directors of the Department of Finance and Lands, the Head of the Environment Unit and one nominated civil society representative. Where necessary or appropriate, this group may meet electronically and make decisions via email. The role of the PSC is outlined below under “project implementation process”.

4. Role of UNDP-GEF Implementing Agency

99. UNDP may provide direct services to the project when the need arises. Given that the project is based on the NEX modality, any requests for direct payments, procurement of goods and services to be conducted by UNDP on behalf of the project, the costs associated with these direct services will be charged to the project according to the UN Universal Price List.

100. In addition to the NEX Guidelines, the project is required to comply with the following agreed policies:

- Travel: All travel must be inline with the project objectives and are duly prescribed in the project document and within the approved allocated budget. Reference is made to the Government’s circular regarding project travel and expenses.
- Support Costs: GEF guidelines only allows up to 25 percent of the total amount for administrative support.

- Committee Meeting Costs: All meeting costs should not exceed 3 percent of the total administrative costs.
- In line with UN policy, no sitting allowances are allowed for all public servants, but may allowed for representatives from NGO and civil society.

5. Project implementation process

5.1 Project implementation plan

101. A *Project Inception Workshop* will be conducted at project kick-off with the full project team, relevant government counterparts, co-financing partners, the UNDP-CO and representation from the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit as appropriate. The purposes of the inception workshop are to:

1. introduce project staff to the UNDP-GEF team which will support the project during its implementation, namely the CO and responsible Regional Coordinating Unit staff;
2. explain and clarify the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of UNDP-CO and RCU staff vis à vis the project team;
3. assist the project team to understand and take ownership of the project's goals and objectives;
4. provide a detailed overview of UNDP-GEF reporting and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) requirements, with particular emphasis on the Annual Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs) and related documentation, the Annual Project Report (APR), Tripartite Review Meetings, as well as the Mid-Term Review; and
5. finalize the project's first annual work plan on the basis of the project's log frame matrix. This will include reviewing the log frame (indicators, means of verification, assumptions), adding detail as needed.

102. The workplan is integrated into the activity budget as presented in Section II. The DoL and PMU will ensure that project execution complies with UNDP's monitoring, evaluation, auditing and reporting requirements, as spelled out in the UNDP Programme Manual. In accordance with the UNDP's Programme Manual, progress and other reports will be submitted by the Project Manager to the UNDP CO. They will provide a brief summary of the status of activities and output delivery, explaining any variances from the pre-agreed work plan and presenting work plan for each successive quarter for review and endorsement. MNREM will prepare and request quarterly advances and will also include the disbursement status in their financial report.

5.2 Transfer of resources

103. An initial cash advance for the Year 2008 budget will be transferred from the UNDP upon signature of the project document by both parties. Subsequent cash advances will be made quarterly, subject to:

A. Confirmation by the PMU at least two weeks before the payment is due, that the project expenditure has been 80% of disbursement and actual cash position necessitate the payment, including a reasonable amount of cover "lead time" for the next remittance.

B. The presentation of:

A satisfactory financial report showing expenditures incurred for the past quarter.

Timely and satisfactory progress reports on projects implementation

The balance of the payment will be made on completion of the Project and after all final reports and accounts are submitted and approved.

5.3 Project Management Unit

104. The SLM project management unit will be established as an entity of the Department of Lands, and shall consist of a project manager and project coordinator. The Project Manager will likely be the Director of Lands, although the PEG will make the final decision of the most appropriate candidate for Project Manager.

105. The coordinator will be recruited to manage the SLM project in accordance with UNDP GEF requirements and procedures. The recruitment of the Project Coordinator shall be in accordance with UNDP recruitment guidelines through a competitive and transparent process. The Coordinator (TORs attached as Annex 6) shall be a national professional and highly-skilled and academically qualified based on background credentials. He/she will report to the PEG on all substantive matters pertaining to the project. For daily operations of the project, the Coordinator is expected to report to the Project Manager. He/she will be responsible for the application of all UNDP technical and administrative functions and accountable for financial reporting and procedures for the use of UNDP/GEF funds.

5.4 Building links and cooperation with other relevant projects

106. The Project Manager is primarily responsible for building links with other relevant projects. However, the establishment of the Lands Steering Committee as the PSC ensures that other projects are considered and harmonized with the SLM MSP to avoid overlap or duplication.

5.5 National steering committee structures for the project

107. The project will receive expert advice and support from the Lands Steering Committee, the high-level multi-stakeholder groups established following the 2006 Land Summit to ensure that Summit Recommendations are achieved. The LSC will serve as project steering committee for this project. The membership of the Lands Steering Committee is listed in Annex 5. It contains representatives from government, civil society and traditional leaders. It includes young people and women's representatives. This group shall meet at least once every two months to ensure progress in accordance with project timelines, and provide policy and technical advice for the implementation of the project. To ensure close collaboration and coherence within the SLM project, the Co-financiers will attend meetings of the Project Advisory Group for the entire project.

5.6 Linkages to relevant regional entities

108. The project will draw upon the assistance and support of relevant regional entities on an as-needs basis.

6. Coordination and enhancement of co-financing provided through the Global Mechanism/UNCCD.

109. As noted, the Global Mechanism has provided a small amount of funding to assist with the development of the NAP. This co-financing is being enhanced by in-kind contributions from the Government of Vanuatu and AusAid to ensure completion of the NAP.

PART IV: MONITORING AND EVALUATION

1. Project Reporting

110. The Project Manager in conjunction with the UNDP-GEF extended team will be responsible for the preparation and submission of the following reports that form part of the monitoring process.

1.1 Inception Report

111. A Project Inception Report will be prepared immediately following the Inception Workshop, but not later than 3 months after the official start of the project. It will include a detailed First Year/ Annual Work Plan divided in quarterly time-frames detailing the activities and progress indicators that will guide implementation during the first year of the project. This Work Plan would include the dates of specific field visits, support missions from the UNDP-CO or the Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) or consultants, as well as time frames for meetings of the project's decision-making structures. The Report

will also include the detailed project budget for the first full year of implementation, prepared on the basis of the Annual Work Plan, and including any monitoring and evaluation requirements to effectively measure project performance during the targeted 12 months time frame.

112. The Inception Report will include a more detailed narrative on the institutional roles, responsibilities, coordinating actions and feedback mechanisms of project related partners. In addition, a section will be included on progress to date on project establishment and start-up activities and an update of any changed external conditions that may effect project implementation.

113. When finalized the report will be circulated to project counterparts who will be given a period of one calendar month in which to respond with comments or queries. Prior to this circulation of the inception report, the UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF's Regional Coordinating Unit will review the document.

1.2 Quarterly Progress Reports

114. Quarterly Progress Reports outlining main updates in project progress will be provided quarterly to the local UNDP Country Office and the UNDP-GEF regional office by the project team.

1.3 Annual Project Review Form

115. In-line with the UNDP – GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Tool Kit, the project manager will ensure the completion and submission to UNDP CO with the *National MSP Annual Project Review Form* by early July annually for progress & review. The APR Form reports on whether the impacts and performance of the project so far have resulted in an increased or strengthened capacity for sustainable land management. The project impact section reports on the progress of achieving the national MSP project objective while the project performance measures the progress towards achieving the four outcomes that are common to the MSP project. Furthermore, this section will elaborate on how the project activities are meeting GEF requirements and principles. The Monitoring Project Processes, Adaptive Management and Lessons Learnt section will provide data and process related to how key decisions are made including reporting on challenges and factors limiting the success of the project. This will provide the basis for identifying lessons learnt. The form is contained in Annex 7.

1.4 Project Terminal Report

116. During the last three months of the project the project manager will prepare the Project Terminal Report and submit to the UNDP CO. The report will assess the delivery of inputs, the achievement of the project objectives and the project's impact/result as reported in all National MSP Annual Project Review Forms, lessons learnt, objectives met, objectives not achieved, structures and systems implemented, etc. It will be the definitive statement of the Project's activities during its lifetime. It will also lay out recommendations for any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability and replicability of the Project's activities.

1.5 Technical Reports

117. Technical Reports are detailed documents covering specific areas of analysis or scientific specializations within the overall project. As part of the Inception Report, the project team will prepare a draft Reports List, detailing the technical reports that are expected to be prepared on key areas of activity during the course of the Project, and tentative due dates. Where necessary, this Reports List will be revised and updated, and included in subsequent APRs. Technical Reports may also be prepared by external consultants and should be comprehensive, specialized analyses of clearly defined areas of research within the framework of the project and its sites. These technical reports will represent, as appropriate, the project's substantive contribution to specific areas, and will be used in efforts to disseminate relevant information and best practices at local, national and international levels.

1.6 Intellectual property Rights on data, study results, reports, etc.

118. All data, study results, information, reports, and the like, generated with UNDP/GEF project funds remains the property of the UNDP until after the life of the project, ownership will then be transferred to the GoV.

1.7 Audit Requirements

119. The project will be audited on a yearly basis for financial year January to December as per Gov. Vanuatu and NEX procedures and Global Environment Facility requirements. The project is required to undertake an audit if the annual project expenditure is US\$100,000 and above. The Government will provide the Resident Representative with certified periodic financial statements, and with an annual audit of the financial statements relating to the status of UNDP (including GEF) funds according to the established procedures set out in the Programming and Finance manuals. The Audit will be conducted by the legally recognized auditor of the Government, or by a commercial auditor engaged by the Government.

1.8 GEF Logo

120. In order to accord proper acknowledgement to GEF for providing funding, a GEF logo should appear alongside the UNDP logo on all relevant GEF project publications, including among others, project hardware and vehicles purchased with GEF funds. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by GEF should also accord proper acknowledgment to GEF.

2. Monitoring Responsibilities and Events

121. Project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established UNDP and GEF procedures and will be provided by the Project Management Unit (PMU) and the UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO) with support from UNDP/GEF. A detailed schedule of project reviews meetings will be developed by the project management, in consultation with UNDP CO and other implementation partners to be incorporated in the Project Inception Report. Such a schedule will include: (i) tentative time frames for Tripartite Reviews, Project Executive Group Meetings, Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meetings and (ii) project related Monitoring and Evaluation activities.

2.1 Daily Monitoring

122. Day to day monitoring of project progress will be the responsibility of the Project Manager, based on the project's Annual Work Plan and its indicators. The Project Manager will inform the UNDP-CO of any delays or difficulties faced during implementation so that the adaptive management is applied through appropriate support and/or corrective measures is adopted in a timely and remedial fashion to ensure that the success and progress of the project is not delayed unnecessarily.

123. The Project Manager will fine-tune the progress and performance/impact indicators of the project in consultation with the Project Executive Group and the full project team at the Inception Workshop, with support from UNDP-CO and assisted by the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit. Specific targets for the first year implementation progress indicators together with their means of verification will be developed at this Workshop. These will be used to assess whether implementation is proceeding at the intended pace and in the right direction and will form part of the Annual Work Plan. The local implementing agencies will also take part in the Inception Workshop in which a common vision of overall project goals will be established. Targets and indicators for subsequent years would be defined annually as part of the internal evaluation and planning processes undertaken by the project team.

124. Measurement of impact indicators related to global benefits will occur according to the schedules defined in the Inception Workshop and tentatively outlined in the indicative Impact Measurement Template. The measurement of these will be undertaken through subcontracts or retainers with relevant

institutions (e.g. vegetation cover via analysis of satellite imagery, or populations of key species through inventories) or through specific studies that are to form part of the project's activities or periodic sampling such as with sedimentation.

2.2 Annual Monitoring

125. Annual Monitoring will occur through the **Tripartite Review (TPR)**. This is the highest policy-level meeting of the parties directly involved in the implementation of a project. The project will be subject to Tripartite Review (TPR) at least once every year. The first such meeting will be held within the first twelve months of the start of full implementation. The project proponent will prepare an Annual Project Report (APR) based on findings of Quarterly Progress Reports throughout the year and submit it to UNDP-CO and the UNDP-GEF regional office at least two weeks prior to the TPR for review and comments. The Annual Project Report (see above) will be used as one of the basic documents for discussions in the TPR meeting. The project proponent will present the APR to the TPR, highlighting policy issues and recommendations for the decision of the TPR participants. The project proponent also informs the participants of any agreement reached by stakeholders during the APR preparation on how to resolve operational issues. Separate reviews of each project component may also be conducted if necessary.

2.3 Terminal Review

126. The terminal tripartite review is held in the last month of project operations. The project proponent is responsible for preparing the Terminal Report and submitting it to UNDP-CO and UNDP-GEF's Regional Coordinating Unit. It shall be prepared in draft at least two months in advance of the TTR in order to allow review, and will serve as the basis for discussions in the TTR. The terminal tripartite review considers the implementation of the project as a whole, paying particular attention to whether the project has achieved its stated objectives and contributed to the broader environmental objective. It decides whether any actions are still necessary, particularly in relation to sustainability of project results, and acts as a vehicle through which lessons learnt can be captured to feed into other projects under implementation of formulation. The TPR has the authority to suspend disbursement if project performance benchmarks are not met. Benchmarks will be developed at the Inception Workshop, based on delivery rates, and qualitative assessments of achievements of outputs.

2.4 Independent evaluation

127. The MSP project is to be evaluated at least once by an independent, external evaluation team. In most cases there will be one 'end-of-project' evaluation during the last 3 months of the project. For a three year project such as this, an external mid-term review (MTR) is not mandatory, but is nonetheless highly desirable. It is therefore allowed for in the project budget.

128. The final review will consist of a three-week evaluation and will be conducted by an independent evaluator. An independent Final Evaluation will take place three months prior to the terminal tripartite review meeting. The final evaluation will also look at impact and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental goals. The Final Evaluation should also provide recommendations for follow-up activities. The Terms of Reference for this evaluation will be prepared by the UNDP CO based on guidance from the Regional Coordinating Unit and UNDP-GEF. The focus of the MTR will be to make mid-term corrections to better achieve the project objective and outcomes during the remaining life of the project.

2.5 Legal Context

129. This project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu and the United Nations Development Program.

130. UNDP acts in this project as Implementing Agency of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and all rights and privileges pertaining to the UNDP as per the terms of the SBAA shall be executed according to GEF.

131. The UNDP Resident Representative is authorized to effect in writing the following types of revisions to this project document, provided s/he has verified the agreement thereto by the UNDP GEF unit and is assured that the other signatories of the project document have no objections to the proposed changes:

Revisions of, or addition to, any of the annexes to the Project Document;

Revisions which do not involve significant changes in the immediate objectives, outputs or activities of the project, but are caused by the rearrangement of inputs already agreed to or by the cost increases due to inflation;

Mandatory annual revisions which re-phase the delivery of agreed project inputs, or reflect increased expert or other costs due to inflation, or take into account agency expenditure flexibility, and;

Inclusion of additional annexes and attachments relevant to the Project Document

Detailed M&E Plan and Budget

Type of M&E activity	Lead responsible party in bold	Budget	Time frame
Inception Workshop	The Government, UNDP Country Office , Executing Agency, Project Team, UNDP/GEF Task Manager	6000	At the beginning of project implementation
Inception Report	Project Implementation Team	None	At the beginning of project implementation
APR/PIR	The Government, UNDP Country Office, Executing Agency, Project Team , UNDP/GEF Task Manager ¹	None	Every year, at latest by June of that year
NSC & TAG Meetings	The Government, Executing Agency, Project Team ,	3000	Every quarter
Tripartite meeting and report (TPR)	The Government, UNDP Country Office , Executing Agency, Project Team, UNDP/GEF Task Manager	None	Every year , upon receipt of APR
Mid-term External Evaluation	Project team, UNDP/GEF headquarters, UNDP/GEF Task Manager, UNDP Country Office, Executing Agency	\$5000 (only if required)	At the mid-point of project implementation.
Final External Evaluation	Project team, UNDP/GEF headquarters, UNDP/GEF Task Manager, UNDP Country Office, Executing Agency	\$17,000	At the end of project implementation, Ex-post: about two years following project completion
Terminal Report	UNDP Country Office, UNDP/GEF Task Manager, Project Team	None	At least one month before the end of the project
Audit	Executing Agency, UNDP Country Office, Project Team	2400 \$800 per year	Yearly
Visits to field sites	UNDP Country Office, Executing Agency	6000 \$2,000 per year x3	Yearly
Lessons learnt	UNDP-GEF, GEFSEC, Project Team , Executing Agency	6000 \$2,000 per year x3	Yearly
TOTAL COST <i>Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff and travel expenses</i>		45,400 (32400 if midterm review no required)	

¹ UNDP/GEF Task Managers is a broad term that includes regional advisors, sub-regional coordinators, and GEF project specialists based in the region or in HQ.

RESPONSE TO GEF SECRETARIAT REVIEW

GEFSEC Comment	Response	Location where document was revised

SECTION II: STRATGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK

This project will improve sustainable land management in Vanuatu. By the end of this project, the Government of Vanuatu and ni-Vanuatu people should be equipped to make more informed decisions about appropriate land uses, based on improved information and better understanding of the costs and benefits of development options. The objectives of the project are to ensure that Government at the highest level considers the long-term environmental health of land resources and the adverse effects of land degradation when making economic and development decisions; and to build capacity for SLM horizontally across sectors and vertically from the individual landowner, to community leaders, to provincial and national governments.

Project Logical Framework

Project Strategy	Objectively verifiable indicators			Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
<p>Goal: To Contribute to mitigation of land degradation, in particular through capacity development and mainstreaming of sustainable land management in Vanuatu</p> <p>Objective: To ensure that Government at the highest level considers the long-term environmental health of land resources and the adverse effects of land degradation when making economic and development decisions through capacity building for SLM horizontally across sectors and vertically from the individual landowner, to community leaders, to provincial and national governments, and the mainstreaming of SLM in development frameworks</p>					
	Indicators	Baseline	Targets	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions
Outcome 1 Completion of CCD National Action Plan for Combatting Land Degradation					
Outcome 1	NAP developed and approved by Cabinet	No yet started	Complete NAP and adopt by end Q3	NAP document Cabinet minutes	
Output 1.1 Gender Needs Assessment for SLM	1. Gender assessment report 2. Evidence of gender-specific process for NAP development 3. Evidence of gender dimension in NAP document	Gender dimensions of land degradation and potential strategies for combating land degradation have not been considered, even though women are profoundly affected by deteriorating land productivity	1. Gender assessment report prepared with guidance and instruction to NAP team on both principles and procedures for including womens' perspectives in development of the plan and other aspects of the project Q1 2. NAP process meets specific gender needs Q2 3. Gender issues are explicitly referred to and seriously addressed in final NAP Q2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender assessment available on web • Evidence of gender issues throughout NAP document 	Assumes all stakeholders are fully committed to an inclusive process that addresses the full range of stakeholder concerns in a culturally and gender-appropriate manner. Risk of gender assessment being ignored if assumption is incorrect Website is functional

<p>Output 1.2 Elaboration of NAP by National Team Draft NAP (including draft National SLM Policy) prepared by national team (using gender analysis, country analysis, problem analysis) and validated with input from relevant stakeholders</p>	<p>Final NAP document (including national policy on SLM) completed</p>	<p>No coherent policy exists addressing land degradation issues, although land management principles are reflected in a number of disparate documents</p>	<p>1. Draft NAP Q1 2. Stakeholder consultation Q2 3. Final NAP prepared prepared on time, with full stakeholder participation Q2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes from stakeholder consultation meetings/report of stakeholder process • Government of Vanuatu publishes NAP on website • Published copies of NAP 	<p>Skilled personnel are available to prepare draft NAP</p> <p>Stakeholder commitment to SLM maintained</p> <p>Website is functional</p> <p>Risk – impatience with additional planning requirements when earlier plans have not been implemented and resourced adequately</p>
<p>Output 1.3 Formal adoption of NAP by Government</p>	<p>NAP completed, adopted, published and publicised</p>	<p>NAP not yet prepared</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of NAP by Q3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of Council Resolution adopting NAP • Deposition of NAP to UNCCD Secretariat • National SLM policy document published on web • Budgets 	<p>Government maintains commitment to CCD obligations</p> <p>UNCCD focal point complies with deposition requirements</p> <p>Website is functional</p>
	<p>Indicators</p>	<p>Baseline</p>	<p>Targets</p>	<p>Sources of verification</p>	<p>Risks and Assumptions</p>
<p>Outcome 2 Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management</p>					
<p>Outcome 2</p>	<p>Economic Planners, Finance staff and planning department trained in use of environmental economic analysis and use environmental economic analyses of land-use options in development planning and preparing economic/development policies and/or budgets</p>	<p>Techniques not currently used</p>	<p>Training for all economic planners and finance staff on how to apply economic analysis to land use options</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSP Reports • Training materials • Budget documents • Numbers of relevant staff trained (training records) 	<p>Assistance from SPREP/SOPAC will be available</p>

	Revised National Development Strategies incorporate NAP and SLM objectives and strategies	Very limited reference, none specifically to SLM	The next VPAA contains specific reference to the importance of preventing and reversing land degradation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VPAA 	
	Number of sectoral plans and decisions on new developments and projects that consider SLM and include mitigation measures	No consideration	Sectoral decision-making and new projects consider SLM issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sectoral plans • Decisions on new projects and developments 	Inter-agency cooperation and effectiveness of MSP training and awareness raising
Output 2.1 Integration of SLM principles into national development plans	Revised National Development Strategies incorporate NAP and SLM objectives and strategies	The current development plan refers generally to sustainable development and use of natural resources, but does not specifically address SLM and land degradation issues. Aspects of the plan pertaining to promoting economic development activities are at odds with SLM mainstreaming	<p>The next VPAA contains specific reference to the importance of preventing and reversing land degradation</p> <p>Specific activities are included to promote SLM</p> <p>No aspect of the VPAA or shorter-term development plan undermines SLM objectives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The VPAA itself • Terms of reference for new VPAA development • Other short term development plans 	<p>Continued political support for integrating SLM into national development planning</p> <p>Capacity is simultaneously built to appreciate benefits and develop mechanisms for addressing SLM in development planning</p>
	SLM is allocated budget	No budget for SLM	National budget makes specific recurrent commitment to SLM by Q12	Govt's annual budget documents	

<p>Output 2.2 Integration of SLM principles into sector/thematic action plans (agriculture policy, forestry policy, urban plans, infrastructure, tourism), through a process of awareness raising, training and policy review</p>	<p>SLM priorities incorporated into sectoral activities. Policies and plans of relevant departments expressly address land degradation issues</p>	<p>Forestry Policy and COLP already addressed land degradation Agriculture policy under development Minimal policy or planning framework in other sectors</p>	<p>Land degradation issues are an explicit concern of sectoral plans, which is reflected throughout structure of document, not just add-on section</p>	<p>Sectoral plans themselves Departmental annual plans/Business plans</p>	<p>Assumes commitment to meaningful implementation of the strategies contained in the NAP -</p> <p>If the preparation of the NAP has not been inclusive and the outcomes are not “owned” across all sectors, may be limited interest or engagement</p> <p>There may be a general reluctance to revisit “approved” policies and plans</p>
<p>Output 2.3 Harmonization of SLM priorities between existing environmental frameworks (e.g. BSAP, POPs, NAPA)</p>	<p>Harmonized environmental frameworks</p>	<p>Many of the strategies and plans make tangential reference to SLM. National Conservation Strategy 1993 addresses land degradation expressly, but preceded UNCCD membership. While there is not significant conflict between the environmental frameworks, there is overlap and poor coordination and</p>	<p>Each of the national environmental plans should either be amended or supplemented with a specific statement about how it articulates with the NAP/National SLM policy</p>	<p>The framework documents of the NAPA, BSAP etc</p>	<p>Earlier documents not being used or implemented, so revision could be irrelevant</p> <p>Reluctance to re-visit earlier documents</p>
<p>Output 2.4 Incorporation of land degradation issues into decision-making processes for all new project proposals, across all sectors.</p>	<p>Number of new projects and activities approved under EIA process that considers SLM</p>	<p>EIA requirements do not expressly address SLM/LD issues</p> <p>Low levels of compliance with basic EIA requirements</p>	<p>By the end of the project, approval of all new projects and changes of land use should be preceded by EIA process, and decision-maker should have regards to the recommendations of the EIA review</p>	<p>Annual reports of VEU/Department of Environment</p> <p>Annual reports of other departments that are subject to EIA requirements</p> <p>Evidence of environmental conditions in licences and leases</p>	<p>Assumes capacity building activities achieve desired outcome, especially legislative reform of EIA and institutional capacity building of VEU</p>
	<p>Indicators</p>	<p>Baseline</p>	<p>Targets</p>	<p>Sources of verification</p>	<p>Risks and Assumptions</p>

Outcome 3 Capacities developed for sustainable land management					
Outcome 3	Number of CSOs and NGOs who address SLM in their programs	Limited coverage of SLM issues by individual NGOs but	All NGOs working on community-based resource management and livelihoods include some discussion of SLM	Country program documents of NGOs	SLM MSP succeeds in communicating importance of SLM NGOs have willingness to include SLM in existing and new programs
	An overarching national agency with specific responsibility for SLM is designated	No agency currently designated	Agency identified and adequately resourced to competently implement SLM activities	Govt of Vanuatu budget SLM MSP reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-agency cooperation to identify most appropriate overarching agency
	Improved enabling environment to support implementation of SLM strategies and activities compared to pre-project period. Individuals demonstrating the application of new skills acquired as a result of targeted capacity building activities implemented through the SLM MSP	Serious structural flaws in present relationship between customary and western legal structures relating to land undermine local landowners' ability to manage their own land for long term sustainability	Legal regime and administration supports landowners to manage land resources in a sustainable fashion and to make informed decisions about future land use	Laws SLM MSP reports Departments annual reports Training evaluation reports SLM MSP reports Project evaluation report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds are mobilized on time • Stakeholder commitment to SLM maintained • Departments have adequate budgetary support to implement SLM strategies and actions. • High level of cooperation amongst agencies

<p>Output 3.1 Legal framework for promoting SLM is enhanced</p>	<p>1. Compliance review of existing land leases completed to identify deficiencies in the current regime and establish a longer-term compliance framework</p>	<p>1. no information about the extent of compliance with lease requirements</p>	<p>1. Compliance audit completed by Q2</p>	<p>1. Compliance review document</p>	<p>Parliament has political will to enact reforms</p>
	<p>2. Sectoral and environmental legal reform analysis prepared, identifying areas of weakness, conflict, overlap; Amendments or replacement laws prepared and either enacted or submitted to Parliament.</p>	<p>2&3. Assessment of lands administration laws already undertaken and required reforms have been identified but have not been undertaken No legislative analysis for broader legal regime governing SLM No legal foundation for promoting SLM in agricultural practices Legislative gaps in coverage of laws governing forest clearance and agriculture.</p>	<p>2. New <i>Land Act</i> drafted and submitted to Parliament by Q12</p> <p>2. <i>Foreshore Protection Act</i> reviewed and new Bill adopted by Parliament, and made available on internet via Paclii by Q8</p>	<p>2. Legal reform analysis (Q3) Copies of Bills, Acts</p>	<p>Legal drafting capacity is available or can be contracted as part of the project</p>
	<p>3. Information and procedures in respect of dealings involving customary land (including of lands tribunals, mapping traditional community boundaries, registration of customary land) strengthened.</p>	<p>3. high levels of uncertainty and procedural problems with all aspects of dealings with customary lands, leading to conflict and inappropriate ministerial intervention</p>	<p>3. Information and reforms enable smooth operation of customary lands administration</p>	<p>3. Technical review reports and annual Reports of the Lands tribunals, DoL</p>	
	<p>4. Lease terms contain mandatory conditions relating to sustainable land management</p>	<p>4. See (1) above)</p>	<p>4. Standard SLM conditions drafted and required for all new leases, including provisions of SLM and equitable distribution of benefits of lease by Q8</p>	<p>4. All new leases</p>	
	<p>5. Relevant agencies (planning, agriculture, forestry, environment) have legal mandate to implement and enforce SLM requirements</p>	<p>5. Environmental Management and Conservation Act coverage is too narrow and legal procedures are flawed</p>	<p>5. <i>Environmental Management and Conservation Act</i> amended to enhance EIA requirements</p>	<p>5. New laws and amendments – Online legal database - Paclii (Pacific Island Legal Information Institute)</p>	

<p>Output 3.2 Institutional capacity for implementing SLM legal framework is enhanced</p>	<p>1. Improved information base and management, including digitizing and archiving, GIS mapping of customary land, community boundaries, and land leases.</p> <p>2. Effectiveness of Department of Lands administration and enforcement in fulfilling its statutory obligations</p> <p>3. Effectiveness of the VEU (or Department of Environment) to oversee and enforce EIA obligations for new leases, changes in land use; and any other activity likely to contribute to land degradation</p> <p>4. An overarching national agency with specific responsibility for SLM is designated</p> <p>5. Enhanced effectiveness of tribunals for resolving land related conflict, especially the customary lands tribunal</p>	<p>1. VANRIS system is established, but is limited in geographical scope and content</p> <p>2. Department lacks skills in integrated land use planning, mapping, and other innovative techniques for promoting and integrating SLM into land use decision-making. Community has no real access to support or information.</p> <p>3. VEU severely understaffed and no designated EIA officer</p> <p>4. No agency has coordinating or leadership role</p>	<p>1. Database operation and accessible to the public containing GIS mapping of customary land and boundaries, land leases, land uses etc</p> <p>2. Tools for SLM are fully functional and users of the system are satisfied with available technical support</p> <p>3. VEU EIA compliance section has two new trained staff with government commitment to continue funding their positions beyond project life</p> <p>4. Staffing, expertise and resources of national agency tasked with responsibility for SLM is sufficient to deliver on mandate</p> <p>5. 80% of users of the CLT are satisfied with the speed and quality of outcome</p> <p>44</p>	<p>1. Database accessible to public</p> <p>2. Staff profiles, annual reports, user surveys</p> <p>3. VEU staff profile and departmental budgets, number of projects that have been reviewed by VEU % of landowners satisfied with the administration of land matters and resolution o lands disputes</p> <p>4. Council of Ministers resolution, budget, government annual reporting</p> <p>5. % of users of the CLT satisfied with the process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds are mobilized on time • Stakeholder commitment to SLM maintained • Departments have adequate budgetary support to implement SLM strategies and actions. <p>High level of cooperation amongst agencies</p>
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<p>Output 3.3 National decision-makers' knowledge and understanding of SLM and land degradation issues is improved, through training workshops, dissemination of materials</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information materials are prepared 2. Training workshops conducted 3. Provincial premiers and officers receive information booklets and training on ecologically sound and economically profitable land management 	<p>Very little awareness of how SLM affects the business and activities of various sectoral agencies, which is then reflected in the absence of SLM in their decision-making</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Materials prepared, with specific sectoral guidance 2. Three national training sessions for senior public servants 3. One training workshop for each provincial authority 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Workshop materials 2. Workshop reports 	<p>Senior staff need to attend in order to ensure SLM priorities are led from the top, but risk that they will not attend because without training, they do not yet appreciate the relevance of SLM.</p>
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<p>Output 3.4 Landowners, women, and traditional leaders capacity to implement SLM in day-to-day land management is enhanced, particularly in vulnerable areas and with vulnerable groups, through technical training and local and national knowledge networks</p>	<p>1. Percentage of ni-Vanuatu chiefs, women, and communities benefiting from education about their rights over their customary lands and sustainable approaches to land management implemented in a culturally- and gender-appropriate and financially sustainable manner</p> <p>2. Evidence of chiefs taking leadership role in community-level land use planning</p> <p>3. Evidence of NGOs and CSOs active and effective in supporting community-level SLM practices</p> <p>4. Sustainable agricultural practices and guidelines prepared by DoA</p>	<p>1. Some training in sustainable farming techniques, but limited in geographic scope and content coverage. Knowledge and awareness of SLM issues is limited.</p> <p>2. Recognition of need to improve capacity of chiefs, some on-going efforts to address governance issues at more general level – no SLM-specific initiatives.</p> <p>3. Some NGO activities, but none with express focus on SLM</p> <p>4. No printed information currently available</p>	<p>1. Training programs are conducted in every province (by DoA or NGOs), for chiefs, women, and general landowners</p> <p>2. Four community land use plans developed, led by community traditional leaders</p> <p>3. At least two NGOs include an SLM dimension to their community education or sustainable livelihoods programs, and document progress</p> <p>4. At least 2000 brochures printed and distributed</p>	<p>1. Training materials, itineraries, attendance lists – contained in reports of DoA or NGO conducting training</p> <p>2. Community land use plans Chiefs reports to Malvatamauri</p> <p>3. Annual reports of NGOs and CSOs</p> <p>4. Brochures, posters, guidelines etc and evidence of their dissemination</p>	<p>Sufficient communications infrastructure is available to ensure training and information reaches remote communities</p> <p>Chiefs and other stakeholders recognize value of learning about SLM and are willing to attend training</p>
	Indicators	Baseline	Targets	Sources of verification	Risks and Assumptions

Outcome 4: Medium Term Investment Plan					
Outcome 4	SLM needs are identified, costed and their funding is planned and secured	Costing techniques and capacity not yet developed Costs of SLM approach not costed No investment plan	SLM needs are identified, costed and their funding is planned and secured by the end of the project	MSP documents Investment Plan Letters of funding support	Assistance from SOPAC/SPREP re training
Output 4.1 Identification of specific on-the-ground investments required in the medium to long term	Needs analysis report	Funding needs not yet identified	Needs analysis report completed by Q9	Report document	Assumption that project activities proceed smoothly and on time to enable assessment to be undertaken by Q9 Risk that delays in project implementation may hinder the ability to identify areas of long-term investment need
Output 4.2 Development of a Medium Term Investment and Resource Mobilization Plan (MTIRMP) for continuing the promotion of SLM	MTIRMP prepared, including prioritization of investment needs and identification of potential funding sources	No investment plan currently exists	MTIRMP document prepared by Q10	MTIRMP document itself	As above
Output 4.3 Analysis of sources of funding, including national and provincial resources, and donor funding and discussions with donors on resource mobilization	Sources of funding Report	No investment plan currently exists	Discussions with at least four donors Provisional support for funding obtained by Q11	Report Minutes of meetings Letters of in-principle support	As above

<p>Output 4.4 Adoption of MTIRMP by Council of Ministers and funding secured</p>	<p>Elements of the investment plan for which funding has been secured</p> <p>% of surveyed/targeted land-users, NGOs, private sector with information on and access to the financial mechanism with the Mid-term Investment plan.</p>	<p>Very limited government expenditure specifically on SLM</p> <p>SLM activities not specifically funded by external donors outside of the Department of Agriculture</p>	<p>Financing for at least four major elements of the investment plan has been secured by Q12</p> <p>Land users, NGOs, private sector have access to funding as part of the financial mechanism under the mid-term investment plan</p>	<p>Minutes of Council Resolution adopting plan</p> <p>Government budget documents</p> <p>Bilateral and multilateral development partners letters and commitment or project profiles/portfolios</p>	<p>Assumes successful outcomes of project to date convince donors of benefits of further investment</p> <p>Government and the key institutions involved will commit the resources needed to maintain SLM beyond the life of the project based on monitoring and evaluation systems that are developed.</p>
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Output	Activity	Q 1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q 10	Q11	Q12
Output 1.1 Gender Needs Assessment for SLM	1.1.1 consultant undertakes gender needs assessment, with relevant stakeholder contribution												
	1.1.2 Gender needs assessment report prepared												
Output 1.2 Elaboration of NAP by National Team	1.2.1 Draft NAP prepared by national team												
	1.2.2 Stakeholder consultation Q2												
	1.2.3. Final NAP prepared												
Output 1.3 Formal adoption of NAP by Government	1.3.1 NAP adopted by Council of Ministers												
	1.3.2 NAP published and disseminated												
	1.3.4 NAP posted on website												
Output 2.1 Integration of SLM principles into national development plans	2.1.1 Explanatory materials prepared to support Departments in mainstreaming												
	2.1.2 Meetings held between NAP and project team and Department of Planning, finance Prime Minister to discuss mainstreaming												
	2.1.3 Government departments start to include SLM in future VPAA plans and budgets												
Output 2.2 Integration of SLM principles into sector/thematic action plans (agriculture policy, forestry policy, urban plans, infrastructure, tourism), through a process of awareness raising, training and policy review	2.2.1 Sectoral guidance materials prepared to support sectoral agencies in mainstreaming SLM												
	2.2.2 Training workshops and consultations with Departments of Agriculture, Forestry, Planning, Infrastructure, Tourism												
	2.2.3 Departments review and revise their agency policies												
Output 2.3	2.3.1 Environmental frameworks collated and												

Harmonization of SLM priorities between existing environmental frameworks (e.g. BSAP, POPs, NAPA)	reviewed for overlap and inconsistency																
	2.3.2 Discussions with custodian of each policy/framework																
	2.3.3 Frameworks amended, or supplemented																
Output 2.4 Incorporation of land degradation issues into decision-making processes for all new project proposals, across all sectors.	2.4.1 Revised EMCA requirements communicated to affected agencies and stakeholders through meetings, training and written material																
	2.4.2 VEU staff establish reporting protocols with relevant agencies to ensure all new proposals are assessed																
	2.4.3 Proposals are assessed, system weaknesses are identified and addressed																
Output 3.1 Legal framework for promoting SLM is enhanced	3.1.1. Undertake compliance audit of leases and lease conditions																
	3.1.2. Draft new <i>Land Act</i>																
	3.1.3 Review and amend <i>Foreshore Protection Act</i>																
	3.1.4 Review and reform legal regime for customary lands administration																
	3.1.5 Draft standard SLM conditions drafted for all new leases																
	3.1.6 Review and amend <i>Environmental Management and Conservation Act</i> to ensure EIA requirements apply to activities contributing the land degradation																
Output 3.2 Institutional capacity for implementing SLM legal framework is enhanced	3.2.1. Digitizing and archiving, GIS mapping of customary land, community boundaries, land leases, an land uses.																
	3.2.2. Effectiveness of Department of Lands administration and enforcement in fulfilling its																

	statutory obligations												
	3.2.3. Appropriated qualified staff recruited to VEU to enhanced EIA compliance												
	4. Government designates overarching national agency with specific responsibility for SLM, establishes operational and communication protocols												
Output 3.3 National decision-makers' knowledge and understanding of SLM and land degradation issues is improved, through training workshops, dissemination of materials	3.3.1 Materials prepared for use in training workshops												
	3.3.2 Workshops held for national agencies and provincial governments												
Output 3.4 Landowners, women, and traditional leaders capacity to implement SLM in day-to-day land management is enhanced, particularly in vulnerable areas and with vulnerable groups, through technical training and local and national knowledge networks	3.4.1 Dept of Agriculture expands sustainable farming practices training and dissemination of materials												
	3.4.2 Specialist training and capacity building of chiefs in SLM, through MalvataMauri												
	3.4.2 NGOs identified with existing networks and track record of working collaboratively and in gender- and culturally-appropriate ways												
	3.4.3 Selected NGOs add SLM education and awareness to training to existing activities. Training programs and awareness raising programs to inform ni-Vanuatu chiefs, women, and communities of their rights to their customary lands and sustainable approaches to land management implemented in a culturally- and gender-appropriate and financially sustainable manner												
Output 4.1 Identification of specific on-the-ground investments required in the medium to long term	4.1.1 Needs analysis report is prepared												
	4.1.2 Report recommendations validated through stakeholder												

	consultation												
Output 4.2 Development of a Medium Term Investment and Resource Mobilization Plan (MTIRMP) for continuing the promotion of SLM	4.2.1 Draft MTI prepared												
	4.2.1 Draft circulated and validated												
Output 4.3 Analysis of sources of funding, including national and provincial resources, and donor funding and discussions with donors on resource mobilization	4.3.1 Preliminary discussions with various funding sources												
	4.3.2 MTI draft revised												
	4.3.3. Draft presented to government, donors and other funding sources, in-principle support obtained												
Output 4.4 Adoption of MTIRMP by Council of Ministers and funding secured	4.4. Council of Ministers adopts												
	4.4.2 Final MTI distributed												
	4.4.3 Letters of commitment obtained from at least four donors												
Output 5 Project management and coordination													

Table 4: Total Budget and Workplan

GEF Outcome/ Atlas Activity	Responsible Party	Source of Funds	Amount US \$ (Year 1)	Amount US\$ (Year 2)	Amount US \$ (Year 3)	Amount US\$ (Total)
Outcome 1	GoV	SPREP	7200			7 200
		GoV	4000			4 000
		AusAid	18000			18 000
Outcome 2	GoV	GoV	10000	30000		50000
		GEF	30000	10000		40 000
Outcome 3	GoV	GoV	112000	112000	112000	336 000
		AusAid	50000			50 000
		NZAid	40000	50000	000	90 000
		GEF	130 000	160 000	26,600	310600
Outcome 4	GoV	GoV			10000	10 000
		AusAid			5 000	5 000
		GEF			25 000	25 000
Total (not including PDF-A or project administration and lessons learned)						945 800

SECTION III: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

PART 1: GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT ENDORSEMENT LETTER

PART II: CO-FINANCING LETTERS

PART III: DETAILED INFORMATION

Annex I Resolutions of the National Land Summit

Port Vila

25-29 September 2006

I. Land Ownership

Part A: Ownership of land

Resolution 1:

- The Government should make a law that all land in Vanuatu is owned collectively (tribe, clan or family).
- There is no individual with individual custom ownership of land.
- All members of a group with custom ownership (including men and women) must be involved in the decisions pertaining to their land.

Part B: Identifying landowners

Resolution 2:

- The Government must implement and review the current law regarding identifying custom ownership (land tribunal act and chiefs).
- Government, provinces and Malvatumari must aid the people to record custom land policies (custom land law) on each island in Vanuatu. This includes custom boundaries, custom land processes and all other custom rules.
- In order to implement this, the Government must set up a land office in every province.

Part C: Awareness

Resolution 3: The Government, Malvatumauri and the Cultural Centre must help all people (Chiefs, schools, men and women) to increase awareness of:

- Custom economy;
- Existing land laws; and
- Customary law.

II. Fair Dealings

Part A: Enforcement of lease laws

Resolution 4: The Government must implement and review laws and conditions of every lease e.g. the terms of the lease, reviewing the rent, development conditions and all other terms.

Part B: Lease agreement

Resolution 5: Every lease agreement must:

- Be in Bislama language;
- Involve every member of land owning group (men, women and children);
- A card coming from the land department must go to the land owners with a good explanation of terms of conditions of lease and of their rights. It must include the value of the land, the land rent and premium, length of lease, rent review and the means by which the lease will be enforced; and

• A card with legal advice for the public solicitor will go to the land owners before they sign the lease.

For every lease the chief and landowners must approve:

- The negotiating certificate;
- The lease agreement;
- Any changes to conditions of lease (e.g. land use and length of lease); and
- Transfer of the lease (including any transfer of shares in the company taking over the lease) and any other dealing regarding the lease.

Part C: Negotiation Certificate

Resolution 6: Every negotiation certificate must have the approval of the island or area chiefs' council before the land department issues a negotiation certificate (custom owners, minister of department can't do it by themselves).

Resolution 7: A notice of every negotiation application must be sent to the chief and the village in the area of the land concerned. This notice must include:

- Details of application; and
- Development plan and location of land.

Resolution 8: Every negotiation application must have:

- A copy of the applicants passport;
- A VIPA certificate;
- Details of the location, boundaries, use and area; and
- Details of the development plan and planning approval.

Part D: Ministerial powers where land is under dispute

Resolution 9:

- Remove the power of the Minister to approve a lease for land where there is a dispute.
- If there is a dispute it must first be resolved before the Minister can approve a lease.

Part E: Strata title

Resolution 10:

- The law must be clear that strata title refers only to buildings and not to the right to subdivide.
- If there is strata title, the land owners must have the right to approve it and receive benefit from it.

Part F: Agents/Middlemen

Resolution 11: The Government must regulate the activities of real estate agents and middlemen (e.g. code of practice and ethics).

Part G: Lease rental and premium

Resolution 12:

- The Government must pass a law regarding new land rent rates for different classes of land throughout Vanuatu.
- Land rents in rural areas will be based on a percentage of the value of the land. The government will endorse a new way of thinking and acting with respect to the calculation of land premium.

III: Sustainable Development

Part A: Before the approval of a lease

Resolution 13: Before there can be any lease or development there must be an environmental and social impact assessment in the area where the lease is proposed.

Resolution 14: Before there can be any lease, there must be Land-use Zoning and Physical Planning for the area.

Part B: Lease conditions

Resolution 15: Every lease must have conditions regarding

- Protection of cultural sites;
- Environmental protection (rivers, wildlife, beaches etc); and
- Road access to lease areas.

Part C: Public Access

Resolution 16:

- There must be public access to the ocean and also the custom owners and the public must be able to use the area from the high water mark to the end of the reef.
- There must be public access to river and lakes.

Part D: Enforcement

Resolution 17: The Government must:

- Enforce every law regarding physical planning, environmental protection and public access; and
- Support all landowners to enforce their conditions such as planning, environment, and public access.

Part E: Zoning

Resolution 18:

- The Government needs to strengthen the laws regarding physical planning and zoning.
- The Government must look into giving more legal power to the land management planning committee.

Resolution 19: There must be a national subdivision policy and provincial development plans and area land use policies.

Part F: Awareness

Resolution 20: The Environment Unit must help people (Chiefs, schools, men and women) with awareness of sustainable development and environmental protection.

Annex 2 Overview of laws, policies and national strategies relating to land administration, tenure and environmental protection

Multilateral and Regional Agreements to which Vanuatu is signatory

Environment Unit		
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	Commits Vanuatu to regulate trade in species listed by parties to the Convention.	Ratified 1989
Convention on Biological Diversity		Ratified 1995
Framework Convention on Climate Change (Ratification)		Ratified 1993
Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Ratification).		Ratified 1994
Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone layer.		Ratified 1994
Convention for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment of the South Pacific Region (SPREP Convention)	A comprehensive legal framework for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environments and natural resources of the South Pacific Region	Signed
Convention on Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific (Apia Convention)	A regional legal framework for the protection of nature including conservation and management of protected areas and conservation areas.	Ratified 1994
South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty (Ratification)		Ratified 1995
Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (Ratification)		Ratified 1995
United Nations Convention for Combatting Desertification (UNCCD)	A multilateral framework aimed at combating desertification and other forms of land degradation and promoting sustainable land management	Ratified 1999
Waigani Convention	Bans the importation into forum Island Countries of hazardous wastes and radioactive wastes and controls the trans-boundary movement and management of wastes within the South Pacific Region.	Signed.
Department of Forestry		
International Tropical Timber Agreement	The aim of the International Tropical Timber Agreement is to provide a framework for consultation among producer and consumer member countries on all aspects of the world tropical timber trade. Among its multiple	Acceded to ITTA in 2002

	objectives is a commitment to assist members to meet ITTO's Year 2000 Objective, which states that by the year 2000 all tropical timber products traded internationally by Member States shall originate from sustainably managed forests.	
Department of Fisheries		
Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean	Provides for international cooperation to manage sustainably highly migratory commercial fish stocks in the South Pacific.	Before Government
United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (LOS)	Regulates all ocean areas, all uses of the seas and all of its resources. Includes provisions relating to navigational rights, territorial sea limits, economic jurisdiction, legal status of resources on the seabed beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, passage of ships through narrow straits, conservation and management of living marine resources, protection of the marine environment, a marine research regime and a binding procedure for settlement of disputes between States.	Aug 1999
LOS Provisions relating to relating to the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks.	Provides for the conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks including tuna, swordfish,...	Signed but not ratified
Convention on the Prohibition of Fishing with Long Drift Nets in the South Pacific	Bans the use of Long Drift Nets by fishing boats.	Ratified 1991
Niue Treaty on Cooperation in Fisheries Surveillance and Law Enforcement in the South Pacific Region (Ratification) Act No 10 of 1993.	Provides for Cooperation in Fisheries Surveillance in the South Pacific Region.	Ratified 1995
Vanuatu Quarantine and Inspection Services		
Plant Protection Agreement for the South East Asia and the Pacific	Aims to prevent the introduction and spread of destructive plant diseases and pests within the Asia Pacific Region by setting up a Plant Protection Commission, and regulating trade in plants and plant products.	Ratified 1997
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.	Controls and eliminates production and use of certain persistent organic pollutants.	Signed 2002, not yet ratified.
Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in international Trade	Prevents problems with hazardous chemicals by impeding exports of unwanted chemicals to countries that cannot manage them throughout their life cycle.	Signed not yet ratified
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development		
Focal Point for the Food and	The FAO is the leading multilateral	

Agriculture Organisation.	organisation with a mandate to raise levels of nutrition and standards of living, to improve agricultural productivity and to better the conditions of rural populations.	
Department of Meteorology		
Member of the World Meteorological Organisation	The World Meteorological Organisation maintains the World Weather Watch and provides a mechanism for global cooperation in weather forecasting.	
Ports and Marine		
International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil		Ratified 1983
International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage		Ratified 1983
International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage		Ratified 1989
Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships		Ratified 1989
Vanuatu Cultural Centre		
World Heritage Convention	Affords international recognition of the need to manage and conserve internationally significant elements of the living, built and cultural environment.	Ratified, May 2002

Legislation and Lead Agency

Constitution of the Republic of Vanuatu 1980

Department of Lands & Survey	
Land Reform Act (1980, amended 1985, 1992, 2000) Land Reform (Rural Alienated Land) Regulations 1980 Land Reform (Rural Land Corporation) Regulations 1980	
Alienated Land Act	
Land Leases Act 1983 (amended 1987, 1988, 1989, 2003, 2004, 2006) Land Leases General Rules 1984 Land Leases Prescribed Forms 1984	
Land Acquisition Act 1992 (Amended 2000)	
Urban Lands Act 1992 (repealed 2003)	
Freehold titles Act 1994	
Customary Land Tribunal Act 2001	
Strata Titles Act 2000 (amended 2003)	
Land Surveyors Act 1984, amended 2003 Regulations 1985	
Land Referee Act 1983 (repealed 2002)	
Valuation of Land Act 2002	
Land Valuers Registration Act 2002	
Physical Planning Act 1986	
Foreshore Development Act 1975	
Island Courts Act 1983 (amended 1989)	
National Council of Chiefs (Organisation) Act 1985	
Customary Land Tribunal Act 2001	
Environment Unit	
Environment Management and Conservation Act (2003)	Establishes the Department of Environment and the Biodiversity Advisory Council and prescribes national environmental responsibilities including: administrative and registration functions; provision for environmental impact assessment; regulates biodiversity prospecting; and provides for recognition and protection of Community Conservation Areas.
United National Convention on Biological Diversity (Ratification) Act No 23 of 1992	Imposes an obligation on Vanuatu to enact legislation to protect our biological diversity.
International Trade (Flora and Fauna) Act 1991	Established import and export controls on species listed under the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES).
Wild Bird Protection Act 1988	Prescribes domestic hunting seasons for listed species of Bird and controls import devices to catch wild birds.

Department of Forestry	
Forestry Act No. 26 of 2001	An Act to make provision for the protection, development and sustainable management of forests and the regulation of the forestry industry in Vanuatu, and for related purposes. The Act came into effect in March 2003.
Forestry Rights Registration and Timber Harvest Guarantee Act 2000	Provides for the registration of certain forestry rights granted in respect of land and to the harvesting and accreditation of timber plantations. Forestry Officers are responsible for ensuring accredited timber plantations comply with the Timber Plantations Code.
Code of Logging Practice, Forestry Order No. 26 of 1998	The Code sets minimum standards which will allow selected forest areas in Vanuatu to be harvested with minimum adverse impact. It balances the needs for protection of environment values with safety and commercial considerations.
Department of Fisheries	
Fisheries Act (1982) as amended 1988,1989.	Comprehensively provides for the control, development and management of fisheries and matters incidental to fisheries. Applies to waters of the exclusive economic zone, territorial sea, archipelagic waters, and internal waters as defined in the Maritime Zones Act, Cap 138 and any other waters over which Vanuatu claims fisheries jurisdiction. Regulations under the Act specify procedures and conditions on the issue of foreign and local fishing licenses, and regulates (size limits, closed seasons) to manage commercial fisheries resources.
Vanuatu Quarantine and Inspection Services	
Plant Protection Act No 14 of 1997	Provides for the exclusion and management of quarantine pests, including broad provisions for inspection and quarantine of craft entering Vanuatu. The Act refers to the Department of Agriculture, but is currently implemented by the VQIS.
Animal Importation and Quarantine Regulations No 14 of 1994	Subsidiary legislation that establishes procedures for application of the Animal Importation and Quarantine Act of 1988.
Animal Importation and Quarantine Act No 7 of 1988 (as amended)	The primary intention of this Act is to prevent diagnosed and suspected animal diseases from entering Vanuatu through controls on the importation of animals into Vanuatu.
Department of Geology, Mines and Rural Water Resources (DGMRWS)	
Water Resources Act (2003)	Mandates the DGMRWS to manage and regulate for the protection, management and use of water resources in Vanuatu, including groundwater, surface water, water constrained by works, estuarine water and coastal waters.
Mines and Minerals [Cap.190]Act No. 11 of 1986	Regulates exploration for and development of mineral resources, and monitoring of exploration and mining activities. Provisions may be attached to exploration and mining licenses granted under the act.

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	
Vanuatu Agricultural Research and Training Centre Act (2002)	Established the Vanuatu Agricultural and Research training Centre with a mandate to coordinate and conduct agricultural research.
Pesticides (Control) Act No. 11 of 1993	Provides for the regulation and control of the importation, manufacture, sale, distribution and use of pesticides. The Act commenced in March 1998.
Pesticides Control Act No 11 of 1993.	Regulates the use of prescribed pesticides.

Annex 3 Summary of findings of the Review of National Land Legislation, Policy and Land Administration (Lunnay et al) March 2007

The National Land Summit in September 2006 marked a turning-point in Vanuatu's land affairs. The twenty six years after independence were marked not by land policy development, but by land policy decline. The 20 main resolutions endorsed by the Summit are evidence of serious problems in such areas as agreements to lease custom land, lease conditions, land use planning, subdivisions, registration procedures, public access to beaches and rivers and the public's awareness of land rights and laws.

Land reform is required in a number of key areas, including legislation and policy, institutional development, land use management and land administration.

A range of reforms are needed to implement the National Land Summit's resolutions and overcome key barriers. In particular,

1. There is a need for policy development to address serious problems in the leasing for land to outsiders; to address the emerging need for greater security of tenure for ni-Vanuatu; and land dealings between ni-Vanuatu.
2. Problems in lease arrangements have dominated the land agenda so far, but ni-Vanuatu land needs will be a greater priority for the future.
3. Physical planning is a critical tool in efficient land use management and sustainable development, but is seriously deficient.
4. Foreshore development is taking place without relevant approvals, leading to beach erosion and a denial of public access to the foreshore.

To address these and other problems raised in the Land Summit requires a reinstatement of sound land tenure and land use principles, as well as fairness and social equity.

There is also a pressing need for strengthening the land administration and land use management arrangements. This will require a combination of institutional reform, better coordination, training and capacity building. The drafting of a National land Law, as provided for in the Constitution, is a high priority which must be development with widespread consultation, especially with the National Council of Chiefs.

Annex 4 The Recommendations of the 1993 National Conservation Strategy and the 2007 NCSA National Action Plan of relevance to land management Issues

National Conservation Strategy 1993

1. Education and awareness – oriented to community and custom values
2. Environmental legislation
 - disseminate information about legal and administrative processes,
 - improve application and enforcement of environmental laws
 - legislate for a comprehensive environment protection act (this has been achieved)
 - establish a system of provincial environment rangers to enhance enforcement
 - proceed with appointment of ombudsman (achived)
3. Institutional strengthening
 - establish National Environment Task Force
 - a Department of Environment and Conservation,
 - strengthen capacity of local councils to manage natural resources,
 - strengthen capacity of RTCs to provide training in NRM at post-primary and technical levels
 - Strengthen capacity of Department of Forestry t monitor and enforce licensees.
4. Preservation of biodiversity and tabu sites
5. Promote sustainable and efficient use of natural resources
 - encourage communities to develop land use plans to help identify their resource needs and development options
 - assist local government councils to develop environment/conservation plans identifying the specific environment concerns in their region
 - promote agriculture practices that enable sustainable yet more intensive use of land in both subsistence and commercial agriculture
 - diversify opportunities for commercial production especially in rural areas
 - promote appropriate technologies for rural communities

National Capacity Self-Assessment 2007 National Action Plan

Objective 1: A dossier of national policies, legislation, and organizational arrangements for environmental protection and management			
Key Actions	Responsible Agency	Indicators	Timeframe
1.1 Submit a Council of Minister Paper (COM) to approve the NCAP	1.1 Director, Environment Unit,	1.1 A clear policy direction for capacity building in Environmental management	
1.2 Submit the National Draft Policy on Climate Change to the COM for approval	1.2 Director, Vanuatu Meteorology Services,	1.2 A clear policy direction for climate change and climate variation	
1.3 Upgrade Environment Unit to the Departmental status	1.3. Director, Environment Unit	1.3 An effective organizational leader with institutional capacity in environmental management	
1.4 Develop and implement the National Forest Policy Action Plan	1.5 Director, Forests Division, MALQFF	1.5 An effective forest policy on forest resource management	
** 1.6 Development of an	1.6 Director, Department	1.6 An effective	

Agriculture policy	of Agriculture and Rural Development, MALQFF	agricultural policy that ensures sustainable development	
***1.7 Submit the Draft Energy Policy to COM for approval.	1.7 Director, Energy Unit,	1.7 An effective energy policy that support environmental management	

Table B: Objective 2 and Key Activities

Objective 2. An environmental information management system to store and protect knowledge, inform and educate, and provide a basis for decision-making			
Key Actions	Responsible Agency	Indicators	Timeframe
2.1 Develop a publicly accessible robust information system for environmental management based on VANRIS (Vanuatu Resource Information System)	2.1 Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources	2.1 User satisfaction in accessing data and information for decision making	
*2.2 Establish a centralized national information center to store environment data.	2.2 Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources	2.2 User satisfaction in accessing data and information for decision making	

Table C: Objective 3 and Key Activities

Objective 3. Innovative techniques, methodologies and systems to support the implementation of the Rio Conventions and other MEAs			
Key Actions	Responsible Agency	Indicators	Timeframe
*** 3.1 Review, develop and adopt appropriate or innovative techniques and methodologies to implement the Rio Conventions and other MEAs	3.1 Environment Unit, Department of Agriculture and Meteorology Department	3.1 A set of innovative techniques and methodologies for environmental management	
*** 3.2 Develop sustainable land management practices across the various environmental sectors - NAP	3.2 Environment Unit, Department of Agriculture and Meteorology Department	3.2 Clear sustainable policy directions for land management	

Table D: Objective 4 and Key Activities

Objective 4. An active environmental education and outreach programme to inform and raise awareness among the young and old, and prepare them for an active role in environmental protection and management			
Key Actions	Responsible Agency	Indicators	Timeframe
4.1 Incorporate climate change, land degradation and biological diversity into existing school curriculum for Years 6-10	4.1 Ministry of Education (MoE) in collaboration with Environment Unit,	4.1 Effective environmental education through formal education system	
4.2 Incorporate climate change, land degradation	4.2 VANGO and Provincial Technical	4.2 Effective community environmental information	

and biological diversity into existing community and NGO's environmental education and outreach programmes	Advisory Groups (TAG) with the support of MoE,	dissemination	
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Table E: Objective 5 and Key Activities

Objective 5. Organizational and individual capacity for systematic observations, surveys and scientific research			
Key Actions	Responsible Agency	Indicators	Timeframe
5.1 Develop and enact the National Scientific Research Council (NSRC) legislation/Bill	5.1 Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources	5.1 Effective legislative direction for research in Vanuatu	
5.2 Improve the systematic observation capabilities and forecasting of climatic conditions and weather extremes	5.2 Vanuatu Meteorology Services	5.2 Effective and reliable forecasting and systematic observation of climatological data and information	

Table F: Objective 6 and Key Activities

Objective 6. An improved Environmental Impact Assessment Process and its mandatory application as required by Government policy and legislation			
Key Actions	Responsible Agency	Indicators	Timeframe
6.1 Amend the Environmental Management and Conservation Act to include an EIA for all projects.	6.1 Environment Unit and the State Law Office	6.1 Effective and comprehensive EIA Guideline	
6.2 Incorporate Public Participation and compliance monitoring in the EIA process	6.2 Environment Unit and the MOLNR,	6.2 A clear and transparent EIA process	

Annex 5 Membership of Lands Steering Committee

(Project Advisory Group for the SLM MSP)

Director-General of Lands, Survey and Land Records (Chair)

Simeon Athy, D-G finance

D-G Agriculture

D-G Trade

D-G Internal Affairs

Solicitor General

Director, Cultural Department

D-G Womens Affairs

President, Malvatumauri National Council of Chiefs

CEO, Natinal Council of Women

Private Sector Representative, Real Estate

Youth representative, Won Smol Bag Theatre Group

Annex 6 Terms of Reference for project management and coordination functions UNDP-GEF Sustainable Land Management Project

Terms of Reference

Project Steering Committee

Objective

The Government of Vanuatu has received funding through the UNDP/GEF to assist with capacity development for sustainable land management to meet Vanuatu's obligations under the UNCCD. An important part of this project is the establishment of a Project Steering Committee to provide oversight and advice in the implementation of the project.

The SLM Project Steering Committee for this project is the Lands Steering Committee, which comprises female and male representatives from a range of government departments, NGOs and the private sector. As such the committee will not only ensure the needs and concerns of states' in the land use master plans and land use laws outlined in the project document, but needs of women and vulnerable group (youth and children) to promote gender equality and empowerment of women. In addition to its other existing duties and responsibilities, the LSC Project Steering Committee will carry out the following specific functions for the SLM Medium Size Project.

1. Provide policy and technical advice, and guidance to the Project Manager, Project Coordinator and SLM consultants in the implementation of the SLM MSP.
2. Ensure project activities are carried out in accordance with SLM MSP work plan and budget
3. Facilitate and participate in national consultation workshops involving the SLM stakeholders.
4. Meet on a quarterly basis to review progress in implementing the project.
5. Facilitate inter-agency sharing of information and experience relating to capacity building and land management.
6. Provide quality control of reports and publications produced under the project.
7. Review and endorse SLM reports to UNDP and GEF.
8. Help identify other potential sources of support for the implementation of the National Action Programme (NAP).
9. Help evaluate the success or otherwise of SLM MSP activities.
10. Other duties as agreed by the Committee from time to time.

Terms of Reference

SLM Project Manager

Objective

The Government of Vanuatu have received funds through the UNDP/GEF to assist with capacity development for sustainable land management to meet Vanuatu's obligations under the UNCCD. An important part of this project is the appointment of a Project Manager to have overall responsibility for the management and implementation of the project. In this regard, the Government of Vanuatu has identified the Director of Department of Lands as the Project Manager for the SLM MSP.

Responsibilities

The Project Manager will work closely with the Vanuatu GEF Operational Focal Point (OFF) and be responsible for the following tasks:

1. Have overall responsibility for the management and implementation of the SLM MSP project.
2. Recruit a Project Coordinator to be responsible for the day-to-day operation of the NCSA.
3. Participate in meetings of the SLM Project Steering Committee
4. Approve the TOR and recruitment of SLM consultants.
5. Ensure that there is close coordination between the SLM and other environmental, capacity building and sustainable development projects in Vanuatu through the National Environment Protection Council (NEPC).
6. Review and endorse SLM progress and financial reports to UNDP, Project Steering Committee, GEF Operational Focal Point and the National Environment Protection Council (NEPC).
7. Ensure SLM MSP resources are effectively used.
8. Set other duties as deemed necessary for the success of the SLM MSP.
9. Ensure adequate representation of women and vulnerable community (youth and children) needs to promote gender equality and empowerment of women in sustainable land management, land use master plans, land use laws and other capacity development initiative of the project.

Qualifications

- An advanced degree in a field of relevance to the objectives of the project preferably in land management, environment and biodiversity conservation;
- At least five years of working experience in project management or equivalent experience
- A good understanding of environment, land management and conservation issues in Vanuatu and the Pacific;

- A demonstrated understanding of local institutions and stakeholders, preferably with ;
- Excellent written and oral communication and reporting skills.
- Proven leadership skills and ability to facilitate the work of multidisciplinary teams, manage change and coordinate various decision bodies of large scale project is essential.

Terms of Reference

National Project Coordinator (NPC)

Location: Port Vila, Vanuatu

Duration: 3 years

Objective

The Government of Vanuatu has received funds through the UNDP/GEF to assist with capacity development for sustainable land management to meet Vanuatu’s obligations under the UNCCD. Critical to the success of this project is the recruitment of a Project Coordinator (PC) to the Executing Agency (i.e. Bureau of Lands and Surveys) to facilitate and oversee the implementation of the SLM MSP project according to UNDP/GEF guidelines under the supervision of the Director \of Lands and Surveys.

Responsibilities

Under the general direction of the Director of Lands, the Project Coordinator will manage the day-to-day implementation of the SLM MSP based on the documents deposited with the GEF for the Project “Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management for Mitigation of Land Degradation”.

1. Liaise closely with the Project Manager and UNDP on matters relating to the project.
2. Facilitate and supervise the overall implementation of the project including the preparation of work plans and budgets.
3. Report, through the Project Manager, to the Project Steering Committee on all matters relating to the implementation of the project.
4. Ensure the timely delivery of financial and progress reports to the Project Manager and UNDP.
5. Ensure close collaboration between the SLM project, its stakeholders and other environmental, capacity building and sustainable development projects in Vanuatu.
6. In consultation with the Project Manager, ensure appropriate and adequate support, including office space, is provided for consultants from time to time.
7. In consultation with the Project Manager and UNDP, facilitate the recruitment and work of local and expatriate consultants, including the drafting of specific terms of reference, as required.
8. Foster and establish links between the NCSA, NAP and other capacity building initiatives in Vanuatu.

9. Ensure SLM activities are carried out in accordance with work plans, and SLM MSP outputs are of a high quality and suited to its required purposes.
10. Ensure adequate representation of women and vulnerable community (youth and children) needs to promote gender equality and empowerment of women in sustainable land management, land use master plans, land use laws and other capacity development initiative of the project.
11. Other duties as may be assigned by the Project Manager from time to time.

Qualifications

- An advanced degree in a field of relevance to the objectives of the project preferably in land management, environment and biodiversity conservation;
- At least five years of working experience in project management;
- A good understanding of environment, land management and conservation issues in Vanuatu and the Pacific;
- A demonstrated understanding of local institutions and stakeholders;
- Excellent written English
- Excellent communication and reporting skills.
- Proven leadership skills and ability to facilitate the work of multidisciplinary teams, manage change and coordinate various decision bodies of large scale project is essential.
- Experience in administration for budget and human resources management required. Good professional knowledge of main office computer applications desired.
- To ensure adequate representation of women in land management and environmental issues, applications from women are highly encouraged for the SLM MSP vacancy.

Annex 7 Annual Project Review Form

National MSP Annual Project Review Form for all UNDP/GEF Projects approved under the Global SLM SIDS and LDC Portfolio Project

Section 1 Project Identifiers

Basic Project Identifiers

Country

Project Title

GEF Number

UNDP Number

Date of Prodoc signature

Project duration

Estimated closing date

Principal Sector (s) Agriculture, forestry or rangelands

Project Stakeholders

List of representatives of key stakeholders groups involved in the project

UNDP Identifiers

SRF Goal

SRF Sub-Goal

Strategic Area of Support

Section II Monitoring Impact and Performance

The following sub-sections include both scorecard questions and quantifiable indicators.

For scorecard questions, five possible answers are given in a table, and the responder should choose the most appropriate to his/her in-country situation. These are rated 1 (poor) to 5 (high).

For quantifiable indicators, the project team should determine the baseline situation before the project starts, and measure the status of the indicator each year.

1. Measuring Impact

These questions relate to measuring how successful the project is in achieving the project objective.

The Project Objective of each MSP is ‘capacity developed for sustainable land management in concerned government agencies, non-governmental and civil service organisations, user groups, etc. and sustainable land management principles mainstreamed into national policies, plans and processes ‘.

1. An SLM related national policy or law :

- 1 Is not yet officially planned
- 2 Is officially planned
- 3 Has been drafted
- 4 Has been approved
- 5 Has been developed and approved in a fully participatory manner

2. National development plans (e.g. five year plans, PRSP, budget):

- 1 Contain only plans that will have a negative impact on sustainable land management
- 2 Pay no attention to sustainable land management
- 3 Pay some, but inadequate, attention to sustainable land management
- 4 Pay adequate attention to sustainable land management
- 5 Place sustainable land management at the heart of the development process

3. NGOs and CSOs are:

- 1 Not active in promoting sustainable land management
- 2 Active at some levels (local or national) in promoting sustainable land management
- 3 Active at all levels but not very effective in promoting sustainable land management
- 4 Active and effective in some levels in promoting sustainable land management
- 5 Active and effective at all levels.

4. The public has :

- 1 Low awareness and no understanding of sustainable land management
- 2 Low/medium awareness/understanding
- 3 Medium/medium awareness/understanding
- 4 Medium/high awareness/understanding
- 5 High awareness and high understanding

5. The knowledge of senior decision-makers in all sectors of importance to land degradation:

- 1 Less than 20% are aware of the importance of Land degradation
- 2 20 – 40% are aware of the importance of Land degradation
- 3 40 – 60% are aware of the importance of Land degradation
- 4 60 – 80% are aware of the importance of Land degradation
- 5 All are aware of the importance of Land degradation

6. The role of the UNDP/GEF MSP in strengthening sustainable land management capacity and mechanisms has been:

- 1 Negligible
- 2 Weak
- 3 Supportive of national and other efforts
- 4 Leading
- 5 Critical

7. The role of the UNDP/GEF MSP in strengthening sustainable land management capacity and mechanisms has been:

- 1 Negligible
- 2 Weak
- 3 Supportive of national and other efforts
- 4 Leading
- 5 Critical.

8. Does the national budget make a specific allocation to sustainable land management? Yes/No.

9. For those countries answering yes, what is the percentage increase over Year 2004?

10. Attribution

What have been the main factors contributing to improvements in the above impact indicators in the past 5 years?

11. Place the following factors in declining order of level of contribution:

Economic growth; increasing political stability; changes in overall governance framework; climatic conditions; international assistance; GEF/UNDP projects and programmes; Other

2. Measuring Performance

Outcome 1 Individual and institutional capacity for SLM developed;

11. The National Agency responsible for sustainable land management:

- 1 Has not been established
- 2 Has been established, but has no clear mandate, staff, equipment and authority.
- 3 Has reasonable mandate, staff, equipment and authority
- 4 Has strong mandate, staff, equipment and authority
- 5 Has strong mandate, staff, equipment and authority, and is actively promoting and mainstreaming SLM principles

12. Innovative tools for SLM, such as land functionality analysis, economic valuation techniques, integrated assessment, multi-criteria decision-making:

- 1 Are non-existent in the country
- 2 Exist, but have been borrowed from international experience, and have not been adapted to local and national needs
- 3
- 4 Exist, have been adapted, but are not fully functional
- 5 Exist and are fully functional

Indicator: The percentage of land-users satisfied with available technical support (from either extension services or government technical agency or other service suppliers)

13. Research into indigenous knowledge related to sustainable land management is:

- 1 Not undertaken
- 2 Undertaken, but by a very small number of experts
- 3 Undertaken by many experts, in a random and arbitrary manner

- 4 Undertaken systematically
- 5 Undertaken by a formal, sustainably financed network of capable researchers

14. Training programmes and awareness raising programmes for local communities:

- 1 Are non-existent
- 2 Exist, but are of poor quality and are not affordable by most local communities
- 3 Exist but are of irregular quality
- 4 Are being implemented in a financially sustainable manner
- 5 Are being implemented in a financially sustainable manner and cover all technical requirements and alternative practices (e.g. reseedling, water point networks; IPM, drip irrigation, sustainable logging)

15. The principal national agencies, local agencies and extension services:

- 1 Are unaware of integrated land-use planning approaches
- 2 Are aware of integrated land-use planning but lack technical knowledge
- 3 Are committed to integrated land-use planning but lack tools
- 4 Are using integrated land-use planning to a limited extent
- 5 Are fully using integrated land-use planning

16. The principal national agencies responsible for environment and land: ___

- 1 Have no plans or strategies
- 2 Have plans/strategies, but they are out of date or were prepared in a top-down fashion
- 3 Have a mechanism to prepare plans and strategies, but it is irregular or top down
- 4 Regularly prepare plans and strategies
- 5 Regularly prepare plans and strategies in a fully participatory manner

17. Indigenous knowledge:

- 1 Is largely ignored in national policy, programmes and policy
- 2
- 3 Occasionally feeds into national policy, programmes and policy
- 4
- 5 Is mainstreamed into national policy, programmes and policy via a sustainable, effective formal mechanism

18. SLM policy:

- 1 There is no policy or it is old and not reviewed regularly
- 2 Exists, but is only reviewed at irregular intervals
- 3
- 4 Is reviewed regularly, but not annually
- 5 Is reviewed annually, and updated

19. The principal national agencies, local agencies and extension services:

- 1 Operate in isolation
- 2 Have established some partnerships, but they are irregular and with many gaps
- 3
- 4 Have many partnerships with a wide range of partners, but there are still some gaps and the partnerships are not always operational
- 5 Have effective and operational partnerships with all government, non-government and local stakeholders

20. The number of forestry, agriculture and land use regulation violations that are processed per annum

Outcome 2 SLM mainstreamed into economic and sectoral development;

21. The Ministry of Economic Development and/or Finance and/or Planning:

- 1 Is unaware of land degradation issues
- 2
- 3 Has a stated aim of halting and where possible reversing land degradation.
- 4
- 5 Uses environmental economic analyses of land-use options as a tool in development planning and in preparing economic/development policies and/or budgets.

22. Political commitment to SLM is present:

- 1 There is no political will at all, or the existing political will is against sustainable land management
- 2 Some political will exists, but it is not strong enough to make a difference
- 3
- 4 Reasonable political will exists, but it is not always strong enough
- 5 There are very high levels of political will

Attribution

23. What have been the major factors contributing to improvements in the above indicators over the past 5 years?

24. Place the following factors in declining order of level of contribution:

- changes in overall government programme;
- international assistance;
- UNDP/GEF projects and programmes;
- Other.

25.

Answer Yes or No	Agriculture	Forestry	Rangelands	Ec Devt	Energy	Tourism	Urban Dev
Impacts of sector policy on SLM are important but not being addressed							
Impacts of sector policy on SLM are being assessed in a participatory manner							
Impacts of sector policy on SLM have been assessed							
Impacts of sector policy on SLM have been adequately assessed and mitigation measures proposed							

26. Public support for SLM:

- 1 The public has little knowledge or interest in SLM
- 2 There is limited support for promoting SLM amongst the public
- 3
- 4 There is general public support and some lobby groups (e.g. NGOs) pushing strongly for SLM
- 5 There is tremendous public awareness and support

27. National land-use planning guidelines and legislation provide clear instructions related to SLM.

28. [X] projects affecting land in named agriculture or livestock sector have integrated SLM aspects.

29. The Five Year Plans have a chapter on sustainable land management and/or implementation of the National Action Plan.

30. The incentives for inappropriate practices (e.g land clearing, mono-plantations, burning):

- 1 Have not been identified
- 2 Have been identified
- 3 Have been identified and response measures proposed
- 4
- 5 Have been identified and removed

31. Existence of new legislation targeting sustainable impact of pasture management

32. Existence of new Guidelines to be implemented

33. There is a national process underway to develop land management plans for each community, driven by the communities

Outcome 3 National Action Program completed

34. NAP monitoring and review:

- 1 There is no mechanism for monitoring NAP implementation or for NAP reviews
- 2 There is a stated aim of regular monitoring of NAP implementation, and reviews, but there is no formal mechanism for doing this
- 3
- 4 There is a stated formal monitoring mechanisms, but it has no fixed funding source
- 5 There is an annual review process, covering state (of land, locally and nationally), pressure (level of threats), response resources allocated (nationally and site specific); capacity (individual, institutional and systemic), with adaptive management.

35. The National Budget or Medium-Term Development Plan or PRSP allocate funding to the NAP.

36. The National Action Programme:

- 1 Does not identify roles and responsibilities and does not include measures to strengthen the institutional framework and local institutions
- 2
- 3 Identifies measures to strengthen the institutional framework and local institutions, yet does not clearly set out roles and responsibilities.
- 4
- 5 Clearly sets out roles and responsibilities, and identifies measures to strengthen the institutional framework and local institutions.

37. Information regarding land and land management:

- 1 Is difficult to access
- 2 Is available to the institutions responsible for collecting the information
- 3 Is partly available to some stakeholders
- 4 Is readily accessible to all stakeholders
- 5 Is readily accessible in systemised format to all stakeholders and the general public

Outcome 4 Medium Term investment Plan being financed and implemented:

40. International partners:

- 1 Show no interest in the Investment Plan
- 2 Some partners finance some projects through the Investment Plan, most prefer to finance projects separately

3

4 Most partners finance most related projects through the Investment Plan

5 Partners finance all related programmes and projects through the Investment Plan

41.

Stage	Role in NAP preparation	Envisaged Role in NAP implementation mechanism
Group		
National govt		
Provincial govt		
NGOs		
Communities		
Scientific community		
International development partners		
Small scale private sector		
Large scale private sector		
Holders of indigenous knowledge		
Other		

42. Financing for the Investment Plan has been secured (e.g. trust fund fully capitalised; fixed commitment from Ministry of Finance from annual budget; innovative one-off (e.g. debt swap, donor) and sustainable (e.g. service payments) financial mechanisms secured):

1 No financing secured

2 Initial financing secured

3

4 Considerable financing secured

5 Fully financed

3. Monitoring the GEF requirements

Participatory nature of the project.

43. How successful has the project been in forging the involvement of representatives of all concerned stakeholder groups?:

	NGOs	Land-users	Women	Marginalised communities	Indigenous people
1 Not at all					
2 Success with					

some stakeholders					
3 Success with many stakeholders, some of the time					
4 Success with most stakeholders					
5 Full					

For those respondents indicating ‘4’ or ‘5’, examples should be provided.

44. Does the project have specific mechanisms for involving the stakeholders in project decision-making or monitoring?:

- 1 No mechanisms
- 2 Mechanisms were envisaged in the project design documents, but were never established
- 3
- 4 Mechanisms envisaged in project design documents were established, but do not function fully
- 5 Mechanisms established and functioning

45. The number and level of participation by sectoral agencies, provincial governments, local communities in the project has been:

- 1 Almost inexistent
- 2
- 3 Acceptable
- 4
- 5 Very satisfactory

46. Contribution to achieving the MDGs?

The project:

- 1 Makes no linkages with either MDG goals or bodies responsible for MDG in the country
- 2
- 3 Is clearly linked to MDG, but no operational linkages have been established
- 4
- 5 Clearly articulates the linkages with MDG and operationalises these linkages

Integration with other in-country UNCCD implementation mechanisms.

47. The UNCCD National Focal Point and Inter-Sectoral Committee:

- 1 Played no role in project design or implementation
- 2 Played an active role in project design, but are not involved in implementation;
- 3
- 4 Play a role in project design and implementation
- 5 Play a strong and active role in both project design and implementation

Contribution to the in-country gender situation, as it relates to SLM.

48. Do the project outputs (e.g. NAP, Investment Plan, Guides, Training programmes) make specific

allowance for the gender dimension?

- 1 Almost inexistent
- 2
- 3 Sometimes
- 4
- 5 Always

Promote the use and value of indigenous knowledge related to SLM.

49. Are custodians of indigenous knowledge related to sustainable land management formally included in the project implementation or technical support mechanisms?

50. The project outputs (e.g. NAP, Investment Plan) target the use and valourisation of indigenous knowledge

- 1 Almost never
- 2
- 3 Sometimes
- 4
- 5 Always

Replicability

51. Does the project specify activities to replicate project successes and allocate budget to these activities?

SECTION III – MONITORING PROJECT PROCESSES, PROJECT ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT LESSON LEARNING

(To be copied from UNDP M&E toolkit by project manager)

Annex 8 Stakeholder Involvement Matrix

Name of Stakeholder	Stakeholder's Interest in SLM	Justification for Inclusion of Stakeholder	Expected Role of Stakeholder
MLNR Department of Lands	Administration of lands, support for customary lands tribunal, planning for sustainable urban settlements, review of existing urban land-use approaches, harmonize regulations and mainstreaming SLM principles into urban planning practises	Administers laws, policies and strategies related to land and land use in Vanuatu, manages all information relevant to land use; oversees procedures for administering land leases and facilitates settlement of land disputes.	Officers will be trained to develop and update/upgrade Vanuatu's LIS, participatory integrated planning approaches, review of existing urban settlements using SLM principles. Land officers and administrators will act as resource persons in SLM workshops, play a leading as well as counterpart role in review of existing land policies, regulations, planning approaches, and will contribute to harmonization of an integrated and holistic urban land-use planning model.
MLNR Environment Unit (to become Department of Environment)	Overarching mandate to promote environmental protection and sustainable development.	Agency responsible for implementing EIA procedures	Capacity will be significantly enhanced under MSP, to enable it to properly carry out its oversight of new projects and proposals to ensure the land management dimensions are fully addressed
MQLAFF Department of Agriculture	Mainstreaming of SLM in agriculture policies and strategies.	Lead agency in promoting sustainable agriculture activities and training landowners in sustainable farming techniques; agency responsible for delivering project training to local farmers	Officers will promote sustainable agriculture practices that are appropriate to local agriculture conditions, facilitate household and community based participatory planning for incorporating sustainable land management into subsistence and commercial agriculture.
Provincial governments	Best placed to connect local community and landowners to national framework	A critical component of any information network	Provincial officer-holders and officers will receive training in SLM under the project
Municipal Councils	Local land planning for sustainable land	Local land planning board works closely	Officers will be trained in land use planning and SLM

	use	with the Lands Management Division for land planning	
Customary landowners	People and land are intricately linked and people's approach to using the very small and fragile land ecosystems will determine how ecosystem services, terrestrial and marine biodiversity and livelihoods will be maintained and sustained over the coming years.	These are the key stakeholders who contribute to, and suffer as a result of, land degradation. Community members approach to and practice of using land will need to be addressed in a way that ecosystem services and their livelihoods are maintained or enhanced as a result of SLM.	Community members are expected to be key players in consultations and the design of new systems and approaches and will benefit from the models and technologies to be developed and used.
Customary Lands Tribunal and other courts	Clarifies ownership issues that act as fundamental barrier to SLM. Procedures in settling land disputes and issues. Implementation of Acts and ordinances relating to land use and land rights and environmental legislations	The Magistrate and High court oversees procedures for facilitates settlement of land disputes including transference of land titles.	Tribunal members will be trained and the overall capacity of the tribunal will be strengthened under the project Awareness on Integration and mainstreaming of SLM principles to current planning principles, land legislations as well as environmental legislations Judges and legal officers acting as advisors on land planning and legislation reviewing
NGOs and CBOs	A range of NGOs – including Live and Learn, FSP-Vanuatu, World vision, Oxfam, all work with local communities to promote sustainable livelihoods	Much of the community-level training would be best delivered through NGOs/CBOs with existing relationships with the communities	The MSP will provide training and financial support to successful NGOs (on competitive tender) to enable them to expand existing programs and communities activities to include SLM issues.

Annex 9 Project Budget Summary by Output

OUTCOME:	GEF	Co-Finance (US\$)		Total
		Govt. Co-Finance	Other Co-Finance	
1 Completion of NAP				
<i>Output 1.1 Gender needs assessment</i>	0	0	8000	8000
<i>Output 1.1 Preparation of NAP</i>	0.00	0	19200.00	19200.00
<i>Output 1.2 NAP Adoption</i>	0.00	0	2000	2,000.00
Total Outcome 1:	0.00	0	29,200.00	29,200.00
2 Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management				
<i>Output 2.1 Integration into national development plans</i>	0	30 000.00	0.00	30,000.00
<i>Output 2.2 Integration into sector/thematic action plans</i>	15000	15 000	0.00	30,000.00
<i>Output 2.3 Harmonization of SLM priorities</i>	5000	0	0	5 000
<i>Output 2.4 Incorporation of land degradation issues into decision-making processes</i>	20000	5000	0	25 000
Total Outcome 2	40,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	90,000.00
3 Capacities developed for SLM				
<i>Output 3.1 Enhanced legal framework for SLM</i>	41,200.00	20,000	50,000.00	92,000.00
<i>Output 3.2 Enhanced administrative capacity for SLM</i>	109,400.00	302, 000	90, 000.00	501, 400
<i>Output 3.3 National decision-makers' knowledge and understanding of SLM and land degradation issues is improved</i>	30,000.00	4,000	0	34,000
<i>Output 3.4 Enhanced capacity of landowners, traditional and community leaders to implement SLM through workshops and training materials by Department of Agriculture and NGOs</i>	130,200.00	10,000	0.00	140,000
Total Outcome 3:	310,600.00	336,000.00	140, 000.00	786,600
4 Medium Term Investment Plan				
<i>Output 4.1 Identification & costing of investment needs</i>	7000	0	0	7000
<i>Output 4.2 Preparation of investment plan</i>	15000	0	0	15000
<i>Output 4.3 Analysis of sources of funding & discussions</i>	3000	8000	5000	16000
<i>Output 4.4 Adoption by Council of Minister</i>		2000		2000
Total Outcome 4	25000	10 000	5 000	40,000.00
5 Adaptive Management and Lessons Learnt				
<i>Output 5.1 Committee Operational Costs</i>	3,000.00	5,000	0000.00	8,000.00
<i>Output 5.2 Monitoring and Evaluation Costs</i>	42,400	5,000	000.00	47,400.00
Total Outcome 5:	45,400.00	10,000	0,000.00	55,400.00
Project Management Unit				

<i>Output 5.1 Contractual Services</i>	40,000.00	0000	00000	40,000.00
<i>Output 5.2 Office Equipment</i>	10,000	16,000	0000	26,000.00
<i>Output 5.3 Travel Costs</i>	4,000.00	0.00	00	4,000.00
Total Management	54,000	16,000	0	70,0000
TOTAL MSP	475,000.00	426,000.00	170,200.00	1,071,200.00
PDF A	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	25,000.00
GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$500,000.00</u>	<u>\$426,000.00</u>	<u>\$170,200.00</u>	<u>\$1,096,200.00</u>

Annex 10 Detailed Activity Budget (AWP)

	Year			Responsibility	Donor	Budget Description	GEF	Co-Finance	TOTAL (US\$)
	1	2	3						
OUTCOME 1: COMPLETION OF NAP									
<i>Output 1.1 Gender needs assessment</i>	x			MLNR	AusAid	Consultancy fees		8000	8,000.00
Output 1.1 Sub Total								8000	8,000.00
<i>Output 1.2 Preparation of NAP</i>	x			MLNR National Consultant	AusAid SPREP				
Develop a draft NAP including problem and root cause analysis and prioritization of actions	x					Consultancy fees	0.00	11000.00	11,000.00
Complete the modification and validation of the NAP through stakeholder workshop and provincial consultations	x					National Stakeholder Workshop	0.00	4200.00	4,200.00
UNCCD National Steering Committee (NSC) endorsement/validation of the NAP						Meetings of the UNCCD NSC	0.00	500.00	500.00
Final compilation of the NAP						Translation and printing costs		3500.00	3,500.00
Output 1.2 Sub Total							0.00	19,200.00	19,200.00
<i>Output 1.3 Adoption of NAP</i>				MLNR Council of Ministers	AusAid SPREP				
1.3.1 Official submission of the NAP	x						0.00	0.00	0.00
1.3.2 Official launch of the NAP Document	x					Official National Launch – media packs, refreshments	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Output 1.3 Sub Total							0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total Outcome 1:							\$0.00	\$29,200	\$29,200.00
OUTCOME 2: MAINSTREAMING OF SLM									
<i>Output 2.1 Integration into National Development Plans</i>									
2.1.1 Review of national plans	x			Prime Minister's Office MLNR MOF MFAT AG's Office		Meeting costs Personnel	0.00	15,000.00	15,000.00

2.1.2 Training for national planners	x			DLNR	DLNR	Personnel	0.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Output 2.1 Sub Total							0.00	30,000.00	30,000.00
Output 2.2 Integration in sector/thematic action plans									
2.2.1 Sectoral guidance materials prepared		x		MLNR	GEF	Personnel Materials	5,000.00	5000.00	10,000.00
2.2.2 Training workshops and consultations	x	x	x	MLNR MQALFF	GEF	Personnel	10,000.00	10000.00	20,000.00
Output 2.2 Sub Total							15,000.00	15,000.00	30,000.00
Output 2.3 Harmonization of environmental frameworks		x		MLNR MQALFF BoM VEU	GEF				
2.3.1 Meetings to discuss sectoral plans						Personnel	2000	00	2,000.00
2.3.2. Review and identification of need for revision						Meeting costs	3000	00	3,000.00
Output 2.3 Sub Total							5000	000	5,000.00
Output 2.4 Incorporation of land degradation issues into decision-making processes for new project and development proposals	x			MLNR	GEF DLNR				
2.4.1 Preparation of information materials about EMCA requirements;	x					Personnel Printing costs	10000	5000	15,000
2.4.2 Reporting protocols established with VEU	x					Personnel	10,000	0	10,000
Output 2.4 Sub Total							20,000	5,000	25000
Total Outcome 2:							\$40,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$90,000.00
OUTCOME 3: CAPACITIES DEVELOPED FOR SLM									
Output 3.1 Legal framework for SLM is enhanced									
3.1.3 Compliance audit of lease and lease conditions	x			MLNR	Ausaid	Consultant	00	15,000.00	15,000.00
3.1.2 Land Act drafting		x	x	MLNR	GEF MLNR	Personnel	00	5,000.00	5000.00
3.1.3 Review of Foreshore Protection Act		x		MLNR	Ausaid	Consultant	00	25,000.00	25,000.00
3.1.4 Review legal framework for customary land administration	x			MLNR	GEF MLNR	Workshop costs	00	7,000.00	7,000.00
3.1.5 Draft lease conditions for	x			MLNR	GEF	Travel for consultations Consultant	20,000	9,000	29,000.00

SLM						Meeting costs for review			
3.1.6 Review and amend EMCA to enhance SLM in EIA	x	x		MLNR	GEF	Consultant Personnel Workshop costs	21,200	9000	30,200
Output 3.1 Sub Total							41,200.00	70,000.00	112,000.00
Output 3.2 Enhanced administrative capacity for implementing SLM framework									
3.2.1 Digitizing, archiving, GIS mapping of land	x	x	x	MLNR	GEF MAF/FAO	Personnel Office space Travel costs IT equipment	00	300,000.00	300,000.00
3.2.2 Effectiveness of Dept of Lands in fulfilling obligations	x	x		MLNR	NZAid	MLNR – Personnel, Training materials workshops	00	90,000.00	90,000.00
3.2.3 Support to VEU for EIA	x	x	x	MLNR VEU	GEF VEU	Personnel Office space Office equipment	109,400.00	2000.00	111,400.00
Output 3.2 Sub Total							109,400.00	392,000.00	501,400.00
Output 3.3 Enhanced knowledge and understanding of SLM and land degradation among national and provincial decision-makings									
3.3.1 Preparation of training materials	x	x		MLNR MQALFF	GEF	Personnel Printing costs	10000	0	10,000
3.3.2 Workshops	x	x		D of AGs Provinces		Travel costs for provincial participants	20000	4000	24,000
Output 3.3 Sub Total							30,000.00	4,000.00	34,000.00
Output 3.4 Enhanced knowledge and understanding of SLM techniques among traditional leaders, landowners				MLNR-PMU Dept of Ag	Dept of Agriculture	Personnel Preparation and production of Materials	20,000	5000	25,000
3.4.1 DoAg expands sustainable farming practices training	x	x	x						
3.4.2 Specialist training and capacity building of chiefs, through MalvataMauri				MLNR Malvatamauri	GEF	Personnel Contract to MalvataMauri	30,000	0	30,000
3.4.3 Training of community and landowners by NGOs				MLNR-PMU NGOs	GEF	Personnel Contract to NGOs	80,000	5000	85,000.00
Output 3.4 Sub Total							130,000.00	10,000.00	140,000.00
Total Outcome 3:							<u>310,600.00</u>	<u>476,000.00</u>	<u>\$786,600.00</u>

OUTCOME 4: MEDIUM TERM INVESTMENT PLAN									
<i>Output 4.1 Development of a Medium term Investment Plan with associated resource mobilization plan that incorporates SLM</i>									
Identify priority SLM investment needs and opportunities			x x	MLNR Local Consultants MOF	GEF	Consultant	7,000.00		
Output 4.1 Sub Total							7,000.00		7,000.00
<i>Output 4.2 Preparation of investment plan</i>			x	MLNR Local Consultants MOF	GEF	Consultant Training costs for department of Finance personnel	15,000.00		
Output 4.2 Sub Total							15,000.00		15,000.00
<i>Output 4.3 Analysis of sources of funding & discussions</i>			x x x	MLNR	GEF AusAid MLNR	Consultant Personnel - coordination of donor discussions venue hire, meeting costs	3000 00 00	00 8000 5000	
Output 4.3 Sub Total							3,000	13,000	16,000
<i>Output 4.4 Adoption by council of Ministers</i>			x	MLNR	MLNR	Communications, meeting costs, personnel	00	2000	2,000
Total Outcome 4:							\$25,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$40,000.00
OUTCOME 5: ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT AND LESSONS LEARNT									
<i>Output 5.1 Committee Operational Costs</i>									
5.1.1 NSC & TAG	x	x	x	MLNR	GEF	Meetings of committees	3,000.00	5,000.00	8,000.00
Output 5.1 Sub Total							3,000.00	5,000.00	8,000.00
<i>Output 5.2 Monitoring & Evaluation Costs</i>									
5.2.1 Mid-Term Review (only if required)		x		MLNR-PMU	GEF	Monitoring and Evaluation Reviews of the project's progress	5,000	0.00	5,000.00
5.2.2 Final Evaluation			x	MLNR-PMU	GEF		17,000	000	17,000.00
5.2.3 Annual Audits	x	x	x	MLNR-PMU	GEF		2400	0.00	2400.00
5.2.4 Inception workshop	x			PM	GEF/MLNR		6,000	2000	2,000.00
5.2.5 Lessons Learned	x	x	x	PM	GEF/MLNR		6,000	2000	8,000.00
5.2.6 Field Visits	x	x	x	PM	GEF/MLNR		6000	1000	7000
Output 5 Sub Total							42,400.00	5,000.00	47,400.00
Total Outcome 5:							45,400.00	10,000.00	55,400.00
PROJECT MANAGEMENT									
Contractual Services									
Recruitment of Project Coordinator	x	x	x	DoL		Salary for 3 years	40,000.00		40,000.00
Sub Total							40,000.00	000000	40,000.00
Office Equipment									
Office Space	x	x	x	MLNR	MLNR	PMU	0.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
Laptop	x			MLNR	MLNR	PM office use	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Stationary	x	x	x	MLNR	GEF	PM office use	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
Printer	x			MLNR	MLNR	Office use		2000.00	2,000.00
Telecommunications	x	x	x	MLNR	MLNR	Office use	7000	0.00	7,000.00

Sub Total							10,000.00	16,000.00	26,000.00
Travel Costs									
Overseas/Local travel fares ²	x	x	x	MLNR	GEF	PM travel expenses	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
Sub Total							4,000.00	0000.00	4,000.00
Total Management							54,000	16,000	70,000
						PDF-A	<u>\$25,000.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$25,000.00</u>
GRAND TOTAL							<u>\$500,000.00</u>	<u>\$596,200.00</u>	<u>\$1,096,200.00</u>

² Includes field visits and regional learning exchanges

Annex 11 Total Budget and Workplan

Award ID: 00043332										
Award Title: PIMS 3617 CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT IN VANUATU										
Business Unit: FJI10										
Project Title: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT IN VANUATU										
Executing Agency: Department of Lands, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources (MLNR)										
GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Responsible Party (Implementing Partner)	Fund ID	Source of Funds	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ERP/ATLAS Budget Description/Input	Amount (USD) Year 1	Amount (USD) Year 2	Amount (USD) Year 3	Total (USD)	See Budget Note:
OUTCOME 2: Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management	Govt. of Van	62000	GEF	71300	Local Consultants	8,000	5,000	6,000	19,000	a
				71400	Contractual services	7,000	5,000	3,500	15,500	b
				72500	Office Supplies	2,000	0	0	2,000	c
				74500	Miscellaneous	0	2,000	0	2,000	d
				71600	Travel	0	1,500	0	1,500	e
				Total Outcome 2		17,000	13,500	9,500	40,000	
OUTCOME 3: Capacities Developed for SLM	Govt. of Van	62000	GEF	71300	Local Consultants	23,000	19,000	8,000	50,000	f
				71200	International Consultant	10,000	10,000	5,000	25,000	g
				71400	Contractual services	59,000	50,000	45,000	154,000	h
				72500	Office Supplies	16,400	10,000	8,000	34,400	i
				72300	Materials & Goods	0	5,000	0	5,000	j
				74500	Miscellaneous	3,000	5,000	1,200	9,200	k
				71600	Travel	17,000	10,000	6,000	33,000	l
				Total Outcome 3		128,400	109,000	73,200	310,600	
OUTCOME 4: Medium Term Investment Plan	Govt. of Van	62000	GEF	71300	Local Consultants	0	5,000	10,000	15,000	m
				71200	International Consultant	0	10,000	0	10,000	n
				Total Outcome 4		0	15,000	10,000	25,000	
OUTCOME 5: Adaptive Management and Lessons Learnt	Govt. of Van/UNDP	62000	GEF	71300	Local Consultants	4,400	5,000	5,000	14,400	o
				71200	International Consultant	0	6,000	15,000	21,000	p
				71400	Contractual services	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000	q

				74500	Miscellaneous	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000	r
				71600	Travel	2,000	1,000	1,000	4,000	s
					Total Outcome 5	8,400	14,000	23,000	45,400	
Project Management Unit	Govt. of Van	62000	GEF	71400	Contractual services	10,000	15,000	15,000	40,000	t
				72500	Office Supplies	6,000	2,000	2,000	10,000	u
				71600	Travel	2,000	1,000	1,000	4,000	v
					Total Management	18,000	18,000	18,000	54,000	
					PROJECT TOTAL (MSP)	\$171,800	\$169,500	\$133,700	\$475,000	

Summary of Funds:	
GEF (PDF-A + MSP)	\$500,000
Government of Vanuatu (In-kind & Technical assistance)³	426,000
Bilateral (Cash + In-kind)	170,200
Project Total	\$1,096,200

³ Refer letter of Co-finance on page 52

Budget Notes (please see Annex 10 for detailed activity budget):

- a. Locally recruited consultants will provide technical support for designing sectoral guidance materials/awareness materials and testing this on field, as well as reviewing national plans.
- b. Specialized short term service contracts by individuals for national workshops, trainings and coordination of meetings to discuss sectoral plans. For outcome 2 the costs for administrative and preparing workshop reports for the project coordinator is included. TOR for the consultants will be prepared by Project Coordinator.
- c. Printing costs for preparation of information materials about EMCA requirements.
- d. This includes materials for the workshops and contingency.
- e. This includes travel for local consultants as well as travel to the nine remote islands for workshops (mostly via planes). Sectoral workshops also include costs to get participants from outer islands.
- f. 3 Regional/Local consultants will be hired to undertake compliance audit of lease and lease conditions, review and amend EMCA and conducting EIA training workshops. It also includes outer island training workshop and consultancy costs and designing monitoring indicators for framing assistance. Assistance from Regional organizations (SPREP, SPC) will also be utilized, and hence this cost includes cost recovery for such services.
- g. 1 International consultant will be recruited draft lease conditions for SLM.
- h. Specialized short term service contracts by individuals, NGOs and Malavamauri for conducting specialist training and capacity building of chiefs, training of community and landowners in SLM, preparing of training materials, supporting and extending EIA services to community & stakeholders, digitizing and archiving GIS maps and coordinating national/community based workshops and trainings. For outcome 3 the costs for administrative and preparing workshop reports for the project coordinator is included. TOR for the consultants will be prepared by Project Coordinator.
- i. Printing costs for preparation of information materials for community SLM capacity building (includes production of materials in traditional language). This also includes as well as office supplies for extending EIA services materials (see 3.2.3 in Annex 8)
- j. This includes equipment and materials for community based farming assistance programmes.
- k. This includes materials for the workshops and contingency in the different islands.
- l. Travel costs for island & provincial participants to workshops under output 3.3.
- m. 2 Regional/Local consultants will be hired to identify priority SLM investment needs and opportunities and assist in local discussions on the investment plan
- n. 1 Regional/International consultants will be hired to prepare investment plan and analyse sources of funding. Assistance from Regional organizations (SPREP, SPC) will also be utilized, and hence this cost includes cost recovery for such services.
- o. 2 Regional/Local consultants will be hired to assist in mid-term and final evaluations. Also include costs for annual project financial audits.
- p. 2 Regional/International consultants will be hired to undertake mid-term, final evaluations of the project and compile lessons learnt report. Assistance from Regional organizations (SPREP, SPC) will also be utilized, and hence this cost includes cost recovery for such services
- q. Specialized short term service contracts by individuals for coordinating donor based discussions on the investment plan.
- r. This includes materials for the workshops and contingency
- s. This includes travel for local consultants.
- t. Project Coordinator and short term individuals to be contracted to prepare TORs, disseminate draft workshop Report, undertake coordination responsibilities with Govt. and relevant organizations, gather feedback from relevant agencies and organizations as appropriate, assist in project monitoring as well as reporting to donors, UNDP-GEF and Government. See Annex 6 for TOR
- u. Computer, Peripherals and office expenditures (see detailed costs under output 5 in Annex 10)
- v. Funding for engaging in the community of practice (participation in regional and sub-regional exchange of experiences; costs of purchasing knowledge products from outside the country, participation in regional and sub-regional dedicated training, for networking and sub-contracting technical services from regional and international sources

Annex 12: Risk Management and Mitigation Matrix

Risk Type	Date Identified	Risk Description	Risk Management	Critical	Review Date	Risk Monitor
Environmental	9/7/07	Increasing vulnerability of land resources resulting from changing environmental conditions from natural and human induced factors	Realistic activities for management and increased resilience of land resources Change of project activities to suit changing needs & conditions-revision of LFA	No.	Q2 2008	PMU/ State Coordinators
Financial	9/7/07	Delay in disbursement of project funds (both UNDP & Ministry of Finance)	1.1. Details of disbursement communicated to project management once funds transferred 1.2. Regular financial monitoring and finance procedure training 1.3. PMU to engage discussions with government finance 1.4. Regular review of business processes 1.5. Induction training for project coordinators 1.6 Review of financial procedures at UNDP and at Government level.	Not Yet	Q1 2008	UNDP/ PMU
Operational	9/7/07	1. Non-inclusive stakeholder involvement in the consultation/implementation process 2. Delay in the implementation of activities 3. Legal drafting capacity is available or can be contracted as part of the project 4. Parliament lacks political will to enact reforms	1.1 Clear guidelines where stakeholders are engaged 1.2 Monitoring of stakeholder involvement and engagement 2. Review of pending activities as part of the APR reporting 3. Budget allows incentive for recruiting qualified recruitment personnel 4. Regular communications and media stories regarding project activities and importance of the issues; briefings to Lands Steering Committee	Not Yet	Q1 & Q2 2008	PMU/SD Unit/UNDP

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SIGNATURE PAGE

Country: Republic of Vanuatu

UNDAF Outcome(s): Environmental Sustainability Energy Mainstreamed into national and regional policies, planning frameworks and programmes

Expected Outcome(s)/: Capacity for sustainable land management is enhanced

Expected Output(s)/: Sustainable Land Management mainstreamed into national development policies, strategies, programmes and projects.

Implementing partner: Government of Vanuatu Department of Lands, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources

Other Partners: UNDP, SPREP, AusAid, NZAid

<p>Programme Period: 2008-2010 Programme Component: Energy and Environment for Sustainable Development Project Title: Capacity Building and Mainstreaming for Sustainable Land Management in Vanuatu Project ID: 00043332 / 00050519 Project Duration: 3 years Management Arrangement: NEX</p>

<p>Total Budget \$1,096,200</p> <p>Allocated resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP-GEF MSP \$475,000 • PDF-A \$25,000 <p>Co-financing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government (In-kind) \$426, 000 • Other: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bilateral \$170, 200
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<p>Agreed by (Government):</p> <p align="right">Date: _____</p>
<p>Agreed by (Implementing partner):</p> <p align="right">Date: _____</p>
<p>Agreed by (UNDP):</p> <p align="right">Date: _____</p>