



Government of Vanuatu

Ministry of Agriculture, Quarantine, Forestry and
Fisheries (MAQFF)

Strengthening Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting
(MAR) on Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in Asia
Project (GCP/INT/988/JPN)

Implementation Phase

Phase II Final Report

January 2010 to July 2010

Rexon Viranamanga

Vanuatu MAR-SFM National Project Coordinator

PMB 9064, Port Vila, Vanuatu

Phone: (678) 23171 Fax: (678) 23856 M/phone: (678)

7784469

Introduction

Section 4 in the Letter of Agreement (LOA) between the Vanuatu Government represented by the Director General of the Ministry of Forests and the FAO Senior Forest Officer for the Asia Pacific Region noticeably outlined the terms and conditions (a-f) of project reporting. Thus the main purposes of this report are to present the financial statement for the second instalment of the implementation phase of MAR-SFM project in Vanuatu.

Background

The general objective of the project is to increase and improve the institutional capacity of the Vanuatu Department of Forest to plan and manage the country's forest and trees resources on a sustainable basis. Following the study on the Vanuatu forest data and resource assessment and reporting that was done by Dr. CORRIGAN Helen during the developing phase of the project, the general objective was further rationalized to three operational objectives; i) to reclassify the vegetation of Vanuatu, ii) to review the national forest inventory of Vanuatu and iii) to develop the national forest sector plan for Vanuatu.

Nevertheless, due to funds limitation under the MAR-SFM project only the first objective was endorsed by FAO to be implemented by the project. The activities to achieve this objective were included in the LOA.

Activities Planned for January - July 2010

The second financial instalment was for the implementation of activities;

Activity 1.2 Interpretation of GIS & RS and creating of unsupervised vegetation classification,

Activity 1.3 Field check of the unsupervised vegetation classification on the island of Efate, Santo, Malekula, Erromango and Aneityum

Implementation and Achievements

Activity 1.2 to interpret the GIS & RS to create the unsupervised vegetation classification was done by Mr. Martin Schweter (GIS & RS consultant) consulted by the project. The duties and responsibilities of the consultant was provided in the consultant terms of reference (TOR) while the terms and conditions are provided in the contract signed by Mr. Schweter with the Department of forests.

Mr. Schweter was in Vanuatu for six weeks creating the unsupervised vegetation classification with the radar images from the Vanuatu Department of Lands and Survey and the Landsat 7TM from the Carbon Credit Project and various websites on the internet. Unfortunately the Landsat 7TM images provided by the Vanuatu Department of Lands Survey were already merged with the radar images and couldn't be used for the classification. Consequently it slows down the classification process and Mr. Schweter has to complete the rest of the islands in Germany.



Mr. Martin Scheweter creating the unsupervised vegetation for Efate using radar images with various images.

Field Checks on Efate

Vegetation field checks on Efate and the offshore islands was intensive compare to Malekula and Santo purposely for Mr. Scheweter to obtain a good knowledge on the type of vegetations he is observing from the satellites images. Thus, the methods of field checks involved, accessing the areas on foot, vehicle, boat and aeroplane.

The original vegetations on Efate that are accessible have changed to other land uses and with the current population pressure the remaining interior forests are slowly disappearing. It was conspicuous from a an aeroplane ten meters above the forest canopy.



The low forests that exist between Snake Hill and Devils Point have been converted to other development.



Field check on Nguna and Pele islands by boat, vehicle and foot.



Field checking the remaining low forest and mid-height forest at Tanaliu towards the tallest mountain on Efate (Mt Eskin) with the field assistance of Jack Kalo.



Field checking on the aeroplane around the island of Efate observing the degraded forests and the remaining forests in the interior.

Field Checks on Santo

Similarly to Efate, most forest along the Eastern and Southern part of the islands has been deforested and converted to various land uses. The mid-height open forest on the East has been heavily logged since early sixties and because it is an open forest the areas are covered by *Meremia peltata* and pioneer trees species and shrubs such as *Magaranga*, *Hibiscuss tilliacies*, *Trema orientalis* etc. These areas are slowly converted in shifting cultivation, cattle grazing, commercial agriculture and forest plantation and woodlot. The low forest and mid-height forests in the interior and on the West Coast of the island still exist.

Logged over areas on East Santo converted in to shifting cultivation



Logged over areas between Fanafo and the industrial forest plantation Santo converting to cattle crazing, forest planation and settlement.



Low and mid-height forest at inland from Butmas



Some of the difficulties face during the field checks (running creeks on South Santo,



Logged over areas between Sara and Big Bay converted into agriculture cash crops and shifting cultivation



The forest structure and cover on the West Coast of Santo



Field Checks on Malekula

The field checks on Malekula was done by Sam Channel (Senior forest Conservation/Botanist) and Daniel Layoung (Provincial Forest Officer-Malampa). Most of the sites near the villages have been converted into a combination of shifting cultivation and commercial agricultural farming while the forest areas inland still remain. Malekula is the main cocoa producer in the country and with rich markets that has been established with the European countries (organic) and also Singapore the cocoa farmers are clearing large areas for cocoa plantations. A part from that coconut plantation establishment is always a major one albeit the low price of copra. It is an emperor plant to rural communities as it perfectly embedded with their livelihood providing most of the basic needs such as food, building materials, medicinal means, poles, fuel wood and many more. Forestry plantation is also increasing resulting from the training and awareness on nursery establishment, plantation establishment and management, plantation harvesting, trade and marketing provided by the department of forests.

However, spread of *Meremia peltata* (vine) is problematic compare to Efate and Santo. Some agricultural farmers especially root crops and vegetables farmers prefer to have *Meremia peltata* for

the fallow period as found to replace the nutrients for the next planting much better and in shorter fallow period compared to trees and shrubs.

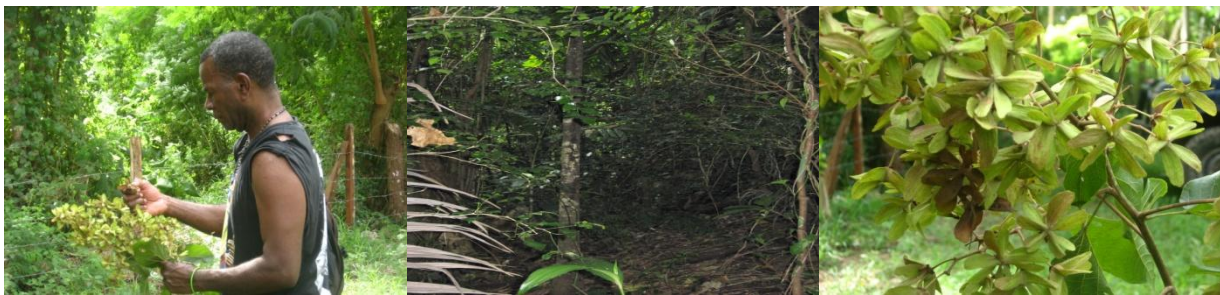
Extensions of coconut plantation and *Merremia peltata* in the interior of Walarano, North Malekula



The remaining low forests bordering the shifting cultivation and kava plantations for the Limap communities



Cattle grazing adjacent to the mid-height forest inland of Hatbol village



Land of Tisvel briefing Sam Chanel on the different land uses that existed within the field check areas



The different land uses at Tebibi village area



Financial Status*Phase 1 Financial Report*

As mentioned above the main activity for phase 1 is to purchase the equipments and materials that required to implement the activities under phase 2 and 3.

Table 2; Project Expenditures

Original Budget	5,706,320					
Date	Item	Qty	Description	Unit Cost (VT)	Cost (VT)	Balance (VT)
20/01/2010	Bank transfer fee	1	Bank transfer fee	1000	1,000	5,705,320
16/02/2010	Transfer of funds to Martin Schweter's bank account					
		1	Honorary fee	1,679,220	1,679,220	4,026,100
		1	Daily subsistence allowance	400,845	400,845	3,625,255
		1	Martin's Daily International Airfare	642,538	642,538	2,982,717
		2	GPS Antenna	3965	7,929	2,974,788
		1	Bank transfer fee	3000	3,000	2,971,788
19/02/2010	Tele card	1	Smile refill card	6,000	6,000	2,965,788
24/02/2010	GPS batteries	5	Panasonic LR6TP/2B A	200	1,000	2,964,788
24/02/2010	Fuel	1	Refill @ Au Bon Marche fuel station	4000	4,000	2,960,788
25/02/2010	Fuel	1	Refill @ Au Bon Marche fuel station	3000	3,000	2,957,788
25/02/2010	Field Assistance	3	Allowance for Jack Kalo around Nguna, Pele and mainland	2000	6,000	2,951,788
25/02/2010	Land transport	1	Land transport to various places on Nguna island	8300	8,300	2,943,488
25/02/2010	Subsistence allowance (nights)	3	Subsistence allowance for Rexon Viranamangga @ Nanga	10000	30,000	2,913,488
25/02/2010	Subsistence allowance (nights)	3	Subsistence allowance for Taura Titus @ Nanga	10000	30,000	2,883,488
25/02/2010	Subsistence allowance (nights)	3	Subsistence allowance for Anne Marie @ Nanga	10000	30,000	2,853,488
26/02/2010	Sea transport	1	Transport around Nguna island on boat from Utanlang Village	18000	18,000	2,835,488
26/02/2010	Fuel	1	Natranz Ltd	4000	4,000	2,831,488
26/02/2010	Sea transport	2	Return trip from Efate to Nguna on boat	7000	14,000	2,817,488
29/02/2010	Sea transport	1	Transport around Pele island on boat	17200	17,200	2,800,288
1/03/2010	Fuel	1	Refill @ Au Bon Marche fuel station	1000	1,000	2,799,288

5/03/2010	Air Safaris	1	Reconnaissance of Efate vegetation	58,725	58,725	2,740,563
8/03/2010	Fuel	1	Refill @ Asco Motors fuel station	3000	3,000	2,737,563
4/03/2010	Upgrade of Computer to 1TB	1	1 TB, Labour Change & Laptop Bag	39500	39,500	2,698,063
19/03/2010	Transfer of funds to Martin Schweter's bank account	1	Martin's Daily Subsistence Allowance	249330	249,330	2,448,733
19/03/2010	Telephone card	1	Smile refill card	5000	5,000	2,443,733
26/03/2010	Vehicle Repair	1	Repair to G564 used during field check	24000	24,000	2,419,733
30/04/2010	Telephone card	1	Smile refill card	5000	5,000	2,414,733
23/05/2010	Air Vanuatu	1	Return air fare from Vila to Norsup Malekula	24280	24,280	2,390,453
26/05/2010	Subsistence allowance	15	Sam Chenel's subsistence allowance (15 nights)	10000	150,000	2,240,453
27/05/2010	Subsistence allowance	10	Daniel Layang's subsistence allowance (10 nights)	10000	100,000	2,140,453
27/05/2010	Land transport	10	Transport hire for 11 days and discount of one day	9500	95,000	2,045,453
27/05/2010	Tour guide	8	Allowance for Tony Bong (Tour guide)	1000	8,000	2,037,453
27/05/2010	Telephone card	1	Smile refill card	5000	5,000	2,032,453
31/05/2010	Aire Vanuatu	1	Air fare (Vila/Santo/Vila)	30730	30,730	2,001,723
2/06/2010	Transfer of funds to Martin Schweter's bank account	1	Honorary fee	1400000	1,400,000	601,723
2/06/2010	Bank fee	1	Bank transfer fee	3000	3,000	598,723
9/06/2010	Subsistence allowance	30	Rexon's subsistence allowance	10000	300,000	298,723
14/06/2010	Fuel	1	Purchase fuel at Unity Store	5000	5,000	293,723
16/06/2010	Fuel	1	Purchase fuel at Unity Store	4570	4,570	289,153
25/06/2010	Telephone card	1	Smile refill card	5000	5,000	284,153
26/06/2020	Land transport	12	Hire of land transport	12000	144,000	140,153
28/06/2010	Subsistence allowance	7	Dick's subsistence allowance	10000	70,000	70,153
28/06/2010	Sea transport	2	Return trip from Tasariki to West Coast Santo on boat	30000	60,000	10,153
4/07/2010	Land transport	1	Trasariki to Luganville	12300	12,300	-2,147
TOTAL COST (VT)					5708467	

MAR-SFM PROJECT-VANUATU

2010

Opening Balance: 1000 vatu

Deposit (IWTBLWBL LTD SAMOA): 5,706,320

National Bank, Vanuatu Inward Transfer Fee: 1000

Expenses: 5,708,467 vatu

Expenses by Officers: 2,147 vatu

Current Balance: 1000 vatu

