

LESSONS LEARNT WORKSHOP

Deliverable 4.A

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COMPILED BY PROJECT COODINATOR

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PREPARED UNDER

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Introduction

The Republic of Vanuatu has negligible GHG emissions and the forest sector act as a net sink; however, the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu is fully committed to effective, and transparent implementation of the Paris Agreement (PA). In order to comply with its treaties under the UNFCCC and the PA, Vanuatu prepared and submitted National Communication (NC) reports – NC1 (30 Oct 1999), NC2 (30 Aug 2016), and NC3 (22 Mar 2021), the First Biennial Update Report (BUR), (16 Dec 2021); Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC), (29 Sept 2015).

The Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) aims to help countries better assess the impacts of their climate policies and actions and fulfil their transparency commitments. It does this by increasing the overall transparency capacities of countries, including the capacity to assess the contribution of climate policies and actions on countries' development objectives and providing appropriate methodological information and tools to support evidence-based policymaking. ICAT's innovative approach is to integrate these two aspects.

ICAT focuses on countries that can highlight the benefits of increased transparency to demonstrate policy impact and evidence-based action. ICAT generates evolving methodological guidance and extracts best practices, to be publicly available to all actors and increasing the global knowledge base. ICAT's work is country-driven, efforts build on existing MRV systems and knowledge in countries and complement previous or ongoing activities by other initiatives, where applicable. Support provided is tailored to the country's context and priorities. ICAT's work is aimed at engaging national expertise as much as possible while encouraging peer-to-peer learning.

ICAT is supporting Vanuatu in building national capacity for compiling GHG inventories, building a foundation for the NDC targets and tracking, and creating the evidence platform for the climate policies through improving Vanuatu's national inventory system for collecting GHG-related data and estimating GHG emissions from the categories prioritized by Vanuatu.

The project will discuss the potential for extending the sectoral coverage and fine-tuning the national targets by using the national data as the evidence base. The project will propose the potential indicators for the NDC tracking in light of the potentially extended targets and identify the required data sets and the applicable institutional arrangements to enable the relevant data.

This part of the project deliverable involves training on National Systems Guidelines for the national experts facilitated by the GHGMI from 9th – 10th October.

Training Program

The Lessons Learned workshop of the ICAT project was held in Port Vila on the 11th of October 2024 at the Melanesian Hotel. The Workshop was facilitated by the project coordinator and the national experts with Olia Glade from Greenhouse Gas Management Institute (GHGMI) as the project's implementing partner. The workshop gathered key stakeholders from the Department of Climate Change, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Energy, and the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) to discuss the lessons learned, challenges, and potential way forward of the ICAT project. The one-day workshop helps stakeholders better understand the achievements, lessons learned, and project challenges. CBIT project coordinator expressed their enthusiasm on how the ICAT project can assist them in certain activities to achieve some of the key targets of the CBIT project. Margret from the Department of Agriculture also shared the department's acknowledgment of the outcome of the project and expressed how the project contributed to assessing one of their policies thus helping them in strengthening their agriculture policies to accurately measure Greenhouse Gas emissions and also for precise reporting measures.

Lessons learnt

Lessons learned across all sectors include:

Waste Sector

- ❖ Expand data gathering to additional islands in Vanuatu that have organized waste collection systems.
- ❖ Input manual data into a digital system to ensure accessibility for departments and the public.
- ❖ Enhance data gathering and information sharing with sewage collection companies and municipal authorities regarding the domestic wastewater collection.
- ❖ Collect information on the total organic material extracted as sludge from domestic wastewater.
- ❖ Update the annual per capita for municipal waste generation figures.

IPPU Sector

- ❖ First, we need to enhance the annual data collection between customs and companies regarding the quantity of refrigeration and air conditioning appliances being imported and sold.
- ❖ Secondly, we need to gather specific data on the quantity of refrigeration and air conditioning units currently in operation, along with the age of these appliances.
- ❖ Lastly, we need to enhance the annual records on the types and quantities of HFCs being imported into the country.

Energy Sector

- ◆ Update annual data on the types of vehicles and the fuel type utilized.
- ◆ Revise the yearly average fuel consumption data for each category of vehicles.
- ◆ Revise yearly data gathering on the average distance covered by each category of vehicles.

Agriculture Sector

- ◆ Annual gathering of Data from commercial and subsistence livestock producers.
- ◆ Annual data collection on specific livestock breeds, including population figures for each breed, average weight per breed, number of days alive and typical mass of the animals.
- ◆ Revise the data on manure management systems and specify the types of manure management systems utilized for each type of livestock.
- ◆ Annual enhancement of dairy cattle records
- ◆ Collect annual population data on ducks.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the ICAT project expressed sincere appreciation to all stakeholders for their valuable contributions, feedback, and insights. Through our discussions and reflections, we've gathered a wealth of knowledge that will help us enhance future projects and refine our processes.

Key takeaways include:

1. **Acknowledging Successes:** We recognized the strategies and practices that worked well and brought value to the project, such as positive feedback on certain project materials that highly require stakeholder inputs.
2. **Identifying Areas for Improvement:** We also identified critical areas where improvements are needed, including strengthening institutional arrangements to better execute the deliverables of the project.
3. **Actionable Recommendations:** We've agreed on actionable recommendations moving forward, including developing agricultural data pathways and identifying ways to improve Vanuatu's energy balance.

It's clear that we all share a common goal of continuous improvement, and the insights shared today will guide our efforts to address challenges and seize new opportunities. By applying these lessons, we can ensure better alignment, avoid past mistakes, and create more effective, efficient, and successful outcomes, together we will continue to grow and drive positive change.