

## CEPF Final Project Completion Report – EMI Small Grants

*Please complete all fields and respond to all questions below.*

### Background Information

<b>Organization Legal Name</b>	<i>Live &amp; Learn Vanuatu</i>
<b>Project Title</b>	Scoping the Potentials for Ecosystem Services in Vanuatu
<b>Date of Report</b>	December 2016
<b>Report Author</b>	Glarinda Andre
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<b>CEPF Region</b>	<b>East Melanesian Islands</b>
<b>Strategic Direction</b>	Strategic Option#1: Empower local communities to protect and manage globally significant biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Area under-served by current conservation efforts  1.4 Demonstrate conservation incentives (ecotourism, payments for ecosystem services, conservation agreements, etc.) at priority sites
<b>Grant Amount</b>	USD\$20.000
<b>Project Dates</b>	April 2016-October 2016

1. Implementation Partners for this Project

*(Please list each partner and explain how they were involved in the project)*

<b>Partners</b>	<b>Activities(Involvement in this Project)</b>
<b>Department of Tourism Vanuatu</b>	The key challenge to implementing tourism financed PES programs lies in the development of an appropriate institutional framework.  Department of Tourism spearhead a lot of interviews and brought together stakeholders for the Roundtable workshop.
<b>Southern Cross University</b>	Expert Advices and guest speaker at the Roundtable workshop with presentations on PES overview & how PES can be designed to suit local contexts
<b>Ecotourism Australia</b>	Linking delivery of ecosystem services and existing commodity markets generally through a piece of process called eco-

	certification which in Vanuatu is led by Eco-Tourism Australia and the Department of Tourism. Eco-Tourism took part in this project with expert advices and also presented at the Roundtable workshop in Port Vila
<b>Nakau Programme</b>	The Nakau Tools and methodologies provided a base for the PES Project design in Vanuatu. The Nakau team also provided a lot of support on technical advice.
<b>Loru Community/Loru Protected Area</b>	This is a registered community conservation Area and also known as the Loru Forest Carbon Project supported by the Nakau Program.  Scoping Opportunities such as discussions held with chief skip on developing PES Tourism arrangements targeted specifically at conservation and habitat restoration of specific endemic birds
<b>Dolav(Gaua) Community</b>	This is a community with unique and significance cultural and environmental background. Activities involve a workshop with the Community of Dolav and also bringing the chief of Dolav to the Roundtable workshop in Port Vila.
<b>Vathe Community</b>	A community with a lot of experience on Conservation further discussions was held on how to strengthen learnings from past and existing Tourism conservation initiatives and what mechanisms are needed to ensure Tourism initiatives are added to the conservation area's to provide further funds for conservation actions within Protected Areas.

### **Conservation Impacts**

2. Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of CEPF's Ecosystem Profile for the East Melanesian Islands. For example, you may refer to the Strategic Directions that your project has contributed to.

## Strategic Option#1: Empower local communities to protect and manage globally significant biodiversity at priority Key Biodiversity Area under-served by current conservation efforts

### 1.4 Demonstrate conservation incentives (ecotourism, payments for ecosystem services, conservation agreements, etc.) at priority sites

Scoping Consultations went beyond the key community, Dolav in Gaua, which is a Key Biodiversity Area for Vanuatu under the CEPF eco-system profile, and went on to hold scoping discussions with the Loru Community Conservation Area in East Santo, the Vatthe Community Conservation Area in north Santo and the Kerepua Community in West Coast Santo. The aim of these consultation processes was to understand existing and potential opportunities for tourism investment and/or development to support specific conservation actions in a PES model. Discussions were held to identify community perceptions of strategies to support improve priority conservation outcomes and to generate alternative livelihoods that would underpin sustained conservation. In Loru and Vatthe discussions also included community learning about existing and past tourism initiatives and what mechanisms were needed to ensure tourism initiatives associated with the conservation areas provided sustainable funding for conservation actions.

3. Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project against the expected results detailed in your approved proposal.

Live & Learn Vanuatu worked very closely with the Department of Tourism to create a list of stakeholders who were interviewed and also attended the PES Roundtable meeting. (Please see attached document)

To achieve the Project objectives this scoping study brings together information collected through qualitative semi-structured interviews, participatory roundtable workshop and structured interviews with key tourism industry associations in Vanuatu, the Department of Tourism, participating community representatives from key biodiversity hotspots within the CEPF ecosystem profile (Dolav and Loru), Live and Learn, the Nakau Programme, CEPF, ACIAR, Southern Cross University, Ecotourism Australia, The South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP), TVET, Vanuatu Environmental Science Society (VESS) and other participating NGO's and governmental departments(see appendix A for full list)

A Roundtable workshop was held in Port Vila on the 29th of June 2016. Key objectives of the roundtable workshop was to provide an inclusive and collaborative environment where key stakeholders from local tourism industry, government, NGO's, research organizations and international guest speakers on ecotourism accreditation and PES could come together to discuss future options for PES in Vanuatu.

The roundtable workshop also had to be adapted to provide a more basic overview of PES and how it can relate to their tourism businesses. This meant adapting materials, presentations, speakers and outcomes of what we wished to achieve as it was obvious that in order to gain an understanding of the interest of the tourism industry in PES, however we had to first provide a through overview of this concept for stakeholders to properly contribute to discussion.

While this process limited the ability to reach all of the key questions put forward in the scoping study proposal, ***the roundtable workshop did provide an ideal environment to expand the tourism industries knowledge of PES and increase their interest in a collaborative manner.***

The Secretary General of Torba Province Mrs Ketty Dan was also informed through a series of emails informing her on Piloting this project in Dolav. However it was a challenge to meet with her since the Provincial head quarter was based in Mota Lava and the PES Project site was based in Gaua another Island in the Banks Group.

The Chief of Loru Chief Skip and Chief of Dolav chief John were both flown in to Port Vila to attend the Roundtable workshop. Activities in the roundtable workshop consisted of the presentation of case studies from chiefs of Loru and Gaua to introduce themselves and present their case studies to potential PES partners within the tourism industry.

4. Please describe any successes and/or challenges faced towards achieving the expected short-term and long-term impacts of the project work.

The outcomes of the workshop and interviews found that the key challenge to implementing tourism financed PES programs lies in the development of appropriate institutional frameworks, clear mechanisms and pathways from individuals and communities caring for specific eco-systems to tourism industry stakeholders who benefit from the eco-system and environmental outcomes produced on the ground.

Quality assurance mechanisms (such as certification, accreditation, codes of conduct, corporate social responsibility and triple and quadruple bottom line reporting) provides an avenue for developing incentives for tourism operators and industry to invest and participate in PES. Yet at present there is no formal quality assurance mechanisms in Vanuatu for ecotourism or sustainable tourism in general.

Ecotourism accreditation which is planned to roll out in 2017 can provide incentives for tourism industry stakeholders to engage in PES by providing intangible benefits such as improving business image, protecting the brand, and increasing marketing exposure. This increased marketing exposure can occur from both Ecotourism Australia marketing in addition to exposure through PES brokers websites such as Nakau (<http://www.nakau.org/>).

Moreover this study sought to initiate discussions on PES and raise the awareness and understanding of PES within Vanuatu in a collaborative manner. Outcomes from these discussions consisted of increased awareness and enthusiasm from some key tourism stakeholders in Vanuatu to be involved in pilot PES programs in Vanuatu with linkages to Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA's) as listed by CEPF.

5. Were there any unexpected impacts of your project (positive or negative)?

The overwhelming response to the survey questions was either fairly or very interested in connecting with a PES project. While the enthusiasm to engage in PES was high with no respondents showing no interest, some respondents suggested they would require more information to make an informed decision, while others suggested they are not sure how to connect with a PES project. It is recommended that future PES projects engage with these

stakeholders in the very near future to show proof of concept PES projects to further promote their enthusiasm and willingness to engage with PES.

Big Blue Scuba, TREK Vanuatu and the CEO of the Vanuatu Environmental Science Society (VESS) were the only respondents to suggest they were already engaging in PES projects. Big Blue explained that they pay landowners for access to dive and in return request that as long as this environmental resource is kept at a level suitable for diving (e.g. kept clear of rubbish, crown of thorns) they will continue to dive at this site and pay for this access.

6. If you did not complete any project components or activities, how did this affect the overall impact of the project?

This PES project has displayed that apart from a limited knowledge on Payments for Ecosystem Services in Vanuatu all of its listed activities were achieved within the project timeframe.

### **Products/Deliverables**

7. Please describe and submit (electronically if possible) any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

The Tools, products and methodologies used in this PES scoping project is summarized in the attached report called the Scoping the Potentials for Payments for Ecosystem Services in Vanuatu.(See attached Report)

### **CEPF Global Monitoring Data**

Respond to the questions and complete the tables below. **If a question is not relevant to your project, please make an entry of 0 (zero) or N/A (not applicable).**

8. Did your organization complete the **CEPF Civil Society Tracking Tool (CSTT)** at the beginning and end of your project?  
(Please submit the final CSTT document to IUCN Oceania if you have not already done so).

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Composite Score</b>
Baseline CSTT		
Final CSTT		

***This was not provided to us to be used in our PES Project.***

9. Please list any **Vulnerable, Endangered, or Critically Endangered species** conserved due to your project.
  1. Conservation of endangered Species-Protection of Forest to Mitigate Climate Change whilst conserving and increasing the stock of **Scrub Duck**

10. Hectares Under Improved Management

Project Results	Hectares*	Comments
11. Did your project strengthen the management of an existing protected area?	N/A	<i>Discussions with communities in Dolav and chief of Loru &amp; Vathe on Potential PES activities that can be added to strengthen Conservation actions</i>
12. Did your project create a new protected area or expand an existing protected area?	N/A	<i>List the name of each protected area, the date of proclamation, and the type of proclamation (e.g., legal declaration, community agreement, stewardship agreement)</i>
13. Did your project strengthen the management of a key biodiversity area named in the CEPF Ecosystem Profile (hectares may be the same as questions above)	N/A	<i>List the name of each key biodiversity area During the Community Workshop on Gaua LLV encourage people of Dolav to protect the SCRUB DUCKS and increase other alternatives-Traditional Agricultural Systems, Strengthen Cultural opportunities(Water Music, Cultural Dances, Art &amp; Craft), Strengthen Protected Areas(Terrestrial &amp; Marine)</i>

\* Include total hectares from project inception to completion

14. In relation to the questions above on protected areas, did your project complete a Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT), or facilitate the completion of a METT by protected area authorities? If so, complete the table below. (Note that there will often be more than one METT for an individual protected area.)

**This also was not provided to be used in this PES Project.**

Protected area	Date of METT	Composite METT Score	Date of METT	Composite METT Score	Date of METT	Composite METT Score

15. Direct Beneficiaries: Training and Education

<i>Did your project provide training or education for . . .</i>	Male	Female	Total	Brief Description
16. Adults for community leadership or resource management positions	3			

17. Adults for livelihoods or increased income				
18. School-aged children				
19. Other				

20. Please list the name and approximate population size of any “community” that benefited from the project.

Community name	Population size	Surrounding district	Surrounding province	Country
Dolav Community	200,000	-	Torba Province	Vanuatu
Loru Community	300,000	-	Sanma Province	Vanuatu





If you marked "Other", please provide details on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit

### **Lessons Learned**

Please describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider any lessons that would inform future projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.

#### 22. Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)

Live & Learn Vanuatu has previously completed a CEPF funded project in Gaua on strengthening the local stewardship of biodiversity by increasing the local community's consideration of biodiversity values in their decision-making which then lead to the design of this PES scoping project. The design of this project has built on a lot of knowledge and skills into linking Tourism and Environment to creating Conservation actions.

#### 23. Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)

The Project is an added value to the work of Live & Learn Vanuatu as a leading organisation on Vanuatu's successful carbon Project. PES and its opportunities to increase in Vanuatu also depends on the strength of Live & Learn Vanuatu. This project has brought a lot of organisational visibility on PES and carbon projects and has led to LLV building extra relationships with local and international stakeholders such as the Kaleva Yachting and the Eco-Tourism Australia.

#### 24. Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community

This project has also led to scoping other PES potential partners in Santo especially the Loru Conservation Project, Vathe and the Kerepua Project. Initial discussions and scoping of activities that can happen in this areas that could also be recognized as PES activities to create conservation actions.

### **Sustainability/Replication**

#### 25. Please summarize the success or challenges in ensuring that the project will be sustained or replicated in the future.

This PES project has highlighted opportunities where Tourism is integrated into Conservation actions such as the Dolav and Loru conservation area that are seen as a drawcard for tourists by providing regular tours. It is also being considered that conservation initiatives must align with

the goals of communities, and private sector as well as NGO's and government if they are to be viable in the long term.

While differing approaches could be taken to the management of PES in these KBA's, the outcomes of the need for a combination of conservation and social developers approach to PES must also recognize the differing drivers in their respective areas to be viable in the future.

26. Please summarize any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability of your project work.

There is real opportunity to develop PES pilots in CEPF listed Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA's), CCA's and MPA's which link businesses interviewed in this study to landholders in these areas.

An unplanned activity which had successful discussions was with the Kerepua community of West Coast Santo the Land owners of the Santo Mountain Chain by working with the Kerepua community to raise awareness on the importance of biodiversity and how communities can work together to address threats to biodiversity through PES Projects. The Community members present then identified a number of Tours currently going to the Santo Mountain Chain and also identified their need to register the Santo Mountain chain as a Community Conservation Area (CCA).

### **Safeguards**

Please provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies for this project.  
This may be attached in the form of an updated Social Safeguards document.

### **Additional Comments/Recommendations**

27. Please use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF.

Live & Learn Vanuatu is always concerned for actors involved in developing PES Projects in Vanuatu to always ensure;

- ✓ A participatory and collaborative approach that enables landholders and communities to gain incentives and
- ✓ To always transition into sustainable resource use that considers the entire ecosystem regardless of whether the PES arrangement focuses on one particular resource.

**Additional Funding**

**LLV did not get any other additional funding on this Project**

Please provide:

28. details of any additional funding that supported this project

29. details of any further funding secured for this project, your organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF's investment in this project

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Type of Funding*</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Notes</b>

\* Categorize the type of funding as:

- A Project Co-Financing (other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- B Grantee and Partner Leveraging (other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project)*
- C Regional/Portfolio Leveraging (other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project)*

**Information Sharing and CEPF Policy**

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our website, [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net), and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below if different from what has already been provided:

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