



EU EDF 8 – SOPAC Project Report 51
Reducing Vulnerability of Pacific ACP States

VANUATU

COUNTRY MISSION REPORT

28 June – 12 July 2005



Mele Bay

Prepared by:

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SOUTH PACIFIC APPLIED GEOSCIENCE COMMISSION

ADVISER FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MISSION TO PORT VILA, VANUATU 28 June -12 July 2005

EU-SOPAC Project Report 51

Netatua Pelesikoti

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PART 1

INTRODUCTION

Netatua Pelesikoti, Sustainable Development Adviser, SOPAC-EU EDF 8 Project, visited Port Vila, Vanuatu, from 28th June to 12th July 2005 to collect information for a planning, policy and institutional structure analysis, as a precursor to the development of an integrated coastal management plan for Mele Bay. The request from Vanuatu and the justification for the proposed integrated coastal management plan for Mele is discussed in *EU-SOPAC Project Report 47*. The policy and institutional assessment was to identify relevant policy and institutional mandates that should integrate the ICM process into the development planning processes as a means to institutionalise the ICM process during the preparation phase and beyond the EDF 8, thus promoting the sustainability of project activities.

Specifically, during her visit, Netatua Pelesikoti addressed the following Vanuatu Work Plan Tasks:

- VU 1.2.2 – Review of the effectiveness of the current monitoring system for extraction of beach sand aggregate from Mele Maat and Blacksands in the context of the integrated coastal area management plan.
- VU 1.2.9 – Review policy, legislation and institutional structure and capacity for the aggregate management and for a broader integrated coastal management.
- Explore the need and options for 3.1.
- Discuss the concern raised by the Vanuatu project intern on the need to review the Vanuatu Work Plan.

Netatua Pelesikoti met with stakeholders directly involved with planning and policy decision-making at the national level and the SHEFA Provincial Government to gather information for, and raise awareness about, the assessment and the EDF 8 Project as a whole.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the visit to Port Vila was to assess and review planning processes, legislation, and institutional frameworks for institutionalising the integrated coastal management (ICM) planning process and mainstreaming ICM within the Government of Vanuatu national development process. This exercise is required to ensure that ICM is not a project activity only but is incorporated/mainstreamed into the existing planning processes in Vanuatu.

LIST OF PEOPLE

Netatua Pelesikoti met with the following people during her visit to Vanuatu

- Mr Tom Burkitt, Mid-Term Review Consultant, MWH New Zealand Ltd
- Mr Tony Tevi, Ministry of Lands
- Mr Matt Temar, Ministry of Lands
- Mr Michael Mangawai, Ministry of Lands
- Mr Toco Mara, Ministry of Lands
- Mr Martin Sokomanu, Ministry of Lands
- Mr Paul Gameta, Ministry of Lands
- Mr Michel Kalorai, Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Ms Rosette Jack, Ministry of Lands
- Mr James Toa, Ministry of Finance
- Mr Thomas Banga, Ministry of Finance
- Mr Jeffery Kaitip, Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Mr John Lui, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management
- Mr John Herd, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management
- Mr Edward Ministry of Finance and Economic Management
- Mr Costa, EU Delegation, Vanuatu
- Mr Tony Kanas, Ministry of Lands
- Mr Fred Setrack, Ministry of Lands
- Mr Joe Sel, Ministry of Lands
- Mr Nellie Ham, Ministry of Health
- Mr Russell Nari, Ministry of Lands
- Mr Emil Mael, Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Mr Ernest Bani, Ministry of Lands

A full schedule of meetings with these stakeholders and others who were not available is provided in Annex 1.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Meetings were held with key planning and policy-making stakeholders at the national government and SHEFA Province directly involved with planning processes in Vanuatu to collect information for an integrated coastal planning, policy and institutional study. The study will assess and provide recommendations on the following:

- Key policy and legislations with provisions that could be applied to ICM.
- Institutions responsible for policy implementation.

- Identify the stakeholders that should be involved in the development of the ICM for Mele Bay.
- The process that development of the ICM for Mele Bay should follow.
- The functions of the ICM committee established.
- Steps to assess quarry applications.

In addition to the policy and institutional review, discussions were held with the stakeholders of the Vanuatu Work Plan for the Project to follow-up on recommendations from the Vanuatu Technical Advisory Committee meeting to review the Work Plan.

In each meeting the objectives of the EDF 8 Project and the objectives of the policy and institutional assessment in view of developing an ICM for Mele Bay were outlined prior to asking a range of questions relevant to the particular stakeholder. A wide range of useful information was collected:

- Key policy documents (see Annex 2 for a listing).
- The existing policy/legislation that covers integrated planning for natural resources management and the process for policy development.
- The functions of the implementing agency.
- Inter-institutional linkages/inter-agency planning committees/its functions, reporting requirements, how often they meet.
- Linkages to the community, in particular Mele Bay.
- Capacity of policy or relevant technical agency (a questionnaire was prepared to assess capacity).
- Institutions' missions and culture, institutional goals.
- Annual plans.
- Sector policy linkages to national development policy.
- SHEFA planning process.
- Administrative and legal 'definition' of coastal area/zone.
- Monitoring programmes/capacity/effectiveness.
- Priority issues relevant to the focal areas of the project.
- Composition and functions of ICM.
- Role of ICM after the project.
- Existing projects/donors in the areas of water and sanitation, hazard and risk, aggregates and coastal processes and GIS/ICT.

OUTPUT

The information collected during the mission to Port Vila will now be collated and analysed in order to produce a policy recommendation report for ICM in Vanuatu, and specifically in Mele Bay. This study will be in the form of a Technical Report and should be completed by November 2005.

GENERAL

Tabulated below are the Vanuatu Work Plan Tasks attended to during the visit with subsequent follow up action:

WORK PLAN ID	SUMMARY OF COMMENTS FROM STAKEHOLDERS	FOLLOW UP ACTION
VU 1.2.2	<p>Aggregates Monitoring Programme</p> <p>Discussions were held with Toni Tevi on the status of the monitoring programme and the capacity of the Department of Mineral Resources for monitoring. The existing 'monitoring' programme is ad hoc and is an informal arrangement with the people of Mele. Whenever the community noticed any diversion/shift of the river course, they would report to the Minerals Department. The Minerals Department usually contracted dredging companies to dredge in areas to assist in redirecting the river to its original course. Mineral Resources Division lacks reliable transport to be able to systematically monitor the Mele catchment. Further, the Mineral Resources Division has only two staff and one temporary staff (still on probation). The head of the division and the most experienced is stretched thinly over a lot of responsibilities.</p> <p>The Department of Mineral Resources would also like assistance in establishing a process for reviewing and assessing quarry permit applications.</p>	<p>A monitoring programme is to be developed with the proposed ICM for Mele Bay. The monitoring programme is to consider community and Mineral Resources Division roles and capacity.</p> <p>A community consultation process is recommended as the next activity for the Sustainable Development Adviser in coordination with the SHEFA Province and Land Use Planning, the Minerals Division of the Ministry of Lands.</p> <p>This will be developed in the technical report of this mission.</p>
VU 1.2.9	<p>Integrated Coastal Management – policy and institutional analysis</p> <p>Met with stakeholders and discussed existing policy/ legislation that covers coastal/watershed management, key natural resource planning players at the national Government and SHEFA Provincial Government. Representatives of the Ministry of Lands and the SHEFA Province outlined the procedure that the ICM process should follow, relevant policies, institutional structure, capacity and why Mele Bay was selected to be the case study area.</p> <p>The ICM committee established during prior missions of the project was also discussed in terms of its administration, compositions and proposed functions.</p>	<p>Netatua Pelesikoti will assess the information collected for the Mele Bay ICM policy and institutional report.</p>
VU 3.1	<p>ISM planning process and framework</p> <p>Discussions held with key planning agencies including the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management, Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Vanuatu Disaster Management Office led to the identification of the need for a national workshop to promote awareness of the ISM planning framework and the mainstreaming of hazard and risk assessment into the development process. Mr James Toa of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning stressed the importance for this meeting to provide the link with the EDF 8 project ISM framework, the regional framework for disaster and risk and the Vanuatu process of identifying national priorities.</p>	<p>Netatua Pelesikoti is to coordinate a national planning workshop for Vanuatu with the Hazard and Risk specialist and adviser for the EDF 8 project and with the SOPAC Community Risk Programme.</p>
VANUATU WORK PLAN	<p>Stakeholders raised their concern with the in-country activities planned to be implemented by the Project as described in the Vanuatu Work Plan. Discussed with relevant stakeholders priority areas for Project assistance.</p>	<p>Netatua Pelesikoti is to compile these priorities under each of the key result areas for further consideration by the SOPAC project management team (refer to part 2 of this report).</p>

ANNEXES:

Annex 1 – Timetable of Meetings; and
Annex 2 – Reference Documents.

Annex 1 – Timetable of Meetings

Name	Position	Organisation	Date	Time
Mr Tom Burkitt	Mid-Term Review Consultant		Tuesday 28 June, 2005	11 am – 1 pm
Mr Toney Tevi	Head	Minerals Section, Geology and Mines Department, Ministry of Lands	Wednesday 29	9 am
Mr Matt Tamar	IT Manager	Lands Department, Ministry of Lands	Thursday 30	3 pm
Mr Michael Mangawai	Director	Lands Department, Ministry of Lands	Thursday 30	4 pm
Mr Toco Mara	National Coordinator	NCSA Project, Environment Division, Ministry of Lands	Friday 1 July 2005	9 am
Mr Toney Tevi	Head	Minerals Section, Geology and Mines Department, Ministry of Lands	Friday 1 July	11 am
Mr Martin Sokomanu	Head	Corporate Services Unit, Ministry of Lands	Monday 4	10 am
Mr Paul Gambeta	Acting Director	Lands Survey Division, Ministry of Lands	Tuesday 5	9 pm
Mr Michel Kalorai	Environment Planning Officer	SHEFA Provincial Council, Ministry of Internal Affairs	Tuesday 5	2 pm
Ms Rosette Jack	Hydro Geologist	Hydrology Section, Department of Geology and Mines, Ministry of Lands	Tuesday 5	4 pm
Mr James Toa	Internal Affairs Sector Analyst	Department of Economic and Sectoral Planning, Ministry of Finance	Wednesday 6	9 am
Mr Thomas Banga	Natural Resource Sector Analyst	Department of Economic and Sectoral Planning, Ministry of Finance	Wednesday 6	9 am
Mr Jeffrey Kaitip	Physical Planner	Department of Provincial Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs	Wednesday 6	2 pm
Mr John Lui	Assistant IT Manager	Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management	Thursday 7	9 am
Mr John Herd	IT Trainer	Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management	Thursday 7	9 am
Mr Edward ?	Networking Manager	Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management	Thursday 7	9 am
Mr Costa	Head	EU Delegation	Thursday 7	2 pm
Ms Leah Nimoho	National Coordinator	International Waters Programme, Environment Unit, Ministry of Lands	Thursday 7	3.30 pm
Mr Tony Kanas	Geodetic Surveyor	Control Unit, Lands Survey Department, Ministry of Lands	Friday 8	8 am

Mr Fred Setrack	Human Resource Officer	Corporate Services Unit, Ministry of Lands	Friday 8	9am
Mr Joe Sel	Land Use Planner	Department of Lands, Ministry of Lands	Friday 8	10.30 am
Mr Nellie Ham	Water Quality and Monitoring Officer	Environment Health Unit, Ministry of Health	Friday 8	2 pm
Pakoa Rarua	Sanitation and Waste Officer	Environment Health Unit, Ministry of Health	Friday 8	2 pm
Taso	Sanitation Officer	SHEFA Health Office, Ministry of Health	Friday 8	2 pm
Ms Rossette Jack	Hydro Geologist	Department of Geology and Mines, Ministry of Lands	Friday 8	3 pm
Mr Russell Nari	Director General/National SOPAC Representative	Ministry of Lands	Monday 11	8 am
Mr Fred Setrack	Human Resource Officer	Corporate Services Unit, Ministry of Lands	Monday 11	10 am
Mr Emil Mael	Physical Planner	SHEFA Provincial Council, Ministry of Internal Affairs	Monday 11	2 pm
Mr Erickson Sammy	Acting Director	Department of Geology and Mines, Ministry of Lands	Monday 11	2 pm
Ms Rosette Jack	Hydro Geologist	Department of Geology and Mines, Ministry of Lands	Monday 11	2 pm
Ms Esline Garaebiti		Department of Geology and Mines, Ministry of Lands	Monday 11	3 pm
Mr Ernest Bani	Head	Environment Unit, Ministry of Lands	Tuesday 12 July 2005	9 am
Mr Job Esau	Director	NDMO	On leave	

Note: A meeting with Mr Job Esau Director of National Disaster Management Office was not possible as he was on leave.

An attempt was made to contact Allan lavro from the Department of Public Works but he was out of office.

Ms Uravo Nafuki, the lab technician who carried out tests for sand samples is in Japan till August 2005.

Annex 2 – Reference Documents

Johannes R. E. & Hickey F.R. UNESCO (2001) Evolution of village-based marine resource management in Vanuatu between 1993 and 2001, UNESCO, Apia.

Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources (2005), 2004 Annual Report, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Port Vila.

Government of Vanuatu, CRM Matrix 2004-2006

Government of Vanuatu, Department of Economic and Sector Planning (DESP) Business Plan 2006

Government of Vanuatu, Ministry of Lands, 2004 Business Plan

Government of Vanuatu (1993) National Environmental Strategies, SPREP, Apia.

Government of Vanuatu (1999) National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy. Environment Unit Government of Vanuatu

Government of Vanuatu White Paper on Mining Policy

Government of Vanuatu (2003) 2nd National Business Forum – Progressive Report on 1st Business Forum Matrix

Government of Vanuatu (2002) SHEFA REDI Five Year Economic Development Plan 2003-2007, Ministry of Home Affairs, Republic of Vanuatu

Tavala T. Y. and Hakwa M. (2004). Review of Environmental Legislation and Policies in Vanuatu, GEF/UNDP/SPREP, International Waters Program, Vanuatu.

Vanuatu Land Use Planning Policy (1998) (Revised Third Draft), Vanuatu Land Use Planning Project.

Willing & Partners Consulting Engineers (2000) Cyclone Dani Rehabilitation Project, Willing and Partners (NSW) PTY.LTD

_____ (2004) Environment Unit, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Barbados Program of Action + 10 National Assessment Report, Government of Vanuatu, Port Vila.

Legislations Reviewed

Environmental Management and Conservation Act 2002 (No. 12 of 2002)

Foreshore Development Act [CAP 90 of 1976] (Rev. 1998)

Mines and Minerals [CAP.190] (Act No. 11 of 1986)

Physical Planning Act [CAP 193 of 1987] (Rev 1988)

Water Resources Act No. 9 of 2002

These documents could be obtained from the SOPAC Secretariat (N. Pelesikoti) on request.