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REPUBLIC OF VANUATU/RÉPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

VANUATU METEOROLOGY AND GEO-HAZARDS DEPARTMENT DÉPARTEMENT DE LA MÉTÉOROLOGIE ET DES GÉORISQUES DE VANUATU

Phone: (678) 24686, 22932 VOIP: 5305 Fax: (678) 22310 Email: admin@meteo.gov.vu Website: www.meteo.gov.vu Address: PMB 9054, Lini Highway, Port Vila, Vanuatu

(Address correspondence to Director) (Toute correspondance doit être envoyée au Directeur)



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE

FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY (FCPF) – READINESS PREPARATION PROJECT FCPF GRANT No. TF 019203 (VANUATU)

For the Year Ended 31 December 2017



VANUATU METEOROLOGY AND GEO-HAZARDS DEPARTMENT DÉPARTEMENT DE LA MÉTÉOROLOGIE ET DES GÉORISQUES DE VANUATU



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law partners

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AND BUSINESS ADVISERS

Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) - Readiness Preparation Project Grant No. TF 019203 (Vanuatu)

The Auditor-General is the auditor of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) - Readiness Preparation Project. The Auditor-General has appointed Law Partners to undertake the audit of Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) - Readiness Preparation Project pursuant to Section 24(1) of the Expenditure Review and Audit Act [CAP 241].

Audit Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) - Readiness Preparation Project for the financial year ended 31 December 2017 consisting of the statement of cash receipts and payments, statement of comparison of budget and actual amount and accompanying notes set out on pages 4 to 12.

In our opinion, the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 as described above present fairly in all material respects, in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards – Financial Reporting under Cash Basis of Accounting and the projects administration complies with relevant Vanuatu legislation and regulations.

Basis for Opinion

We have conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report section of our report.

We are independent of the project in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Vanuatu. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Responsibilities of members for the financial statements

The members of the project are responsible for:

- the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements and the information they contain, in accordance with International Public Sector Accounting Standards: Financial Reporting under Cash Basis of Accounting;
- implementing necessary internal controls to enable the preparation of the financial statements that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- assessing the project's ability to continue as a going concern. This includes disclosing, as applicable,
 matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either
 intend to cease operations or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

TEL+678 22 091 FAX+678 23 665



Independent Auditors' Report to the members of Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) - Readiness Preparation Project Grant No. TF 019203 (Vanuatu) (continued)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objective is:

- to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. They are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located at the website https://www.ifac.org/system/files/publications/files/ISA-700-Revised_3.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Law Partners

Chartered Accountants

(Qualified auditors under Section 130 of the Companies Act No. 25 of 2012 of the

Republic of Vanuatu)

Jonathan Law Partner Port Vila 21 August 2018



VANUATU METEOROLOGY AND GEO-HAZARDS DEPARTMENT DÉPARTEMENT DE LA MÉTÉOROLOGIE ET DES GÉORISQUES DE VANUATU

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GOVERNMENT OF VANUATU

VANUATU METEOROLOGICAL AND GEO-HAZARDS DEPARTMENT

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY (FCPF) READINESS PREPARATION PROJECT

Grant No. TF 019203 (Vanuatu)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

Expressed in Vanuatu Vatu

	Notes	2017	2016	Cumulative
CASH RECEIPTS				
Direct Payments	2	14,095,060		14,095,060
Designated Account	2	68,045,598	49,267,851	137,313,449
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS		82,140,658	49,267,851	151,408,509
CASH PAYMENTS				
Category 1		86,531,239	50,046,026	146,525,153
Component 1 - Institutional Strengthening		33,071,027	33,488,044	76,506,959
Component 2 - Strengthening Stakeholder Engagement Process		41,215,257	11,308,280	52,523,537
Component 3 - Development of REDD + Strategy		12,244,955	5,249,702	17,494,657
TOTAL CASH PAYMENTS	3	86,531,239	50,046,026	146,525,153
CASH RECEIPTS LESS CASH PAYMENTS		(4,390,581)	(778,175)	4,883,356
IMPRESTS	7	(3,235,130)	(1,421,370)	150,000
NET CHANGE IN CASH	,	(1,155,451)	643,195	4,733,356
ADD OPENING CASH BALANCE AS AT 1 JANUARY		5,888,807	5,245,612	P
CLOSING CASH BALANCE AS AT 31 DECEMBER	4	4,733,356	5,888,807	4,733,356
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These statements are to be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies



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GOVERNMENT OF VANUATU

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FOREST CARBON PARTNERSHIP FACILITY (FCPF) READINESS PREPARATION PROJECT (Grant No. TF 019203 (Vanuatu)) VANUATU METEOROLOGICAL AND GEO-HAZARDS DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

STATEMENT OF COMPARISON OF BUDGET AND ACTUAL

Expressed in Vanuatu Vatu

		Notes		2017			2016		Cumulative	ive
			Budget	Actual	Variance	Budget	Actual	Variance	Lifetime Budget	Actual
Cash Receipts			128,360,000	68,045,598	60,314,402	128,360,000	49,267,851	79,092,149	331,200,000	69,267,851
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS	ECEIPTS		128,360,000	68,045,598	60,314,402	128,360,000	49,267,851	79,092,149	331,200,000	69,267,851
CASH PAYMENTS	TS									
Category 1			107,129,945	86,531,239	20,598,706	128,360,000	50,046,026	78,313,974	331,200,000	146,525,153
Component 1 -	Component 1 - Institutional Strengthening		37,300,425	33,071,027	4,229,398	44,600,000	33,488,044	11,111,956	119,600,000	76,506,959
1.1	National REDD+ Unit and REDD+ Technical Committee	5.1	31,100,425	28,668,605	2,431,820	23,600,000	20,509,523	3,090,477	72,550,000	57,338,326
1.2	Support to NAB and its PMU	5.2	2,000,000	4,402,422	(2,402,422)	15,640,000	4,600,856	11,039,144	27,040,000	10,790,968
1.3	Set-up of Provincial REDD+ Committee	5.3	4,200,000	1	4,200,000	5,360,000	8,377,665	(3,017,665)	4,440,000	8,377,665
	Contingency								15,570,000	
Component 2 -	Component 2 - Strengthening Stakeholder Engagement Process		9,206,250	41,215,257	(32,009,007)	33,760,000	11,308,280	22,451,720	90,160,000	52,523,537
2.1	Strengthening decentralisation structures	5.4	200,000	12,619,495	(12,419,495)	23,760,000	11,308,280	12,451,720	68,400,000	23,927,775
2.2	Assessment and strengthening of existing FGRMs	5.5	9,006,250	28,595,762	(19,589,512)	10,000,000	•	10,000,000	15,600,000	28,595,762
	Contingency								6,160,000	
Component 3 -	Component 3 - Development of REDD + Strategy		60,623,270	12,244,955	48,378,315	50,000,000	5,249,702	44,750,298	121,440,000	17,494,657
3.1	Analytical work to inform REDD+ strategy options	5.6	16,072,470		16,072,470	15,000,000		15,000,000	13,440,000	
3.2	SESA process and ESMF development	5.7	31,672,000	10,481,040	21,190,960	10,000,000	1	10,000,000	23,000,000	10,481,040
3.3	Consultation and participation activities	5.8	12,878,800	1,763,915	11,114,885	25,000,000	5,249,702	19,750,298	68,200,000	7,013,617
	Contingency								16,800,000	
TOTAL BUDGET AND ACTUAL	T AND ACTUAL		107,129,945	86,531,239	20,598,706	128,360,000	50,046,026	78,313,974	331,200,000	146,525,153

These statements are to be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies



VANUATU METEOROLOGY AND GEO-HAZARDS DEPARTMENT DÉPARTEMENT DE LA MÉTÉOROLOGIE ET DES GÉORISQUES DE VANUATU

Vanuatu Maria Mari

Phone: (678) 24686, 22932 VOIP: 5305 Fax: (678) 22310 Email: admin@meteo.gov.vu Website: www.meteo.gov.vu Address: PMB 9054, Lini Highway, Port Vila, Vanuatu

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Statement of Accounting Policies and Notes

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the project have been prepared in accordance with the requirement of the Public Finance & Economic Management Act (Cap 244) which includes the requirement to comply with generally accepted accounting practice.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Cash Basis IPSAS "Financial Reporting under the Cash Basis of Accounting".

There have been no changes in accounting policies during the financial year.

Reporting Entity

These financial statements are prepared specifically for a project that is managed by the Department of Forestry (DoF), supported in its fiduciary aspects by the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD). The project is funded through one grant of US\$ 3,600,000 from the Readiness Fund of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), and implemented through the World Bank. The DoF and VMGD form part of the Government of Vanuatu (GoV).

Under a grant agreement dated 31 March 2010, between GoV and the World Bank's International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), an amount not exceeding US\$ 200,000 was provided for formulating the REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP). (REDD+ means reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conservation of forest carbon stocks, sustainable management of forest, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks). Subsequent to the formulation of the R-PP, FCPF agreed to provide funding to move ahead with preparation for REDD+ readiness.

To this end, GoV, with the support of the World Bank, has successfully secured this second grant of US\$3,600,000 from FCPF to address these needs.

Under the Grant Agreement, only one Category of expenditure is provided for, as follows:

	Туре	US\$
Category 1	Goods, non-consulting services, consultants' services, Training and Workshops, and Operating	3,600,000
Total		3,600,000

The allocation of expenditure is therefore managed through Components and sub-components. The grant agreement identified the budget activities according to the following three components to be implemented under the project:

1 Institutional Strengthening

This includes activities to a) establish the National REDD+ Unit and supporting the REDD+ Technical Committee, b) supporting the National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (NAB) and its Project Management Unit (PMU), and c) establishing the provincial REDD+



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Committees. All this support is done through providing financial, technical and human resource support.

2 Strengthening Stakeholders Engagement Process

Activities under this component include a) strengthening participatory structures at the provincial and area council level to support stakeholder engagement in REDD+ process and b) assessing feedback and grievance redress mechanisms at the national and decentralized levels, and supporting their strengthening for REDD+.

3 Development of REDD + Strategy

Activities under this Component include a) supporting analytical work to inform REDD+ strategy options, b) undertaking Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) and preparing Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and c) conducting consultation and participation on key issues related to REDD+.

The project's accounting is fully integrated within the Government's Smart Stream system with additional data capture and reporting functions to accommodate the project's requirements such that payments are allocated against the respective Component, and reported accordingly.

The Project commenced operations during the third quarter of 2015, although the official commencement date was 10 April 2015 (the date of the grant agreement); the current end date of the Project (as per the grant agreement) is 30 June 2019.

During 2017, discussions were held with a view to securing additional financing for the project; it is expected that an additional US\$ 2.5 million will be secured during 2018, through an amendment to the Grant Agreement; it is also expected that the end date of the project will be extended.

Accounting Period

IPSAS cash accounting standards require that general purpose financial statements be prepared at least annually (IPSAS cash para 1.4.1). These financial statements cover the fiscal year 2017.

The balance of undrawn grants as at 31 December 2017 is US\$2,195,360, which is approximately VUV232 million.

Currency

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Reporting Currency

The reporting currency is Vanuatu Vatu (VUV).

Foreign Currency

In-country payments made in foreign currencies and reported in these financial statements have been converted to VUV by the National Bank of Vanuatu at the applicable rate as of the date of transaction.

The in-country fund receipts transferred from the World Bank were all in VUV.

The grant mentioned above is denominated in US\$. Withdrawals are charged against the grant, in the grant currency, based on exchange rates applied by the World Bank.



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Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash, which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

2. Cash Receipts (VUV)

Designated Account

Total	68,045,598
World Bank value date 30 October 2017	7,096,731
World Bank value date 14 September 2017	13,008,606
World Bank value date 21 August 2017	9,624,428
World Bank value date 07 August 2017	17,045,521
World Bank value date 23 June 2017	14,788,002
World Bank value date 27 April 2017	6,482,310

Direct Payments

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Name of Supplier	Value date	Foreign Currency Amount	VUV Amount
University of the South Pacific (USP)	02 nd August 2017	US\$ 74,000	7,667,050
Unique Forestry and Land use	08 th September 2017	US\$ 60,084	6,428,010
Total		440 042 10 10	14,095,060

The Designated Account (DA) is the local, entity-managed, account; funds are transferred from World Bank periodically, from which payments are made. Direct Payments are made by World Bank directly to the supplier/consultant, based on the official request of the authorized signatories of the project.

DoF receives the funds, which are managed by the VMGD/PMU, through the centralized Smart Stream system. Under this arrangement DoF does not control the funds; however, they carry out the implementation of the project. PMU makes payments on their behalf after appropriate authorization and documentation provided by DoF.

REPUBLIC OF VANU





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3. Cash Payments

The overall total of payments is given in the Statement of Cash Receipts and Payments. Further details are given in the table on below.

SUMMARY OF PAYMENTS

Expressed in Vanuatu Vatu

Component 1 Institutional State of	Notes	2017	2016	Cumulative
Component 1 Institutional Strengthening		33,071,027	33,488,044	76,506,959
1.1 REDD+ Unit and TC		28,668,605	20,509,523	57,338,326
REDD+ Technical Specialist		12,929,202	10,407,131	23,336,333
Outreach and Extension Officer		2,009,390	1,946,344	4,368,234
Smartstream System Development & Implementation		-	242,000	756,000
Technical Committee Meetings		31,460	893,500	924,960
Website Designer		180,000		180,000
Property Plant & Equipment	8	4,832,642		8,867,612
Training & Workshops		5,407,852	2,189,300	10,560,866
Operating Costs		3,278,059	4,831,248	8,344,321
1.2 Support to NAB & PMU		4,402,422	4,600,856	10,790,968
Procurement Officer		2,957,422	3,615,856	8,360,968
Structural Engineer		-	920,000	920,000
Cartoonist		169,000	65,000	234,000
Assistant Finance Officer		851,000	-	851,000
Project Audit		425,000	-	425,000
1.3 Provincial REDD+ Committees		•	8,377,665	8,377,665
Training & Workshops			8,353,165	8,353,165
Operating Costs			24,500	24,500
Component 2 Strengthening Stakeholder Engagement Process		41,215,257	11,308,280	52,523,537
2.1 Strengthening Decentralization Structures		12,619,495	11,308,280	23,927,775
Training & Workshops (Farmer Association)			1,535,000	1,535,000
Training & Workshops (TAC CB)			3,337,680	3,337,680
Training & Workshops (TAC Coordinator)		540,000	4	540,000
CSO Coordinator		1,697,960	1,428,000	3,125,960
Training & Workshops (CSO)		10,381,535	5,007,600	15,389,135
2.2 Assessment & Strengthening of FGRMs		28,595,762		28,595,762
Institutional Specialist		16,468,540	. Indian ser	16,468,540
Legal Draftsman		9,331,247	-	9,331,247
Training & Workshops (TAC Coordinator)		2,795,975	-	2,795,975
Component 3 Development of REDD+ Strategy		12,244,955	5,249,702	17,494,657
3.1 Analytical Work for Strategy Options		-	-	
3.2 SESA Process & ESMF Development		10,481,040		10,481,040
Strategic Environment and Social Assessment		7,667,050	-	7,667,050
SESA Training & Workshop		2,813,990	_	2,813,990
3.3 Consultation and Participation Activities		1,763,915	5,249,702	7,013,617
Awareness materials (design & development)		20,000	-	20,000
Media awareness producer		80,000	-	80,000
Training & Workshops		1,338,915	2,069,778	3,408,693
Property Plant & Equipment	8	,	2,179,924	2,179,924
Media awareness production		A Million Co.	1,000,000	1,000,000
Printing of materials		325,000	-	325,000
Total	-	86,531,239	50,046,026	146,525,153



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4. Cash Balance

The closing cash balance in these financial statements is taken up as follows:

Balance in the GoV Smart Stream ledger as at 31 December 2017	4,165,588
Accruals in the GoV Smart Stream ledger as at 31 December 2017	2,487,768
Imprest wrongly paid under IRCCNH to be transferred under FCPF	(1,920,000)
Total	4,733,356

5. Budget

The 2017 budget was developed for all the components and sub-components for this project, on the same accounting basis (cash basis) as for the financial statements. It encompasses the same entities as the financial statements.

The lifetime budget in VUV as per these financial statements is as per the original agreed budget and procurement plan dated May 2015, prior to the actual start up.

The lifetime budget is monitored against the likely amount of VUV to be generated from the US\$ grant, to ensure that the grant is not over-committed.

There is no budget for Cash Receipts; drawdowns from the grant are made to ensure that there are sufficient funds available to meet payment commitments on an ongoing basis.

5.1 Explanation Variance Component 1.1

There were some difficulties in bring together the Technical committee members as they were based in various locations. As a result less meetings were held in comparison to that budgeted for.

5.2 Explanation Variance Component 1.2

There was an increase in the number of Project Management Unit (PMU) paid under the project. The procurement officer was already being paid by the project whilst the finance officer was transferred here after the Mainstream Disaster Risk Reduction (MDRR) project closed in 2016.

5.3 Explanation variance Component 1.3

The implementation team did not manage to roll out any activities as planned under this sub-component.

5.4 Explanation Variance Component 2.1

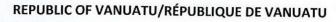
There was increased consultation, studies and awareness activities carried out across 5 islands (Erromango, Tanna, Santo, Efate and Malekula), to identify all stakeholders and introduce the REDD+ concepts and activities.

5.5 Explanation Variance Component 2.2

The FGRM activities did not start until the first quarter of 2017. As a result there was increased FRGM awareness activities during the 2017 financial year on the objectives of REDD+, as well as increased consultation with communities to revive structures.

5.6 Explanation Variance Component 3.1

The activities are starting later than originally planned; the payment to the contractor made early 2018.





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5.7 Explanation Variance Component 3.2

The contractor appointed to undertake the SESA study has resigned, after the first contractual payment had been made. Hence a shortfall of the actual in comparison to the budgeted expense and FCPF is in the process of recruiting another contractor.

5.8 Explanation Variance Component 3.3

The production of the awareness, training materials and workshops, has not gone ahead as originally planned. However it had gained momentum in 2017, specifically the visibility of the REDD+ project (i.e. t-shirts and banners) and expected to increase further in 2018, through other mediums such as Radio awareness.

6. Commitments

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The outstanding (unpaid) contract commitments, as at 31 December 2017 is VUV 55,340,469 (2016: VUV 20,677,856) as detailed by component in the following Table. All outstanding commitments as at 31 December 2017 are due within one and two years.

	2017	2016
Component 1	21,551,539	20,341,856
Component 2	1,333,180	336,000
Component 3	32,455,750	
TOTAL	55,340,469	20,677,856

Commitments for contracts in currencies other than VUV have been converted to VUV using the exchange rate as at 31 December 2017.

7. Imprests

There was one unretired Imprest as at 31 December 2017, totaling VUV 150,000 (2016: VUV 3,385,130), as follows:

IMPRESTS SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

Ref. No. 1. TF 013	Name 3810 (GEF)	Date of Advance	Cumulative Balance 31/12/16	Imprests 2017	Retired 2017	Refund 2017	Net Movement 2017	Cumulative Balance 31/12/17
FR004 FR003 FR009	ABM (Fuel) Samson LULU Jill Horry	various 10/08/16 24/10/16	250,000 325,630 2,809,500	150,000	250,000 323,387 2,784,705	2,243 24,795	_ ,,,	
			3,385,130	150,000	3,358,092	27,038	(3,235,130)	150,000
TOTAL IN	MPRESTS		3,385,130	150,000	3,358,092	27,038	(3,235,130)	150,000



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REPUBLIC OF VANUATU/RÉPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

VANUATU METEOROLOGY AND GEO-HAZARDS DEPARTMENT DÉPARTEMENT DE LA MÉTÉOROLOGIE ET DES GÉORISQUES DE VANUATU

Phone: (678) 24686, 22932 VOIP: 5305 Fax: (678) 22310 Email: admin@meteo.gov.vu Website: www.meteo.gov.vu Address: PMB 9054, Lini Highway, Port Vila, Vanuatu



(Address correspondence to Director) (Toute correspondance doit être envoyée au Directeur)

8. Property Plant & Equipment

Payments for Property Plant & Equipment (PPE) are charged fully as disbursements under the respective Component, and included in the Statement of Cash Receipts and Payments, at cost; these are recorded in a PPE Register, for the purposes of inventory control.

	2017	2016	Cumulative
Motor Vehicles		-	2,990,000
IT Equipment	-	2,179,924	3,224,894
Office Furniture	912,786	-	912,786
Building Extension	3,919,856	-	3,919,856
TOTAL	4,832,642	2,179,924	11,047,536

There are no fixed assets purchased on hire purchase schemes and no depreciation is being charged.

9. Related Parties

There were no related party transactions during the year.

The ultimate owner of the project is Vanuatu Government through the Department of Forestry, as set out in the Grant Agreement.

10. Creditors

There was a total amount of VUV 2,487,768 for 2017 invoices representing LPOs raised in 2017, but not paid until 2018 (2016: VUV 79,920).

11. Authorization Date

The financial statements were authorized for issue on 21st of August 2018 by Mr. Brian Phillips for VMGD and Director General of the Ministry of Climate Change.

Mr Brian PHILLIPS Project Manager F 21/08/2018

Mr Jesse BENJAMING Director General of Climate Changes

Director General Ministry of Climate Change

21/08/2018