



CEPF Small Grants - Final Project Completion Report

Instructions to grantees: please complete all fields, and respond to all questions listed below.

Organization Legal Name	The Vanuatu Environmental Law Association Committee (INC.)
Project Title	Build the Capacity of VELA to promote the protection of Vanuatu's environment through law
Grant Number	GA17/07
Date of Report	21 December 2018

CEPF Hotspot: Vanuatu

Strategic Direction: 2 & 4

Grant Amount: USD\$19,268

Project Dates: 1 October 2017 – 30 October 2018

PART I: Overview

1. Implementation Partners for this Project (*list each partner and explain how they were involved in the project*)

EDO NSW – Assisted in the facilitation and drafting of the VELA 5 year Strategic Plan 2018-2023 and governance/financial policies.

RIT – Technical Advice on financial and project activities under grant (project management).

2. Summarize the overall results/impact of your project

The result has been excellent. The funding has enabled VELA to develop its local capacity as a local Organization with regards to the development of financial and governance policies plus a 5 year Strategic Plan 2018-2023. The funding has enabled VELA to recruit a Project

Coordinator and get an Office space with office equipment's. Vanuatu now has its first ever Environmental Law Association.

3. Briefly describe actual progress towards each planned impact (as stated in the approved proposal)

List each impact from your proposal

a. Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Community Legal Education	Legal education and empowerment to the people of Vanuatu
Provide Legal Advice	Environment legal expertise to the people of Vanuatu, strengthening capacity of environmental legal professionals and public interest litigation
Sustainable Organisation	VELA will be sending its project application to GEF/UNDP early 2019. Currently, we have sent a Climate Change project proposal to Pacific Funding (French Embassy).

b. Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Strategic Plan	VELA now has 5 year Strategic Plan
Financial & Governance Policies	VELA now has strong financial management and governance policies in place
Broaden Network	VELA has already developed informal partnerships with Government institutions and some CSO/NGO's.

4. Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impacts

VELA's success is developing its Strategic Plan and Financial/Governance Policies. The impact of this success will be clearer when VELA starts to implement the activities under its new Strategic Plan. Challenges that VELA will face is the financial sustainability of the Organisation. Most funders now provide funding on a co-financial partnership funding which can make it very difficult for VELA to secure funding.

5. Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)? Most of CSO/NGO funding in Vanuatu comes from external sources and the Government rarely funds any projects. The small grant funding provided by CEPF as a seed grant for capacity development did come out with positive results. However, the welfare of staff must be paramount and donors must see that staff must be properly remunerated to live a comfortable life. Most funders lean on the results/impacts of their investment while not looking at the welfare of staff, hence employee turnover in local CSO/NGOs in Vanuatu is very high. Such high turnover affects the impacts of the Organization in the long term.

Products/Deliverables

6. Please describe and submit any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

- VELA Strategic Plan and Consultation Workshop 30 March 2018
- EDO assistance with VELA Strategic Plan and Policies
- VELA Workshop Video Clip and photo's
- Financial Policies
- Governance Policies
- VELA Volunteer
- VELA Board Members endorsement of working policies

Lessons Learned

7. Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building.

Consider lessons that would inform:

- Project Design Process (*aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings*)
The project design was clear and concise for the capacity development of VELA. Only short coming was there was limited funding to support staff and luck of funding for capacity legal training for staff and board.
- Project Implementation (*aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings*) Funding enabled VELA to engage a Project Coordinator and rent Office space. This was very important. Now VELA is ready to roll out on its new Strategic Plan implementation with its larger grant project proposal to IUCN.
- Describe any other lessons learned relevant to the conservation community.
Media advocacy is very important to disseminate information through radio. VELA had its first talk back show with radio Vanuatu after launching its Strategic Plan on 26 October 2018.

Sustainability / Replication

8. Summarize the success or challenges in ensuring the project will be sustained or replicated, including any unplanned activities that are likely to result in increased sustainability or replicability.

VELA hopes to become a thriving, long term NGO in Vanuatu and a well - known voice in matters of environmental law and policy. VELA is currently the only environmental law organization in Vanuatu. Already law students and the public are asking about our work and objectives. Already some law students from the University of the South Pacific (Emalus Campus) are asking to do their internships with VELA. VELA has sent a

project proposal for Pacific Fund for a Climate Change and we will approach GEF/UNDP early next year to submit our concept note.

Safeguards N/A

9. If not listed as a separate Project Component and described above, please summarize the implementation of any required action related to social or environmental safeguards that your project may have triggered.

Additional Funding N/A

10. Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of CEPF investment

a. Total additional funding (US\$)

b. Type of funding

Please provide a breakdown of additional funding (counterpart funding and in-kind) by source, categorizing each contribution into one of the following categories:

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes

* 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)

Additional Comments/Recommendations

11. Use this space to provide any further comments or recommendations in relation to your project or CEPF.

VELA is very grateful to CEPF for providing funding for VELA to establish and we seek to deepen our partnership and collaboration in the use of the law to protect the environment in Vanuatu. VELA also applauds the RIT for their professional assistance to us. We request if CEPF to fund a regional Environmental Law Association as a platform to discuss on the environment laws/policies in East Melanesia and how we can maximize on it to protect or conserve our environment or endangered species. Also for legal capacity training purposes.

Impact at Portfolio and Global Level

CEPF requires that each grantee report on impacts at the end of the project. The purpose of this report is to collect data that will contribute to CEPF's portfolio and global indicators. CEPF will aggregate the data that you submit with data from other grantees, to determine the overall impact of CEPF investment. CEPF's aggregated results will be reported on in our annual report and other communications materials.

Ensure that the information provided relates to the entire project, from start date to project end date.

Contribution to Portfolio Indicators

12. If CEPF assigned one or more Portfolio Indicators to your project during the full proposal preparation phase, please list these below and report on the project's contribution(s) to them. N/A

Indicator	Narrative

Contribution to Global Indicators

Please report on all Global Indicators (sections 16 to 23 below) that relate to your project.

13. Key Biodiversity Area Management N/A

Number of hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) with improved management

Please report on the number of hectares in KBAs with improved management, as a result of CEPF investment. Examples of improved management include, but are not restricted to: increased patrolling, reduced intensity of snaring, invasive species eradication, reduced incidence of fire, and introduction of sustainable agricultural/fisheries practices. Do not record the entire area covered by the project - only record the number of hectares that have improved management.

If you have recorded part or all of a KBA as newly protected for the indicator entitled "protected areas" (section 17 below), and you have also improved its management, you should record the relevant number of hectares for both this indicator and the "protected areas" indicator.

Name of KBA	# of Hectares with strengthened management *	Is the KBA Not protected, Partially protected or Fully protected? Please select
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		one: NP/PP/FP

** Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were improved due to implementation of a fire management regime in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were improved due to invasive species removal in the second year, the total number of hectares with improved management would be 500.*

14. Protected Areas N/A

15a. Number of hectares of protected areas created and/or expanded N/A

Report on the number of hectares of protected areas that have been created or expanded as a result of CEPF investment.

Name of PA*	Country(s)	# of Hectares	Year of legal declaration or expansion	Longitude**	Latitude**

** If possible please provide a shape file of the protected area to CEPF.*

*** Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).*

15b. Protected area management N/A

If you have been requested to submit a Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT), please follow the instructions below. If you have not been requested to submit a METT, please go directly to section 16.

Should you want to know more about the monitoring of protected area management effectiveness and the tracking tool, please click [here](#).

Download the METT template which can be found on [this page](#) and then work with the protected area authorities to fill it out. Please go to the Protected Planet website [here](#) and search for your protected area in their database to record its associated WDPA ID. Then please fill in the following table:

WDPA ID	PA Official Name	Date of METT*	METT Total Score

** Please indicate when the METT was filled by the authorities of the park or provide a best estimate if the exact date is unknown. And please only provide METTs less than 12 months old.*

Please do not forget to submit the completed METT together with this report.

15. Production landscape N/A

Please report on the number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity, as a result of CEPF investment. A production landscape is defined as a landscape where agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs. Production landscapes may include KBAs, and therefore hectares counted under the indicator entitled “KBA Management” may also be counted here. Examples of interventions include: best practices and guidelines implemented, incentive schemes introduced, sites/products certified and sustainable harvesting regulations introduced.

Number of hectares of production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity.

Name of Production Landscape*	# of Hectares**	Latitude***	Longitude***	Description of Intervention

* If the production landscape does not have a name, provide a brief descriptive name for the landscape.

**Do not count the same hectares more than once. For example, if 500 hectares were strengthened due to certification in the first year, and 200 of these same 500 hectares were strengthened due to new harvesting regulations in the second year, the total number of hectares strengthened to date would be 500.

*** Indicate the latitude and longitude of the center of the site, to the extent possible, or send a map or shapefile to CEPF. Give geographic coordinates in decimal degrees; latitudes in the Southern Hemisphere and longitudes in the Western Hemisphere should be denoted with a minus sign (example: Latitude 38.123456 Longitude: -77.123456).

17. Beneficiaries N/A

CEPF wants to record two types of benefits that are likely to be received by individuals: structured training and increased income. Please report on the number of men and women that have benefited from structured training (such as financial management, beekeeping, horticulture) and/or increased income (such as from tourism, agriculture, medicinal plant harvest/production, fisheries, handicraft production) as a result of CEPF investment. Please provide results since the start of your project to project completion.

17a. Number of men and women receiving structured training.

# of men receiving structured training *	# of women receiving structured training *

**Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men received structured training in beekeeping, and 3 of these also received structured training in project management, the total number of men who benefited from structured training should be 5.*

17b. Number of men and women receiving cash benefits. N/A

# of men receiving cash benefits*	# of women receiving cash benefits*

**Please do not count the same person more than once. For example, if 5 men received cash benefits due to tourism, and 3 of these also received cash benefits from increased income due to handicrafts, the total number of men who received cash benefits should be 5.*

18. Benefits to Communities N/A

CEPF wants to record the benefits received by communities, which can differ to those received by individuals because the benefits are available to a group. CEPF also wants to record, to the extent possible, the number of people within each community who are benefiting. Please report on the characteristics of the communities, the type of benefits that have been received during the project, and the number of men/boys and women/girls from these communities that have benefited, as a result of CEPF investment. If exact numbers are not known, please provide an estimate.

18a. Please provide information for all communities that have benefited from project start to project completion.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics (mark with x)							Type of Benefit (mark with x)							# of Beneficiaries			
	Subsistence economy	Small landowners	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists / nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Other*	Increased access to clean water	Increased food security	Increased access to energy	Increased access to public services (e.g. health care, education)	Increased resilience to climate change	Improved land tenure	Improved recognition of traditional knowledge	Improved representation and decision-making in governance forums/structures	Improved access to ecosystem services	# of men and boys benefiting	# of women and girls benefiting

*If you marked "Other" to describe the community characteristic, please explain:

1																			
2																			
...																			

19b. For each law, policy or regulation listed above, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number. N/A

No.	Country(s)	Date enacted/ amended MM/DD/YYYY	Expected impact	Action that you performed to achieve this change
1				
2				
3				

20. Sustainable Financing Mechanism N/A

Sustainable financing mechanisms generate financial resources for the long-term (generally five or more years). Examples of sustainable financial mechanisms include conservation trust funds, debt-for-nature swaps, payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes, and other revenue, fee or tax schemes that generate long-term funding for conservation.

All CEPF grantees (or sub-grantees) with project activities that pertain to the creation and/or the implementation of a sustainable financing mechanism are requested to provide information on the mechanism and the funds it delivered to conservation projects during the project timeframe, unless another grantee involved with the same mechanism has already been or is expected to be tasked with this.

CEPF requires that all sustainable financing mechanism projects to provide the necessary information at their completion.

20a. Details about the mechanism N/A

Fill in this table for as many mechanisms you worked on during your project implementation as needed.

NO.	Name of financing mechanism	Purpose of the mechanism*	Date of Establishment**	Description***	Countries
1					
2					
3					

*Please provide a succinct description of the mission of the mechanism.

**Please indicate when the sustainable financing mechanism was officially created. If you do not know the exact date, provide a best estimate.

***Description, such as trust fund, endowment, PES scheme, incentive scheme, etc..

20b. Performance of the mechanism N/A

For each Financing Mechanism listed previously, please provide the requested information in accordance with its assigned number.

NO.	Project intervention*	\$ Amount disbursed to conservation projects**	Period under Review (MM/YYYY -MM/YYYY)***
1			
2			
3			

*List whether the CEPF grant has helped to create a new mechanism (Created a mechanism) or helped to support an existing mechanism (Supported an existing mechanism) or helped to create and then support a new mechanism (Created and supported a new mechanism).

**Please only indicate the USD amount disbursed to conservation projects during the period of implementation of your project and using, when needed, the exchange date on the day of your report.

***Please indicate the period of implementation of your project or the period considered for the amount you indicated.

Please do not forget to submit any relevant document which could provide justification for the amount you stated above.

21. Biodiversity-friendly Practices N/A

Please describe any biodiversity-friendly practices that companies have adopted as a result of CEPF investment. A company is defined as a legal entity made up of an association of people, be they natural, legal, or a mixture of both, for carrying on a commercial or industrial enterprise. While companies take various forms, for the purposes of CEPF, a company is defined as a for-profit business entity. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses biodiversity sustainably. .

Number of companies that adopt biodiversity-friendly practices

No.	Name of company	Description of biodiversity-friendly practice adopted during the project
1		
2		
...		

22. Networks & Partnerships

Please report on any new networks or partnerships between civil society groups and across to other sectors that you have established or strengthened as a result of CEPF investment.

Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable even if they do not have a Memorandum of Understanding or other type of validation. Examples of networks/partnerships include: an alliance of fisherfolk to promote sustainable fisheries practices, a network of environmental journalists, a partnership between one or more NGOs with one or more private sector partners to improve biodiversity management on private lands, a working group focusing on reptile conservation. Please do not use this tab to list the partners in your project, unless some or all of them are part of such a network / partnership described above.

Number of networks and/or partnerships created and/or strengthened

No.	Name of Network	Name of Partnership	Year established	Did your project establish this Network/ Partnership? Y/N	Country(s) covered	Purpose
1	Department of Environment Protection	-	2018	Yes	Vanuatu	Sharing of ideas and environment expertise

	and Conservation					
2	EDO	MOU	2014	Yes	Vanuatu	Building the legal capacity of VELA
...						

23. Gender – Already submitted

If you have been requested to submit a Gender Tracking Tool (GTT), please follow the instructions provided in the Excel GTT template. If you have not been requested to submit a GTT, please go directly to Part V.

Should you want to know more about CEPF Gender Policy, please click [here](#).

Download the GTT template which can be found on [this page](#) and then work with your team to fill it out. Please do not forget to submit the completed GTT together with this report.

Part V. 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 Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

16. Name: Albert Taufa, Project Coordinator

17. Organization: The Vanuatu Environmental Law Association (VELA)

18. Mailing address: P.O Box 648, Port Vila, Vanuatu

19. Telephone number: (+678) 7779371

20. E-mail address: ataufa4024.vela@gmail.com