

Sustainable Land Management (SLM) for the Vanuatu Coastal Adaptation project (VCAP-II)

Name of legal entity	Country	Overall project value (EUR)	Proportion carried out by candidate (%)	No of staff provided	Name of client	Origin of funding	Dates (start/end)	Name of partners if any
Sustainable Seas Ltd	Vanuatu	45,000	100%	1	UNDP Fiji	GEF	May 2023 to June 2024	N/A

Detailed description of project

The project, “Adaptation to Climate Change in the Coastal Zone of Vanuatu – Phase II” (V-CAP II), financed by the Global Environment Trust Fund (GEF) and Least Developed Country Funding (LDCF) was approved in May 2022 and the project implementation is expected to commence in November 2022.

The objective of V-CAP II is to improve the resilience of the vulnerable areas and communities therein to the impacts of climate change through the conservation of biodiversity and natural ecosystems and the implementation of integrated approaches in order to sustain livelihoods, food production, and ensure biodiversity conservation and reduce land degradation by building on the lessons learned from the first phase project (V-CAP I).

V-CAP II will work to ensure improved management of critical island ecosystems to support better informed integrated management of land and coastal areas to achieve the co-benefits to strengthen resilience to climate change and achieve social and biodiversity conservation outcomes. In addition, the project will work to build upon the current government decentralization initiative by developing capacity at the Area Council levels to mainstream action for biodiversity conservation and Climate change adaptation at the Provincial and National levels.

The project will be implemented in 6 provinces working very closely with Area Councils and other key government stakeholders. The SLM focus shall lead the identification and testing of any innovation sustainable financing mechanism and approach that should be implemented by the project for the Sustainable Forest and Land Management in the selected project sites in Vanuatu.

Type of services provided

The Expert was contracted to complete the following tasks:

- Conduct comprehensive R2R wide landscape unit characterization, classification and mapping.
- Conduct a site-specific baseline biodiversity, biophysical, ecological assessments and identification of key drivers of land degradation in each of the Area Councils, particularly at farm level.
- Identify the high priority degraded landscapes impacting on R2R landscape’s ability to provide estimated ecosystem service values within each of the focal area councils.
- Conduct site specific assessments (building upon existing VCAP-I produced baseline biodiversity, biophysical, ecological surveys) to help identify key drivers of land degradation within each of the Area Councils.
- Based on information gathered, develop a catchment wide conceptual map highlighting all opportunities and threats to the R2R landscape. These plans will be incorporated into the upland components of the CCAPs.
- Develop a set of GESI-sensitive approaches (and/or tools), capturing views from local communities.