
Programme Title:	Engaging Youth in Fiji and Vanuatu in Organic Farming: A Farm to Table Chain Approach
Country:	Vanuatu

I. Joint Programme Information

Joint Programme Information

Programme title:

Engaging Youth in Fiji and Vanuatu in Organic Farming: A Farm to Table Chain Approach

Sectorial area of intervention and policy objectives

Inclusive economic growth for poverty eradication

 Create opportunities for decent jobs and secure livelihoods.

 Create better government policies and fair and accountable public institutions.

 Promote inclusive and sustainable business practices.

UN Lead Agency:

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UN Participating Organizations:

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

Local Partners:

Vanuatu:

Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries and Bio-security sectors

Ministry of Internal Affairs

Ministry of Youth

Farmers Support Association (FSA),

Vanuatu National Youth Council

Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)

Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POET Com)

Report submitted by

Reporting Period Ending:

Monday, May 1, 2017

II. Contact Information

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JP monitoring and evaluation focal point

JP communications and advocacy focal point

JP knowledge management focal point

JP private sector focal point

Agency contact points

Contact 1

Contact 2

Contact 3

Contact 4

Contact 5

III. Financial information

Detailed Financial Report:

 [VU_Detailed financial info.pdf](#)

SDG-F Funds

UN Agency	Total approved funds	Total funds Transferred to date	Total funds committed to date	Total funds disbursed to date
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	500,000.00	197,254.00	72,334.00	127,541.00
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)	500,000.00	306,679.00	0.00	306,679.00

Total	1,000,000.00	503,933.00	72,334.00	434,220.00
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Matching Funds

Name of source	Total approved funds	Total funds Transferred to date	Total funds committed to date	Total funds disbursed to date
Pacific Agriculture Policy Project (EU)	180,000.00	110,404.00	0.00	306,679.00

Total	180,000.00	110,404.00	0.00	306,679.00
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IV. Beneficiaries

Direct Beneficiaries – Breakdown

Beneficiary type - individual	Total	Female	Male	Comments
Farmers	426			These were the total number of registrations for Tanna Island, Efate and Emae during the reporting period against the 1151 farmers who attended the organic awareness meet. The 426 is the number of farmers representing households.
Entrepreneurs	3	1	2	Votausi Mckenzie Lapita Cafe and Terry Addlington who owns Tanna Coffee and Breaka's Resort.
Civil servants/government				
Indigenous				
Children				
Youth	11	0	11	11 youth who are part of the Napil Rural Training Centre Young Farmers Development Course have completed registration for the PGS
Other 1				
Total	440	1	13	

Beneficiary type - institutional	Total	Comments
SMEs		
Cooperatives		
Government/municipal organizations		
Private sector	3.00	Lapita café is a local food processor and Tanna Coffee processes coffee and Breakas Resort
Community-based organizations	1	Lapita café is a local food processor and Tanna Coffee processes coffee and Breakas Resort

NGOs		
Total	4	

Indirect Beneficiaries – Breakdown

Beneficiary type - individual	Total	Female	Male	Comments
Farmers	800			It is estimated that there will be more than 800 farmers who will be registered over the project period. There will be other beneficiaries such as tourism and public consumers who are not included. Vanuatu National Statistics Office has estimated that a households in Vanuatu has about 5 members. Therefore the project can indirectly benefit 4,000 household members.
Entrepreneurs				
Civil servants/government				
Indigenous				
Children				
Youth	539	279.00	260.00	These are the number of youth in the households where registration was conducted in Efate and Tanna Islands who are between the ages of 18 to 30.
Total	1,339	279.00	260.00	

Beneficiary type - institutional	Total	Comments
SMEs		
Cooperatives		
Government/municipal organizations	2.00	During this reporting period the Department of Agriculture and Livestock have been very supportive.
Private sector		
Community-based organizations		
NGOs	6	• 3 males each from Tanna Coffee, FSA and SPC plus 3 females each from Lapita Café, FSA and SPC attended the stake holder meeting that was held in SHEFA Province office
Total	8	

Any other information regarding JP beneficiaries*:

During the registrations and training we have targeted male farmers who also represent households. According to our statistics an average household is 5 people. The registration of farmers during the period of reporting is 437. This will be five times when members of the households are taken into account which includes men women and children. In rural communities FSA has always worked with households. There

will be other beneficiaries such as tourism and public consumers who are not included or hard to estimate at this time.

V. Joint Programme Progress

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.1: Skills training in organic production, certification and processing creates employment for youth within the organic agriculture Farm-To-Table value chain</p>	<p>So far registration and Standards Training have been conducted on Emae (2 trainings), Efate (1 trainings) and Tanna Island (9 trainings). On Emae the whole community on the island were involved. On Efate it included the vegetable farmers. On Tanna Island, Nasituan, Napil Rural Training Centre, and the Tanna coffee producers were included in these trainings. 1 training for Efate farmers on meeting market demands and 1 training for hotel staff on organic food preparation. Specific product standards are being developed for farmers. Total number of farmers registered for organic certification and underwent initial organic trainings as mentioned above is around 440 to date compared to the 1151 who attended the organic awareness training and this is expected to increase in the next reporting period.</p>	<p>On Tanna the largest target group is coffee farmers who mostly farm inland. Difficult terrain and inaccessible farms takes a lot of time for Field officers to get to these farmers. A Quad bike has been purchased to assist field officers with this activity.</p>	<p>During this reporting period our major task has been farm registration and standards training. When this is completed, our trainings will be more skills-focused on the targeted groups. These will include best farming practices, peer review training and certification training.</p>

Expected Results (Outcomes & outputs)	Progress	Difficulties	Expected deliverables
<p>JP Output 1.2: Strengthened capacity of local organization to meet and sustain increased market demand for organic produce on a commercially viable basis.</p>	<p>Farmer registration database has been developed and maintained in house and will be continuously updated. Vanuatu Organic Certification Committee (VOCC) has been formed and met 3 times so far. The committee has worked on the application for Organic Pasifika to become formal members of their PGS. This includes organic governing procedures, PGS structure, standards and guidelines for operation of the PGS.</p>	<p>Developing appropriate questionnaires for PGS registration to make sure all necessary information is collected. There have been 3 different versions and review of data has identified additional changes needed for future collection.</p>	<p>Continue farmer registration and development of database with revised questionnaires. PGS certification of farmers. This includes developing certification forms for reviewing farmers that are product specific to ensure compliance to the Pacific Organic Standard under Organic Pasifika.</p>
<p>JP Output 1.3: To ascertain information and communication needs of youth interested in engaging in organic agriculture</p>	<p>During this first reporting period farm registration and standards trainings have been the main focus. During this exercise training needs have also been identified</p>	<p>FSA needs to build on its communication strategy to ensure visibility of the project. Will work closely with POETCom on this.</p>	<p>Training on Organic practices Training in communication procedure that is place for the PGS farmers and VOCC.</p>

Cross-cutting issues

How has the JP addressed during the reporting period (please provide concrete actions):

1) The **sustainability** of the JP work. (200 words)

Organic practices have been proven to promote environmental sustainability. Long term sustainability of the project work has been strengthened by FSA accepting PGS as a long term target for the organization to prioritize as part of the organic activities that they have been involved in since the 1990's. FSA will continue to operate as secretariat for the Vanuatu Organic Certification Committee who will be responsible for the Vanuatu PGS. The Vanuatu PGS structure has been established during this reporting period. Private sector and government support for this activity has been strong as well.

2) The promotion of **women's empowerment and gender equality**. (200 words)

Across the board, the project also target the involvement of women and this account for around 400 women both direct and indirect beneficiaries. They are also considered valuable actors in the value chain ensuring targets are achieved. This include nursery management, on field production, harvesting, post harvesting losses management, transportation, financial management and also marketing. Farm To Table project is working with a female entrepreneur turned businesswoman. She operates a small food processing factory within her residence. During this reporting period her company has been

registered in the PGS. Her procedures for processing manioc flour have been documented. She has gone through the standards training and understands the concept of organics. Prior to this project she has been trying to get HACCP certified for the past five years. The process have given her a learning experience on the standards of producing and processing organics products. She is also an active VOCC committee member. As a local food processor she wants to get organically certified for the tourist market. If the certified products can assist her to do this, it may boost her production.

3) The engagement in **public-private partnerships**. (200 words)

The Vanuatu Organic Certification Committee has been established during this reporting period. The committee consists of organic advocates, a government civil servant and private company owners involved in processing organic products.

The linkages with this project between FSA and private sector have been strong so far. In the future, FSA will work closely with them to understand their responsibilities for keeping the PGS in operation. So far the project has worked closely with Lapita Café, Tanna Coffee as private sector and Nasituan as a Community Based Organization.

Communication and Advocacy

Has the JP articulated an advocacy & communication actions that helps advance its policy objectives and development outcomes?:

Yes

Please describe communication activities developed as part of the JP. :

The project through FSA will be assisted in this regard. And mainly to commence from next quarter due late start of the project.

Please provide concrete gains on how the the JP communication and advocacy efforts have increased awareness on SDGs.:

(250 words)

JP twitter handle:

@

Other social media channels managed by joint programme (Instagram, Google+, You Tube...):

One UN Coordination and Delivering as One

The SDG-F is based on the principles of effective development cooperation, inclusion and participation and One UN coordination.

Actions	Description
Managerial practices (financial, procurement, etc.) implemented jointly by the UN implementing agencies for SDG-F JPs	
Joint analytical work (studies, publications, etc.) undertaken jointly by UN implementing agencies for SDG-F JPs	
Joint activities undertaken jointly by UN implementing agencies for SDG-F JPs	
Other, please specify:	

National Ownership: Paris, Accra and Busan Commitments

The SDG-F strengthens the UN system's ability to deliver results in an integrated and multi-dimensional manner by supporting the Joint Programme modality and by bringing together United Nations Agencies and national counterparts in a collective effort to ensure ownership and sustainability of results of JPs and advance towards the SDGs.

Partners	Involvement *	Type of involvement	Examples
Government (specify national/local)	Fully involved	Policy-decision making Service Provision	Moses Nambo, Senior Livestock Officer is current POETCom Chairman and a member of the VOCC.
Private Sector	Fully involved	Policy-decision making Budget Service Provision	- Tebakor Island Products, Lapita Café, Tanna Coffee, Syndicat Agricole et Pastoral de Vanuatu as members of the VOCC
Civil Society	Fully involved	Service Provision	Nasituan, an NGO operating in middle-bush, Tanna as a part of the PGS registration activities and processor.
Academia	Fully involved	Service Provision	Napil Rural Training Centre as youth farmers registered and receiving training.

* Implementation of activities and the delivery of outputs

Please briefly describe the current situation of the government, private sector and civil society on regards of ownership, align:

The Vanuatu Organic Certification Committee has been established during this reporting period. The committee consists of organic advocates, a government civil servant and private company owners involved in processing organic products. Most of the members have experience in third party certification.

VI. Joint Programme contribution to the SDGs

SDG #	JP Contribution
Goal 1	Awareness trainings, community meetings & organic practices trainings involve the discussion of the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic Agriculture increases farmer's yields over the long term • Higher yields + premium market prices = higher income. • Seeds can be saved
Goal 2	The farmers and women that participate in the training were shown the income that each farmer can get from organic produce, encourage to first plant for home consumption and the side effect for using chemical pesticides. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic farmers get higher incomes - higher incomes allow parents to send children to school • Better nourished and healthier children are more likely to stay in school • Studies suggest exposure to some pesticides pre-natal can lead to slower cognitive development
Goal 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic Agriculture & certification schemes exposes women to more educational and skills & development opportunities • Participatory Guarantee Schemes build social capital; empower and ensure women are engaged in management and governance • Higher incomes for female headed households • More economic opportunities for women with value adding

SDG #	JP Contribution
Goal 6	Organic Agriculture encourages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverse production systems = diverse diets • Locally adapted varieties = high nutrition local greens and root crops • Revival of traditional crops and varieties • Organic Agriculture is more labour intensive = more physical activity
Goal 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organic Agriculture mitigates climate change through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reducing greenhouse gases, - Storing carbon in soil and plant biomass by building organic matter, - Minimizing energy consumption • Organic Agriculture also helps farmers to adapt to climate change because it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prevents nutrient and water loss - Preserves seed and crop diversity, - Minimizes risk as a result of stable agro-ecosystems and yields • Organic Agriculture contributes to Biodiversity and genetic diversity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing the number and variety of wild species found on farm - Maintaining healthy soils and soil fauna, such as earthworms - Encouraging the conservation and expansion of traditional, locally bred varieties • Organic Agriculture prevents soil erosion and land degradation through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving soil fertility - Preventing wind and water erosion - Improving water infiltration and retention capacity

VII. Additional Information

Attachments
