

## FP035 Climate Information Services for Resilient Development in Vanuatu, Vanuatu

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*CSO comments on the project given as intervention during the 15<sup>th</sup> GCF Board Meeting, December 2016*

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We also welcome this project for the people of Vanuatu.

We would like to briefly share some concerns towards improvement of the project:

- There should be more emphasis and details supporting and strengthening the linkages to beneficiaries and key end-users, for example community disaster and climate change committees. The proposal should also indicate how it will address a range of barriers - technological and social - to beneficiaries' access to weather and climate info, such as limited access to technology among rural and remote communities, limited rural electrification, a huge array of local languages and generally low levels of literacy.
- The information provided on the consultations is limited in terms of which communities and community organizations participated and whether their recommendations were addressed. Over-all there is a strong sense of support for this project among CSOs, but CSOs from the region think that more time could have been allocated for more consultation for this project. Vanuatu CSOs see opportunities to influence change and decision making and they have plans to continue building strong working relationships with the accredited entity (SPREP), as they already have between the government and VANGO.
- Regarding the section on gender – we find that project's gender analysis and gender action plans are weak and neglect a number of key issues for example gender-specific barriers to weather and climate info and the dearth of women in fields such as meteorology and hydrology; a number of indicators are not sufficiently specific or measurable; there seems to be no gender budget or any gender expertise to support the implementation of the Gender Action Plan. Civil society organizations look forward to providing support and being involved.