

Integrated Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Online Tool for Climate Mitigation Action Tracking

Overview of Vanuatu's Experience

Jesse Benjamin
Director General
Ministry of Climate Change
Government of Vanuatu

IN CONTRIBUTION TO THE



Supported by:



based on a decision of the German Bundestag



- In my presentation today I'll briefly provide you with an update on:
- Vanuatu's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) & Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) goals;
- Supporting policy and institutional framework
- Efforts by Government of Vanuatu to align and link NDC climate actions to the SDGs

- ❑ Vanuatu is a small island nation in the South Pacific with negligible contribution to global GHG emissions (0.0016% of world emissions) but one of the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.
- ❑ We have much to lose should the worst predictions from increased temperature levels eventuate. Climate change is already having profound impacts our daily life and poses serious threat to our existence in the near future.
- ❑ Although a small island nation, we are committed to do our best in combating global climate change threats. Our Government has been vocal at the international forums raising our concern on threats posed by climate change to small island nations including the entire global community.

- ❑ Vanuatu is an integral part of key global climate change agreements including the recent Paris climate agreement. Our parliament ratified the Paris climate change agreement on 18th June 2016 and submitted its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and emission reduction targets.
- ❑ Vanuatu intends to achieve transitioning to close to 100% renewable energy in the electricity (energy) sector by 2030.
- ❑ It's important to note that our NDC hinges on our key national development priorities and relevant policies for respective sectors. These national priorities & policies has very strong linkages to our goals towards sustainable development.

- ❑ Our National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) 2016-2030 charts the country's vision and overarching policy framework for achieving a Stable, Sustainable and Prosperous Vanuatu within the next fifteen years.
- ❑ NSDP also sets out the national priorities and context for the implementation of the new global Sustainable Development Goals over the same period.
- ❑ The key goals and policy objectives under the NSDP also include enhanced resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change and natural disasters (adaptation) and Prioritising renewable sources of energy and promote efficient energy use (mitigation).

- We believe that this is a win-win situation, wherein implementing both the mitigation and sustainable development targets under our NDC would assist and support in achieving our national sustainable development policies and priorities.
- The key to achieving our NDC goals will be the first of its kind Integrated Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system and tool that we have developed for Vanuatu.
- Aligning NDC & SDG's and implementing both would also support in coordinated decision-making processes, ensuring accountability, engaging stakeholders inside and outside of government, and maintaining political will at all levels.

- It is quite important to ensure inclusive stakeholder (Ministries/Public/Private sector) engagement from across the sectors (mitigation/adaptation etc) in the process of national sustainable policy development.
- Inclusive stakeholder engagement is also critical in order to obtain a buy-in and also to integrate NDC implementation into the national sustainable development plan.
- The Ministry of Climate Change in Vanuatu aims to demonstrate that NDC & SDG actions are not merely mitigation actions relevant to just one particular ministry, but as an inclusive approach involving all relevant stakeholders wherein the roles & responsibilities for each stakeholder is clearly defined and communicated.

- ❑ In a nutshell, aligning climate action with sustainable development include a range of cross-cutting issues that transcend improving resilience to climate impacts, attracting appropriate finance and reducing carbon emissions.
- ❑ However, aligning NDC action and SDG goals can be quite easily achieved and managed if the required systems are put in place such as the integrated MRV approach adopted by Vanuatu.
- ❑ I strongly believe that the integrated MRV system adopted by Vanuatu has a great potential for replication in other regions.
- ❑ I would also like to recommend to global climate change community to strongly consider moving towards development of a such a robust and efficient MRV system to track the progress of NDC actions as well as the SDG impacts and emission reductions in progressing towards achieving the ambitious goals under the Paris agreement.

Thank You