Vanuatu: Integrating MRV Online Tool for Mitigation Action Tracking
Q & A

Question	**In which programming language is the MRV platform built?**
Answer	The Integrated MRV Tool for Vanuatu has been developed using Java.
Question	**How do you engage stakeholders and how much training does the platform require for users?**
Answer	The stakeholder engagement is the most important aspect of designing this integrated MRV Tool. Stakeholder consultations (in particular under the Ministry of Climate Change in Vanuatu) were carried out during the entire tool development period in order to understand the climate change related reporting requirements and expectations. A draft integrated MRV framework was developed and shared with the diverse stakeholders (including the public and private sector representatives) for their input and comments. On finalization of the integrated MRV framework, an IT based tool was developed and demonstrated to the stakeholders for feedback, prior to finalization. Training and capacity building for the tool needs to be an ongoing exercise as part of which an online training programme is envisaged to be designed for the users on basic and main features of the integrated MRV tool. The key emphasis needs to be on learning by doing wherein the tool should be fully used by the relevant users to identify issues and remedial measures. Further, online and off-line technical support is envisaged to be provided to the user during initial 6-8 months period.
Question	**Will this tool be accessible to members of the general public through a web-based portal?**
Answer	The Integrated MRV Tool is specifically designed and developed as per the requirements of Government of Vanuatu. The MRV Tool will not be available for general public.
Question	**still can't see the advantage of this tool. requires good day a proper consultation etc. the outputs are as good as inputs.**
Answer	The Integrated MRV Tool is specifically designed for the requirements of the Government of Vanuatu. It is not a generic tool and input and output reports are very specific to host country requirements. In addition, most of the data inputs are an one-off exercise when the initial projects to monitor are created. MRV is a complex topic to address and is also quite resource intensive exercise. There is no silver bullet to address the complex structure and procedure of MRV as it needs to align with the domestic and international transparency requirements.
Question	**Is an independent verification of the veracity of the tool planned?**

Answer	The Integrated MRV Tool for Vanuatu is in an early stage of implementation and initially piloted for energy sector of Vanuatu. The tool has been conceptualised based on compliance or voluntary independent third-party verification in the future but subject to availability of domestic and international resources.
Question	**Can this tool be tailored to each Party with its specific situation?**
Answer	Yes, the integrated MRV tool is tailor made for specific requirement and the situation of Vanuatu and it is apt for each MRV system to consider the specific requirements and capacity of the host country.
Question	**How many countries are piloting the integrated MRV tool?**
Answer	Initially it was Vanuatu. It is now planned to be trailed in Kenya and other African countries.
Question	**How was the data collection process for the energy sub-sectors managed in Vanuatu?**
Answer	Over a period of time, Vanuatu has developed an integrated approach for data collection from energy Sector (Energy Industry, Transport, Others). A two-prong approach has been adopted in Vanuatu for data collection (top-down and bottom-up). The fuel import data are obtained from the customs department and consumption data obtained from fuel distributors, utilities and large users. The electricity generation sector is regulated by the Utilities Regulatory Authority (URA). There is very limited or no manufacturing sector in Vanuatu, hence the data collection process doesn't possess significant challenges unlike other large countries with diverse sub-sectors.
Question	**What specific information on climate finance is input in the tool? Is it expenditure costs or the budgets? What was the role of the government in tracking climate finance data?**
Answer	The Climate Finance module of integrated MRV tool provides the key information on: Total climate finance received and spent, source (domestically and internationally), nature of climate finance (Loan/grant/aid etc.) and status of disbursement and additional requirements (if any). The monitoring and reporting of the climate finance i.e. Support received and require implementing the NDC actions and achieving the Paris Agreement targets is an important aspect under ETF. Since, the respective governments are the key implementing and communicating agencies on NDC and PA commitments, the role of government on tracking climate finance data is of utmost important.
Question	**How would the tool cater for government programmes that have various components underneath with varied timelines?**
Answer	The integrated MRV tool enables to track and monitor a project or programme (mitigation, adaptation or cross-cutting) as per the host country requirements. This includes tracking and monitoring of different projects with multiple objectives and timeline/finance etc.
Question	**Does the tool allow for regular updating or is it based on specified timelines?**

Answer	Yes, the MRV tool allows editing of project information as and when required (but most of the approved information editing rights lies with the administrator or the user with editing authority).
Question	**There are over 100 SDG indicators, but many do not have a methodology for measurement. How comprehensive is your list of indicators in the tool?**
Answer	The SDG module for the integrated MRV tool is based on UNDP's Climate Action Impact Assessment Tool (CAIT) including the methodology adopted to track the qualitative and quantitative information on SDG indictors impacted by the project and programme. SDG tracking report shows both the qualitative information and annually monitored indicators. The tool helps to consolidate and assess information about a specific intervention including to identify and quantify significant impacts of the intervention in relation to SDGs, while also defining indicators, setting targets and tracking the progress of this specific action. This is a bottom-up tool, providing a series of questions and prompts in order to consolidate and initiate discussion on a given intervention or project, and can be applied to track 'significant, direct impacts' of actions. Please visit following website for detailed information: https://climateimpact.undp.org
Question	**(A) Does the tool support data upload via a CSV file? (B) For the inventory, is it possible to use a non-default emission factor?**
Answer	(A) No, the current version of the MRV tool does not support data import from CSV files; however, exchange of database files within the user group is possible. (B) It is possible to use an user defined (non-default) emission factor; however, only the administrator can change the emission factor (in the database file). This version of the tool does not allow users to set emission factors separately; however, in subsequent versions we could look in to adding this feature (if required).
Question	**Under what scheme will you validate the data (e.g. under CDM, VCS or ISO 14064) and what entity will validate and verify the same?**
Answer	The present version of the MRV tool is designed to meet the domestic reporting requirement and takes into consideration the future reporting requirements under the PA. The 3rd party verification is not incorporated under this version but is envisaged to be based on the applied methodology (CDM/VCS or ISO14064) based on user requirement.
Question	**How do you account for emission reductions from the private sector, which covers the majority of a country's GHG emissions?**
Answer	The present version of the MRV tool is designed to monitor and track, projects under the NDC mitigation action (irrespective of the ownership of project e.g. Govt./private or public sector). The GHG emissions from each project (those part of NDC of respective country) shall be monitored and reported under the MRV Tool.
Question	**Is the Designated National Authority (DNA) going to use this Integrated MRV tool or any other authorized agency of Vanuatu?**

Answer	The tool will be used by the Ministry of Climate Change in Vanuatu which also hosts the DNA for the country.
Question	**Can we get training on this IMRV tool?**
Answer	The MRV tool is not a public tool, hence training will not be available for general public.
Question	**How can one access finance for implementing this IMRV tool as it needs huge monetary and human resources and IT infrastructure?**
Answer	The MRV tool has been supported through the UNDP NDC Support Programme. Based on government requests, UNDP NDC Support Programme countries can benefit from support related to MRV.
Question	**You mentioned in one slide "Stakeholder feedback" - what does it mean/include? Just ticking that such feedback was provided, or you even record narratively this feedback?**
Answer	The stakeholder feedback section under the SDG component includes Stakeholder Engagement i.e. if the Stakeholder Engagement has been conducted for the action? Further it elaborates on the type of Stakeholder groups consulted i.e. Government, Private sector, NGO, Civil society, Direct beneficiaries and Others. In addition, the information or summary of the feedback received from each identified stakeholder group can be reported on Positive Feedback: STRENGTHS, Positive Feedback: OPPORTUNITIES, Negative Feedback: WEAKNESSES, Negative Feedback: THREATS. Apart from narrative descriptions and a summary, the documents related to stakeholder consultation and feedback documents (invitation, MoM, Feedback questionnaire, follow-up communication, NOC etc.) can be uploaded for the respective project/programme.
Question	**1. What was the budget to develop this tool? Was it supported by UNDP?** **2. Can a monitoring period for a project be different from a calendar year?** **3. Are higher tier methods supported?** **4. How are you planning to use blockchain?** **5. You mentioned that the inventory is a "standalone tool", what does it mean?**
Answer	1. Answer: Yes, the tool was developed with support from UNDP. The budget depends on specific country context, monitoring requirements, sectors be tracked etc and can range between 60K to 90K USD. 2. Yes, the default monitoring period is monthly/quarterly or annually; however, this can also be user defined. 3. Yes, higher tier methods can be supported (flexible to accommodate user defined methods).

	4. The application of blockchain for MRV and domestic registry system is currently being explored for making the tool robust in terms of security, authentication and verification of the results and to comply under post 2020 transparency framework (subject to requirements and approval by the government and availability of financial resources). 5. The present version of MRV Tool (including GHG inventory module) is a "stand-alone tool", meaning it can be installed on a single PC/work-station or on LAN and not on a centralized database. The MRV Tool installed on LAN or the online version of the tool (cloud-based system) will have one single central database.
Question	**Who collects and updates data for the application?**
Answer	The roles and responsibility of the user group of the MRV Tool shall be defined by the respective country authorities. In Vanuatu, the Department of Climate Change (Director or staff in-charge) will have this responsibility.
Question	**How is it ensured that the data used as an input in the tool is authentic and credible?**
Answer	The advanced version of the MRV tool shall have a 2-stage internal verification process, the data entered by the user shall be approved by the competent authority prior to up-dating the central database files. Further the data and report will in future be subject to internal or external independent 3rd party verification (as per the domestic and international reporting requirement).
Question	**How does the tool ensure that double counting is avoided?**
Answer	The MRV Tool generates a unique project ID for each mitigation action (similar to the CDM registry system) and subject to internal and external validation and verification of data. The unique project ID tracks the project specific data (location, Geo-coordinates, implementation agency and government approval documents) and other basic features of the project; there are checks and balances (both internal and external) for creating a new project in the database to avoid double counting. Further, there is flexibility to include other advanced features in the advanced version of the MRV tool (like geo-tagging of device, monitoring equipment etc.).
Question	**Does the NDC MRV Tool allow for 'real-time' scenario where situations in the demonstration sites are also monitored? I say this because the energy technology in the demonstration sites may not work all the time depending on a number of factors. Therefore, the information that's generated by the Tool needs to have some 'correction factors' to cater for such situations. Does the Tool already have this?**

Answer	The NDC MRV Tool has been designed to capture the actual monitored data on a monthly or annual basis and generate progress reports accordingly. The current version of the tool does not have the functionality for real-time scenario analysis including capturing the live data. As its not required under the NDC MRV for real-time monitoring the tool only captures the monitored data based on the input from the respective mitigation action implementing/monitoring team (covering various sectors/sub-sectors and NDC actions). However, it's possible to integrate real-time scenario monitoring for standalone programme/projects depending on the requirement.