

Terms of Reference for Project Verification

For evaluation against Plan Vivo Standard (v. 12/2013)

Loru Forest Project Verification Report

V4

3 August 2026

Team:

Naven Hon – Independent Expert

Fact sheet for quality control

Name of the project: Loru Forest Project

Title of the report: Verification report – V4

Name of Verifier(s)	Date of Review
Naven Hon	Initial desk review March 2026; Field visit: 14 – 23 March 2026 Reporting: 1 April – 25 May 2026

Project Description

The project description draws on information from Project Description Part A

The Loru Forest Project, with a total crediting area of 292.8 ha, is located in the coastal rainforest on the east coast of Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu. The area comprises regenerating lowland rainforest, degraded thicket, degraded non-forest land, and coastal beach ecosystems. Key habitats in the area include those supporting coconut crabs, incubator bird nesting sites, swiftlet roosting sites,

caves, flying fox roosting sites, and coastal rock environments. The area is also used by local communities for hunting and gathering natural resources, as well as for cattle grazing.

Espiritu Santo has a total land area of 3,677 km² and a population of approximately 30,000 people. The climate is hot, humid, and tropical, with year-round rainfall. The region is recognized as both a biodiversity hotspot and a Key Biodiversity Area by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, and it may host up to 15 endemic bird species. Coconut crabs in the area are classified as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.

The Loru forest is bordered by the ocean on one side and coconut plantations and degraded forest on the other. Forests along the east coast were logged in the 1980s and have since been used for cash cropping, cattle ranching, and coconut plantations. Timber extraction ceased in 1993.

The Project Area is owned by the Serakar Clan and has been demarcated as a Community Conservation Area. It includes both eligible areas and land management zones outside the eligible areas. The total Project Area, as defined in the original Project Design Document (PDD), is 293 ha and is divided into three zones:

- **Zone A (165.6 ha):** Avoided deforestation area, where secondary forest is being rehabilitated through cattle removal and agreements not to clear the land for gardens or copra production during the project period.
- **Zone B (35.7 ha):** Enhanced forest regeneration area, where degraded thicket is managed through the removal of aggressive herbaceous vines to promote natural regeneration.
- **Zone C (91.5 ha):** Agroforestry non-forest land currently infested with invasive vines.

Carbon revenue is generated only from Zones A and B; however, the primary source of income for landowners comes from Zone C through the sale of agroforestry crops.

The project has no formal reference area. Instead, informal reference conditions are represented by surrounding non-forest land, coconut plantations, and degraded forests. Under the baseline scenario, these land uses would likely expand into the eligible forest areas in the absence of compensatory payments for ecosystem services.

The overall aim of the project is to protect the Loru coastal rainforest from deforestation and degradation while providing benefits to the Serakar Clan, who have voluntarily relinquished their rights to log and clear the forest under the project agreement.

Description of field visits (including list of sites visited and individuals/groups interviewed)

2 March 2026

An online meeting was organized by Nakau programme. The main objective of this meeting was to introduce IE to the Live & Learn field program in Vanuatu and organize field visit. Live & Learn has appointed Alexly Bune, who Live & Learn staff and works for Loru Forest Cabron project, for logistic arrangement during the field visit. Nakau programme also created WhatsApp group for communication during the field visit.

All photos during field visit are in Appendix 2.

Day 1 - Interviewed: Project owner (Ser Thiach) – Board members

16 March 2026

Started: 2:20 – 3:56 pm

Location: Khole village (58731662E – 8315038S)

Participants/interviewees: 1 female and 2 males (Figure 1)

The meeting commenced with an introduction to the objectives by representatives of Live & Learn. Consent to collect project-related information was obtained from all participants.

Three board members were present, including the chairman, a finance officer, and the head ranger. The chairman is responsible for coordinating board activities, land management, and field monitoring. The finance officer oversees financial management, reporting, and administrative coordination. The head ranger leads patrol activities, biodiversity monitoring, and supports forest inventory and training.

Participants confirmed that the project area is customary land owned by the Ser-Thiac clan and was formally registered as a Community Conservation Area (CCA) in 1995. Documentation of the registration was presented during the meeting. All participants indicated that they had been informed about the project and had consented to its implementation. Reported benefits included forest conservation, livelihood support, education assistance, and contributions to climate change mitigation.

Financial management is conducted through four designated bank accounts, including accounts for income, community benefits, savings (safety), and nursery activities. Transaction records were made available for review.

Regarding benefit-sharing arrangements, participants demonstrated general awareness of revenue distribution; however, there was some inconsistency in their understanding of the current allocation percentages, suggesting that updates to the benefit-sharing structure may not have been fully communicated.

In relation to reported forest loss, participants indicated that the affected areas were located outside the CCA and belonged to neighbouring landowners. No conflicts were reported. The project has subsequently revised its boundaries to include only land belonging to the Ser-Thiac clan. All participants confirmed awareness of and agreement with the updated boundaries.

Livelihood activities associated with the project include food crop production, agroforestry, income generation through crop sales, support for education, and improvements in water access and housing materials. While participants reported adequate food availability, water scarcity remains a challenge during the dry season.

Key challenges identified include labour shortages due to youth migration, limited financial management capacity, and the need for improved infrastructure and equipment, particularly for patrol activities and site access.

Day 2 - Interview representatives of household members of the Loru Forest Carbon Project

17 March 2026

Location: Khole village (58731662E – 8315038S)

Started: 12:30 – 1: 24 pm

Participants/interviewees: 5 males and 6 females (Figure 4)

The main purpose of the meeting was to verify project activities against the Plan Vivo Standard for

the Loru Foresat Carbon Project. This verification aims to ensure that the information presented in the Project Design Document (PDD), annual report, and other project documents is accurate.

Following the introduction and explanation objectives, the auditor asked all participants whether they consented to provide information about the project activities and to participate in the interview. All participants agreed and provided consent by raising their hands (Figure 4).

Questions related to Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC)

The interview began with the question: “Were you informed about the Loru Forest Carbon Project before its implementation?”

The auditor provided each participant with a card to write their answer privately, ensuring confidentiality. The responses were then collected individually.

All participants (100%) answered “Yes”, indicating that they had been informed about the project prior to its implementation.

The next question was: “Have you heard about REDD+ project?”

Using the same method, participants wrote their responses on individual cards. Again, 100% of participants indicated that they were aware of REDD+.

The auditor then asked whether participants had agreed to the implementation of the project.

All participants (100%) responded “yes”, confirming their consent.

Questions related to project benefits

The auditor asked “What are the benefits of the REDD+ or Loru Forest Carbon Project”?

Each participant was given the opportunity to respond. The reported benefits included:

- Carbon protection
- Wildlife conservation
- Protection of animals
- Protection of trees and plants
- Forest conservation
- Development of protected areas
- Carbon storage in trees
- Tree planting

The next question was “What activities have you been involved in from January 2020 to January 2025”?

Participants reported involvement in the following activities:

- Clearing invasive species (e.g., *Merremia peltate*)
- Gardening, growing food crops (e.g., taros, kumara, island cabbage)
- Agroforestry
- Fencing the project areas
- Tree planting
- Forest monitoring, biodiversity monitoring, and forest inventory
- Nursery management
- Ecotourism activities

Participants were then asked, “What other benefits you have received from the project?”

Responded included:

- School fee for primary and secondary students
- Support for two students to attend university
- Payments for activities such as clearing invasive species, tree planting, fencing, and patrolling.
- Water tanks
- Iron roofing materials

Questions related to socioeconomic conditions

Selected socioeconomic questions were included in the interview:

1. Do you sometimes run out of water?

- 36% of participants said no
- 64% reported that they sometimes run out of water, particularly during the dry season

2. How often do you consume forest food?

- Participants reported an average of 2.5 times per week.

When asked whether they trust the project, all participants (100%) responded “Yes”.

The interview concluded at 1: 24 pm on the same day (17 March 2026)

Meeting with Area Administration

6:20 – 6:44 pm

Location: Santo town

The purpose of today's meeting is to verify certain project activities that may involve the Area Administration.

The auditor then requested consent from the Area Administration before proceeding. The Area Administration subsequently introduced himself and outlined his responsibilities. He manages areas in East Santo, including Khole village. His primary role relevant to Loru Forest Carbon Project is to provide official support letters for the Ser-Thiac business to establish the Community Conservation Area (CCA). He confirmed that such a support letter was issued in 2015.

Day 3 - Zone C observation, observe project implementation, and interview with rangers

18 March 2026

Zone C observation, observe project implementation, and checked the clearing area

Started at 10 am – 12:30 pm

Location: Zone C

The auditor visited zone C along with Live & Learn staff, a head of ranger (Skip), and Waraka, to assess agroforestry, gardening, and tree planting activities.

- The family members (16 individuals, including 9 females) cleared invasive species (*Merremia peltate*) and planted native tree species in Zone C. The auditor and representatives from Live & Learn Vanuatu also participated in the tree-planting activities (Figure 5). On that day, a total of 333 trees were planted within a 2.5 ha agroforestry plot. The plot will be allocated to a family member for crop cultivation as a livelihood intervention and source of income.
- The auditor also assessed gardening activities within the agroforestry plots managed by one of the family members. Food crops observed included kumara, taro, cassava, yam, island cabbage, and papaya, intercropped with various native tree species (Figure 6).
- The auditor examined the impact of invasive species (*Merremia peltate*) on native vegetation. This invasive vine has the capacity to overgrow and suppress native tree species, effectively killing underlying vegetation. During interviews with family members in zone C, participants reported that the species is difficult to control due to its rapid growth, large leaves, and ability to climb and smother large trees.
- The auditor visited the project nursery, which serve as the primary source of seedling used for tree planting in the agroforestry plots in zone C (Figure 7).
- Subsequently, the auditor, Live & Learn staff (Rex), and the head of ranger (Skip), visited a cleared area referenced in the report. Skip indicated that the areas had been cleared around 2020 and is located outside the CCA. The team recorded the GPS location.

The observation finished at 12:30 pm at the same day (18 March 2026)

Interview with rangers

Location: Base camp

Started: 12: 40 – 1:26 pm

The rangers reported different durations of involvement in the project, with one ranger engaged since before 2020 and the other joining in November 2023.

Their roles include conducting patrols within the Community Conservation Area (CCA) approximately three days per week. Key responsibilities include fence monitoring and maintenance, detection of illegal hunting and logging, and management of invasive species (e.g., *Merremia peltata*).

During the period from January 2020 to January 2025, only one incident of illegal activity was reported, involving damage to approximately 30 meters of fencing. The individuals responsible were not identified. Hunting of wild pigs for household consumption was reported as permitted for local use, but not for external parties.

The rangers identified several challenges, including limited access to appropriate patrol equipment (e.g., footwear and uniforms) and the need for additional training, particularly for newer staff.

Day 4 – 5: Forest Inventory

19 – 20 March 2026

The auditor interviewed Rexly Bune, Live & Learn Vanuatu regarding the forest inventory conducted within the CCA with clarification with Ret Thaung by phone. The inventory, carried out in 2024, covered both the original project area and the newly extended areas, which are also part of the Loru Forest Carbon Project.

The total of 29 plots were established in the original forest inventory area, and 13 plots were established in the extended area. The auditor applied a square root sampling approach to select the plots for verification purposes. Accordingly, 5 plots from the original inventory and 3 plots from the extended areas were randomly selected for re-measurement of tree diameter at breast height (DBH).

Each plot was designed at different size (10x10m, 15x15m, and 25x25m; Figure 8). Within each selected plot, we measured at least 11 trees with a DBH greater than 5 cm, following the same measurement protocols used in the original inventory (Figure 9).

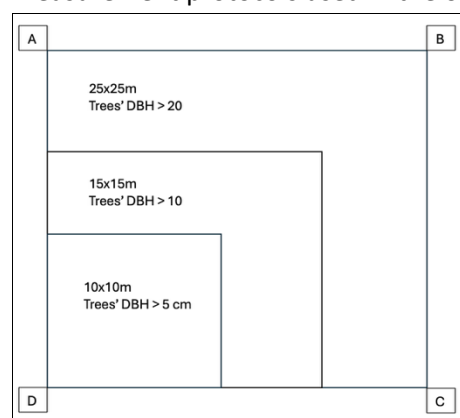


Figure 8. Forest inventory plots at the Loru Forest Carbon Project

Results of the forest inventory

In total, 88 trees were measured for DBH, with an average DBH is 23.2 cm.

Biodiversity monitoring (Figure 10)

19 – 20 March 2026

During the forest inventory walks in each plot, the auditor also recorded wildlife that was either observed or detected through sounds (e.g., bird calls)

The wildlife recorded including:

1. Vanuatu white-eye (*Zosterops flavifrons*)
2. Coconut crab (*Birgus latro*)
3. Pacific imperial pigeon (*Ducula pacifica*)
4. Pacific Kingfisher (*Todiramphus sacer*)
5. Green lizard (*Brachylophus fasciatus*)
6. Junglefowl (*Gallus gallus*)
7. Coconut lorikeet (*Trichoglossus haematodus*)
8. Nakato (local name)
9. White crab
10. Green lizard
11. Green lizard yellow tail

During the walk, the invasive species (*Merremia peltate*) was observed in most areas, except in locations where it had been cleared recently by family members. The removal of this invasive species is part of ongoing community management activities.

No illegal activities or signs of human disturbance were observed during the assessment. Two coconut crabs were found dead (Figure 11); these were reported to have been killed by wild pigs.

The auditor observed that, during the forest inventory, family members brought dogs into the Community Conservation Area (CCA). A group of these dogs hunted two wild pigs. The dogs were owned by the family members.

Day 6: Meeting with Live & Learn Vanuatu (Figure 12)

23 March 2026

12:45 – 1:30 pm

Location: Live & Learn Office, Port Vila, Vanuatu

The meeting began with confirmation of the verification period. Live & Learn confirmed that this is the third verification, covering January 2020 to January 2025.

Discussions then focused on the legal framework and project history. The Community Conservation Area (CCA) was approved under the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation Act (CAP 283), and the Loru Forest Carbon Project was subsequently registered and certified by the same authority.

The project is also registered as a business entity under the Vanuatu Financial Services Commission as Ser-Thiac Business (the landowner entity), with annual renewal of its business license required. A management plan has been developed through consultation with board and family members to guide project implementation. Compliance with the plan is mandatory, with penalties applied for non-compliance. For example, coconut crabs are designated as a protected species, and their harvesting is prohibited.

Regarding boundary revisions, Live & Learn confirmed that the previous project boundary was inaccurate and has since been updated to include an extended area. This revision did not require re-registration with the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation. Stakeholder consultations, including meetings and workshops with landowners, were conducted to agree on the changes, and Plan Vivo was informed. The extended area includes additional forest carbon inventory plots and is incorporated into crediting for the current verification period.

A revision to the benefit-sharing arrangement (reducing the landowner share from 60% to 50%) was also confirmed. This change was agreed through stakeholder consultations.

Live & Learn reported that the Government of Vanuatu, particularly the Ministry of Climate Change, supports the project and is exploring opportunities for expanding carbon initiatives. The ministry is also aware of threats posed by invasive species, including *Merremia peltata*.

Observations from the field visit were discussed, including fallen trees along the road to the project site. The auditor relayed community reports indicating that road clearing activities by an external company may have occurred outside the CCA boundary.

Day 7: 15 April 2026

Online Meeting with Nakau (Figure 14)

Roles and Responsibilities of Nakau

Alex stated that Nakau serves as the program operator for the Loru Forest Carbon Project and works in partnership with Live & Learn Vanuatu in project development and implementation. Nakau's primary role is to support local NGOs and community stakeholders. In addition, Nakau provides technical support, including forest monitoring and livelihood impact assessments.

Forest Monitoring

According to Alex, forest monitoring is conducted through a combination of field-based and remote sensing approaches. Field monitoring is undertaken annually, while remote sensing analyses are conducted every 3–5 years. Field verification is carried out only when forest loss is detected through remote sensing.

For example, in September 2023, an area of forest loss was identified via remote sensing. Nakau staff, together with local rangers, conducted a field verification. The findings confirmed that the forest loss occurred within the Community Conservation Area.

Boundary Revision

Alex explained that the original project boundary, established in 2013, contained inaccuracies due to human error. Nakau subsequently worked with landowners to collect accurate boundary information. Consultation with Plan Vivo confirmed that the boundary required revision.

The updated boundary is now aligned with the official land title held by the landowners.

Forest Carbon Inventory Methods

The forest carbon inventory follows the Plan Vivo Standard (2013). Sampling plots of varying sizes (10 × 10 m, 15 × 15 m, and 25 × 25 m) were established. Diameter at breast height (DBH) measurements were collected to estimate aboveground biomass.

A subsequent forest inventory was conducted in 2024, which included the newly incorporated project areas. Alex confirmed that forest conditions in Zone A and Zone B are comparable; therefore, these zones have been combined for analysis and reporting purposes.

New Project Activities

Alex confirmed that Nakau has introduced the following new activities under the Loru Forest Carbon Project:

1. Removal of the invasive species *Merremia peltata* in forested areas to support natural regeneration.
2. Removal of *Merremia peltata* in non-forested areas, followed by the planting of native tree species to restore forest cover

Table 1. Summary of Corrective Actions (Insert CAR Text) and NIRs

Theme	CARs	NIRs	Observations	Status
Project's Eligibility	CAR-1 Revisions to the Community Conservation Area (CCA) boundary, including changes related to forest loss, zoning inaccuracies, and boundary discrepancies identified in the Forest Monitoring Report (2020–2024), have been reported in annual monitoring reports but have not yet been updated in the Project Design Document (PDD).	NIR-1 Ser-Thiac and Live & Learn stated that the revised CCA boundary does not affect the legal status of the Community Conservation Area or the land title issued in 1995; however, supporting evidence to substantiate this claim was not provided. It is recommended that relevant legal or official documentation be submitted to confirm this.		Closed

		NIR-2 Please clarify when the revised management plan is expected to be approved.		
Ecosystem Benefits	CAR-2 The project coordinator should provide clear guidance on the use of dogs within the Community Conservation Area (CCA) and the hunting of wild pigs, including whether these activities are permitted for household use and restricted from external parties.	NIR-3 Although wild pigs may not be a target species, their presence and population trends should be included in biodiversity monitoring, as they may pose a threat to ecosystem balance if their population increases significantly. Please confirm whether natural disturbances (e.g., predator–prey interactions) are included in the monitoring protocol. If not, please provide justification.	Please confirm whether all tree species planted, and those produced in the nursery, are native species to the project area. Ensure that only native species are used for planting activities to maintain ecological integrity and avoid potential negative impacts on local biodiversity.	Closed
Project Coordination and Management			The project owners appreciate the project coordinator and program operators for implementing this project.	Closed
Participatory design		NIR-4 A formal grievance mechanism should be established to ensure that any future disputes or concerns can be	During interviews with rangers, it was reported that approximately 30 m of fencing had been cut. Although the rangers were unable to identify the reason for this incident, the issue	Closed

		addressed in a transparent, timely, and structured manner. Please confirm whether a formal grievance mechanism, including procedures for handling complaints and conflicts, is documented in the PDD.	has not been formally documented or addressed. The absence of a formal grievance mechanism and documentation process may limit the project's ability to systematically address conflicts and ensure transparency. The project should consider providing appropriate equipment to support ranger patrols and offering additional training, particularly for newly recruited rangers.	
Quantifying and Monitoring Ecosystem Services	CAR-3 The crediting area has been extended to include additional areas; this change should be reflected in the Technical Specification. Please confirm whether the new forest inventory for quantifying ecosystem services has been included in the Loru Forest Carbon Calculation (Appendix 1, 5.1).		Field observations confirmed that the forest inventory plots are located within the newly extended areas.	Closed
Risk Management	CAR-4 The project shall		During field observations, several trees were	Closed

	clarify whether the evidence of potential logging outside the CCA identified during fieldwork is accurate. If confirmed, the project shall demonstrate that leakage risks have been appropriately assessed and addressed based on the latest available evidence.		found to have been knocked down along the road to the Community Conservation Area (CCA). Wakara reported that this was linked to an attempted rosewood logging activity by a Chinese company. This activity may pose a potential threat to the integrity of the CCA.	
Livelihoods Impacts	CAR-5 The project shall demonstrate what actions have been taken in response to the results of the socio-economic surveys, for instance how negative findings (e.g. water shortages during the dry season) have been addressed.		.	Closed
PES Agreement	CAR-6 In page 33 of the annual report, the benefit-sharing arrangement has been changed. In the 2015 PDD, the benefit allocated to Serthiac Family Business was 60%, but this was updated to 50% in 2020. The		During the field visit, board members and family members discussed additional livelihood activities that could provide greater benefits, such as improving road access to the Community Conservation Area (CCA) and enhancing	Closed with a FAR raised: <i>FAR 1- For the next verification, the benefit sharing for the Serthiac community should be checked to assure alignment with community</i>

	project coordinator shall ensure that changes to the benefit-sharing are clearly documented in the project documents and have been effectively communicated and understood.		transportation. It is recommended that benefit-sharing arrangements be revisited and discussed with stakeholders, particularly when new funding becomes available from carbon credit sales, to ensure alignment with community priorities and needs.	<i>priorities and needs.</i>
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Table 2 - Report Conformance (Delete Yes/No as appropriate)

Project's Eligibility	Yes	Yes
Ecosystem Benefits	No	Yes
Project Coordination and Management	Yes	Yes
Participatory design	No	Yes
Quantifying and Monitoring Ecosystem Services	No	Yes
Risk Management	No	Yes
Livelihoods impacts	No	Yes
PES Agreement	No	Yes

PROJECT'S ELIGIBILITY			
Requirement: Project directly engage and benefit community groups			
Verification Question: 1 and 2			
1.1 Project interventions are still taking on land where smallholders and/or community groups have clear land tenure (1.1) 1.2 Land that is not owned by or subject to use rights has included in the project area because (1.2): • It represents less than a third of the project areas at all times • No part of the area was acquired by a third party from smallholders or community groups for the purpose of inclusion in the project • Its inclusion will have clear benefits to the project by creating landscape level ecosystem benefits such as biodiversity corridors. • There is an executed agreement between owners/mangers of such land and participants regarding the management of the area consistent with these requirements			
A. Findings (describe)	Wakara provided a brief description of the project site, explaining that the forest is owned by individual families. He noted that Stephen Ser previously served as the chainman, and following his passing, Waraka assumed this role. He also stated that the Loru Community Conservation Area (CCA) was registered in 1995 by the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation, and presented the auditor with the certificate of registration (Figure 2). In addition, the project is required to be registered as a business entity. This approval is issued by the Vanuatu Financial Services Commission under the name <i>Ser-Thiac Business</i> (the landowner business entity). The business license must be renewed annually in accordance with Vanuatu law. According to the Project Design Document (PDD), the original Community Conservation Area, comprising Zones A, B, and C, covered a total area of 292.8 ha (Appendix 1, 1.1). However, the current Loru CCA boundary has been revised due to several issues identified in the <i>Loru Forest Carbon Project Forest Monitoring Report (2020–2024)</i>, including forest loss (Appendix 1, 2.1), zoning inaccuracies (Appendix 1, 2.2), and boundary discrepancies (Appendix 1, 2.3). Following these changes, the Ser-Thiac landowners have incorporated the revised boundaries into the management plan, with support from Live & Learn. The updated management plan is currently under review by the Government of Vanuatu for approval.		
B. Conformance	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	CAR-1 A. Revisions to the Community Conservation Area (CCA) boundary, including changes related to forest loss, zoning inaccuracies, and boundary discrepancies identified in the Forest Monitoring Report (2020–2024), have been reported in		

	annual monitoring reports but have not yet been updated in the Project Design Document (PDD). NIR-1 B. Ser-Thiac and Live & Learn stated that the revised CCA boundary does not affect the legal status of the Community Conservation Area or the land title issued in 1995; however, supporting evidence to substantiate this claim was not provided. It is recommended that relevant legal or official documentation be submitted to confirm this. NIR-2 C. Please clarify when the revised management plan is expected to be approved.
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response	A. <i>PDD has been updated addressing boundary changes of Loru CCA. PDD updated attached.</i> B. <i>The updated map has been approved by department of land ! The endorsement from Sanma province is in the process.</i> C. <i>The revised management plan is expected to approved by mid August.</i>
E. Status	<i>Closed</i>

ECOSYSTEM BENEFITS

Requirement: Project generates ecosystem service benefits and maintains or enhances biodiversity.

Verification Questions: 1, 3 and 5

- 2.1 Project interventions are maintaining or enhancing biodiversity (2.2)
 2.2 Project interventions have not led to any negative environmental impacts (2.3)
 2.3 Any trees being planted to generate ecosystem services are native or naturalised species and are not invasive (2.4)

A. Findings (describe)	According to PDD, annual reports, and other documents, project activities including biodiversity monitoring, forest monitoring, tree planting, invasive species management, and patrolling. The Loru Forest Community Conservation Area (CCA) is divided into three zones, zone A, B, and C. The forests in zone A is still good condition, similar to zone B, but still mixed invasive species (<i>Merremia peltate</i>). During the forest inventory walks in each plot, the auditor also recorded wildlife that was either observed or detected through sounds (e.g., bird calls) The wildlife recorded including: 1. Vanuatu white-eye (<i>Zosterops flavifrons</i>) 2. Coconut crab (<i>Birgus latro</i>) 3. Pacific imperial pigeon (<i>Ducula pacifica</i>) 4. Pacific Kingfisher (<i>Todiramphus sacer</i>)
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	5. Green lizard (<i>Brachylophus fasciatus</i>) 6. Junglefowl (<i>Gallus gallus</i>) 7. Coconut lorikeet (<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>) 8. Nakato (local name) 9. White crab 10. Green lizard 11. Green lizard yellow tail During the walk, the invasive species (<i>Merremia peltate</i>) was observed in most areas, except in locations where it had been cleared recently by family members. The removal of this invasive species is part of ongoing community management activities. No illegal activities or signs of human disturbance were observed during the assessment. Two coconut crabs were found dead; these were reported to have been killed by wild pigs. The Biodiversity Impact Monitoring Report (2021–2024) indicates that coconut crab populations show a fluctuating trend (Appendix 1, 3.1). The auditor observed that, during the forest inventory, family members brought dogs into the Community Conservation Area (CCA). A group of these dogs hunted two wild pigs. The dogs were owned by the family members. Although during the interview with rangers, they confirmed that Hunting of wild pits for household consumption is permitted for family use, not outsiders. It is against to the Plan Vivo Standard on 2. Eligible project activities (2.2). The family members (16 individuals, including 9 females) cleared invasive species (<i>Merremia peltate</i>) and planted tree species in Zone C. The auditor and representative from Live & Learn Vanuatu also participated in the tree-planting activities. On that day, a total of 333 trees were planted within a 2.5 ha agroforestry plot. The plot will be allocated to a family member for crop cultivation as a livelihood intervention and source of income.		
B. Conformance	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	CAR-2 A. The project coordinator should provide clear guidance on the use of dogs within the Community Conservation Area (CCA) and the hunting of wild pigs, including whether these activities are permitted for household use and restricted from external parties. NIR-3		

	B. Although wild pigs may not be a target species, their presence and population trends should be included in biodiversity monitoring, as they may pose a threat to ecosystem balance if their population increases significantly. Please confirm whether natural disturbances (e.g., predator–prey interactions) are included in the monitoring protocol. If not, please provide justification. Observation C. Please confirm whether all tree species planted, and those produced in the nursery, are native species to the project area. Ensure that only native species are used for planting activities to maintain ecological integrity and avoid potential negative impacts on local biodiversity.
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response	A. <i>Dogs are used by Ser-Thiac landowners and rangers during patrols to hunt wild pigs, which are considered an introduced pest species in Vanuatu. The management of wild pigs is included in the CCA Management Plan. The use of dogs is limited to Ser-Thiac landowners and rangers and is not permitted for external parties.</i> B. <i>Wild pigs are an introduced species and are considered a pest in Vanuatu. While predator–prey interactions and population trends are important considerations, a detailed study of these relationships would require additional resources, technical expertise, and appropriate monitoring technology. These requirements currently present practical and financial challenges for the project. Nevertheless, the project recognises the importance of improving monitoring approach as part of broader biodiversity and ecosystem management.</i> C. <i>All tree species planted in the restoration area, as well as those produced in the nursery, are native species appropriate to the project area.</i>
E. Status	<i>CLOSED</i>

PROJECT COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT

Requirement: Project is managed with transparency and accountability, engagement of relevant stakeholders and in compliance with the law of the Host Country.

Verification Questions: 1, 2 and 6

- 3.1 The project coordinator still has the capacity to support participants in the design of the project interventions, select appropriate participants for inclusion in the project, and develop effective participatory relationships including providing on-going support to sustain the project (3.4)
- 3.2 The project coordinator still has the legal and administrative capacity to enter into PES Agreements with participants and to manage the disbursement of payments for ecosystem services (3.5)
- 3.3 A transparent mechanism and procedures for the receipt, holding and disbursement of PES funds is applied, with funds intended for PES earmarked

and managed through an account established for this sole purpose, separate to the project coordinator's operational finances. (3.9) 3.4 The project coordinator has accurately described the progress, achievements and problems encountered by the project in the Annual Reports. The Annual Reports transparently report sales figures and demonstrate resource allocation in the interest of target groups (3.10; 3.11)				
A. Findings (describe)		Live & Learn Vanuatu is the project coordinator for the Loru Forest Carbon Project. Live & Learn has two main offices in Vanuatu, one is based in Port Vila, and another one is the Santo (where the project site is located). Glarinda Andre is the country director of Live & Learn, and a lead person in Loru Forest Carbon Project. She has been engaged in REDD+ since 2012. Glarinda is also the main contact for the Loru Forest Carbon Project. The office in Santo allows Live & Learn staff to regularly engage with the project owner and access to project site. Live & Learn also has developed a strong communication and professional relationship with Khole village. Another key stakeholder engaging in the Loru Forest Carbon Project is the Nakau Programme Pty Ltd. Nakau provides ongoing technical support in the project including forestry monitoring, biodiversity monitoring, forest inventory, and social impact assessment. The project coordinator follows the Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC). During the field visit, all participants (100%) answered "Yes", indicating that they had been informed about the project prior to its implementation, and all participants (100%) responded "yes", confirming their consent.		
B. Conformance		Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Actions (describe)		Observation A. The project owners appreciate the project coordinator and program operators for implementing this project.		
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response		<i>(To be filled out by the Project Coordinator)</i>		
E. Status		<i>CLOSED</i>		

PARTICIPATORY DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN VIVO
Requirement: the project has demonstrated community ownership: communities participate meaningfully through the design and implementation of plan vivos that address local needs and priorities.
Verification Questions: 1, 2 and 6
4.1 A voluntary and participatory planning that address local needs and inform the development of technical specification is taking place (4.1; 4.6; 7.1.). Barriers to participation are being identified and measures taken to encourage participation (4.3)

4.2 Smallholders or communities are not being excluded from participation in the project on the basis of gender, age, income or social status, ethnicity or religion, or any other discriminatory basis (4.2) 4.3 The project is not undermining the livelihood needs and priorities or reduce the food security of the participants (4.7; 7.1; 7.5) 4.4 There exist a system for accurately recording and verifying location, boundary and size of each plan vivo (4.8). Participants have access to their <i>plan vivos</i> in an appropriate language and format (4.9) 4.5 Participants are being provided with a forum to periodically discuss the design and running of the project with other participants and raise any issuance or grievances with the project coordinator (4.12). A robust grievance redressal system is in place (4.14)			
A. Findings (describe)	Loru Forest Carbon Project employs three rangers for patrolling around the Community Conservation Area. Their responsibilities include: - Monitoring and maintain fences - Detecting illegal hunting - Detecting illegal logging - Clearing invasive species (<i>Merremia peltate</i>) From January 2020 – January 2025, the rangers reported only one incident of illegal activity, involving approximately 30 meters of fence being cut. However, they were not able to identify the individual(s) responsible. Hunting of wild pits for household consumption is permitted for family use, not outsiders. During the field visit, no complaint box was observed in either the village or at the Community Conservation Area (CCA) campsite. When asked about challenges, both rangers highlighted the need for proper patrol equipment, including suitable footwear and uniforms. They also expressed the need for additional training, particularly for newer ranger such as Alex.		
	B. Conformance Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	NIR-4 A. A formal grievance mechanism should be established to ensure that any future disputes or concerns can be addressed in a transparent, timely, and structured manner. Please confirm whether a formal grievance mechanism, including procedures for handling complaints and conflicts, is documented in the PDD. Observation B. During interviews with rangers, it was reported that approximately 30 m of fencing had been cut. Although the rangers were unable to identify the reason for this incident, the issue has not been formally documented or addressed. The absence of a formal grievance mechanism and		

	documentation process may limit the project's ability to systematically address conflicts and ensure transparency. Observation C. The project should consider providing appropriate equipment to support ranger patrols and offering additional training, particularly for newly recruited rangers.
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response	<i>A. Live & Learn Vanuatu has led consultations with Ser-Thiac to support the development of a formal grievance mechanism. The formal grievance mechanism is in the progress (see consultation report for grievance mechanism attached)</i> <i>B. the formal grievance mechanism is in the process as this takes time to formally implement effectively with the community. The concerns have been raised through traditional pipeline during their AGM and committee meetings. The concerns that cannot solved at the project level will be brought to discuss with Live and Learn Vanuatu and Nakau. If cannot be solved, then the concerns will be brought to chief of council. There isn't any grievance raised.</i> <i>C. The Ser-Thiac Governance Committee is aware of the need for appropriate patrol equipment. However, limited funding remains a key constraint. Nakau and Live & Learn Vanuatu have already purchased binoculars, using CRXN funding from DFAT, to support ecosystem monitoring. In addition, Nakau and Live & Learn Vanuatu have provided training to rangers, including newly recruited rangers, on Avenza mapping, forest and ecosystem monitoring, and forest inventory methods.</i>
E. Status	<i>CLOSED</i>

QUANTIFYING AND MONITORING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Requirement: project generates real and additional ecosystem service benefits that are demonstrated with credible quantification and monitoring

Verification Questions: 2, 3 and 4

- 5.1 Sources of data used to quantify ecosystem services, including all assumptions and default factors, have been specified and updated when possible, with a justification why they are appropriate (5.1; 5.2)
- 5.2 The project coordinator has been conducting ground-truthing activities in order to collect real data and field measurements from the project sites that have been or will be used to update the project's PDD and technical specifications, including the quantification of climate benefits (5.3)
- 5.3 A clear and consistent Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), or equivalent, for remote sensing analysis has been elaborated by the project coordinator.
- 5.4 The results of the remote sensing analysis are not in stark conflict with the results of Activity-Based Monitoring and there is a high level of correlation between the two monitoring methods. Reasons for any discrepancy have been accurately justified.
- 5.5 Ecosystem services forming the basis of the Plan Vivo project are still additional (5.4).
- 5.6 To avoid double counting of ecosystem services, the project interventions are not being used for any other project or initiative (5.14)
- 5.7 A monitoring plan has been correctly implemented and a system for checking its

	robustness is in place, where (5.9; 7.2.; 7.3): • The Activity-Based Monitoring indicators and performance targets directly or indirectly linked to the delivery of ecosystem services. ABM provides sufficient evidence that the project is on track to deliver the expected impacts and to reduce the drivers of deforestation. • Corrective actions and contingency plans are described when performance targets have not been met • The validity and assumptions of the technical specifications have been correctly tested • Communities have been actively participating in monitoring activities • Monitoring has been regularly shared and discussed it with the participants
A. Findings (describe)	According to the <i>Loru Forest Project – Project Description (PD) Part B: PES Accounting</i>, the inventory plots are located within the original Loru Community Conservation Area (CCA), restricted to Zones A1–A4 as the eligible forest area shown in the map (Appendix 1, 4.1). However, the <i>Loru Forest Carbon Project Forest Monitoring Field Report (2020–2024)</i> indicates that the CCA boundary has been revised, and forest inventory plots used to quantify ecosystem metrics for the third verification also include these newly extended areas. During fieldwork, the auditor interviewed Rexly Bune, Live & Learn Vanuatu regarding the forest inventory conducted within the CCA with clarification with Ret Thaung by phone. The inventory, carried out in 2024, covered both the original project area and the newly extended areas, which are also part of the Loru Forest Carbon Project. The total of 29 plots were established in the original forest inventory area, and 13 plots were established in the extended area. The auditor applied a square root sampling approach to select the plots for verification purposes. Accordingly, 5 plots from the original inventory and 3 plots from the extended areas were randomly selected for re-measurement of tree diameter at breast height (DBH). Each plot was designed at different size (10x10m, 15x15m, and 25x25m; Figure 8). Within each selected plot, we measured at least 11 trees with a DBH greater than 5 cm, following the same measurement protocols used in the original inventory. In total, 88 trees were measured for DBH, with an average DBH is 23.2 cm. Regarding the boundary changes, Live & Learn (Glarinda Andre and Karlene Tevi) confirmed that the previous project boundary was incorrect and required revision, which consistent to the <i>Loru Forest Carbon Project Forest Monitoring Field Report (2020–20224)</i>. The updated boundary includes an extended area. They also confirmed that Plan Vivo was informed of this issue. The newly extended area includes additional forest carbon inventory plots and is included in the

	crediting for this third verification.		
B. Conformance	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	CAR-3 A. The crediting area has been extended to include additional areas; this change should be reflected in the Technical Specification. Please confirm whether the new forest inventory for quantifying ecosystem services has been included in the Loru Forest Carbon Calculation (Appendix 1, 5.1). Observation B. Field observations confirmed that the forest inventory plots are located within the newly extended areas.		
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response	A. <i>Yes, the carbon calculation is based on the newly updated forest inventory data collected in 2024, which reflects the changes to the CCA boundary.</i> B. <i>Please see attached carbon accounting in excel.</i>		
E. Status	CLOSED		

RISK MANAGEMENT	
Requirement: The project manages risks effectively throughout its design and implementation.	
Verification Questions: 2 and 4	
6.1 Where leakage is likely to be significant, i.e. likely to reduce climate services by more than 5%, an approved approach has been used to monitor leakage and subtract actual leakage from climate services claimed, or as a minimum, a conservative estimation of likely leakage has been made and subsequently deducted from the climate services claimed (6.1; 6.2) 6.2 The level of risk buffer that has determined using an approved approach is adequate and is a minimum of 10% of climate services expected (6.3) 6.3 Does the project maintain a buffer account and is the cumulative total of credits deposited in the account equal to the total reported in the latest annual report? (6.3)	
A. Findings (describe)	Although the In the <i>Loru Forest Project – Project Description (PD) Part B: PES Accounting</i> (Appendix 1, 4.2) states that annual leakage is estimated at zero (0 ha), based on the assumption of no activity-shifting or market leakage, field observations during the verification identified signs of logging activities in areas surrounding the project boundary. These observations suggest a potential risk of activity-shifting leakage that may not have been fully accounted for in the current leakage assessment.

	While the PDD justifies zero leakage on the basis of minimal baseline timber harvesting and negligible contribution to the national timber market, the presence of logging activities near the project area indicates that localised leakage may still occur, particularly at the project boundaries. During field observations, several trees were found to have been knocked down along the road to the Community Conservation Area (CCA). Wakara reported that this was linked to an attempted rosewood logging activity by a Chinese company. The auditor informed Live & Learn about the reports from Khole village indicating that a Chinese company may have attempted to clear the road for rosewood logging outside the CCA boundary.		
B. Conformance	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	CAR-4 A. The project shall clarify whether the evidence of potential logging outside the CCA identified during fieldwork is accurate. If confirmed, the project shall demonstrate that leakage risks have been appropriately assessed and addressed based on the latest available evidence. Observation B. This activity may pose a potential threat to the integrity of the CCA.		
D. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response	<i>A. Evidence indicates that two trees were felled by an external logging company to improve access for transportation associated with its logging activities. This activity was not connected to any Ser-Thiac members, who are the customary landowners of the CCA. Ser-Thiac members did not participate in the activity and did not receive any benefit from the logging. Therefore, the observed activity does not constitute activity-shifting leakage caused by forest conservation activities at Loru.</i>		
B. Status	<i>CLOSED</i>		

PES AGREEMENT AND BENEFIT SHARING

Requirement: project shares benefits equitably and transact ecosystem services benefits through clear PES Agreements with performance-based incentives.

Verification Questions: 1, 2 and 6

- 7.1. Procedures for entering into a PES Agreement with participants are being applied correctly **(8.2)**
- 7.2. Participant s are entering into PES agreement voluntarily and according to the

principle of free, prior, informed consent, in an appropriate language and format (8.3) 7.3. PES Agreements are not removing, diminishing or threatening participant's land tenure (8.4) 7.4. A fair and equitable benefit-sharing mechanism is in place and has been agreed with the participation of communities involved, identifying how PES funding will be distributed among participants (8.8; 8.9; 8.10) 7.5. The project has committed to deliver at least 60% on average of the proceeds of the sales of Plan Vivo Certificates. Where less than 60% has been delivered, the project has justified why this was not possible (8.12)	
A. Findings (describe)	Regarding livelihood benefits, the board members reported the following activities: - Grow food crops (e.g., taros, cassava) - Tree planting (as part of agroforestry) - Selling crops for income generation - Supporting two students to attend university - Improving access to drinking water (water tanks), although water scarcity remains an issue during the dry season - Providing roofing materials for house construction All members agreed that households have adequate access to food and do not face food insecurity; however, water availability remains a concern during the dry season. Similarly, the families also confirmed that they got benefits from the project including: - School fee for primary and secondary students - Support for two students to attend university - Payments for activities such as clearing invasive species, tree planting, fencing, and patrolling. - Water tanks - Iron roofing materials 3. Do you sometimes run out of water? - 36% of participants said no - 64% reported that they sometimes run out of water, particularly during the dry season 4. How often do you consume forest food? - Participants reported an average of 2.5 times per week.
	The findings are largely consistent with the Social Impact Assessment conducted in the Loru Community Conservation Area. The report indicates that 56.52% of households (n = 23) experienced water

	shortages during the dry season (Appendix 1, 5.1). Although water tanks have been provided by the project these appear to offer only short-term relief and may not constitute a sustainable long-term solution. According to the Project Design Document (PDD), 60% of the benefits are allocated to the landowners (Ser-Thiac). However, in practice, this allocation has been reduced to 50%. When asked about financial management and revenue from carbon credit sales, Dorolyn explained that there are currently four bank account (National Bank): 1. Income account – for receiving funds from Nakau 2. Community benefit account – for distributing funds to project members 3. Safety account – reserved for emergencies 4. Nursery account – used for tree planting activities Dorolyn also presented transaction records. When asked about the benefit-sharing percentages, the three board members initially hesitated. They stated that they had attended a benefit-sharing workshop and understood that revenue distribution was 60% to Ser-Thiac, 20% to Live & Learn, and 20% to Nakau. They further explained that within the 60% allocated to Ser-Thiac, funds were divided into 60% for project activities, 20% for saving (safety account), and 20% for community benefits. However, when informed that the actual distribution had changed to 50% for Ser-Thiac, 32% for Live & Learn, and 18% for Nakau, they indicated that they were unaware of this change. This discrepancy between the PDD and actual implementation may lead to inconsistencies in project documentation and could affect transparency and stakeholder trust. During interviews with board members, they were unable to recall the change in benefit-sharing arrangements.		
B. Conformance	Yes ☒	No ☐	N/A ☐
C. Corrective Actions (describe)	CAR-5 A. The project shall demonstrate what actions have been taken in response to the results of the socio-economic surveys, for instance how negative findings (e.g. water shortages during the dry season) have been addressed. CAR-6 B. In page 33 of the annual report, the benefit-sharing		

	arrangement has been changed. In the 2015 PDD, the benefit allocated to Serthiac Family Business was 60%, but this was updated to 50% in 2020. The project coordinator shall ensure that changes to the benefit-sharing are clearly documented in the project documents and have been effectively communicated and understood. . Observation C. During the field visit, board members and family members discussed additional livelihood activities that could provide greater benefits, such as improving road access to the Community Conservation Area (CCA) and enhancing transportation. It is recommended that benefit-sharing arrangements be revisited and discussed with stakeholders, particularly when new funding becomes available from carbon credit sales, to ensure alignment with community priorities and needs.
A. (Insert Project Coordinator's Name) Response	<i>CAR 5 A: The Ser-Thiac Governance Committee has responded to the identified water shortage issue by allocating income generated from carbon credits to purchase rainwater tanks for community members. The number of rainwater tanks provided is currently limited by the level of available project income. At present, rainwater tanks are considered the most practical and appropriate option for improving water access, as digging wells is not feasible in the community. The committee will continue to prioritise water security as additional project income becomes available.</i> <i>CAR6 B: This appears to be a misunderstanding. Nakau and Live & Learn Vanuatu consulted with the Ser-Thiac Governance Committee regarding the revised income distribution percentages in October 2020. The updated credit-split agreement was signed by both Live & Learn Vanuatu and Ser-Thiac representatives and is provided as supporting evidence in Annex 8 of the annual report.</i> <i>Given that Ser-Thiac had not received carbon income for some time, it is possible that some community members may not clearly recall the details of this agreement. However, Live & Learn Vanuatu has continued to update and consult with the community during community meetings, including discussions on the revised roles and responsibilities and updates associated with the CCA boundary revision.</i> <i>B. We will revisit the benefit sharing plan with Serthiac community once the carbon credit income becomes available.</i>
C. Status	<i>CLOSED and a FAR was raised for next verification.</i> <i>FAR 1- For the next verification, the benefit sharing for the Serthiac community should be checked to assure alignment with community priorities and needs.</i>

Signature:



Date: 03/08/2026

Signature:



Date: 04/08/2026

Independent export

Audit Plan

Table 1: Detailed activities for the verification process

No	Activities	Location	Duration (hours or day estimated)
1	Desk Review - Project design document (PDD) Part A and Part B - Annual reports (16 January 2020 – 15 January 2025)	Personal Office, Canberra	25 – 28 February 2026
2	Meeting with Plan Vivo	Online meeting	27 February 2026 1 hour
3	Meeting with project coordinator (Live & Learn Vanuatu) And Project Operator The NAKAU Programme Get to know the project (project objectives, location, governance, management, and provision of PES), and self-introduction Discuss about on-site audit logistic	Online meeting	2 March 2026 1 hours and 30 minutes
4	Travel from Australia to Port Vila	Port Vila	14 March 2026
5	Stay in Port Vila	Port Vila	15 March 2026
7	Travel from Port Vila to Santo (morning)	Santo	16 March 2026
7	Interview project owner (Ser-Thiac) At three people (male and female) Waraka Ser (Chairmen) Dorolyn Ser (Finance officer) and Stivin Ser (chief of ranger) Questions: 1. Have you informed about this project before it has been conducted? Did you provide consent for the project implantation? 2. You as a landowner, what are some project activities you have been involved during 16 January 2020 – 15 January 2024? 3. What is your understanding about the bank account you and the Serakar Clan have been receiving on the sales of carbon?	Santo Specific location to be identified by Live & Learn Vanuatu	16 March 2026 2 – 4 pm

	4. Have you ever made any regular visit to Loru Conservation Area and checked whether any activities such logging or deforestation is operating inside? 5. Have you also participated in any of the agroforestry activities or any management activities that are associated with the Loru Forest carbon project? 6. How many students got benefits from the project since January 2020 – 15 January 2024, and how many of them have chance to go to University? 7. What type of livelihood activities have been intervened by the project 8. Did you aware that in September 2023, there are about 69.06 ha of crediting areas was not identified as potentially not currently under the legal protection (Community Conservation Area)?		
8	Meeting with local government (Area Administration in Santo) to be confirmed	Santo	16 March 2026 4 – 5 pm
9	Interview with target group for the Loru Forest Project (Clan member), I will interview 11 of them including, men, women, and youth. Names to be provided by Live & Learn 1. Have you informed about this project before it has been conducted? Did you provide consent for the project implantation? 2. Do you know what are the benefits of REDD+ project? 3. What are project activities you have been involved during 16 January 2020 – 15 January 2024? For example, invasive prevention? Ecotourism project Community Livelihood support 4. What benefit did you get from this project? 5. How often do you eat from forest food? (report: 2.5 times/month) 6.	Santo Specific location to be identified by Live & Learn Vanuatu	17 March 2026 9 am – 5 pm
10	Interview with two ranger and three project	Santo	18 March 2026

	staff (Live & Learn in Santo) . What are project activities you have been involved during 16 January 2020 – 15 January 2024? . What other benefits that you get from the project? For example, monthly salary from the carbon sale project. . How often did you conduct patrol per month, and were there any illegal activities you encountered during the patrol? . What other activities you involve in the project from 16 January 2020 – 15 January 2024?	Specific location to be identified by Live & Learn Vanuatu	9 am – 12 pm
11	Reviewing the results from interview with stakeholders	Hotel	18 March 2026 2 – 5 pm
12	Plot site visit with rangers (Zone A, B, C) - Check with the forest areas (Zone A and B) to see/observe site condition and check if there are any changes in forest condition (logging and or deforestation). - Check also the 0.669 ha that removed from the project area due to deforestation. The confirmation is based on the monitoring conducted in May 2023 by Nakau using a GIS consultant from the University of the South Pacific. - Visit Zone C (agroforestry)	Loru Forest Project Zone A (2 plots) Zone B (3 plots) Zone C (visiting and observing livelihood activities) Alex and Rex will join the trip	19 March 2026 9 am – 5 pm
13	Stay in Santo for reviewing the results from interview and draft of the finding/report	Santo	20 March 2026
14	Stay in Santo for reviewing the results from interview and draft of the finding/report	Santo	21 March 2026
15	Travel from Santo to Port Vila	Port Vila	22 March 2026
16	Meeting with Live & Learn Vanuatu Glarinda Andre Karlene Tev	Port Vila	23 March 2026 9 – 11 am
17	Meeting with Nakau Program, Vanuatu	Online meeting	To be determined

	Alex McClean Ret Thaung		
18	Travel from Port Vila to Canberra	Canberra	To be confirmed
19	Meeting with Plan Vivo	Online	To be determine

ANNEX 1: Sampling plan for the on-site visit

Sampling in plots:

Zone A: will visit 2 (total plots = 4)

Zone B: will visit 3 (Total plots = 7)

Zone C: will visit/observe livelihood activities

The DBH of some trees in the plots (Zone A and B) will be measured.

Communities/local people to be interviewed:

Board members: Interview 3 people (Total board members = 7).

Local communities: Serakar Clan (total 50 adults) – interview 11 people (men, women and youth)

Local government/district = 1

Rangers and project staff to be interviewed

Ranger = 2 and one head of the ranger (total 2 rangers and one head ranger)

Feld project staff in Santo (Live & Learn) = 3 (total 7 staff)

Project staff in Port Vila (Live & Learn) = 2

Nakau Programme (online meeting) = 2

APPENDIX

Appendix 1: Cross-check of document and database

No	Title	Year	Details	Available
1.1	Loru Forest Project – Project Description (PD) Part A: General Description. An avoided deforestation project at Loru Forest, Santo Vanuatu. D3.2a v1.0, 20151009. The Nakau Programme Pty Ltd	2015	Page 28	Yes
2.1	Loru Forest Carbon Project Forest Monitoring Field Report (2020-2024)	2020-2024	Page 6	Yes
2.2			Page 17	
2.3			Page 20	
3.1	Biodiveristy Impact Monitoring Report Loru Community Conservation Area and the Loru Forest Project 2021-2024	2021-2024	Page 17	Yes
4.1	Loru Forest Project – Project Description (PD) Part B: PES accounting – an avoided deforestation project at Loru, Santo, Vanuatu D3.2b V1.0 20151009	2015	Page 51	Yes
4.2			Page 39	Yes
5.1	Loru Forest Carbon Calculations PV4 2025 update (Carbon Calculation)	2025	Excel file	Yes
6.1	Social Impact Assessment at Loru Community Conservation Area	2015	Page 10	Yes
7.1	Loru Forest Annual Report 2020-2024	2020-2024		Yes
8.1	Minute meeting (240321_PV coord meeting)	2024		Yes
9.1	Loru Community Conservation Area Remote Monitoring Report	2025		Yes
10.1	Remote Sensing Forest Change Assessment and Classification for the Loru rainforest Conservation Project, Vanuatu			Yes
11.1	Loru Forest Inventory Data Table template – forest plot		Excel fie	Yes
12.1	Loru GIS Shape File		Shape file	Yes
13.1	Loru Updated Credit Split agreement _singed October 2020	2020		Yes
14.1	Validate report – Loru Forest Project	2016		Yes
15.1	Loru Face sheet			Yes

Appendix 2: Photos during the field visit



Figure 1: Interview with board members, and attendant list

Figure 2: Certificate of the Loru Community Conservation Area

The figure displays four National Bank statements, each showing a different date and a series of transactions. The statements are for the Loru Community Conservation Area. The transactions include deposits and withdrawals, with a final balance of 10,000.00.

Statement 1 (10/20/2023):

Date	Description	Amount	Balance
10/20/2023	DEPOSIT	10,000.00	10,000.00

Statement 2 (10/21/2023):

Date	Description	Amount	Balance
10/21/2023	DEPOSIT	10,000.00	10,000.00

Statement 3 (10/22/2023):

Date	Description	Amount	Balance
10/22/2023	DEPOSIT	10,000.00	10,000.00

Statement 4 (10/23/2023):

Date	Description	Amount	Balance
10/23/2023	DEPOSIT	10,000.00	10,000.00

Figure 3: Fund transferred to Ser-Thiac



Figure 4: Interview with Loru Forest Carbon Project's family members, and their attendant list



Figure 5: Tree planting at the agroforestry plot in zone C



Figure 6: Gardening activity in an agroforestry plot



Figure 7a: Loru community nursery



Figure 7b: Family members are working at the nursery and preparing for tree planting



Figure 9a: Forest inventory, measuring the DBH of the tree



Figure 9b: Forest inventory, measuring the DBH of the tree



Figure 9c: Forest inventory, data recording



Figure 10a: Wildlife recorded during the forest walk and forest inventory (direct observation)



Figure 10b: Wildlife recorded during the forest walk and forest inventory (direct observation)



Figure 11: Dead coconut crab found during the forest walk and forest inventory, killed by wild pigs



Figure 12: Meeting with Live & Learn Vanuatu in Port Vila



Figure 13a: The tree was knocked down



Figure 13b: The tree was knocked down

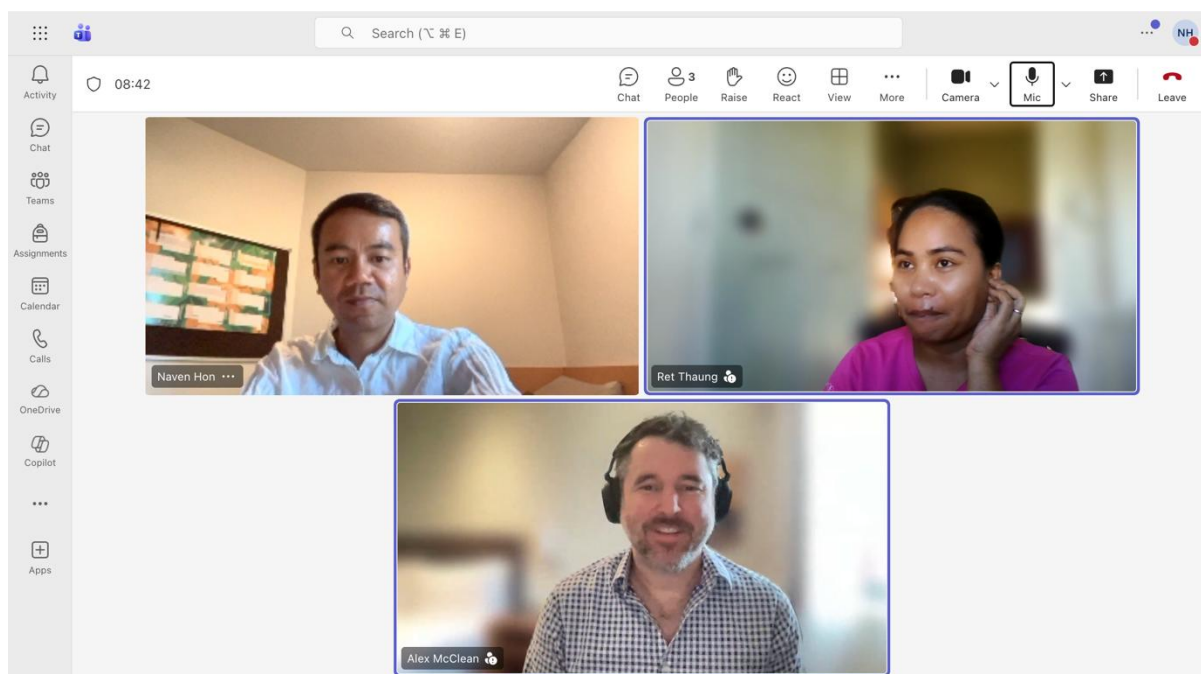


Figure 14: An online meeting with the program operator for Loru Forest carbon project (Nakau)



A water tank provided by the project to the family members



The Loru Forest Carbon Project's campsite



Forest food (nut) found in the Loru Forest project



Forest food (fruit) found in the Loru Forest project



Forest food (nut) found in the Loru Forest project



Forest food (nut) found in the Loru Forest project



View of Khole village