



NEWSLETTER

Jan—March 2023

Issue 1

We have witness a win for climate justice of epic proportions !!

INSIDE

- UN adopts Vanuatu Led Resolution on Climate Change
- Program highlights
- Pacres /VCAP Projects Activities
- VCCRP communities Socializing
- TC Kevin&Judy DoCC surge capacity
- Staff profile

Vision

Promote a resilient, sustainable, safe and informed Vanuatu

Develop sound policies & legislative framework and provide timely reliable

Mission

scientific infirmation for service delivery to enable resilient communities, a sustainable environment and economic Service Delivery

- High performance against priori-

Values

ties

- Team Work
- Positive attitude and action
- Professionalism
- Ethical: Honest and Transparent
- Equity: Gender, Geographic, Disability, Youth, Language, Ethnicity
- Environmentally Responsible
- Reliability
- Commitment
- Accountability

"Today's adoption of Vanuatu's Climate Justice Resolution by the UN General Assembly is win for the rule of law, and for acting with ambition to address the planetary climate crisis."

VanuatuICJ.com



Hon Ishmael Kalsakau
Prime Minister of Vanuatu

The road ahead is long, and we need countries to approach it with purpose. I hope all countries will make robust and progressive submissions so that the ICJ can make its Advisory Opinion based on the best legal interpreters on the planet. We have an obligation to take urgent action to protect the planet," the PM said. Vanuatu successfully led a coalition of 133 nations in Adopting a UNGA Resolution calling for a non-binding Advisory Opinion from the International Court of Justice to gain clarity how existing International Laws can be applied to strengthen action on climate change, protect people and the environment and save the Paris Agreement. Vanuatu is leading a core group of nations [which drafted a question](#) to ask the Court. Congratulations to the leaders of **Vanuatu, Antigua & Barbuda, Costa Rica, Sierra Leone, Angola, Germany, Mozambique, Liechtenstein, Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Bangladesh, Morocco, Singapore,**

Mitigation updates

Alliance of Small island States (AOSIS) Mitigation Working Program (MWP)

Virtual meeting led by the lead of AOSIS MWP presented outcomes of COP27 decision and strategies going forward to Bonn sessional & intersessional and COP28 . The path forward of MWP should fit development contexts at all sectors :

- have regulatory & economic instruments to support emission cuts,
- consider carbon pricing, remove of fossil fuel subsidies,
- public spending commitments and pricing reforms.

Coconut For Fuel Strategy



A first meeting was held between national stakeholders to introduce the Coconut strategy Program, led by DoCC in partnership with Castalia consulting team. The meeting was for participants representing various stakeholders, to socialise on the role of the TWG and the workplan— Departments of Industry, Agriculture & rural Development, Biosecurity, Global Green Growth Institute, MFAT, Unelco, Utility Regulatory Authority, Vanuatu Basket Limited.

Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)



Minister of Climate Change Hon. Ralph Regenvanu launched the CBIT Project on the 24th April 2023, that aims to develop capacity building of Local and national stakeholders being accountable to report on domestic obligations to the Paris Agreement. The Launch was witnessed by Stakeholders representatives from FAO, DSPPAC, NUV, DEPC, DoLivestok, DARD, Live&Learn, DOCC.

Biogaz project underway in schools

This project targeted Secondary Schools of Matevulu, Saint Patrick's and Epi. An initiative that aims to promote renewable energy produced by animal waste such as cow— Matevulu School is now using Biogaz on its daily operation .

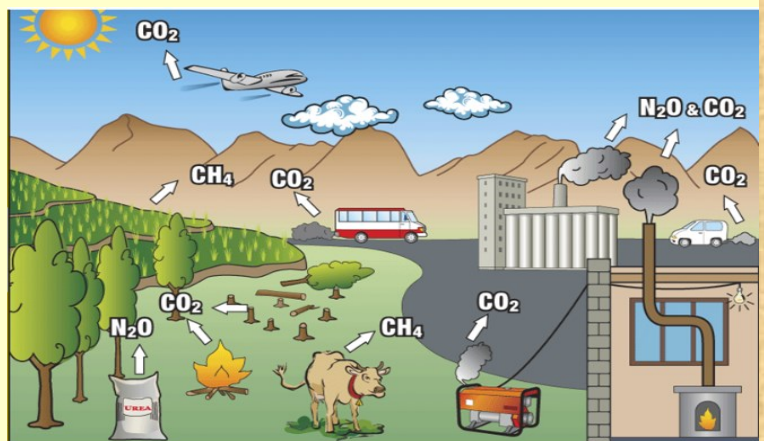


Technical Working Group Meeting



Mitigation Technical Working Group (TWG) convened on the 14th of April 2023 to validate the Technology Needs Assessment Action Plan (TNA – TAP) developed by the Working group over the past years and months from its different phases. TAP lays out

very concrete actions for which domestic actions can be done to ease the barriers that will enable the specific identified technology to be easily manufactured in Vanuatu using the available resources.



Adaptation updates

ADAPTATION

“ACTIONS TO MANAGE THE RISKS OF CLIMATE CHANGE”

What is Climate Change Adaptation?

Climate change adaptation helps individuals, communities, organisations and natural systems to deal with those consequences or impacts of climate change to our environment and livelihoods that cannot be avoided. It involves taking practical actions to manage risks from climate impacts, protect communities and strengthen the resilience of the economy and communities.



Source : BIBN -DARD fb page

How can we adapt to the impacts of Climate change in our Communities ?

by reducing our vulnerability to its impacts

- Move to higher ground to avoid rising sea levels
- Planting new crop that will thrive under new climate conditions
- Planting vetiver grass
- Plant resistant root crops and vegetables against the effects of CC
- Farm tilapia fish is one of adaptation measure considering the vulnerability of fish production



Source: Aquaculture in Vanuatu FB page





Projects updates ...



Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience Project (PACRES)



Tree planting to protect water zone area at Tagabe—Port Vila

In partnership with the department of Forestry , thousand (1,000) trees seedlings were hardening in the nursery for planting at zone 3 and zone 1 of Tagabe river catchment areas. A positive response from Government,NGOs, schools, and Organizations participated in the tree planting program to preserve the quantity and quality of Tagabe river for the beneficiary of Port Vila population.

Pic:Trees planted at zone 3 of Tagabe River catchment area growing well

Port Vila Central Business District Greening Master Plan

Port Vila Central Business District Greening Master Plan is yet to complete the processs with Department of Urban Affairs and Planning for review before proceeding to the Council of Ministers endorsement. An official launch of Port Vila CBD Greening Master Plan through PE-year.

Port Vila Central Business District Greening Master Plan

Project team assisted the Eco-Pasifika consultants to plant vetiver Grasses along Tagabe river riparian areas. The rehabilitation of the planting sites along Tagabe river is maintained untill end of June 2023— the department of For-

Pacific Risk Tool for Resilience Project –Phase 2 (PARTner-2 Project)

NIWA—PARTner

NIWA (National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research) has played a crucial role in assisting Vanuatu through a significant project aimed at enhancing the country's climate resilience. The project involves the installation of an Automated Weather System (AWS) across Vanuatu, providing a substantial upgrade to the nation's ability to monitor and understand weather patterns.

The AWS is a state-of-the-art technology that collects and transmits real-time weather data. It consists of various weather monitoring instruments, such as weather stations, rain gauges, wind sensors, and temperature and humidity sensors. These instruments are strategically placed throughout Vanuatu to ensure comprehensive coverage of the country's diverse weather conditions.

NIWA's assistance in installing the Automated Weather System across Vanuatu represents a significant upgrade to the country's climate resilience. The availability of real-time weather data, early warning systems, and improved decision-making support empower Vanuatu to better anticipate and manage weather-related risks, thereby safeguarding lives, protecting infrastructure, and promoting sustainable development in the face of a changing climate.

Congratulation !

Johnny Tari Nimau

appointed as

“PARTner Project Liaison officer “



Currently, Mr DoCCNimau is the Senior Monitoring & Evaluation officer



Projects ..



Vanuatu Climate Change Resilience Project



VCCRP Baseline—Socializing VCCRP project with provincial stakeholders

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NDMO Officer, Ms Alice Iarem (left) consulting with Pele Community key players on the status of CDCCC.

Implementing partners of VCCRP - The **National Disaster Management Office** and the **Department of Climate Change** partnered with authorities from **Shefa Provincial Government Council** to perform a field test to assess CDCCCs (Community Disaster & Climate Change Committees) in the Nguna / Pele Area Council. This assessment tool developed by NDMO with the support of VCCRP will identify opportunities to strengthen CDCCCs in future project activities, including by training to community-level stakeholders, supporting the development of DRR plans, and to provide resources to CDCCCs

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DLA officers Sebastien Bule & Steward Vores on one to one and group discussion with community members in Motalava & Rah island.

VCCRP Team visited Mota Lava and Rah Island met with Area Council members and community leaders, in partnership with Torba Provincial Government Council, to collect baseline information about climate vulnerabilities in order to be able to measure the project's progress over the next 6 years.



A



PMU VCCRP Team planning session with Torba authority

VCCRP Planning session with Torba Provincial Technical Advisory Committee, Counsellors, Area Administrator, Community Liaison Officers, Torba VCCRP Provincial Coordinator. Participants include Area Councils Rep from Mota Lava, West Gaua, and Ureparapara.



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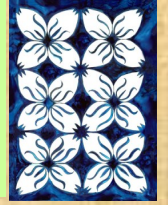


VCCRP PMU posing with Sanma Provincial Government Representatives

VCCRP project staff along with the Department of Local Authorities delivered a project briefing and facilitated participatory profiling sessions with Area Administrators and Area Secretaries from target Area Councils in Sanma Province including South Santo 1, North West Santo, West Malo and Big Bay Coastal Area Councils.



TC Judy & TC Kevin Disaster Response



DOCC surge capacity support @NDMO-NEOC

The Department of Climate Change (DOCC) in collaboration with National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) has allocated its support team to assist with surge capacity and coordination efforts at the National Operation Centre (NEOC) in response to Tropical Cyclones Kevin & Judy.

The DOCC support team serves as an additional resource to strengthen the coordination efforts and to demonstrate its commitment to addressing the complex challenges posed by climate change induced natural disasters. The joint efforts enhance the overall response capacity, coordination and resilience of the country in the face of tropical cyclones and other climate related emergencies.



What is your Surge capacity 's role

Senior
Moni-

toring & Evaluation Officer—Johnny Tari Nimau ?

...Find him in the engine room as ... **Planning & Operation**

Surge Capacity that supported various tasks to enhance effectiveness of the response operations:

- Mapping, data collection and analysis : of the affected areas, collecting relevant data , conducting analysis related to relief distribution—working along with Clusters, partners and agencies to gather information on the needs of affected communities and optimize the allocation of resource.
- 3W's dashboard management: maintain and manage the 3Ws (Who does What, Where) dashboard, which provides an overview of the actors involved in relief operations, their specific roles, and the geographical locations where they operate. This helps ensure coordination and transparency among stakeholders.
- Operational Support for Request for Assistance: works closely with the operation team to handle incoming requests, assess their feasibility, and facilitate the coordination of resources. This includes tracking and monitoring the status of assistance requests, ensuring timely responses, and coordinating with relevant agencies and partners.
- Situation Reports (SITREP) and Brief Infographic Releases: to provide concise and informative updates on the relief operations. They gather and analyze relevant data, summarize key findings, and present the information in a visually appealing and easily understandable format. These reports and infographics support decision-making, communication efforts, and public awareness.
- Support for Provincial Emergency Operation Centre (PEOC) Coordination: and NEOC to ensure effective information exchange and alignment of activities. Works closely with the IM (Information Management) team to facilitate data sharing and coordination mechanisms between the two centers.

TC Kevin & TC Judy dísatyter response Con-

DOCC surge capacity support @NDMO-NEOC

What about

Admin & Finance Officer—Henry Kramwel ?...

well, he is where we need the most ...



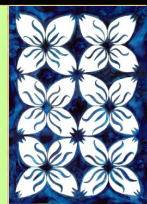
Finance Surge capacity encompasses various tasks and responsibilities to ensure smooth financial operations and support during emergencies. Here is a summary of the roles and responsibilities of the finance surge capacity team at NEOC:

- Procurement of Dry Rations: from suppliers for priority 1 and 2. He is responsible for identifying reliable suppliers, and ensuring the timely delivery of essential food supplies.
- Daily Purchase of Rations for NEOC Personnel: Financial transactions are well managed and ensure that an adequate supply of food is available to sustain the personnel involved in the emergency response operations.
- Administration and Finance Management: of NEOC operations by handling financial tasks such as budgeting, tracking expenditures, and preparing financial reports.
- Logistic Support in Transportation of Dry Rations: by facilitating the efficient movement of food supplies from suppliers to the NEOC.
- Staff Relief during Emergencies: when necessary, managing finance personnel rotations, ensuring that there is adequate coverage at all times.
- Fleet Management Operation: to ensure that the operational vehicles have sufficient fuel for daily running.

The finance surge capacity team plays a crucial role in ensuring the smooth financial operations and logistical support at NEOC during emergency response operations. Their responsibilities range from procurement and administration to logistics and fleet management, contributing to the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the emergency response efforts.



TC Kevin & TC Judy disaster response JUDOper-



DOCC surge capacity support @NEOC

And

Senior Communication, Outreach & Partnership officer? Olivia Finau



As the Communication Surge Capacity at the NEOC (National Emergency Operations Center), my role encompasses a wide range of responsibilities related to public information assistance and coordination with various entities.

- provide support in public information to visitors, primarily through media channels. This includes responding to inquiries and providing relevant information to ensure effective communication during emergency situations.
- Part of the Deployed Assessment field team in Sheperds group (Makira, Emae, Tongoa, Mataso, Buninga, Epi) for information gathering.
- Lead the Verification team to the distribution sites /communities verifying the distribution process , determining appropriate strategies, allocating resources and establish timelines to ensure smooth operations , assigning tasks and ensuring that the intended recipients have received the necessary assistance.
- House-to-House Verification is purposely to assess the extend of the damage caused and gathering information to support recovery efforts.
- Coordinate mechanism to communicate and develop partnership with partners.
- Liaise with the NEOC data team and provide all data collected during field verification activities.
- Assist in Compiling Information required for MOCC Minister Media Brief
- Handle incoming requests from the public for easy retrieval of information and efficient response to the needs of affected individuals or communities.

It was a diverse set of tasks, requiring effective coordination, communication, and data management skills, aimed at contributing to the overall emergency response and recovery process, ensuring accurate information dissemination and efficient assistance delivery to those in need.



Operation support con-



DoCC at the Public Private Partnership Training in Singapore

Senior Finance Officer, Mr Humao Tomat Sele was one of the Vanuatu Delegates to attend International Training on Public Private Partnership (PPP) held in Singapore from 9th to 13th January 2023.

Thanks to Foreign Affairs Minister of Singapore, Harvard Kennedy School for delivering the training and JICA for financial support to Vanuatu participants to be able to attend.

Vanuatu's participations were from Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities, Ministry of Climate Change and Ministry of Education through Vanuatu qualification authority.

An important participation from experts, professionals from government representatives, donors, World Bank Group with strong experience in advisory and investment areas, represents IFC's commitment to advance the dialogue on PPPs with a broader group of specialists and decision makers.

Case study in countries in Asia, Africa, America and event in Australia were shared to demonstrate the effectiveness and the efficiency of the system used for better procurement and management of PPPs. PPP is a way of procurement that involves Government Ministries, Private companies as private sectors and peoples.

Vanuatu is not equipped with the system however, it is similar to the one used currently by Ifira Trustees and Stevedoring Company in Vila and Niscol in Santo .

This procurement system will be the best procurement and management of all infrastructure project. It will require analysis to determine the best practice such as :

To identify the scope of PPP, the Political "Will" of the Government to support the PPP, the Project Finance and Risk Allocations , the Infrastructure Strategy to be use, the Price Cap Regulation, the infrastructure and Climate Change Adaptation, the Mitigation, all the platforms, the Lease and Contracts, the valuation, the Contract Management and the Performance Indicator.



In this quarter ..

Meet Our esteemed *Senior Finance Officer*

Humao Tomat Sele

hailed from Paama island



- 2013-2019 : Senior Finance Officer at IRCCNH (Increasing Resilience to Climate Change and Natural Hazards)
- 2015- 2022 : Senior Finance Officer at FCPF (Forest Carbon Partnership Facility) project of the World Bank

With his wealth of experience, Humao successfully transitioned into the Department of Climate Change, assuming the same role since 2022.

Throughout his career, he has found great satisfaction in providing the necessary services to the people and supporting staff in achieving their activities.

Humao also takes pleasure in sharing his knowledge and experiences in finance with his colleagues, ensuring that they stay informed about relevant updates and information in the field.

In addition to his role, he is an active member of the Climate Finance working group at the Ministry of Climate Change, where he actively contributes to discussions and initiatives related to climate finance, working alongside his peers to promote effective financial practices in the context of climate change. Furthermore, he has plans to integrate into the Government finance working group, which is in the process of being established.

GOAL: is to ensure that all expenses are eligible and meet the necessary criteria. He diligently applies his expertise to assess financial transactions and expenditures, ensuring compliance and accountability. By doing so, he plays a vital role in the effective management of financial resources within the department and supports the achievement of its goals.

Humao Tomat Sele's commitment, knowledge, and dedication make him an invaluable asset to our team. We greatly appreciate his contributions and look forward to his continued success in his role as a senior finance officer.

Did You Know ?

282 communities in the six provinces of Vanuatu are targeted by the Vanuatu Climate Community Based Resilience Project to build local resilience to climate change and have climate information and early warning systems.

