

Terms of Reference

Local Consultant – Loss and Damage Fund Need Assessment

Activity 2.1: Loss and Damage Fund Need Assessment (65 days)

This person will be responsible for Loss and Damage Fund Need Assessment for Vanuatu to identify what the L&D Fund to fund. The consultant will work closely with the project team and ILDWG.

Project Title: Vanuatu Loss and Damage Fund Development Project

Location: Port Vila, Vanuatu

Duration: 65 days

Start Date: TBD

Reporting to: Project Manager, Department of Climate Change (DoCC), Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC), Government of Vanuatu

Funding Support from: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), Government of New Zealand

Background

Although it contributes just 0.0016% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, Vanuatu is already experiencing the devastating effects of climate change manifested as loss and damage. Vanuatu suffers irrecoverable loss and damage from climate change events on an annual basis, both through extreme and slow onset events. Highly exposed to damaging cyclones, such events have led to financial losses in the billions of US Dollars. Single events can result in catastrophic and sustained impacts, for example Cyclone Pam (2015), Harold (2020) and Cyclones Kevin and Judy (2023) each led to losses of more than 500 million USD which equates to more than 60% of the nation's GDP. Slow onset events such as sea level rise, ocean acidification and salinisation of productive land are leading to further losses. These include non-economic losses and damages such as the irretrievable loss of culture, indigenous language and identity, human rights, health and wellbeing, biodiversity, and ecosystems.

The challenge for Vanuatu, like many highly vulnerable Small Island Developing States (SIDS), is that the international recognition of loss and damage rapidly needs to turn into meaningful investments on the ground; talk needs to turn into action. Establishing a financial mechanism which can attract and manage loss and damage finance and disperse it to those most in need can play a critical role in facilitating practical projects which address loss and damage. Such a mechanism requires sound governance, robust systems and processes (including financial management) reinforced by enhanced capacity, increased awareness of loss and damage and effective Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (MERL).

The Government of New Zealand has committed NZD 4 million to support the "Vanuatu Loss and Damage Fund Development Project" to enable Vanuatu to become 'investment ready' to most effectively absorb international L&D funding arrangements into national systems and then

programme and disperse finance in bottom-up and locally appropriate modalities. The MFAT funding will be used to design a L&D Fund and enhance capacity but will also provide seed funding to get projects started and thus attract further investment.

By establishing a national Fund, L&D can be addressed in locally appropriate ways; an agile and responsive financial mechanism would provide easy access to communities and organisations. The Fund will be situated within a broader national climate finance architecture and the project will help the Government of Vanuatu to work towards a more integrated approach to community-level climate change responses. A national fund can also facilitate effective learning and the rapid scale up of effective approaches.

About the Role

Under the leadership of the Project Manager, the consultant will play a key facilitating and technical support role in the design and establishment of a national Loss and Damage (L&D) Fund.

The consultant will contribute local knowledge, ensure alignment with national systems, and support stakeholder engagement across all levels of government. The consultant will work closely with the project team, climate finance work group of NAB, and the Informal Loss and Damage Working Group to ensure the L&D Fund is contextually appropriate, legally sound, and operationally feasible.

Scope of Services

- Review all assessments related to climate impacts already undertaken: PDNAs.
- CRVAs from projects VCCRP/VCAP++, Community Profiles at DLA, MoIA, DLA community work plans, Sector Business Plans and Provincial Plans, NDC and other climate related policies, in order to identify and prioritise the biggest L&D gaps, including NELD and SoEs.
- Consult with a range of stakeholder, including MOIA (DLA), MoCC and L&D WG, MALFB, MoO, MoL, MoTNVB, MoH, MoET and Private sector (VBRC/VCCI), civil society (VANGO/VCAN), VCC and Faith-based organisations and development partners working on Vanuatu.

Deliverable

1. Recommended list of prioritised actions/activities and beneficiaries, that the LnD Fund may fund based on the Comprehensive Needs Assessment.
2. Document/ literature review report and stakeholder consultation report
3. Recommendation on approach/strategies to enhance donors' engagement and support to the potential new fund.

Selection Criteria

Essential Experience and Knowledge:

- Advanced degree in climate finance, environmental science, project management, or a related field.
- At least 7 years of experience managing complex, multi-stakeholder projects, preferably in Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
- Strong expertise in governance, and financial oversight.
- Demonstrated knowledge of international and national climate frameworks, including the Paris Agreement and UNFCCC Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD).
- Proven ability to integrate GEDSI principles into project design and implementation.

Desirable:

- Familiarity with Vanuatu's climate policies and governance structures.
- Experience working in the Pacific region or similar contexts.
- Ability to speak Bislama.

Duration

The duration of the contract is 65 days, commencing when the contract is signed.

Expression of Interest (EOI) Submission Requirements

Interested applicants should submit:

- Updated Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Cover letter outlining approach and motivation
- Copies of qualifications
- Sample of previous work (or report)
- Valid Referee contact information (3)

Submit all soft copy of your EOI to ingrid7oka@gmail.com cc missack.willy@yahoo.fr. The subject line of the email should be "L&D Need Assessment Consultant". Address all correspondence to the Loss and Damage Project Manager, Department of Climate Change Adaptation.

Other Information

Consulting Services Budget: **6,500,000 VUV**

Date Published: **22-Dec-2025** Deadline of Expression of Interest: **02-Jan-2026, 05:00 PM**