

BSRP II Vanuatu Country Implementation Plan



Pacific
Community
Communauté
du Pacifique

1. SUMMARY	
EDF 11 Indicative fund allocation	National Allocation: EUR 523,000 Share of Regional Allocation: EUR93,242
Timeframe	1 April 2023 – 31 July 2026 (40 months)
National activities	<p>KRA 1: Integrated data collection, storage, analysis and use</p> <p>1.1 Establish a central repository for DRM data</p> <p>KRA 2: Oceania Regional Seismic Network (ORSNET)</p> <p>2.1 Upgrade Oceania Regional Seismic Network (ORSNET) capacity</p> <p>KRA 3 : Risk informed planning and budgeting</p> <p>3.1 Revise national and provincial DRM plans to align with the new Act and encompass all hazards</p> <p>KRA 4: Urban Resilience</p> <p>4.1 Establish municipal disaster committees in Port Vila and Luganville</p> <p>4.2 Strengthening urban capabilities and resilience (including for fire and emergency services)</p> <p>KRA 5: Communications</p> <p>5.1 Communications, engagement, awareness and visibility</p> <p>KRA 6: Coordination of Project Activities</p> <p>6.1 Project Coordinator</p> <p>6.2 National Project Steering Committee</p>
In-country project governance structure	The BSRP II Project Steering Committee Members are senior-level representatives from key sectoral government agencies, and NGO representatives.
Lead collaborating agency	National Disaster Management Office. Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation, Meteorology, Geo-hazards, Environment, Energy and Disaster Management
2. COUNTRY CONTEXT	
<p>Vanuatu has a population of 272,459 people (2017 census) spread across 80 inhabited islands with approximately 75% of the population based in rural settings. This broad spread of islands and population creates access difficulties particularly in response to disaster and delivery of relief and first aid to outer islands.</p> <p>Vanuatu is exposed to a range of hazards due to both being surrounded by ocean and being located on the ‘Pacific Ring of Fire’. In 2015, Vanuatu’s disaster risk was made noticeably clear as Tropical Cyclone Pam smashed into the country in 2015. This category 5 cyclone was the most intense to cross land in Vanuatu in recorded history and caused devastating damage. However, cyclones are only one of the hazards affecting the country. Others include floods, droughts, volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis and landslides. Most recently, the Ambae volcanic eruption has led to an evacuation of local communities. With climate change affecting the country, it is expected that the intensity of weather events is likely to increase in the future.</p> <p>Historically, Vanuatu has demonstrated resilience to natural hazards and an ability to rebuild its subsistence economy and societies, using traditional knowledge and external disaster relief and other development assistance. However, the capacity of Vanuatu to effectively deal with the impacts of major disasters remains fragile, particularly as</p>	

traditional knowledge is increasingly threatened. The possibility of achieving sustainable development, including the reduction of poverty, is recognised as being threatened due to the impact of hazards on vulnerable communities and economies.

Vanuatu was an early mover among its Pacific peers in establishing both a national action plan for DRR and disaster management, and a national adaptation programme for action on climate change. Since their instigation, recognition of the strong links between DRM and CCA has grown with a Vanuatu Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2016 -2030 now in place. This recognition has also led to the creation of a Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation, Meteorology, Geo-Hazards, Environment, Energy and Disaster Management. A National Advisory Board on DRR and CCA with a joint DRR and CCA national governance mandate was also established. Disaster response and preparedness arrangements continue to be led by the NDMO. Vanuatu updated its Disaster Risk Management Act in 2019.

Key documents include:

[List all key DRM & CC legislation, policy and plans](#)

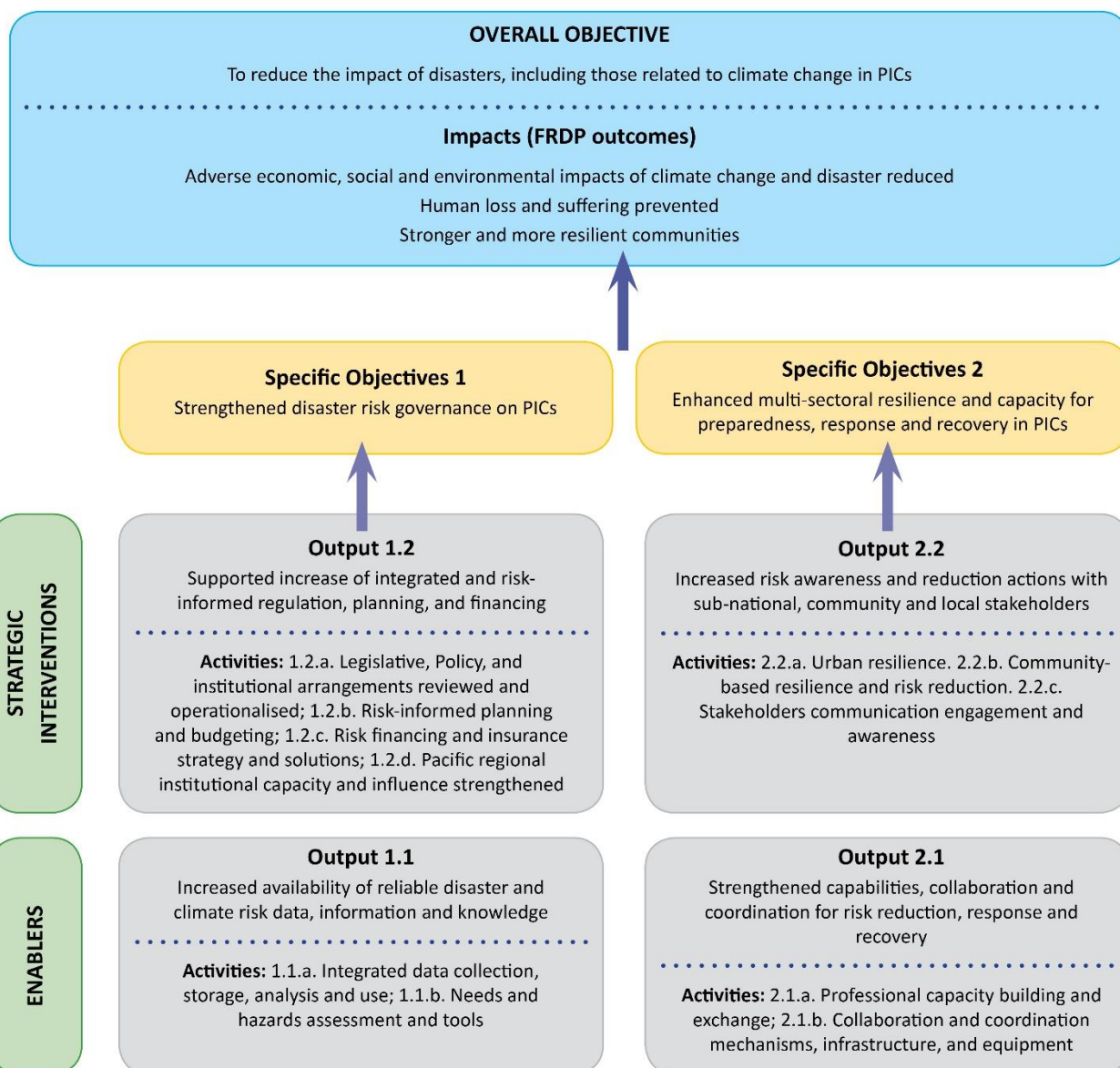
Vanuatu Strategic Roadmap for Emergency Management 2021-2023

Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2016 -2030

3. BSRP II and the EU ACP NDRRP

Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific Phase II (BSRP II) is a sub-programme of the **11th European Development Fund (EDF) Intra-ACP Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Programme (NDRRP)**. The overall objective of NDRRP is to contribute to reducing the impacts of disasters, including those related to climate change, and to increase resilience in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. This is to be achieved through three specific objectives that align with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030: SO1: Disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk is strengthened; SO2: Investment in disaster risk reduction (DRR) for resilience is increased; and SO3: Disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction is enhanced.

BSRP II has the overall objective of reducing the impacts of disasters, including those relating to climate change in Pacific island countries. Anticipated impacts to be achieved are aligned with the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP) outcomes; i.e. Adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change and disasters are reduced; Human loss and suffering is prevented; Communities are stronger and more resilient. BSRP II's work programme is structured under two specific objectives; namely, i) Strengthened disaster risk governance in PICs; and ii) Enhanced multisectoral resilience and capacity for preparedness, response and recovery in PICs. There are four outputs feeding into these objectives. Output 1.1 – Increased availability of reliable disaster and climate risk data, information and knowledge and Output 1.2 – Supported increase of integrated and risk-informed regulations, planning and financing feed into Objective 1. Output 2.1 – Strengthened capabilities, collaboration and coordination for risk reduction, response and recovery; and Output 2.2 – Increased risk awareness and reduction actions with sub-national, community and local stakeholders feeds into Objective 2.



Participating Pacific island countries have each identified priority national activities under the broader project framework as described above. Vanuatu has identified 8 national activities under 6 KRAs which are detailed in Section 4. In addition to Vanuatu's **national activities**, BSRP II includes support for the following **regional activities**.

- Assessing the cost of climate change and disaster impacts
- Regionalisation of Disability Inclusive DRM
- Risk financing advisory support (support to 3-5 countries)
- Strengthen SPC's long-term DRM/CC capacity
- Professional capability building and exchange
- Support for Pacific representation at regional and global forums
- Communications, engagement awareness and visibility

In addition to the Project Management Unit, BSRP II will appoint several technical specialists to support with the implementation of regional and national activities. These positions are budgeted for under project outputs and are funded from national and regional allocations linked to these outputs. Three of these positions are intended to be full-time; while the others are shared with other SPC projects and range between 25 – 75% Full-time Equivalent.

Output 1.1 - Increased availability of reliable disaster and climate risk data, information and knowledge

- Technical Adviser (DRM/CC Operations) (Band 9; 1FTE) – 50% of time allocated to Output 1.1
- GIS Officer (Band 8; 0.25FTE)
- Systems Engineer (Band 12; 0.25FTE)
- Information Management and Governance Specialist (Band 8; 0.25FTE)

Output 1.2 - Supported increase of integrated and risk-informed regulations, planning and financing

- DRM/CC Adviser (Band 11; 0.75FTE)
- DRM/CC Analyst (Band 10; 0.5FTE)
- Data and Records Assistant (Band 7; 0.5FTE)
- Gender and Social Inclusion Adviser (Band 9; 0.05FTE)
- Risk Financing Specialist (Band 10; 0.5FTE)

Output 2.1 - Strengthened capabilities, collaboration and coordination for risk reduction, response and recovery

- Knowledge and Skills Transfer Coordinator (Band 8; 1FTE)
- Procurement Engineer (Band 10; 1FTE)

Output 2.2 - Increased risk awareness and reduction actions with sub-national, community and local stakeholders

- Technical Adviser (DRM/CC Operations) (Band 9; 1FTE) – 50% of time allocated to Output 2.2
- Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Adviser (Band 8; 0.75FTE)

As with BSRP Phase I, funds have been set aside to support up to 12 In-country Coordinators for a period of between 24 -42 months depending on the country plan needs. Additional funds are ear-marked for a coordinator for Papua New Guinea’s Multi-hazard Early Warning Centre, and 3 staff to serve as Tonga Cluster Coordinators.

4. NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

Better prepare Vanuatu to manage disaster risk and to respond to disasters

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 1

Strengthen disaster risk governance in Vanuatu

KEY RESULT AREAS

KRA 1: Integrated data collection, storage, analysis and use

1.1 Establish a central repository for DRM data

New DRM Act in Vanuatu requires NDMO to be a central repository of DRM data. Currently DRM data is collected and stored on an ad hoc basis.

KRA 2: Oceania Regional Seismic Network (ORSNET)

2.1 Upgrade ORSNET capacity

Implementation of a selection of recommendations from the May 2021 status report: potentially including monitoring software upgrades, new servers, equipment (seismic sensors, computers) and/or automating the platform to disseminate information to multiple media outlets. Actual priorities within available budget TBC in inception phase.

KRA 3: Risk informed planning and budgeting

2.1 Revise national and provincial DRM plans to align with the new Act and to encompass all hazards

Current plans not aligned to the new Act that is operational from 2020, nor comprehensive in terms of most hazards (except TCs and pandemics). Work with stakeholders to revise national and then provincial DRM plans to align with the new Act and encompass all hazards.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 2

Strengthen disaster preparedness and awareness in Vanuatu

KRA 4: Urban Resilience

New DRM Act in Vanuatu requires the establishment of municipal disaster committees. They will have information needs, and will be looking to address shortcomings in emergency services within the urban setting.

3.1 Establish municipal disaster committees in Port Vila and Luganville

Setting up municipal disaster committees in both Port Vila and Luganville in line with requirement in the new Act, and initial planning including identifying information needs and urban emergency management capability gaps.

3.2 Strengthening urban capabilities and resilience (including for fire and emergency services)

Support strengthening of urban capabilities and resilience (including for fire and emergency services) based on the Urban Growth Trends Report and Risk Mapping and Planning for Urban Preparedness reports. To include: personnel, capacity building at a municipal level (at wards), systems, equipment, SOPs, tying up with the airport and maritime emergency plans.

KRA 5: Communications

4.1 Communications, engagement, awareness and visibility

DRM/CC communications and engagement in Vanuatu, awareness and visibility activities using a communications for development approach. This would include strengthening engagement between the NDMO and the private sector, building on work initiated with the Chamber of Commerce under BSRP I to promote business continuity planning.

KRA 6: Coordination of Project Activities

5.1 Project Coordinator

There is a need to coordinate all of the implementing agencies and be the focal point for discussions with SPC. Will also support the financial management and monitoring/reporting of the project in-country. Coordinator to sit within the Vanuatu NDMO support services unit, including equipment to undertake work, and to report to the NAB as the Vanuatu national steering committee for the project. Coordinator should also have strong planning and stakeholder engagement skills as they will support the revision and operationalisation of plans.

5.2 Project Steering Committee

National Advisory Board (NAB) is likely to fulfil this function.

5. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

5.1 Organisational Structure and Responsibilities

The BSRP Project Management Unit (PMU) operating from the Geoscience, Energy and Maritime (GEM) division at SPC is responsible for providing oversight of the day to day running and implementation of the BSRP within the respective beneficiary countries. The NDMOs of each beneficiary state are the designated BSRP country focal points and work in close collaboration with the PMU.

The PMU works closely with the respective NDMOs to ensure that project activities are implemented effectively and efficiently while also ensuring that the National Steering Committee is informed of project implementation progress as well as challenges and solutions through regularly updating the NSC via regular email contact and NSC meetings. The PMU has dedicated country officers to handle county specific affairs and implementation. As country focal points for the BSRP they are responsible for the day to day running of BSRP including supporting the NDMO to conduct National Steering Committee meetings, compile reports for the NSC and the ACP-EU on a quarterly basis and overseeing financial expenditure and developing budgets and budget revisions were necessary.

The National Steering Committee is the approving body for BSRP activities within the respective beneficiary states and will provide approvals for activities for funding; review and approve the annual workplan for the BSRP and CIP as

and when needed; and meet to discuss progress implementation and counter measures and solutions where implementation has stalled.

5.2 Procedures

The NSC approves activities and budgets developed as part of the Country Implementation Plan that was developed through national stakeholder consultations to determine national priorities.

The PMU works with the SPC Procurement Unit to develop the necessary contracts, LOAs and MOUs for implementation of each NSC approved activity. Contracts are developed based on provision of necessary justification and using SPC procurement guidelines.

Letters of Agreement and contracts between SPC and the implementing agency detail timelines for implementation of activities along with funding disbursements attached to deliverables for the activity. Contracts for technical assistance both long and short term, may be established between the SPC and the implementing agency or consultant.

The PMU will continue to work in close contact with SPC Finance for release of funds as per contracts, LOAs, MOUs developed.

SPC's EU approved procurement procedure and processes for collation of acquittals will be used for all transactions.

5.3 Reporting and M&E

The PMU works in close collaboration with the NDMO and implementing agency to gather progress reports which are compiled on a quarterly basis and presented to the National Steering Committee and EU Delegation Office in Suva. Annual narrative and financial reports are also compiled by the PMU for each country and presented to the National Steering Committees and the EU at the end of each year.

In-country coordinators will be responsible for coordinating the implementation of country activities. This will involve mobilising stakeholders, establishing workflows and costings for each country activity, seeking endorsements, coordinating procurements and the collating acquittals. In-country coordinators will be supported in developing their work programmes (with milestones) by the PMU Implementation Officers and they will regularly communicate progress on work flows to the PMU via online project management tools. This will allow for the monitoring of progress at the activity level by the PMU and allow for early intervention in the event of blockages. In the absence of In-country coordinators, the role of coordination and reporting on national activities will fall to the NDMO director, or delegated nominee.

In addition, and in collaboration with the PMU, each country will develop a detailed logframe to facilitate monitoring and evaluation of the country level activities. Realistic and measurable indicators will be developed at both the output and outcome levels (where possible) and accompanying strategies for gathering data to 'measure' the indicators will be designed.

The PMU will also undertake monitoring visits to beneficiary states to ensure activities are implemented efficiently and effectively and within given timeframes and budgets. Dates for country monitoring visits will be agreed between the PMU country focal point, the NDMO and the NSC and monitoring reports will be presented to the NSC once monitoring visits are concluded.

5.4 Gender and social inclusion

All national activities will be screened to identify entry points for integrating gender and social inclusion considerations. Particular attention will be given to the special needs of women and girls, the elderly, the infirm and people with disabilities as it is recognised that these groups are disproportionately vulnerable during and after disasters.

6. BUDGET

NATIONAL ACTIVITES	EUR
KRA 1: Integrated data collection, storage, analysis and use	60,000

- KRA Implementation	51,349
- SPC TA cost (<i>CCDRM Senior Technical Officer</i>)	4,476
- SPC Travel	4,175
KRA 2: Oceania Regional Seismic Network (ORSNET)	140,000
- KRA Implementation	119,816
- SPC TA cost (<i>CCDRM Senior Technical Officer; GIS Officer; Information Management and Governance Specialist; Systems Engineer</i>)	10,443
- SPC Travel	9,741
KRA 3: Risk informed planning and budgeting	85,000
- KRA Implementation	73,083
- SPC TA cost (<i>DRM Analyst; Data & Records Assistant; Gender Officer</i>)	10,285
- SPC Travel	1,632
KRA 4: Urban Resilience	150,000
- KRA Implementation	138,192
- SPC TA cost (<i>CCDRM Senior Technical Officer</i>)	8,945
- SPC Travel	2,863
KRA 4: Communications	20,000
KRA 5: Project Coordination	68,000
TOTAL	523,000

SHARE OF REGIONAL ACTIVITIES BUDGET	EUR
Professional capability building and exchange	76,400
Support for Pacific representation at regional and global forums	16,842