

CONSULTATION REPORT

WEATHER RADAR CONSULTATION FOR MAGALILIU, LELEPA AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

25 AUGUST 2023



GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND



Sustainable, transformative and resilient for a Blue Pacific

Table of Contents

Table of Contents:	0
Background	1
Consultation Details	2
Objectives	2
Outline of Events	2
Welcome and introductions.	2
Presentation of traditional mat	3
Presentations	4
1. Introduction to Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD).	4
2. Weather Radar – How a radar works, benefits and challenges.....	4
3. Background and history of the weather radar – SPREP’s and regional perspective.....	5
Main Outcomes of Discussions	6
Annex 1 Official Request from Department of Lands	7
Annex 2 Consulta/on Program – Magaliliu and surrounding community	8
Annex 3 Copies of the PowerPoint presentations.	9



Figure 1: Official Consultation Photo.

Background

The Climate Information Services for Resilient Development Planning in Vanuatu Project (FP035) widely known as the **VanKIRAP** – Bislama for **Vanuatu Klaemet Infomesen blong redi, adapt mo protect project** - is a Government of Vanuatu initiative that uses science to inform decision making, planning and underpin resilient development across climate-sensitive sectors and communities.

The project is funded by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) through the Secretariat of the Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) as the Regional Accredited Entity. The USD18 million project is jointly implemented by the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-hazards Department (VMGD) and SPREP and supported by three international delivery partners – APEC Climate Center (APCC), Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) and Commonwealth Scientific Research Industrial Organisation (CSIRO).

The project responds to priorities identified in the Vanuatu Framework for Climate Services (VFCS), the VMGD Strategic Plan, the Vanuatu Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and the “People’s Plan 2023” – Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan (or NSDP).

A cornerstone activity for the VanKIRAP project is the establishment of a weather radar system to strengthen Vanuatu’s National Early Warning System and the monitoring of severe weather events such as hailstorms, tropical cyclones, torrential rain, gusty winds, waterspouts and other meteorological hazards affecting the country.

VanKIRAP has an approved budget of about USD 2 million earmarked for the development, commissioning, and delivery of a C-band dual polarization weather radar system. The Vanuatu Government through the Council of Ministers has also approved in-kind contributions to support (a) Land Acquisition; (b) Access Road to the radar site; and (c). Utilities – water, power, and internet to the site; (d). Spare parts for the full lifetime of the radar (15-20 years) and upkeep and maintenance of the radar equipment.

In July 2023, the Department of Lands as part of the Land Acquisition process requested VMGD and SPREP to undertake a community awareness session with the Chiefs of Magaliliu and surrounding communities. The awareness was requested by Chief Topen Lores, Chairman of the Magaliliu Council of Chiefs, and community leaders of the area (Refer to Annex 1).

This report outlines the activities, recommendations, and outcomes of the community consultations.

Consultation Details

VMGD and SPREP conducted the awareness workshop on Friday 25 August, 2023 at the Presbyterian Women and Mama's Union (PWMU) Hall, Magaliliu community.

The consultation team consisted of the following:

Name	Position
Mr. William Bae Worwor	VMGD and Actng Community Coordinator, VanKIRAP
Mr. Levu Antfalo	VMGD Senior Weather Forecaster
Mr. Sunny Kamuta Seuseu	SPREP/VanKIRAP Project Management Unit
Mr. Nick Howlett	VanKIRAP Communications Coordinator.

Objectives

The main objectives of the consultation are:

1. To create awareness on the importance of the weather radar development in Vanuatu by providing the background, history and the context of how this has come about.
2. To listen, observe, and solicit views of the communities in relation to the weather radar and its potential negative impacts. Provide accurate information on the technical aspects of the radar in response to concerns raised.
3. To generate interest, discussion, and support for the weather radar as a tool to benefit a large section of the population in matters pertaining to early warning systems and the protection of life and property.
4. To document discussions, important issues discussed as well as outcome of the consultation.
5. To provide a report to the Government of Vanuatu to address solutions and outcomes of the consultation in the short, medium and long-term.

Outline of Events

The consultation was delivered through the following structure:

Welcome and introductions.

The consultation started at around 10:30am. The community representatives received the following resources:

- a. Consultation Agenda (Annex 2)
- b. VanKIRAP Project information leaflet (in Bislama)

The Chief of Magaliliu, representative of the community welcomed the VMGD and SPREP team to the village. This was followed by introductions of the visiting guests as well as the community representatives in the consultation venue.

The registration form recorded a total number of 22 participants (including the facilitators from VMGD and SPREP). Gender representation includes Six female and sixteen male participants. The total number of community members that were present on the day of the consultation is 18 people.

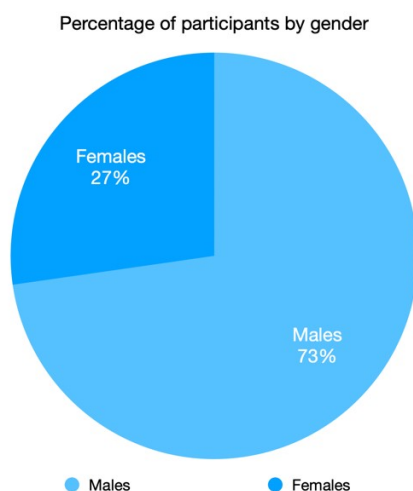


Figure 2. Percentage of participants by gender.

Presentation of traditional mat

The Moderator, Mr. William Bae Worworkon, VMGD thanked the community, the Paramount Chiefs, the Chairman and Council of Chiefs, Men and women of Magaliliu, Lelepa, and other nearby communities for the warm welcome. Mr. Worwor on behalf of the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-hazards Department (VMGD) and SPREP presented a traditional mat to the Paramount Chief as a sign of respect and honor as per the cultural norms in Vanuatu.

Mr. Worwor outlined the consultation program introduced the three speakers and invited everyone to ask questions throughout the session should there be any questions about the material to be presented.

Presentations

1. Introduction to Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD).

The first presentation was delivered by Mr. William Bae Worwor in Bislama. The talk outlines important information on the mandate, mission, and vision of VMGD. Mr Worwor also discussed the functions of each Division and the services they provide to the people of Vanuatu.

The presentation provided good background information on the role that VMGD plays in multi-hazard early warning systems and the need for information services that help people take early action to protect life and property during extreme events.

Mr. Worwor clearly defined the difference between meteorological hazards such as tropical cyclones and hailstorms and geological hazards caused by the tectonic plate movement of the Earth's crust.

The presentation also informed the community about the different initiatives that VMGD embarking on to reach the "last mile" such as the (i). toll-free number 116, (ii). VMGD and VanKIRAP Facebook pages; and (iii). VMGD website provides weather, climate, and geophysical information such as earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanoes. Copy of the presentation can be accessed – [VMGD Overview 250823.pptx](#)

2. Weather Radar – How a radar works, benefits and challenges.

Mr. Levu Ankalo spoke on the technical issues surrounding the structure of clouds and moving weather systems. He also discussed in detail the components of a weather radar, the different types of radar, the history of the radar, its evolution, and how it functions. He showed a sample animation of a radar loop and its benefits to Vanuatu once deployed and operational.

The presentation also provided information on the bandwidth used in the C-band weather radar as well as other radar types that in operation in the region eg S-band or X-band system and the applications.

Moreover, the presentation discussed radiation and safety considerations for weather radar engineers but also the public who wish to visit the radar site. The public is encouraged not to enter into the securely fenced radar enclosure. There will

be warning signage installed at the entrance and around the security fence to warn people about the dangers the radar poses to their safety.

Mr. Ankalo also explained the perimeter and area of coverage between a C-band versus an S-band radar system and the lifetime of the radar which is approximately 15-20 years depending on upkeep and maintenance.

Copy of the presentation can be accessed - [Radar awareness final.pptx](#) or in Annex 3.

3. Background and history of the weather radar – SPREP’s and regional perspective

The third and last presentation was delivered in English by Mr. Sunny Kamuta Seuseu. The presentation outlined the historical context of the weather radar request from the Government of Vanuatu in 2015, immediately following the devastation caused by Severe Tropical Cyclone Pam.

A post-disaster needs assessment (PDNA) was undertaken by the Government of Vanuatu and one of the priorities identified was the need to strengthen the VMGD early warning system through the introduction of weather radar systems to better track, monitor, and provide accurate information and warnings to the people.

SPREP received the request from the Vanuatu Government in 2016 and submitted a project proposal to the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The funding proposal was approved in 2017 with grant funding provided of about USD 18 million. About USD 3 million of the total grant was earmarked for the weather radar system.

The tender for the weather radar is ongoing and the work is to begin in late 2023 to early 2024 depending on the land acquisition process.

SPREP stands ready to support the Vanuatu Government with the commissioning of the first weather radar system with technical support provided through the Vanuatu SPREP office.

Approval of the land acquisition is critical to the success of the project. The presentation also discussed the comparison between the location options between Vanuatu and other Pacific Island countries eg Fiji and New Caledonia.

The benefit of the radar system to Vanuatu covers a wide range of sectors including aviation, including agriculture, fisheries, transportation, tourism, infrastructure, water, disaster risk reduction, education, urban planning and management, and many more. Copy of the presentation is available here - [Weather Radar Consulta1on ppt Sunny Seuseu.key](#)

Main Outcomes of Discussions

The following section summarizes important questions and key points of discussions during the consultation.

- 1) The community recognizes the national importance of the weather radar. The benefits of the activity will be beyond the Magaliliu community but up to 160,000 men and women within the radar coverage area.
- 2) The Magaliliu, Lelepa Council of Chiefs acknowledged the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department and SPREP for the awareness session, noted the information provided on the weather radar.
- 3) The Magaliliu, Lelepa Council of Chiefs endorses the development and the use of the land for the construction of the first weather radar for Vanuatu.
- 4) The Chiefs requested Government to consider the Magaliliu and surrounding communities with regards to possible employment opportunities and income generation to the people in this area.
- 5) The community requested the Government to consider equally distributing of the land compensation between all communities in the Magaliliu and surrounding areas.
- 6) The Chairman and the Council of Chiefs noted that two Chiefs and the communities under their care from surrounding communities did not make it to the consultation, hence requested that another consultation be conducted at Lelepa Landing so more people from the community attend.
- 7) Community requested for the Department of Lands to take part in future consultation to respond to land related questions from the community.
- 8) Community requested VMGD and Government of Vanuatu to prepare and distribute formal invitation letters to all Paramount Chiefs and community leaders for the second community consultations.
- 9) The community proposed the name 'Lagnawia' to be given to the radar system. Lagnawia, is the name of the land (area) where the radar will be erected.

Annex 1 Official Request from Department of Lands

From: [Sonia Nixon <snixon@vanuatu.gov.vu>](mailto:snixon@vanuatu.gov.vu)
Sent: Monday, July 3, 2023 4:16 PM
To: [Sunny Seuseu <sunnys@sprep.org>](mailto:sunnys@sprep.org)
Cc: [Jino Meli <jino.meli@gmail.com>](mailto:jino.meli@gmail.com); [Esther Saul <esaul@vanuatu.gov.vu>](mailto:esaul@vanuatu.gov.vu); [Moirah Matou <mmatou@vanuatu.gov.vu>](mailto:moirah.matou@vanuatu.gov.vu); [Esther Saul <esaul@vanuatu.gov.vu>](mailto:esaul@vanuatu.gov.vu)
Subject: [Business Meeting with Magaliliu Community](#)

Original URL:
<http://www.sprep.org/>
Click to follow link.

Good afternoon Sunny & Team,

Just for your Infor that we have run the Compulsory Acquisition hearing for Schedule 4 of the Weather Radar last week on 27th June 2023 with the claimants of the lease title 12/0541/002.

The claimants have specifically requested that there be an awareness on the weather radar for the community of Mangaliliu Village. This is just to inform them on how the weather radar works and what are the possible effect the weather radar may cause to the people.

Please liaise with Chief Token on Mobile # 7711074 to arrange for the Awareness at Mangaliliu Village.

Thank you and you have a blessed afternoon.

Best Regards,
Sonia Nixon
Acting Senior Valuer/ Acquiring Officer

Annex 2 Consultation Program – Magaliliu and surrounding community



REPUBLIC OF VANUATU/RÉPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

VANUATU METEOROLOGY AND GEO-HAZARDS DEPARTMENT
DÉPARTEMENT DE LA MÉTÉOROLOGIE ET DES GÉORISQUES DE VANUATU

Phone: (678) 24686, 22932 VOIP: 5391
Email: admin@meteo.gov.vu Website: www.vmgd.gov.vu
Address: PMB 9054, Lini Highway, Port Vila, Vanuatu

(Address correspondence to Director)
(Toute correspondance doit être envoyée au Directeur)



Our Ref: PV/MET-GEO/:

Radar Awareness Meeting to the Communities of Magaliliu, Lelepa Island and Surrounding communities

Date: Thursday 24th August 2023

Time: 09:30am – 12:00 noon

Venue: Magaliliu Village

Agenda

Items	Topics	Time	Responsibility
1	Welcome toktok	09:30am	Chief Rep
2	VMGD Intro	09:45am	Director
3	Overview VMGD/Van-KIRAP	09:50am	Director
4	Presentations		
a)	Use blo Radar	10:00am	Weather Forecast
b)	OI Teknikol aspect blo Radar	10:30am	Sunny
5	Question/Discussions	11:00am	MC

(To contact VMGD Divisions directly)

Observations: Ph: 22433 | Email: observers@meteo.gov.vu Climate : Ph: 23866 | Email: climate@meteo.gov.vu
Forecast: Ph: 22932 | Email: forecast@meteo.gov.vu Geo-Hazards : Ph: 24686 | Email: geohazards@meteo.gov.vu
ICT and Engineering: Ph: 24686 | Email: helpdesk@meteo.gov.vu

—
Annex 3 Copies of the PowerPoint presentations.

Access the following PowerPoint presentations at the following URLs:

Presentation 1: William Bae Worwor

[VMGD Overview 250823.pptx](#)

Presentation 2: Levu An7alo

[Radar awareness final.pptx](#)

Presentation 3: Sunny Kamuta Seuseu

[Weather Radar Consulta1on ppt Sunny Seuseu.key](#)

—

Annex 4 List of participants (Registration)

#	Name	Position	Gender	Village/Organisation	Contact details
1	Reutoer Natamatavia	Head Chief	Male	Lelepa	+678 778 6359
2	William Worwor	Training and Community Officer	Male	VMGD	+678 779 3697
3	Jerry Loac	Police Council	Male	Magaliliu	+678 775 0810
4	Gordon Kalo11	Associate Chief	Male	Magaliliu	+678 776 5091
5	Talong Monako	Council Chief	Male	Magaliliu	+678 739 0860
6	Abbie Johnson	Council	Female	Magaliliu	+678 773 2699
7	Mormor Kalsau	Chief	Male	Magaliliu	+678 761 4316
8	Maturine Tauanearu	Community member	Female	Napkoa/Lelepa	+678 777 4475
9	Daniel Charlie	Community member	Male	Lelepa	+678 730 1239
10	Stephen Kalsono	Chief	Male	Laknawi	+678 778 6659
11	Kalsaru Jimmy Atavirana	Chief	Male	Lelepa	+678 779 0270
12	James Kaloroa	Chief	Male	Magaliliu	+678 710 7930
13	Jack Kaloroa	Chief	Male	Magaliliu	+678 761 4215
14	Leirinah Kalo11	Community member	Female	Magaliliu	n/a
15	Sokpa Kalo11	Community member	Female	Magaliliu	n/a
16	Lehtamate Kalsong	Community member	Female	Magaliliu	n/a
17	Leah Billy	Community member	Female	Magaliliu	+678 777 0070
18	Topen Lorie	Community member	Male	Magaliliu	+678 761 7228
19	Bob Khuiulang	Community member	Male	Magaliliu	n/a
20	Nick Howleg	VanKIRAP Comms	Male	Mele Maat	+678 772 3345
21	Levu Ankalo	WFSD VMGD	Male	Nambatri	+678 778 4930
22	Sunny Kamuta Seuseu	SPREP/VanKIRAP	Male	Tasiriki Korman	+678 555 1113

Annex 5: Consultations photos



Figure 3: William Worwor, VMGD presenting to the Magaliliu and Lelepa community reps.



Figure 5: Magaliliu Council of Chiefs



Figure 4: Community reps making interventions on the presentations



Figure 6: Chairman - Council of Chiefs in welcoming remarks

