

Van-KIRAP Steering Committee (SC) Meeting Minutes

MEETING INFORMATION

Meeting Number	SC 005	Meeting Title	Van-KIRAP SC-5 Meeting
Project Name	Vanuatu Klaemet Infomesen blong Redy, Adapt mo Protekt (Van-KIRAP) project		
Objective/Purpose	Fifth Steering Committee Meeting (SC-5)		
Time & Date	9:00am – 2:30pm, 9 th April 2023	Venue	Melanesian Hotel Room, Port Vila

MEETING DETAILS

Chairperson	Esline G Bule, Chairwoman, Director General of Ministry of Climate Change.	
Vanuatu Klaemet Infomesen blong redy, adapt mo protekt (VanKIRAP) Steering Committee Members	Henry Worek	Director Public Works Department
	Jayven Ham	Vanuatu Department of Fisheries
	Pakoa Leo	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
	Mr Rupeni Mario	PCU, SPREP (online)
	Mr Salesa Nihmei	CCR, SPREP
	Montin Romone	Director of Meteorology & Geo-Hazards
	Mike Waiwai	Director Department of Climate Change
	Mark Kalotap	Department of Tourism
Jonah Taviti	Department of Water Resources	
Apologies		DG Ministry of Internal Affairs (DG)
		DG Office of Prime Minister
		DG Public Works Department (PWD)
		DG Ministry of Finance
Observers	Fred Jockley	Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-hazards Department
	Jerry Timothy	Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-hazards Department
	Esther Saul	Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-hazards Department
	William Worworkon	Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-hazards Department
	Nastasha Shing	Van-KIRAP, Fisheries Sector Coordinator
	Stephen Tom	Van-KIRAP, VMGD
	Raviky Talae	Van-KIRAP, Infrastructure Sector Coordinator
	Moirah Matou Lidvina Karie Connie Sewere Sunny Seuseu	Van-KIRAP Project Management Unit (PMU) Secretariat
Online Participants	Geoff Gooley	CSIRO
	Dr. Yuriy Kuleshov	BOM
	Dr. Lynda Chambers	BOM
	Dr. John Ahn Chun	APCC



SUMMARY OF POINTS and ACTIONS

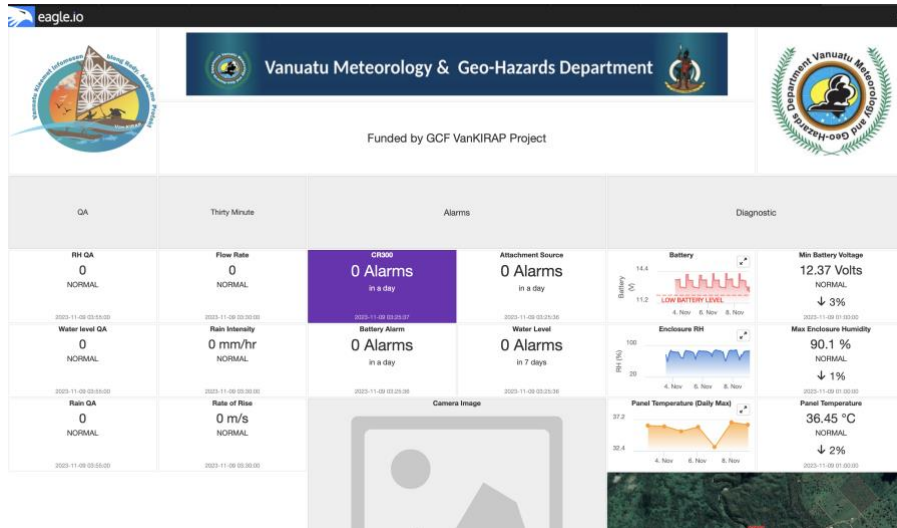
No	Description	By Whom
	<p>Opening Prayer</p> <p>The Meeting was opened by an opening prayer by the Chair followed by welcome remarks.</p>	Chairlady
	<p>Review of the Agenda.</p> <p>The Chairlady invited the meeting to review and adopt the agenda. The meeting endorsed the agenda without any changes.</p>	Chairlady
1.	<p>Agenda Item 1: Review of previous minutes and Matters arising from Steering Committee meeting 4 (SC-04)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project Management Unit (Sunny Seuseu) informed the committee members that Agenda and all the papers for the steering committee meeting are inside the meeting folder provided. Each agenda item has a corresponding meeting paper, presentation and set of recommendations for the steering committee decision. No further comments and clarification on the minutes. Director VMGD proposed for the meeting minutes to be adopted and was seconded by Department of PWD 	Chairlady
	<p>Action item: No action item for follow-up.</p>	
2.	<p>Agenda Item 2: Endorsement of the VanKIRAP Work Programme 2023 and budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project Management Unit presented the 2022-2023 Work Programme and budget for endorsement. Director Climate Change (DoCC) sought clarification on why the 2022 and 2023 work programme is now presented to the project steering committee for approval noting the implementation has commenced. The Project Management Unit hereby elucidates that the deferment in the presentation of the 2022-2023 work programme to the Steering Committee for its official endorsement primarily stems from protracted and comprehensive negotiations with the GCF regarding the incorporation of the weather radar activity. The GCF has sought a favorable 'yes' recommendation in accordance with FAA Clauses 8.01 and 9.02 (d) for the progression of the radar activity. It is worth noting that the project has diligently fulfilled all the FAA requirements, and consequently, the radar activity has received clearance and is now an integral component of the 2022-2023 work programme, which is hereby submitted for your esteemed approval. Chair requested the project management unit to prepare and submit to the Steering Committee a 2024-2025 work programme and budget for endorsement in the next meeting. 	Project Management Unit
	<p>Recommendation: The meeting <u>noted</u> and <u>approved</u> the 2022-2023 Work Programme and budget for the Climate Information Services for Resilient Development Planning Project in Vanuatu (FP035)</p>	

	<p>Action item: PMU to submit 2024-2025 work programme and budget to the Steering Committee for approval in the next meeting (SC-06).</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p>Agenda item 3: VanKIRAP project update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Project Management Unit provided the meeting with an update on implementation. Sunny Seuseu presented on the utilisation of funds as well as the key milestone achievements across all components (Component 1 to 5). The Chairlady and members of the committee acknowledged the presentation and thanked the project team for the progress made to date. The meeting encouraged the project team to reflect the progress made on the ground in the annual progress report to GCF and that the Communications Coordinator to increase visibility efforts to increase awareness in Vanuatu but also in the regional and abroad. 	<p>Project Management Unit</p>
	<p>Action items/recommendations</p> <p>3.1 The meeting <u>noted</u> the implementation status and progress made by the Executing Entities for the Climate Information Services for Resilient Development in Vanuatu project (FP035)</p> <p>3.2 The meeting <u>endorsed</u> the performance report for the period January 2022 to March 2023.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Agenda item 4: Update on the Community Climate Centres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> William Bae Worwor, Acting Community Engagement Coordinator presented on the progress made on the establishment of the six community climate centres in the following provinces: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Nakere Area Council, Santo, Sanma Province Luganville Provincial Council, Santo, Sanma Province Sola Provincial Council, Banks, Torba Province Lenakel, Provincial Council, Tanna, Tafea Province Saratamata Provincial Council, Ambae, Pemeana Province Lakatoro Provincial Council, Malekula, Malampa Province Climate information sessions and train-the-trainers undertaken as part of the inception and the establishment of the centres. The project has trained over 70 community climate champions/climate centres focal points in all six provinces of Vanuatu by end of 2022. The monthly climate updates continue through zoom and facebook live in responds to COVID-19 but also to get the climate information to the “last mile” people in remote communities. The Lenakel Community Climate Centre in Tanna was official launched by Hon President of the Tafea Provincial Government on the 27 March, 2023. The project also established the Citizen Science – rainfall monitoring programme in 10 schools in Tanna. The climate information session in Isangel Community Climate Centre targeted participants from Agriculture, Tourism, Water, Maritime, Public Works Department, NDMO, Community Liaison Officers from the 6 Tafea Area Secretaries, Civil Societies such as ActionAid, Red Cross and Vanuatu Skills Partnership. The meeting noted the update on the community climate centres and approved the establishment of an additional six community climate centres as per original project document. 	

	<p>Action items/recommendations</p> <p>4.1 Meeting <u>approved</u> the establishment of additional six climate centres including the following areas (a) Nobul, North Ambrym; (b) Bwatnapne, Pentecost; (c). Epi, Shefa; (d). Efate, Shefa to be determined by VMGD and project team in collaboration with Department of Local Authorities (DLA) and NDMO.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Agenda item 5: Update on the sector case studies.</p> <p>Pakoa Leo, Agriculture Sector Coordinator provided an update on the Agriculture Sector Case study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three agricultural demonstration/research plots were established in Tagabe, Efate, VARTC in Santo and in Sola, Torba Province. • Four local data collectors were recruited by the DARD to record agricultural data into the “Crop Climate Diary – CCD” in the OSCAR system. • Climate Change projections provided by Delivery Partner CSIRO incorporated into agricultural practices such as coffee, cocoa, kava, banana, and root crops. Research infobites are available on the Vanuatu Climate Futures Portal. • Agrometeorological bulletins continue to provide enhanced climate information to the farmers. • Positive feedback received on the “crop suitability” functionality on the Vanuatu Climate Futures Portal – useful for planning. • Training on OSCAR continue for local data collectors, farmers, and agricultural extension officers in April 2023. <p>Raviky Talae, Infrastructure Sector Coordinator provided an update on the Infrastructure Sector Case Study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and Upgrade Design Guide incorporating climate information into the Vanuatu Resilient Road Design Guide. The inception and stakeholders consultation report can be accessed here: https://library.sprep.org/sites/default/files/2023-09/VanKIRAP-Inception-Stakeholders-Consultation.pdf • Development of Climate Information Services for the Infrastructure Sector through the application of the new VanKIRAP Climate Hazard-based Impact Assessment Guide on Climate Change related Impacts for Sectors in Vanuatu. The Guide available here: https://library.sprep.org/sites/default/files/2023-09/Van-KIRAP-Climate-Assessment-Guidance.pdf • Public Works Department through the VanKIRAP Project procured a Matrice 300RTK with LIDAR capabilities which allows the department to undertake LIDAR surveys and assessment of road infrastructures and generate climate and environmental data to incorporate into design models to better design roads, culverts and drainages. • Drone pilot licensing training completed for two PWD Engineers with New Zealand Pilot Certification has increased Vanuatu’s technical capability supporting VanKIRAP but also other PWD projects. • Provincial Training for all six provinces completed to roll out the use of the Road Resilient Guide, as well as demonstration of the use and application of the LIDAR data from the drone. Sample videos of the LIDAR drone imagery available here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=11bMvdfSEqI&t=9s 	

Jonah Taviti, Water Sector Coordinator presented to the Steering Committee an update on the Water Sector Case studies activities:

- Progress made to the Luganville Urban Water Supply Monitoring Bore – including the installation of a Water Level Recorder, Automatic River Gauge (ARG), River survey & Gauging, Flood thresholds, alerts, warnings and ongoing Site & Instrument Maintenance.
- The operational public Dashboard for Sarakata Flood Early Warning System - <https://public.eagle.io/public/dash/c591gs61b7nimkf>



- Complete the Sarakata Flood Management Plan and Early Warning System. The implementation plan available here: https://library.sprep.org/sites/default/files/2023-05/Sarakata_flood-mitigation.pdf
- Simulation of the Sarakata Flood Management Plan and Early Warning System
- Remaining activities include the (1) Development of a Hydrometric System for Hydrology through SPREP and NIWA. This work includes the upgrade of the Tideda Database Management System at DOWR, the upgrade of the Groundwater monitoring network at Sarakata to telemetry capability and training of DoWR and VMGD staff on the use of Tideda.

Action items/recommendations

5.1 Meeting noted the progress made by the Sectors agencies.

6. Agenda item 6: Update from VanKIRAP International Delivery Partners

6.1 Update from APCC

- 1.2.6.1. Develop Agro-met information portal including new on-line IT infrastructure and software (OSCAR prototype)
- 1.2.6.2. Collecting, modelling, analysis and reporting of agro-met data to determine optimal agriculture crop planning options
- 1.2.6.3. Undertaking field trials and validation prior to incorporation into DSS delivery platforms, ground-truthing and outreach with target next/end-users
- 1.2.6.4. Develop the crop-climate diary customised for agro-met data collection

APCC

	<p>Phase I. Feb 2019 – Dec 2019, work completed include: Basic menu tree Collecting and displaying basic weather and climate information OSCAR prototype</p> <p>II. Jul 2021 – Feb 2021, work completed include: Real-time and recorded weather information services Warning services based on agro-climate indices Improvement of Crop-Climate Diary (CCD) Crop modelling-based decision-making support system</p> <p>III. Sep 2022 – Aug 2023, work completed: Observed and weather/climate forecasts services Enhancement of QC functions including gap filling in OSCAR Agro-met bulletin production function Building a geodatabase for soil map in Vanuatu Non-crop modelling-based DSS Development of mobile applications for CCD Development of the mobile pages of OSCAR</p> <p>6.2 Update from Australian Bureau of Meteorology</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM continued to work with the Project Management Unit (PMU), VMGD and the sectors on: 8. Revising and monitoring production of Climate Bulletins for sectors (Fisheries, Tourism and Water) 9. Conducting sector-focused workshops with Fisheries to obtain user's perspective on value of Climate Bulletins and Marine Heat Wave risk assessment 10. Conducting training on Tropical Cyclone seasonal prediction and workshop on Tropical Cyclone risk assessment 11. Assisting with data rescue and data homogenization, updating the Pacific Climate Change Data Portal 12. Developing ClimateWatch Vanuatu app 13. Drafting a National Indicator Booklet 14. Sector-focused workshops were conducted with Fisheries on 11/10/2022 and 21/03/2023 15. BoM, PMU, VMGD team and representatives from the sector discussed needs for climate monitoring and prediction products, and developed plans to implement activities on strengthening CIS. 16. Sector requirements for Marine Heat Wave (MHW) risk assessment, monitoring and prediction were identified. Participatory Survey was conducted. 17. The first two steps in a tailored MHW risk assessment methodology were addressed: indicator selection and weighting. 18. A combined process, utilising both a literature review and participatory survey, was implemented to select indicators appropriate for examining MHW risk to Vanuatu Fisheries. 19. A user-informed weighting scheme was developed based on survey results. For further information see the Report. 20. Providing VMGD with ACCESS-S (the Australian Community Climate Earth-System Simulator – Seasonal) sub-seasonal to seasonal (S2S) climate products, BoM implemented it as part of re-designed WMO GPC LRFs Portal. 21. S2S maps of rainfall, temperature, MSLP, SST, SSH are now available to VMGD at global, regional and national levels. 	<p>BOM</p>
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	<p>6.3 Update from CSIRO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final technical report submitted for internal (CSIRO) peer review/approval Pacific NextGen (2022) aligned projections at national/sub-national scale to inform standardised scenario analysis/hazard-based impact assessments at sectoral level: GCM & downscaled output Key variables (historical/current & future): Temperature and rainfall (mean and extreme), tropical cyclones and drought To be formatted and published as VK technical report, and available as pdf download via Vanuatu Climate Futures CIS portal Projections data/information to inform CIS products: VK portal: multi-hazard analytics, including geo-spatial mapping and visualisation. VK sectoral case studies & related comms/KB collateral: Brochures, fact sheets, posters, videos, slide decks etc 	CSIRO
<p>Action items/recommendations</p> <p>Meeting <u>noted</u> the progress made by the International Delivery Partners. Meeting <u>acknowledged</u> their contributions to the project.</p>		
8.	<p>Agenda item 7: Update on the Communications Component</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications Coordinator presented progress on communications delivery Audience reach of approx. 180,000: Social Media – 109,000; Newspaper – 21,000; Radio Vanuatu – 47,000; Email newsletters – 450; VanKIRAP Events – 500 and others comms – 2,000. <p>Achievements to date: Email newsletters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email newsletters getting good results: 456 active sectoral and partner subscribers Average open rate of 39%, clickthrough rate of 22.1% VU Govt users – 30% open rate SPREP users – 24 subscribers, 11% open rate Climate Watch Bulletin produced with VMGD Climate Division getting 3x reader engagement compared to Project newsletter – proof that this method is a viable means of getting CIS to key sector technical audiences <p>Achievements to date: VBTC partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This partnership is key for mainstreaming CIS – VBTC reaches 90% of population Agreement reached, and deliverables mapped out: Daily weather & climate bulletins on TV, radio & VBTC social media Expert climate commentary across VBTC Monthly climate information program 12 x half-hour topic-based CIS programs 672 x 30sec radio advert spots + 336 30sec radio spots Radio talkback programming on climate & weather topics 	Communications Coordinator

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group media training for VanKIRAP and VMGD staff • Expands VanKIRAP reach to 90% of population • VBTC CEO has appointed climate ‘beat’ reporters ahead of partnership so that capability is in place; demonstrates their strong commitment <p>Achievements to date: climate ‘CIS’ brand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brand development in progress • Completed by end of April • Provides a identifiable brand for Project • CIS tools beyond life of Project <p>Achievements to date: VMGD website redevelopment + new mobile app development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOR consultation process completed last week • Full visual sitemap developed to speed up development– website & mobile app • Streamlined redesign cuts down no. of pages from 935 to ±160 • Substantially more climate content front-and-centre, plus ‘Learn More’ section • Sectoral CIS products more visible, new VanKIRAP products incorporated • All functional and non-functional requirements fully documented (111) – will enable rapid assessment of deliverables 	
	<p>Action items/recommendations</p> <p>Meeting <u>noted</u> the progress made by the Communications team. Meeting recommended that more work can be placed on telling human stories and promoting the project beyond Vanuatu; to SPREP, regional and global audiences.</p>	
<p>9.</p>	<p>Agenda item 8:</p> <p>The Project Management Unit provided the following update to the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 February 2023, SPREP Accredited Entity (IE) informed GCF (Weather Radar Report) that Vanuatu has met all the FAA requirements for the weather radar. • February 2023, SPREP Director General met with Minister Hon Ralph Regenvanu, DG MoCCA, Director VMGD and sector agencies agree to proceed with radar activity. • SPREP IE has indicated to VMGD that all project implementation will close on 1 October 2022. Note project end date is 10 December 2022. • SPREP has requested GCF for a no-cost extension for an additional 24 months (to December 2025) for the implementation of the radar (procurement, installation, commissioning, monitoring and handover) • Radar procurement to commence in early April 2023. <p>Outstanding matters pertaining to the Weather Radar that Vanuatu needs to address include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Government of Vanuatu through the Department of Lands to finalise the land acquisition currently at Stage 4 of the Government Land Acquisition process. 	<p>Chairlady</p>

	<p>2. Ministry of Finance to provide written approval of the Government of Vanuatu's radar co-financing budget of USD595,100 in line with COM Approval.</p>	
	<p>Meeting <u>noted</u> update on the weather radar and actions items. Meeting <u>endorsed</u> the weather radar procurement to proceed. SC to <u>approved</u> the <u>USD3,079,254.00</u> budget allocation for the weather radar which includes the USD 415,538 from the Contingency. SC to <u>approved</u> the project no-cost extension to December 2025 to accommodate for the procurement, commissioning, training and demonstration of the weather radar. Meeting encouraged VMGD and the project to further progress the following:</p> <p>Land approval Noting the urgency and the national benefits of the weather radar to the people of Vanuatu and their security, the Government of Vanuatu (VMGD) in consultation with Department of Lands to finalise the land acquisition (currently at Stage 4), consider the State of Emergency (SOE) in place to expedite the approval process. NPP for the weather radar VMGD to provide GCF with the NPP approval which includes the co-financing for the weather radar.</p>	
10.	<p>Agenda item 9: Other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Other Business to discuss from Chair and Members. 	Chairlady
11.	<p>Next Steering Committee meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair suggested next meeting should be held before end of the year (November). 	Chairlady
12.	<p>Note of thanks and close</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chair closed the Steering Committee meeting with a prayer. The meeting closed at 2:30pm 	Chairlady