



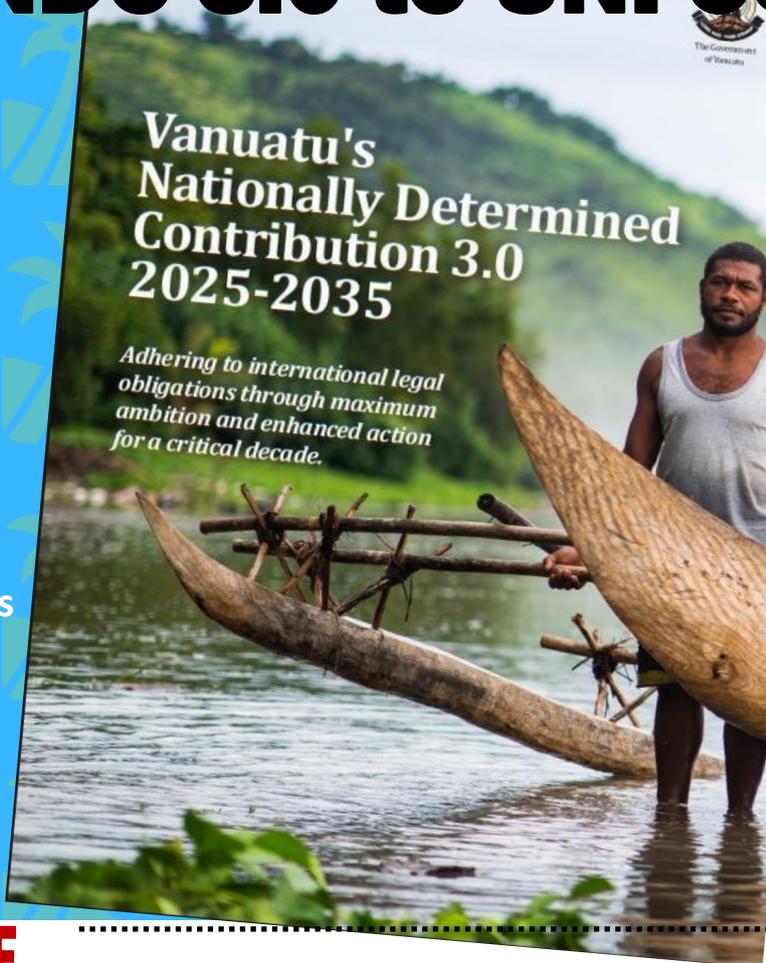
MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Vanuatu's Ministry of Climate Change, Adaptation, Meteorology and Geo-Hazards, Energy, Environment and National Disaster Management was established in 2014 for the purpose of strategically aligning Departments responsible for the response to natural disasters and sustainable development of the environment.

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NDC 3.0 is grounded in 66 existing national sector policies



NDC 3.0 has 219 Measurable Targets

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Vanuatu Submits Enhanced NDC 3.0 to UNFCCC



The Government of Vanuatu, through the Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC), has formally submitted its enhanced Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 3.0 to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which can be accessed on the UNFCCC NDC Registry on <https://unfccc.int/NDCREG>.

This marks a significant milestone in the country's climate ambition, strengthening Vanuatu's climate commitments and reaffirming its position as a global leader on climate action.

The Prime Minister of Vanuatu, Hon Jotham Napat commented that *"as the world gathers for the UN General Assembly, Vanuatu is proud to announce the completion and formal submission of our new Nationally Determined Contribution – our highest-level climate commitment under the Paris Agreement for the period 2025 to 2035.*

"We chose this week to launch because we want to send a clear signal: the world must raise its ambition if we are to keep

global heating below 1.5 degrees.

"For Vanuatu, that threshold is not an abstract target – it is the line of survival. It is about whether our island villages will thrive or be devastated by the worsening onslaught of the climate crisis."

Many have regarded Vanuatu's past NDCs as being of the world's most ambitious, while this new NDC goes further, grounded in more than 65 existing sector policies and contains 219 measurable targets for Mitigation (35), Adaptation (132) and Loss & Damage (52). While Vanuatu is already net negative with its forests and oceans absorbing more carbon than it emits, Vanuatu's NDC commits to reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 68.3% of current levels by 2035.

Highlighting the major gaps in climate finance, the NDC outlines investments required over the next decade of approximately 3 billion US dollars to keep the country safe, resilient and able to respond to worsening and irreversible im-

pacts. Vanuatu's NDC concretely identifies the most appropriate sources and modalities of finance for each target, sourced primarily in grants from the multilateral development banks, bilateral support, the global climate funds and other innovative mechanisms like insurance, levies and court damage payments. Importantly the NDC establishes Vanuatu's Climate Finance Country Platform to ensure climate finance flows enable bottom-up country-led planning and action.

Of critical note, Vanuatu's new NDC fully adheres to the outcomes of the Global Stocktake, and the legal obligations clarified by the International Court of Justice Advisory Opinion on State responsibilities for climate change, and the full integration of gender equality, youth engagement, and human rights to ensure inclusive climate action.

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Foreword From The Director General



DG Gibson

The highlight in this 12th edition of the Ministry of Climate Change's Newsletter, is the submission of Vanuatu's Enhanced Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) 3.0 to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

This was formally announced by the Honourable Prime Minister Jotham Napat in September 2025.

The submission to UNFCCC was done after the NDC 3.0 was endorsed by Vanuatu's National Advisory Board (NAB) on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction.

The submission of the NDC 3.0 is a clear indication of Vanuatu's commitment to the Paris Agreement to ensure global average temperatures remain below 1.5 Degrees Celsius.

As announced by the Honourable Prime Minister, Vanuatu's NDC is grounded in over 66 existing sector policies, with 219 measurable targets..

It also aligns with and strives towards implementing the Advisory Opinion from the International Court of Justice delivered on July 23, 2025.

The NDC 3.0 is Vanuatu's primary planning instrument for tackling climate

change at the national level, building on the ambition articulated in the Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2016-2030 2nd edition . This ensures the promotion of good governance through established priorities and strategies for future climate actions.

With COP30 approaching, the submission of Vanuatu's NDC 3.0 will advance real action as it adheres to the Global Stocktake efforts.

I thank and acknowledge the technical support from the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), and the Regional Pacific NDC Hub.

David Gibson

Director General

Ministry of Climate Change

Vanuatu Submits Enhanced NDC 3.0 to UNFCCC

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Vanuatu Prime Minister Napat, further called on *"all countries to consider their legal obligations to prepare and submit NDCs that, together, keep us below 1.5 degrees... and if the upcoming NDC synthesis report shows we are failing, then we must have the courage to agree at COP30 to go back, revise, and enhance our commitments within the next year.*

"This is not an administrative exercise. It is a moral one, a technical one and mostly a political one. It is about life or death for Vanuatu, for small islands, and for millions of vulnerable people across the world."

The NDC 3.0 was validated and endorsed by the National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction and approved by the Council



of Ministers.

"This is a proud moment for Vanuatu. The NDC 3.0 reflects our values and resilience, and it makes a clear call for fairness in global climate action.

"It is both a national blueprint and an invitation to partners to invest in solutions that work for our communities and a global call to action." said David Gibson, Director General of the Ministry of Climate Change.

He continued, *"I extend sincere gratitude to ministries and institutions, leaders, civil society, youth and women's groups, development partners, and the private sector for their active contributions to the development of Vanuatu's updated climate change response measures."*

The Director General of the Ministry of Climate Change, acknowledges the technical support from the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), and the Regional Pacific NDC Hub.

Community Engagement At Erakor Village

The Ministry of Climate Change on September 8, 2025 undertook a climate change and disaster risk reduction awareness session at Erakor village on Efate as part of its community engagement activity.

Participants learnt about the Ministry of Climate Change and its structure along with the five departments that form the corporate structure of the Ministry.

There was also presentation from the National Advisory Board (NAB) Secretariat's Information Management Officer,

Cynthia Hosea, on the endorsement process for information education and communication materials such as posters or lyrics of songs that have in it information relating to climate change and disaster risk reduction.

An interactive session between participants and National Disaster Management Office representative, Alice Iarem, discussed issues such as assessment processes during disaster response periods.

Principal Scientific Officer, Mr John Reuben, from the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD) engaged the participants with information on climate science and traditional knowledge and how they can participate to build up data under the Climate Watch app, a digital tool that was developed under VMGD through VanKIRAP Project.

The programme ended with the handing over of a 10,000 litre water tank by Director General of the Ministry of Climate Mr David Gibson, to the Erakor Area Administrator. The DG acknowledged the community of Erakor for undertaking initiatives that address environmental protection such as waste



management and mangrove replanting, which are good examples of community-led action.

The water tank will replace another in Erakor's Zone 3 area that was damaged by the 7.3 magnitude earthquake in December 2024.

The water tank handover supports community resilience and disaster preparedness and the community has been encouraged to ensure the water tank serves the community.

With the support from the Department

of Forests, there was planting of shade trees in front of the Area Council and Chiefs Council headquarter of Erakor village.

Director of VMGD, Mr Levu Antfalo and Acting Director of Climate Change, Nelson Kalo, were also present to witness the handover of water tank and take part in planting of shade trees.

The theme for today's activity was based on climate change and disaster risk reduction literacy awareness to reflect today being the International Literacy Day.

MoCC Engages With Erakor Community

The Ministry of Climate Change joined the community of Erakor to raise awareness on climate change as well as plant trees with assistance of Forestry Department and DG David Gibson handed over a 10,000 litre water tank funded by MoCC



MoCC Participates in Public Service Days on Efate and Tanna

The MoCC team participated in two Public Service Days this year, organized by the Office of the Public Service Commission Secretariat.

The first event took place on Efate at Siviri Entertainment Park from June 16 to 18, 2025.

Junior and Secondary Schools from North Efate and offshore islands like Nguna and in South Efate visited booths during the PSC Day at the Siviri Entertainment Park.

All five departments participated in booth displays at the Public Service Day in June.

Towards the end of the month of July, the Corporate Services Unit and the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department, the Department of Climate Change, National Disaster Management Office, Department of Energy, and Department of Environmental Protection also participated in the five-day Public Service Day held at the Laminu Stadium on Tanna island from July 31 to August 4, 2025.

This activity took place with side events that were organized by departments such as Department of Climate Change, who organized a site visit to the newly built South Tanna Area Council, as well

as tree planting along the coastal areas, erecting crop calendars in communities and awareness in schools.

The Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department also held side events such as schools visits and awareness about its digital platform, Climate Watch.

The Public Service Day and government meetings were also held back-to-back that were attended by Directors of departments, Director Generals and Ministers.

The DG for the Minister of Climate Change, Mr David Gibson, and Minister



of Climate Change, Hon. Ralph Regenvanu were also on Tanna to attend meetings such as Development Committee of Officials (DCO) and the Council of Ministers (COM).



Senior students Assist MoCC During Awareness

Three Year 13 students from Lenakel Presbyterian College (in orange uniforms) were part of the Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC) team during the Public Service Day on Tanna. The three students are Haran Kauh, Augustine Nawiwa, and Jimoli Nawam.

MoCC identified these students during a Careers event undertaken by this Ministry in March 2025 and the Vanuatu Institute of Public Administration Management (VIPAM) issued Cadetship placements for these three students during the Public Service Day on Tanna.



Public Service Week

The Ministry of Climate Change joined all Government Ministries and departments in the Public Service Week on Tanna in TAFEA Province after participating in the SHEFA Public Service Day held during SHEFA Day Celebrations on Efate.

All photos here are from the Tanna event.



MoCC DG Chairs 32nd SPREP Board Meeting

The Director General of the Ministry of Climate Change, Mr David Gibson, is currently in Apia, Samoa, on official duty where he has assumed the role of chairperson of the 32nd Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Board Meeting.

According to the SPREP Media, Mr Gibson takes over the Chairmanship from Ms Billie Selby, Chair of SPREP's Fourth Executive Board Meeting and the United Kingdom's Pacific Climate and Energy Counsellor at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. This is the first time for Mr Gibson to take up such high-level responsibility under SPREP since taking up the position of the Director General of Vanuatu's Ministry of Climate Change.

"This role is a collective opportunity for



Director General of the Ministry of Climate Change, Mr David Gibson, as Chair of the 32nd SPREP Board Meeting

all Pacific nations to amplify our voices and protect the environment that sustains our cultures, our economies, and our future," DG Gibson said.

"As Chair, I will work to ensure SPREP remains one of the platforms where our priorities are advanced with urgency,

ambition, and unity."

Mr. Gibson's appointment highlights Vanuatu's continued leadership in regional environmental diplomacy, a sustained commitment to championing Pacific priorities on the international stage.

Boosting Water Quality Monitoring in Port Vila

The National Waste and Water Taskforce (NWWTF) has marked a significant milestone with the official launching of a new aluminium boat, purchased by the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC) under the NWWTF's National Priority Project (NPP). The launching ceremony was held on Thursday, 26 June 2025, and officiated by the Honourable Minister of Climate Change, Ralph Regenvanu.

As part of the event, management of the vessel was formally handed over to the Department of Water Resources (DoWR). The acquisition of this boat represents a major development in supporting the Government's efforts to strengthen water quality monitoring and compliance activities across Port Vila and other targeted areas.

"This vessel will play a critical role in supporting the work of both the DoWR and the NWWTF, particularly in monthly water quality monitoring and the collection of reliable, high-quality data," said Minister Regenvanu during

the launch.

In the past, both the Department of Water Resources and the NWWTF faced logistical challenges in carrying out

water monitoring due to the need to hire boats through lengthy government processes. These delays often hindered the timely collection of water samples and impacted the delivery of accurate data, especially in urgent cases.

Previously, monitoring activities were conducted only quarterly. With the availability of this dedicated vessel, teams will now be able to conduct regular, proactive, and responsive monitoring, significantly enhancing the quality and timeliness of their work.

The boat will enable better implementation of key water quality activities, as well as improved monitoring and compliance functions



aligned with environmental management goals.

In addition to the launching, Minister Regenvanu also announced the release of a Rapid Assessment Report covering Port Vila's Central Business District (CBD) and surrounding peri-urban areas.

The NWWTF, in collaboration with key stakeholders, will continue to use such data to guide the development of infrastructure, policy, and service delivery to ensure better environmental and public health outcomes for all.

Review and update of CFRM and Cost Benefit Analysis on Rio Convention COPs Participation

The inception meeting for the review and update of National Climate Finance Road Map (CFRM) took place on September 8, 2025 at the Melanesian Hotel's conference room in Port Vila.

This meeting was officially opened by Director General, David Gibson.

Participants included senior staff from the Ministry of Climate Change, Government departments, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), Vanuatu Chamber of Commerce, the United Kingdom High Commission to Vanuatu and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

The funding for this activity came from New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) flexible financing with the Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC).

The National CFRM provides an overview of Vanuatu's high-level climate finance objectives and targets.

The road map is designed to provide medium-term strategic guidance on the mobilisation and governance of climate finance to support investments in adaptation, mitigation, and loss and damage.

With the current road map concluding in 2025, this review will set the foundations for an updated framework that aligns with emerging national priorities, regional and international commitments, and new NDC 3.0 targets.

Also in the afternoon of the same day, the inception workshop for the Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) on Vanuatu's participation in Rio Convention Conference of the Parties (COPs) took place at the same venue.

The CBA provides a strategic analytical review of Vanuatu's engagement in the three Rio Conventions (UNFCCC, UNCBD, and UNCCD) Conferences of the Parties (COPs). It assesses the costs of participation against the outcomes and benefits



achieved, including how past COP engagements have contributed to accessing climate, environment, and disaster financing opportunities. Recommendations

from this meeting will guide Vanuatu's future participation, ensuring maximum value from its international commitments.

