



# MINISTRY OF CLIMATE CHANGE NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 10

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.

## Pico Hydropower Projects To Advance NERM and NDC Targets



[More on Pg.2](#)

## INSIDE

Pg.4

**'Compliance' tim i mekem sua se toti i go long stret ples**

Pg.5

**UNFCCC Negotiations Training**

Pg.7

**'Careers Awareness' long 12 skul blong TAFEA**



# 3 Pico Hydropower Projects For Pentecost

## New Projects To Advance NERM and NDC Targets



Honourable Ralph Regenvanu officialting the launching with Pentecost members of Parliament, the Japanese Ambassador, the UNDP rep, and Chief at Melsisi

"The Government of Vanuatu is committed to creating an enabling environment for renewable energy development.

"We are putting in place the policies, regulations, and incentives needed to attract investment, promote innovation, and accelerate the transition to a clean energy future," the Honourable Minister of Climate Change said.

Honourable Ralph Regenvanu, Minister of Climate Change, also responsible for Energy, was on Pentecost Island on May 6, 2025 to launch, through groundbreaking, of the Pico Hydro Projects for Melsisi and Waterfall, accompanied by Acting Director General and Director of the Department of Energy, Antony Garae. The third site for in-

stallation of a Pico Hydro Project is at Larimaat, also on Pentecost.

Also included in the delegation during the launch ceremony were; the Ambassador of Japan, His Excellency Naohisa Okuda and United Nations Development Programme Team Leader for Resilience and Climate Change, Ms Merewalesi Laveti including dignitaries as well as stakeholders and members of parliament of Pentecost.

Vanuatu currently has a strategic framework called the National Energy Road Map (NERM), that is being implemented, which outlines the government's vision for the energy sector, aiming to achieve accessible, efficient, affordable, secure, sustainable,

and enabling environment for renewable energy development.

The Vanuatu Green Transformation Project (VGET) was launched by the Government of Vanuatu and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in response to the challenge of enhancing human security through green transformation to address existing challenges This project has been welcomed by the Government of Vanuatu with appreciation for funding from the Government of Japan, as this project will advance renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy access for the most vulnerable in Vanuatu communities.

This effort will also assist Vanuatu to achieve targets under the National Determined Contributions (NDC).

# Foreword



DG Gibson

Welcome to the 10th edition of the Ministry of Climate Change's Newsletter.

As Vanuatu enters 2025, Efate and Port Vila in particular, was and is still recovering from the earthquake that tragically claimed lives and damaged quite a number of buildings in Vanuatu's Capital..

The Ministry of Climate Change, through the National Disaster Management

Office and Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department and stakeholder Departments such as the Department of Geology and Mines ensured a coordinated immediate response that included first responders such as Police and Pro Rescue.

The collaboration in the aftermath of the earthquake has seen this Ministry still contributing to operations as it goes into Recovery stage with lead agencies.

The Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation, through its Compliance team, has been actively involved in the demolition operation, where landmark buildings in Port Vila are reduced to rubbles following the damage caused to them by earthquake.

Apart from this tragic event, with aftershocks continuing and the ministry's activities being implemented as planned, I wish to acknowledge the work done by this Ministry's Early Warning Centre, and the National Emergency Operations Centre; who

despite damage equipment, ensured operations continue. At this juncture, I wish to acknowledge that the Annual Report for 2024 of the Ministry of Climate Change has been tabled, through the office of the Honourable Minister of Climate Change and endorsed by parliament.

I also wish to note that major projects in the energy sector are in progress to be completed this year such as the five mini solar grids in South and South East Malekula and the three pico hydro projects on Pentecost. These projects will not only ensure communities on these islands have access to clean, accessible and efficient renewable energy, but these will also move Vanuatu closer to achieving its targets under the National Energy Roadmap (NERM) and the National Determined Contribution.

**David Gibson**

**Director General**

**Ministry of Climate Change**



## Staff Profile

**NAME:** Nelly Jonah

**CURRENT POSITION:** MoCC Office Caretaker since 2021

**ISLAND OF ORIGIN:** Malekula

**FORMER EMPLOYMENT ROLES:** Receptionist/Customer Services, Cashier/Secretary, Filing Clerk/ Banking Officer

**QUALIFICATION:** Diploma in Climate Resilience & Humanitarian Action

**YEAR GAINED QUALIFICATION:** 2025

**AIM FOR TAKING COURSE AT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF VANUATU**

I started taking up courses at the National University to motivate my children to make them take their education seriously.

My qualification is also to motivate low income earners to aim high and not get stuck in comfort zones.

If I can do it, we all can do it.

### CHALLENGES

Juggling between being a mother, work and going to school again that involve sleepless nights to complete assignments.

Very little support outside from my immediate family when I started taking courses, but I managed to overcome these challenges.



# 'Compliance' tim i mekem sua se toti i go long stret ples



Demolition Photos by Damien Hinge

Long manis Februari namba 6, 2025 araon 5pm wan tim blong Compliance blong Ministry blong Climate Change wetem Dipatmen blong Envaeronmental Proteksen wetem Konsevesen oli bin go mitim komunit blong eria we plante man I save long hem olsem "21 Jump Street" long Tagabe.

Miting ia hemi olsem aweaness long komuniti mo semtaem harem tingting

blong komuniti abaot eria long Smet we I karem ol toti kapa mo pis aean blong ol haus we etkwek I bin damejem long Port Vila taon. Ol toti kapa mo aean ia bae kampani we I karem mo priperem blong sendem I go ovasi blong risaekel (recycle).

Aktiviti ia bae i tekem ples long period ia nomo blong putum daon ol haus we etkwek I damejem. Tufala fesfala haus we oli bin bre-

kem daon ikat Chantilly's wetem haus we New Zealand Hae Komisen, United Kingdom Hae Komisen wetem United States Embassy I bin stap long hem.

Mo ibin kat plante moa haus we oli brekem daon from etkwek I damejem.

Nara eria we bae I karem ol toti we oli no save risaakelem hemi long ples blong digim laemston o karia long haf rod

Erakor. Ol narafala samting we I kat ol denjares sabstens long hem we I save affektem laef blong pipol olsem "asbestos" long ol cement sheet, bae I go stret long ples blong berem toti long Bouffa antap long Etas.

Dipatmen blong Envaeronmen hemi stap monitarem ol aktiviti ia blong mekem sua se I folem stret fasin blong wok anda long Waste Management Act.



# UNFCCC Negotiations Training



Facilitators from SPREP with workshop Participants at Warwick Le Lagon

A three-day United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Negotiations Training started on May 13, 2025 at the Warwick Le Lagon in Port Vila.

When officially launching the Negotiations Training, Acting Director of Climate Change, Mr Nelson Kalo, who was speaking on behalf of the Director General, said the training is not only a capacity building exercise, but also a strategic moment to shape Vanuatu's voice and vision at COP30.

The Negotiations Training has been made possible through the Strengthening Pacific Leadership in International Climate Change Engagement (SPLICE) project, that brought Mr Ewan Cameron and Mrs Teuila Fruean from the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) to facilitate the training.

"Vanuatu signed on to the Paris Agreement in 2015 with the expectation that all nations would mobilise their full capacity within science and technology to financially meet the 1.5°C goal.

"As we prepare to update our Nationally Determined Contributions in line with the outcomes of the Global Stocktake, we reaffirm our commitment to that vision," Acting Director Kalo said.

The training included a mock COP negotiations between "countries" that are signatory to the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

This year COP30 will be hosted in Belem, Brazil.

The training was officially closed by Director General, David Gibson.



DG of MoCC, Mr David Gibson, Officially closing the Negotiations Training



# Senior M&E Officer Attends Training in Nepal



The Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation's (MoCCA) Senior Monitoring and Evaluation (Senior M&E) Officer, Winy Marango, attended a two-day Asia Pacific Regional Training Workshop on Climate Change Negotiations from February 10 to 11 at Kathmandu, Nepal.

The MoCCA's Senior M&E's participation at the training was funded by the Government of the United Kingdom.

This training consisted of eight sessions.

The first session was on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations and the Paris Agreement.

The second session covered the legal aspects and governance in terms of climate change negotiations, covering

key topics such as

Legal Structure of the Three Treaties:

1. Paris Agreement (2015)
2. Kyoto Protocol (1997)
3. UNFCCC (1992)

Third session was on scaling up mitigation ambition and the Global Stocktake, which focused on the latest climate science, exploring the sources of carbon emissions, the global response to reducing emissions, the global stocktake, and the role of mitigation in negotiations. Session 4 covered adaptation and the global goal on adaptation with the focus on the concept of adaptation, defined as "coping with climate change—taking measures to reduce its

negative effects or explore positive ones by making appropriate adjustments.

The fifth and sixth sessions saw participants taking part a mock negotiation, which provided participants with a hands-on opportunity to practice and experience climate negotiations.

The second last session was on Climate Finance, which explored the concept of climate finance. The 8<sup>th</sup> session went through practical tips on the UN Climate Change Conference and UNFCCC code of conduct, which provided an overview of what to expect during the UNFCCC COP, including a deeper understanding of the process, decision-making mechanisms, and the roles of different countries in the negotiating blocks.

# 'Careers Awareness' long 12 skul blong TAFEA

Ministry blong Climate Change Adaptation hemi startem long manis March 2025 ol aktiviti blong "Careers Awareness" we I bin kasem 12 skul long TAFEA Provins.

Hemia ino fes team blong ministry i mekem program ia from ikat 6 aktiviti olsem I tekem ples finis mo las wan we I tekem ples hemi wetem secondary skul long TORBA Provins.

Aktiviti ia hemi part blong Program 1 insaed Key Aktiviti long Corporate Plan 2022-2026 blong Ministry blong Climate Change olsem part blong ol wok blong mitim ol target blong Society Pillar 2 anda long Nasonal Sasdenebol Developmen Plan (NSDP).

Tim blong Ministry I startem "Careers Awareness" wetem Teruja Secondary Skul long Aneityum aelan bifo I go long 9 skul long Tanna mo 2 skul long Erromango. Careers Awareness ia hemi blong tokbaot long ol student, especially ol senior student abaot ol career or wok we oli save skul from long tertiary level olsem long University mo wanem wok nao oli save mekem insaed long Ministry blong Climate Change wetem ol Dipatmen insaed Ministry sapos oli folem ol career paths we Ministry I stap promotem anda long strakja blong hem.

Principal blong Teruja Secondary School, Mrs Rinie Mark, hemi bin welkam tim folem wetem presentesen I kam long Cynthia Hosea we I representem Corporate Services Unit mo National Advisory Board anda long Ministry, wetem Arnaud Yaukelo we hemi Vanuatu Meteorology officer lo Anieityum wetem Nigel David, afta staff blong Department blong Energy, Serah Chilia I mekem presentesen folem wetem evaluation we hemi blong karem tingting



Ol Student blong Lamlu long Central Tanna

blong ol student.

Mrs Velomene Tamamthui we hemi Deputy Principal hemi bin talem thank yu long tim blong Ministry mo talem se hemi fes team we skul I kat careers session we I align wetem specific careers wetem skul subject we bae I helpem ol student blong mekem choice blong wan fiuja career.

Tim blong Ministry blong Climate Change we I go long Aneityum oli no mekem awareness nomo be oli wok tu blong listim mo taggem ol property blong gavman long wei olsem part blong Asset Registry blong nasonal gavman, olsem oli taggem ol asset long Weather Station long Anelcauhat we I stap anda long Vanuatu Meteorology mo Geo-Hazards Department.

I kat handover blong niufala computer ekwipmen I go long weather station long Aneityum. Semtaem memba blong tim we I stap wetem Department blong Energy i go lukluk ol ples we ol projek anda long Department blong Energy I stap long hem.

Awareness team hemi handover tu blong Teruja skul wan yelo container we hemi

wan disaster-ready package we inside ikat ol samting olsem radio wetem cyclone tracking map blong folem saeklon warnings, loud hailer blong yusum long ol emergency situation, wetem ol kits olsem solar torch, whistle, vest, mo seedlings Long Tanna wetem Erromango ol skul oli bin hapi blong resivim awareness tim from hemi fes team we wan kaen careers awareness olsem I kasem doorstep blong skul blong olgeta.

Ol 9 skul long Tanna we tim hemi visitim I kat Lamlu, Tuhu, Kwataparen, Whitesands Bilingual, Imaki, Green Hill, TAFEA College, Lenakel Presbyterian College mo Lycee de Lowanatom.

Long Erromango tim oli visitim skul long Williams Bay wetem Ipota. Wetem challenge blong transport, apart long Aniwa aelan we inokat secondary skul we I kasem Year 10, tim ino save kasem secondary school long Futuna aelan.

I kat handover blong disaster ready kit mo olsite visit igo long ol weather station wetem energy sites, toktok wetem komuniti wetem patisipesen long selebren blong World Meteorological Day.



# 'Careers Awareness Photos—TAFEA





# 'Careers Awareness Photos—TAFEA





# What kinds of plastics are the most problematic?

**Single-use plastic products.** They overwhelm waste systems & enter the environment.

# How much plastic is out there?

**A lot.** Researchers estimate that humanity has produced 9.2 billion tonnes of materials since the 50s, with **7 billion tonnes now waste.**