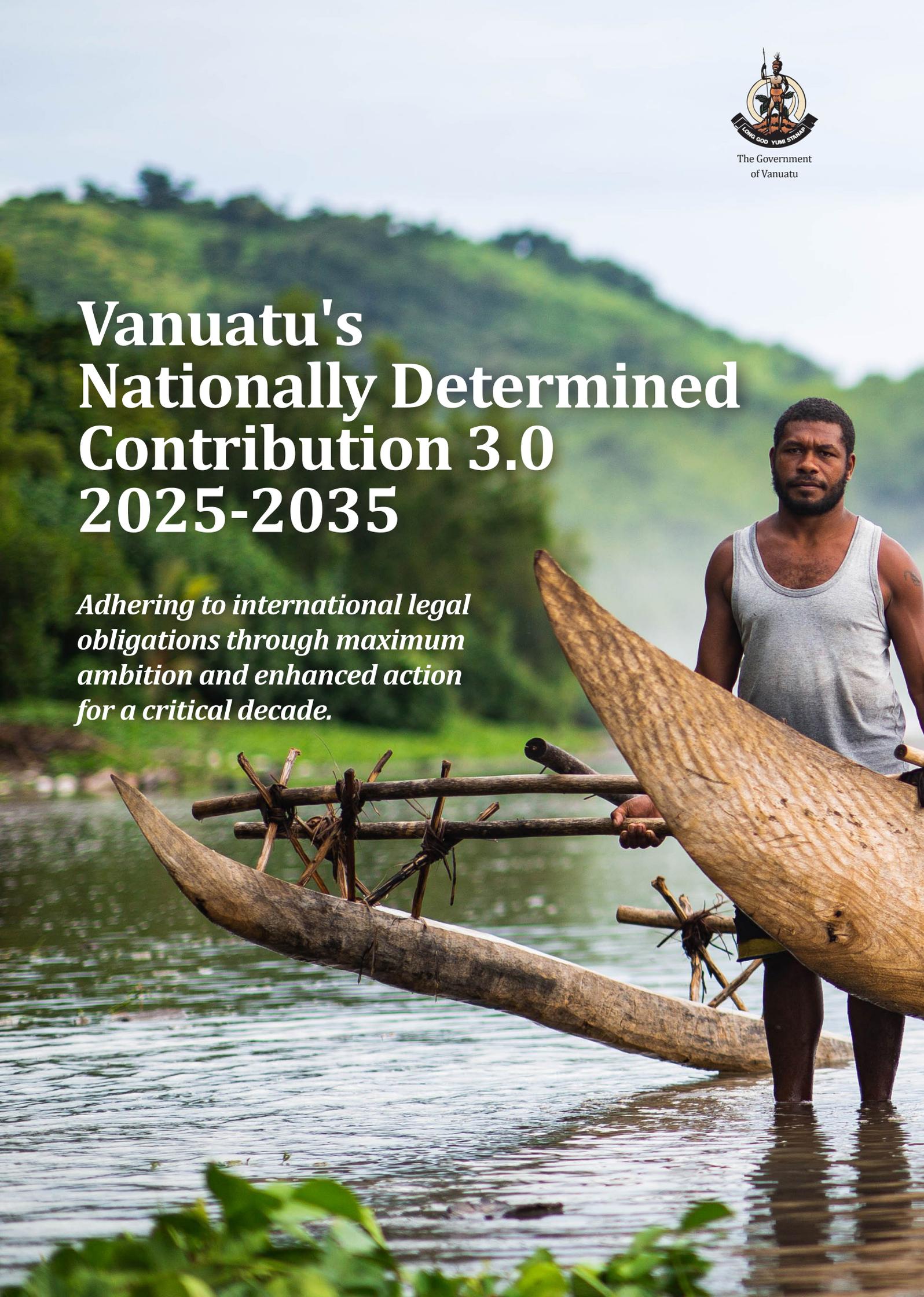




The Government
of Vanuatu

Vanuatu's Nationally Determined Contribution 3.0 2025-2035

Adhering to international legal obligations through maximum ambition and enhanced action for a critical decade.



Vanuatu's Nationally Determined Contribution 3.0 2025-2035

Adhering to international legal obligations through maximum ambition and enhanced action for a critical decade.

Pursuant to Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, Vanuatu's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) reflects highest-level ambition on adaptation, mitigation, and loss & damage.



USP Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Vanuatu.
Vanuatu's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 3.0 2025-2035 /
Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Vanuatu.-- Port Vila,
Vanuatu : Ministry of Climate Change, Government of Vanuatu, 2025.
142 p. : col. ill. ; 30 cm.
ISBN: 978-982-102-040-4
1. Climatic changes--Government policy--Vanuatu.
2. Climate change mitigation--Vanuatu.
3. Loss control--Government policy--Vanuatu.
4. Climate change adaptation--Government policy--Vanuatu.
4. Vanuatu--Politics and Government. I. Title.
QC903.2.V26 2025
551.699595--dc23

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Acknowledgements

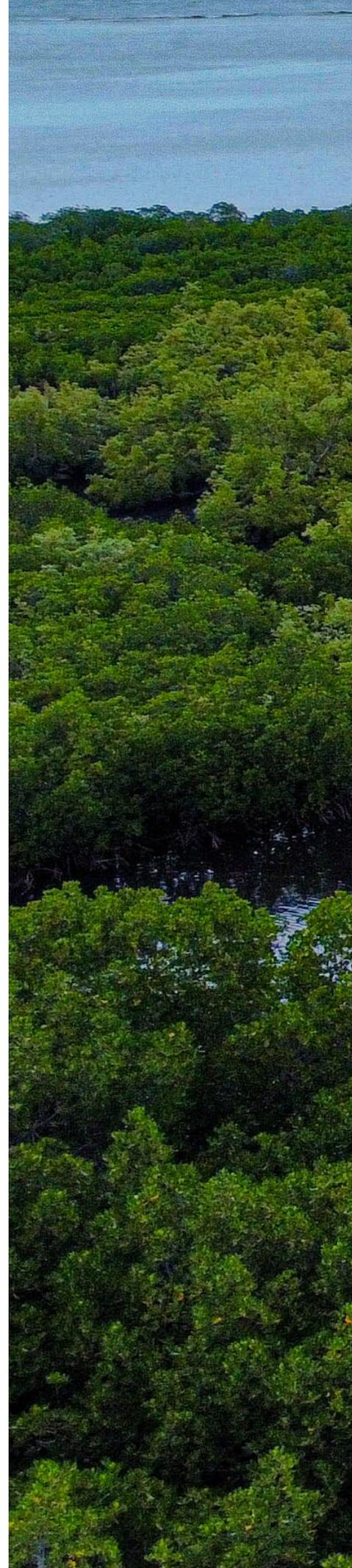
The Minister of Climate Change, Honourable Ralph Regenvanu, and the Director General, Mr David Gibson, provided critical leadership to elevate and oversee implementation of Vanuatu's climate commitments.

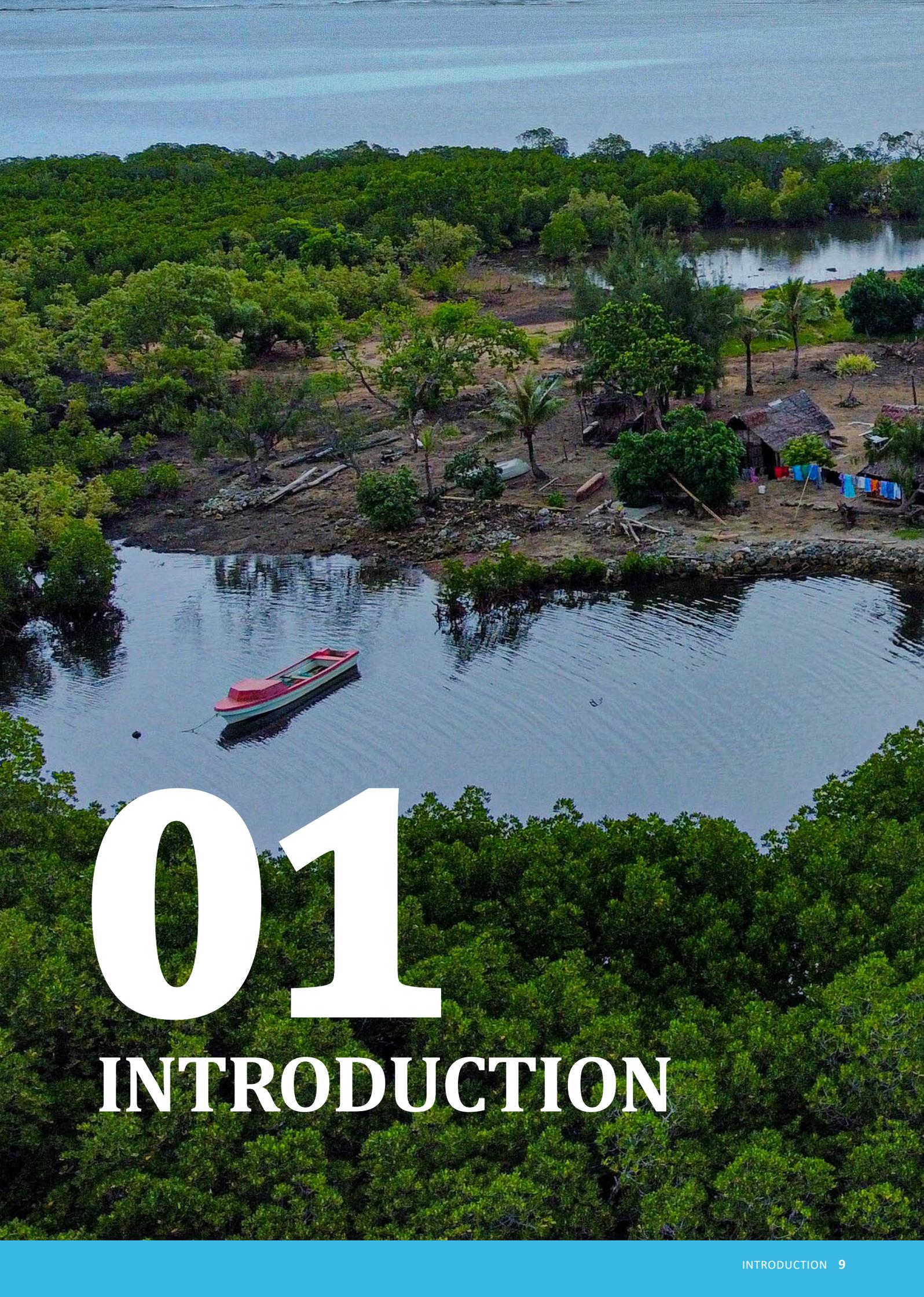
Many technical experts and consultants enabled the compilation of this document, led by Dr. Christopher Bartlett and Mr. Corey Huber.

The Government of Vanuatu would like to acknowledge the ongoing technical and financial support towards this Nationally Determined Contribution of the Regional Pacific NDC Hub, through the Global Green Growth Institute.

Special thanks to the Vanuatu NDC Core Team, who oversaw the revision and increased ambition in Vanuatu's commitments in 2025, comprising of Mr. Nelson Kalo, Acting Director, Department of Climate Change, Mr Antony Garae, Former Director, Department of Energy, Mrs. Leana William, National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction, Mr. Johnny Tari, Department of Climate Change, Ms. Pauliane Basil, Department of Climate Change, and Mr Misel Sisi- Acting Director, Department of Energy. Additional thanks to United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for sector consultation and mobilisation.

This enhanced NDC would not be possible without the incredible commitment and action of Vanuatu's line agencies and sectors and the members of the National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction, who are the engine room behind the nation's aspirations towards resilience.





01

INTRODUCTION

NDC 3.0 at the Core of Vanuatu’s Sustainable Development, Human-Rights Protections, Coordinated Climate Programming and Coherent Finance

Vanuatu submits this third iteration of its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), informed by the priorities voiced by our people, their community, elected representatives, the public service, the private sector and civil society, on how our nation can maintain its current net-negative greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions society (Article 4.1) whilst being resilient to the unavoidable impacts of climate change (Article 7.1), averting, minimising, and addressing loss and damage (Article 8) in the context of the long-term temperature goal (Article 2), while articulating our financial needs (Article 9) that shall be provided by developed country Parties in continuation of their existing obligations under the UNFCCC.

Through the preparation, communication and maintenance of this successive nationally determined contribution, and the pursuit of domestic measures to achieve the objectives of these contributions, Vanuatu continues to meet its obligations under Article 4, paragraph 2 of the Paris Agreement.

This NDC 3.0 aligns with and strives towards implementing the Advisory Opinion from the International Court of Justice on 23 July 2025¹, which for the first time, authoritatively sets out States’ legal duties in relation to climate change. The Court

confirmed that climate change is “a quintessentially universal risk” and that every State is bound by treaty and by customary international law to act with stringent due diligence to prevent significant harm to the climate system and to cooperate internationally to that end. By explicitly recognising the acute vulnerability of small island developing States, the core concerns that drove Vanuatu’s campaign for the opinion have been validated by the Court.

Acknowledging the interconnected nature of the crises facing the world, including fossil fuel-driven climate change, inequality, biodiversity loss, pollution, militarization and financial instability, Vanuatu’s NDC 3.0 presents localised, long-term and programmatic solutions that enable synergistic actions and ensure that support reaches our island communities who are leading meaningful change on the ground. Vanuatu’s NDC 3.0 represents our whole of society effort to implement the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Vanuatu’s own National Sustainable Development Plan, known as the People’s Plan 2030, which charts the country’s vision and overarching policy framework to achieving a stable, sustainable and prosperous nation.

¹ <https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/187/187-20250723-adv-01-00-en.pdf>

All commitments outlined in Vanuatu’s NDC 3.0 are based on existing sector and subnational policies, plans and strategies, ensuring that the NDC 3.0 is truly owned by the nation as a whole, and fully guided by human rights obligations and principles. Monitoring and evaluation of the NDC targets is already being undertaken by the sectoral stewards of the foundational policies, ensuring that the NDC implementation process is fully embedded within existing national development and governance systems and mechanisms. The 65 policies which form the basis of this NDC 3.0 include Vanuatu’s:

- Adaptive Social Protection Policy
- Agriculture Sector Policy
- Biosecurity Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy Second Edition
- Climate Diplomacy Strategy
- Decentralisation Policy
- Disability and Inclusive Development Policy
- Disaster Risk Financing Policy
- Education and Training Sector Strategy
- Education Training Sector Strategic Plan (VETSS)
- Environmental Health Policy and Public Health Act of 2021
- Food Safety Security & Nutrition Policy
- Foreign Policy
- Forest and Landscape Restoration Strategy
- Framework for Climate Services
- Fruits and Vegetable Strategy
- Health Cluster Strategic Plan
- Health Sector Strategic Plan
- Health Sector Strategy
- ICT Policy
- Immunization Policy and Strategic Guide
- Infrastructure Strategy and Implementation Plan
- Integrated Water Resource Management Plan
- Land Use Planning Policy
- Loss & Damage Policy
- Low Emissions Development Strategy
- Melanesian Wellbeing Indicators
- Mental Health Policy and Strategic Plan
- Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, and Biosecurity (MALFB) Corporate Plan
- Ministry of Health Corporate Plan
- Ministry of Health Policy
- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
- National Coconut Oil for Fuel Strategy
- National Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan
- National Environment Policy and Implementation Plan
- National Fisheries Sector Policy
- National Forest Policy
- National Gender Equality Policy
- National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan
- National Labour Mobility Policy
- National Planned Relocation Framework
- National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement
- National Roadmap for Coastal Fisheries
- National Security Strategy
- National Strategy for the Development of Statistics
- National Waste Management & Pollution Control Strategy
- National Water Policy
- National Water Strategy
- Nationally Determined Contribution 2.0
- NCD Policy and Strategic Plan
- NDC Forest Investment Strategy
- NDC On-Grid Electricity Investment Strategy
- NSDP M&E Framework
- Ocean Policy
- Overarching Productive Sector Policy
- Public-Private Partnerships Policy
- School Based Disaster Risk Reduction & Education in Emergency Policy
- Sustainable Tourism Policy
- Technology Needs Assessment
- Trade Policy Framework Update
- Updated Vanuatu National Energy Road Map
- Vanuatu Carbon Cooperation Framework
- Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan
- Vanuatu REDD+ R Package
- VMGD Strategic Plan

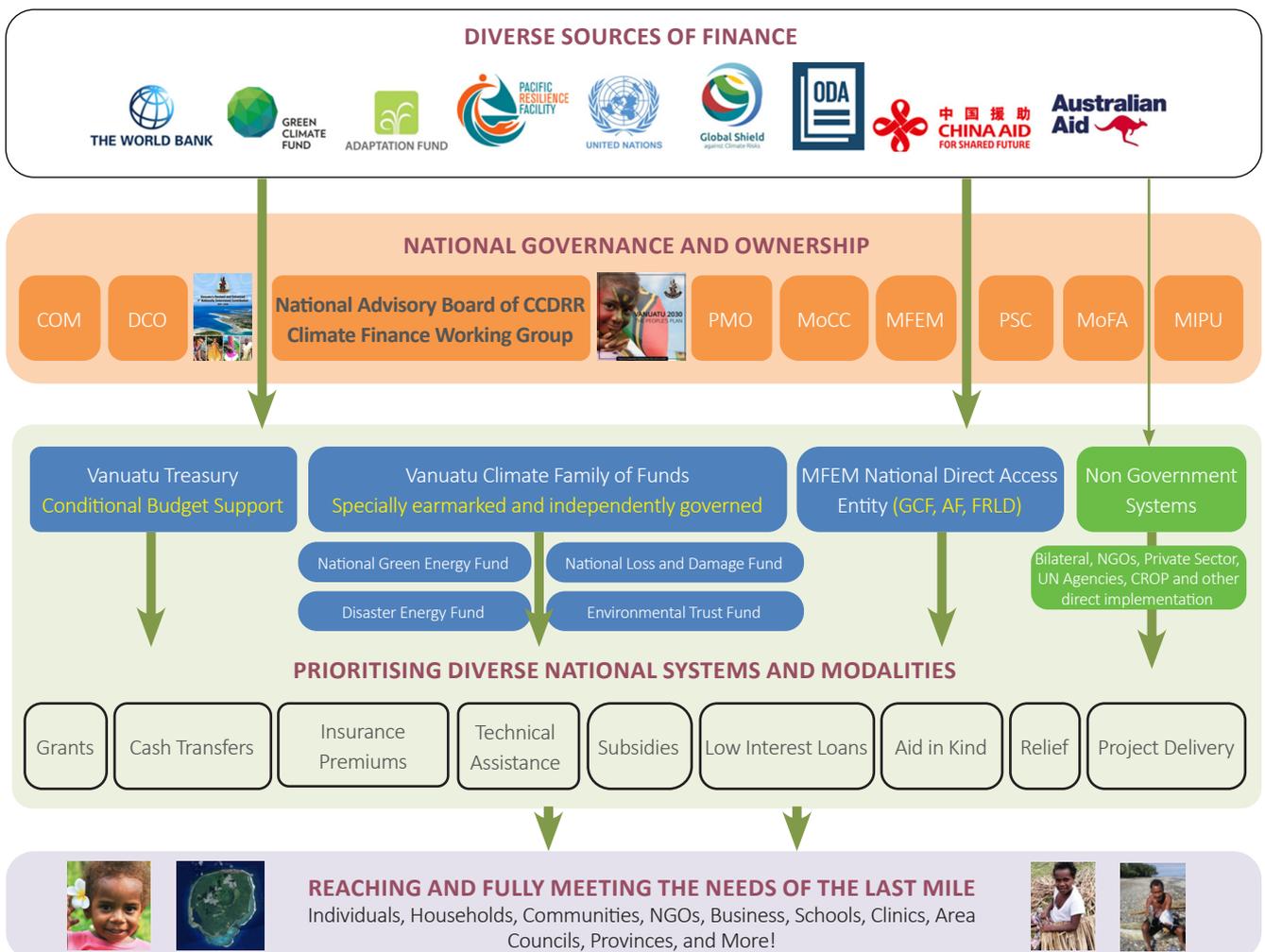
As the main instrument for national implementation of the Paris Agreement, Vanuatu’s NDC 3.0 has been guided by human rights obligations, principles, and standards in its preparation and content, and will continue in this approach throughout its implementation. Vanuatu’s commitment to a human rights-based NDC is premised on the 11th preambular paragraph of the Paris Agreement, which acknowledges that “climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity.”

Accordingly, Vanuatu’s NDC planning and development process was built on inclusive and comprehensive public participation at all levels, and was fully informed by Vanuatu’s human rights obligations. The NDC sets ambition levels according to the best available peer reviewed science and international law to keep global warming below 1.5°C. Importantly, the Vanuatu NDC 3.0 prioritises adaptation support for all vulnerable sectors, communities, households and individuals, and through

the stand alone loss and damage commitments, commits to seeking redress for all affected by the climate crisis. The various commitments, including means of implementation outlined, aim to respect, protect and promote human rights. Similarly, Vanuatu’s human rights obligations are reflected in the decentralised and sector owned nature of NDC target setting and monitoring and evaluation, enshrining the principle of locally led action and subsidiarity.

Importantly, the NDC 3.0 forms a core part of the National Climate Finance Country Platform, which aims to mobilise and coordinate climate finance at the scale and speed required to meet Vanuatu’s self-determined climate goals. The NDC-based Country Platform is a strategic, coordinated, and country-owned mechanism for delivering climate action, support and financing to sectors and communities on the front lines. Given the investment framework nature of this NDC 3.0, the Country Platform enables the streamlining of diverse finance sources such as public and private, international and domestic—toward the implementation of Vanuatu’s highest and nationally determined priorities, balanced between the social, environmental and economic pillars of sustainable development.

Figure 1: Vanuatu Climate Finance Country Platform for Implementation of the NDC 3.0 and other key climate initiatives



The National Climate Finance Country Platform has the following key elements:

- Diverse sources of finance are coordinated and leveraged to provide maximum impact and full implementation of the programmatic and long term priorities identified in the NDC 3.0, including:
 - Bilateral finance and arrangements, especially budget support modalities
 - Resources from the Pacific Resilience Facility (PRF)
 - The special funds and operating entities of the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC, including the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the Adaptation Fund (AF), the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), and the Fund for responding to Loss & Damage (FRLD)
 - Concessional finance from Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)
 - Financing and technical assistance from United Nations (UN) and Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP) agencies
 - Philanthropic foundations and not for profit groups
 - Private, commercial and corporate finance and ESG initiatives
 - Impact and investment funds
 - Vanuatu Sustainable Bonds, including Blue and Green Bonds as endorsed by the Council of Ministers in 2024
 - Carbon markets and compliance schemes as part of Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and national carbon revenues as outlined in the Vanuatu Carbon Cooperation Framework as endorsed by the NAB
 - Insurance and risk transfer mechanisms, including Vanuatu's coverage by the Pacific Catastrophe Regional Insurance Company (PCRIC) and Pacific Insurance
 - Litigation and court ordered climate settlement payments
- Strong national ownership of investment programming, including through the Council of Ministers (COM) and Development Committee of Officials (DCO), and the central agencies which include the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC), Public Service Commission (PSC) and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities (MIPU). The National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (NAB) is the primary institutional focal point for the Country Platform, as it convenes all ministries, private sector and civil society to provide the highest level of climate policy guidance and programming advice.
- Fit-for-purpose national climate financing systems, developed to receive, manage, disburse, monitor and report on climate financing flows, including:
 - The National Treasury, assessed by the ADB as ranking high relative to other Pacific island economies, surpassing the regional Financial Development Index average, and compliant with internationally accepted standards and measures of good practice
 - Four legislated funds as part of the Climate Family of Funds administered by the Ministry of Climate Change
 - National Green Energy Fund
 - Loss and Damage Fund
 - Environmental Trust Fund
 - Disaster Emergency Fund
 - The soon to be GCF accredited Ministry of Finance as an accredited entity for multilateral climate finance
- A range of locally tailored finance disbursement modalities, which aim to provide direct and efficient access to climate finance to a range of grassroots and subnational stakeholders, fully guided by human rights obligations, principles, and standards and including innovative modalities, including but not limited to:
 - cash transfer systems
 - small grants programmes
 - payment of insurance premiums
 - subsidised materials and equipment
 - low interest concessional finance
 - technical assistance
 - aid in kind

NDC 3.0 alignment with Global Stocktake outcomes

In December 2023, the 5th Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA) and the 28th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP28), concluded the first-ever Global Stocktake, finding that current climate actions are inadequate to keep global warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius and avoid the worst climate impacts, and that countries must step up their efforts to correct course and accelerate global climate action. In response to the Global Stocktake, Vanuatu has set economy-wide commitments.

Key elements of the global global Stocktake synthesis report² that are of critical importance to Vanuatu include:

- The recognition of a persistent “emissions gap,” due to the misalignment of current climate commitments and the pathways needed to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius.
 - The historical context of emissions, particularly the significant contribution of developed countries to historical and current GHG emissions, and the need for ongoing acknowledgment and redress for this disparity as vital for building trust and ensuring equitable contributions towards global climate goals.
 - There are clear pathways forward, based on system-wide transformations that can dramatically reduce emissions while also ensuring a climate-resilient future.
 - The need to phase out fossil fuels, scale renewable energy, significantly shift towards low carbon transport and industry, and reduce non-CO₂ emissions including methane.
 - The importance of preserving nature and ecosystem services, ending deforestation and embracing sustainable agriculture as pivotal to enhancing resilience and delivering emissions cuts.
 - The placement of people, including indigenous people and local communities, at the heart of the global transitions, underscores the imperative for equity in all transformative efforts.
- The urgency of increasing adaptation support and addressing loss and damage, particularly for vulnerable communities, noting that plans and commitments for adaptation action and support have been poorly implemented, are unevenly distributed and have progressed only incrementally.
 - The need to reorient trillions of dollars in global finance towards the global just transition, tailoring and mobilizing significant resources in support of equitable and locally tailored solutions that are fully integrated into sustainable development and poverty eradication.
 - The critical role of non-state actors, including civil society, the private sector, and local communities, in strengthening climate action efforts, and the need for accurate accounting and accountability to track their contributions effectively.
 - The foundation that science provides towards actionable climate solutions.
 - A sobering acknowledgment that the window of opportunity to secure a liveable and sustainable future for all is rapidly closing.

Notably, the negotiated outcome decision from the Global Stocktake at COP28/CMA5³ called for a “transition away from fossil fuels” in a “just, orderly and equitable manner, accelerating action in this critical decade, so as to achieve net zero by 2050 in keeping with the science”. Vanuatu also appreciates and acknowledges other critical policy signals in the decision, including the commitment to tripling renewable energy capacity and doubling energy efficiency globally by 2030, as well as reflecting these efforts in new NDCs.

² <https://unfccc.int/documents/631600>

³ <https://unfccc.int/documents/637073>

Vanuatu's NDC 3.0 adheres to the following elements of the Stocktake decision:

- Tripling renewable energy capacity globally and doubling the global average annual rate of energy efficiency improvements by 2030, including accelerating the reduction of emissions from road transport through a range of pathways.
 - Accelerating efforts globally towards net zero emission energy systems, utilizing zero- and low-carbon fuels, well before or by around mid-century.
 - Transitioning away from fossil fuels in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner, accelerating action in this critical decade, so as to achieve net zero by 2050 in keeping with the science.
 - Accelerating zero- and low-emission technologies, including, inter alia, renewables, nuclear, abatement and removal technologies such as carbon capture and utilization and storage, particularly in hard-to-abate sectors, and low-carbon hydrogen production.
 - Accelerating the substantial reduction of non-carbon-dioxide emissions, in particular methane emissions by 2030.
 - Accelerating the reduction of emissions from road transport on a range of pathways, including through development of infrastructure and rapid deployment of zero- and low-emission vehicles.
 - Phasing out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that do not address energy poverty or just transitions, as soon as possible.
 - Economy-wide emission reduction targets, covering all greenhouse gases, sectors and categories and aligned with limiting global warming to 1.5 °C, as informed by the latest science.
 - Aligning nationally determined contributions with long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies.
 - Strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change with a view to contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response.
 - Conserving, protecting and restoring nature and ecosystems towards achieving the Paris Agreement temperature goal, including through enhanced efforts towards halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation by 2030, and other terrestrial and marine ecosystems acting as sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases.
- Transitioning to sustainable lifestyles and sustainable patterns of consumption and production in efforts to address climate change, including through circular economy approaches
 - Urgent, incremental, transformational and country-driven adaptation action based on different national circumstances in order to:
 - Significantly reduce climate-induced water scarcity and enhancing climate resilience to water-related hazards towards a climate-resilient water supply, climate-resilient sanitation and access to safe and affordable potable water for all;
 - Attain climate-resilient food and agricultural production and supply and distribution of food, as well as increasing sustainable and regenerative production and equitable access to adequate food and nutrition for all;
 - Attain resilience against climate change related health impacts, promoting climate-resilient health services and significantly reducing climate-related morbidity and mortality, particularly in the most vulnerable communities;
 - Reduce climate impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity and accelerating the use of ecosystem-based adaptation and nature-based solutions, including through their management, enhancement, restoration and conservation and the protection of terrestrial, inland water, mountain, marine and coastal ecosystems;
 - Increase the resilience of infrastructure and human settlements to climate change impacts to ensure basic and continuous essential services for all, and minimizing climate-related impacts on infrastructure and human settlements;
 - Substantially reduce the adverse effects of climate change on poverty eradication and livelihoods, in particular by promoting the use of adaptive social protection measures for all;
 - Protect cultural heritage from the impacts of climate-related risks by developing adaptive strategies for preserving cultural practices and heritage sites and by designing climate-resilient infrastructure, guided by traditional knowledge, Indigenous Peoples' knowledge and local knowledge systems;

- Recognising iterative adaptation cycle for building adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability, recognizing the importance of means of implementation and support for developing country Parties at each stage of the cycle.
- Acknowledging that scaling up new and additional grant-based, highly concessional finance and non-debt instruments remains critical to supporting developing countries, particularly as they transition in a just and equitable manner, and recognizes that there is a positive connection between having sufficient fiscal space, and climate action and advancing on a pathway towards low emissions and climate-resilient development.
- Recalling that developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist developing country Parties with respect to both mitigation and adaptation in continuation of their existing obligations under the Convention and that other Parties are encouraged to provide or continue to provide such support voluntarily.
- Recalling that developed country Parties should take the lead in mobilizing climate finance from a wide variety of sources, instruments and channels, noting the significant role of public funds, through a variety of actions, including supporting country-driven strategies, and taking into account the needs and priorities of developing country Parties, and that such mobilization of climate finance should represent a progression beyond previous efforts.
- Acknowledging the significant gaps, including finance, that remain in responding to the increased scale and frequency of loss and damage, and the associated economic and non-economic losses.
- Recognizing that international cooperation and the duty to cooperate in good faith is an international legal obligation of customary status, which all States must comply with in addressing climate change, in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, particularly for those who have significant capacity constraints, and enhancing climate action across all actors of society, sectors and regions.

In keeping with these critical elements of the negotiated outcome, Vanuatu has stepped up through this NDC 3.0 to fully meet the purpose of the Global Stocktake as articulated

in the Paris Agreement, to inform countries in updating and enhancing their climate actions and NDCs, and in strengthening international cooperation for climate action. Vanuatu is wholly committed to demonstrating how the ambition cycle of the Paris Agreement is intended to function. Beyond the NDC, Vanuatu is also fully committed to, and has indeed already taken considerable action to integrate the Global Stocktake's conclusions into national policies that aim to close gaps in adaptation, mitigation, and finance, in light of equity and the best available science.

Vanuatu's NDC 3.0 fully incorporates the Global Stocktake findings to ensure we are increasingly ambitious with our actions to keep the Paris Agreement's goals in reach, guide government and non-state actors' climate policy and investment decisions, and drive the transformational action across our critical systems including but not limited to energy, transport, food and nature.

Vanuatu is already a carbon-negative country. With forests covering 70% of its islands, and its maritime jurisdiction comprising 98% of the nation, the big ocean state of Vanuatu is already a carbon sink- absorbing more carbon dioxide than it produces- thus freely providing a critical environmental service to carbon emitting countries around the world. Moving beyond our current Net Zero status, this NDC recommits Vanuatu to rapidly phasing out fossil fuels, deeply decarbonising and transitioning completely to a circular economy.

Pursuant to Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, and to demonstrate that Vanuatu is an action-focused leader in its calls for all Parties to make ambitious commitments to limit the global average temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, Vanuatu's NDC reflects the highest ambitions on adaptation, mitigation, and loss and damage. As per Decision 4/CMA.1, Vanuatu's information provides clarity, transparency and understanding.

Targets and commitments are conditional upon international finance, action, support, technology and capacity development. The approximate cost of achieving Vanuatu's NDC 3.0 by 2035 is USD 2,768,441,850.

NDC 3.0 Alignment with the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice

Vanuatu led the international initiative to request the International Court of Justice to provide an Advisory Opinion on the Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change (ICJ Advisory Opinion), which responded to the decision taken by the General Assembly of the United Nations on questions set forth in its resolution 77/276⁴ adopted on 29 March 2023.

Vanuatu endorses the unanimous Opinion of the Court⁵ made on 23 July 2025. In particular, Vanuatu welcomes the Court's characterisation of anthropogenic greenhouse-gas emissions as conduct capable of engaging both treaty and obligations, and the restatement of the prevention principle and duty to cooperate as rules of customary law that must be complied with and assessed through the prism of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC). The latter is described by the Court as an "interpretive lens" for all sources, not merely for the climate treaties. For prevention, the Court set a "stringent" due diligence standard that obliges States to adopt "all appropriate measures", including rapid, deep and sustained domestic mitigation, supported by legislation, enforcement and continuous scientific review. The duty to cooperate is likewise framed as a continuing, good-faith obligation that requires collective elaboration and periodic strengthening of rules, standards and scientific programmes.

In relation to human rights obligations, Vanuatu welcomes the Court's integration of international human rights law, identifying the rights to life, health, an adequate standard of living, and the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment as directly threatened by climate change; and the affirmation that environmental protection is a pre-condition for their enjoyment. The Court further affirmed the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)'s recent finding that anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions constitute "pollution of the marine environment" under UNCLOS, thereby triggering Part XII obligations—also to be fulfilled with a stringent due-diligence standard.

Importantly, and in what Vanuatu considers a key contribution of the ICJ Advisory Opinion to climate justice, is the application

of the full range of legal consequences prescribed by the law of State responsibility for State's acts or omissions that have caused significant climate harm, including: (a) a duty of performance (to comply with primary obligations); (b) cessation and guarantees of non-repetition; and (c) an obligation to make full reparation, which may take the form of restitution, compensation or satisfaction. The Court confirmed and emphasised that each injured State may invoke responsibility against every wrongful emitter and that obligations toward a stable climate are *erga omnes*: all States have a legal interest in their observance.

Vanuatu commits to taking integrated measures to operationalise the findings of the Court in its Opinion, as detailed in the NDC section on Human Rights and Climate Justice.

These measures include alignment of due-diligence and EIA according to stringent tests; procedures to notify States of climate-related internationally wrongful acts to invoke state responsibility for breaches of *erga omnes* obligations and remedies; administrative and legislative measures to adopt non-refoulement and protection pathways; preparation, publication and deposit of charts or lists of geographical coordinates of baselines and outer limits of maritime zones in accordance with UNCLOS to address sea-level rise and maritime zone security; establish a national loss-and-damage claims and evidence facility to enable effective reparation claims; and subsequent supplementary UNFCCC alignment communication on alignment and any updates as necessary to ensure consistency with the opinion.

Vanuatu urges all States to align their NDCs to comply with the obligations and standards as clarified by the Court. Vanuatu also urges all States to address and remedy any conduct relating to anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions that may amount to internationally wrongful acts, whether that be through extraction, production or consumption of fossil fuels, regulation of private actors within their jurisdiction or through the provision of fossil fuel subsidies.

4 <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/4008332?v=pdf>

5 <https://www.icj-cij.org/sites/default/files/case-related/187/187-20250723-adv-01-00-en.pdf>

Vanuatu's Science-Based Commitments

The international climate regime, including the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, is built upon a clear understanding of the threats posed by, and the causes of, climate change. More than a century and a half of industrialisation, along with the clear-felling of forests and certain farming methods, has led to increased quantities of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere.

The Paris Agreement set out a global commitment to limiting warming to well below 2°C while pursuing efforts to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C. Vanuatu bases its national determined commitments on the best available science, which confirms the existential nature of the current climate crisis and the urgency with which we, and all nations, must act.

The Republic of Vanuatu signed the Paris Agreement on 22 April 2016 and deposited its instrument of ratification on 21 September 2016. The Government of the Republic of Vanuatu is fully committed to effective and transparent implementation of the Agreement and submitted its declaration, which reads, in part:

“...the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu declares that, in light of the best scientific information and assessment on climate change and its impacts, it considers the emission reduction obligations in Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol, the Doha Amendment and the aforesaid Paris Agreement to be inadequate to prevent global temperature increase of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-Industrial levels and as a consequence, will have severe implications for our national interests...”

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates that to limit global warming to 1.5°C, global emissions need to be roughly halved by around 2030 (compared to 2018) and reach net zero around 2050. Net zero refers to the situation in which emissions reduce to almost zero, and any remaining emissions are removed from the atmosphere.

According to the IPCC's 2018 special report on the temperature goal, we are currently on track to exceed 1.5°C sometime between 2030 and 2052. This expected increase of the global mean temperature is associated with rising sea levels, rapidly changing ecosystems and more extreme and slow-onset events such as heat waves, storms and flooding. The impacts undermine global efforts for development and prosperity everywhere, and particularly in small island developing states like Vanuatu.

NDC 3.0 Policy Alignment

The Republic of Vanuatu’s long term vision on climate change and aspirations are embedded within the fundamental duties defined under its constitution: “to protect the Republic of Vanuatu and to safeguard the national wealth, resources and environment in the interests of the present generation and of future generations” and guided by its National Vision - “A stable, sustainable and prosperous Vanuatu”, under the National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) 2016-2030 also called Vanuatu 2030: The People’s Plan.

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 (CCDRR Policy), to promote good governance and which establishes priorities and strategies for future climate actions; as well as the Meteorology, Geological Hazards and Climate Change Act No. 25 of 2016 (Climate Change Act), that provides for institutions (governance and administrative provisions), transparency and roles and responsibility for departments of meteorology, geological hazards and climate change and for related purposes. Vanuatu is also currently developing a National Adaptation, Loss & Damage Plan (NALDP) and has completed a Loss & Damage Policy Framework⁶ which capture critical climate priorities and actions.

6 <https://docc.gov.vu/index.php/lnd/lnd-policy>



A Just and Equitable Transition

Vanuatu explicitly recognizes the principle of a just and equitable transition as essential to the fair, equitable, and effective implementation of the NDC 3.0. As one of the first countries in the world to commit to a fossil fuel-free future, Vanuatu's position is that a climate-resilient, low-emissions transition can be achieved without sacrificing human rights or economic security. Just Transition principles are therefore embedded in all NDC 3.0 commitments, ensuring that people, especially those whose livelihoods may be affected by the phase-out of fossil fuels, are not left behind. Labor rights for those affected by the transition in Vanuatu contribute to social justice by promoting opportunities for all people to obtain decent and productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security, and dignity. A just transition will ensure that this evolution is as fair and inclusive as possible and that it promotes the agency of the workers and organisations involved; respects, protects, and fulfills their rights.

This is achieved in practice by integrating Vanuatu's national wellbeing indicators—such as on community cohesion, environmental quality, and livelihood resilience—into decisions about the pace, scale, and financing of NDC 3.0 commitments. While some short-term disruptions to employment may occur, the Government affirms that the long-term economic, social, and environmental wellbeing of its people is better served by a fossil fuel-free, climate-safe future.

Vanuatu's NDC 3.0 reflects an explicit commitment to respect, protect, and fulfill core labor rights, including freedom of association, collective bargaining, and protection from discrimination. The NDC 3.0 implementation process will be underpinned by ongoing social dialogue with workers' unions, employers, civil society, and affected communities, particularly in sectors such as transport, energy, and tourism that may be impacted by the energy transition. The Government will prioritize decent work creation through targeted investments in

clean energy, regenerative agriculture, ecosystem restoration, and climate-resilient infrastructure. Special emphasis will be placed on workforce reskilling and youth employment programs, particularly for women, persons with disabilities, people in rural and outer island communities, and others in vulnerable situations. These efforts will align with the national Employment Policy and draw on sectoral roadmaps already developed through participatory consultation processes.

In recognition of the risks that climate transitions can pose to human rights—especially through increased demand for mining of critical minerals—Vanuatu commits to ensuring that no NDC-aligned activity leads to human or environmental rights violations, whether inside or outside its borders, on land or on the deep sea bed. The Government will continue to assess and regulate supply chains, particularly in relation to imported renewable energy technologies, to avoid contributing to labor exploitation or environmental degradation abroad. At the national level, the Government will scale up implementation of the adaptive social protection policy, including through public works schemes, cash transfer programs, and community-based insurance mechanisms to support populations during periods of economic restructuring and climate volatility. Through this comprehensive approach, Vanuatu aims to become not only the world's first fossil fuel-free region, but also a global model of inclusive, rights-based, and people-centered climate action.

It is Vanuatu's unambiguous expectation, based on legal obligations of the UNFCCC, Paris Agreement and other international laws, that developed country Parties shall provide financial resources to assist Vanuatu with respect to the Just Transition efforts outlined in this NDC 3.0, and take the lead in mobilizing climate finance from a wide variety of sources, instruments and channels, with primacy given to public funds, towards Vanuatu's Just Transition pathways.

Participatory Planning, Implementation and Monitoring

Vanuatu's NDC 3.0 is founded on a deeply inclusive and participatory planning process, reflecting the lived realities, voices, and aspirations of our island people. Each sectoral policy that forms the foundation of the NDC has undergone extensive local, subnational, and national consultation processes prior to endorsement by the Council of Ministers. These policies were shaped by dialogues across provinces, area councils and communities, ensuring the integration of Indigenous knowledge, local priorities, and traditional governance systems. The Ministry of Climate Change, with the support of GGGI and the Pacific NDC Hub, also undertook one-on-one consultations with experts, government and non-government leaders at all levels and across sectors to capture nuanced perspectives and ensure that the design of the NDC was grounded in country-wide consensus.

A major consultation was held on 24 April 2025 in which Stakeholders from across Vanuatu's public and private sectors, civil society, and development partners convened to consider how climate ambition could be expanded from 2025-2035, and assessing progress on NDC 2.0 commitments. This consultation also focused heavily on financing needs and sources identifying where the means of implication could originate from and how these funds should be dispersed to the last mile implementers of the NDC. From April to June 2025, the targets have been publicly available for further feedback and input from island representatives, provincial officials, civil society, the private sector, academic institutions and development partners. More than 40 submissions were received through this process, with careful integration of the views and recommendations made.

Throughout the NDC 3.0 development process, special emphasis has been placed on the inclusion of rights holders and members of society often underrepresented in national planning. There are significant structural and cultural barriers preventing the full and equitable participation of women and

girls, children, the elderly, people with disabilities and gender-diverse people across all aspects of sustainable development planning, including climate planning. Vanuatu adheres to the principles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and other human rights instruments that stipulate that all people have the right to free, active, and meaningful participation, and acknowledges that public participation, access to information, freedom of expression, and freedom of assembly are human rights. Their application in this NDC 3.0 development process has helped to promote public support for climate action, contributed to higher ambition, and will likely improve the effectiveness and sustainability of the actions and commitments contained herein.

The focus on NDC 3.0 participation has included dedicated outreach to Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as well as traditional knowledge holders; groups in vulnerable situations such as women in all their diversity, youth, children, persons with disabilities, and climate displaced individuals; remote villages that are economically isolated; national and grassroots civil society movements; human rights and gender institutions; and private sector networks and associations. The National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (NAB) played a central role in the validation of NDC priorities, supported by its technical working groups comprising government, civil society, private sector, and development partners. Multiple in-person consultations, validation meetings, and iterative review processes ensured transparency, mutual accountability, and alignment with community values. This approach establishes Vanuatu's NDC 3.0 as a global model for inclusive, rights-based climate action, and a foundation for the whole-of-society Country Platform approach now being implemented to ensure complementary, coherent, coordinated and programmatic implementation.

NDC Enhancement

Pursuant to Articles 4.2 and 4.11 of the PA and Decision 1/CP.21 paragraph 23, the Republic of Vanuatu, taking into account its national circumstances and capabilities, hereby communicates its revised and further enhanced Nationally Determined Contribution 3.0 under the agreement for 2025-2035. The Government of the Republic of Vanuatu notes with great concern that the objective of the agreement can only be achieved by intensifying the level of action significantly, complemented by international support, to achieve conditional contributions, as reflected in the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

In that spirit, the Republic of Vanuatu presents NDC 3.0 2025-2035 and calls on all Parties to increase their ambitions in line with the best available and most recent science and obligations under the Agreement.





02

MITIGATION CONTRIBUTION

Mitigation Contribution

Type. Activity-based mitigation targets, sectoral and policy targets in key sectors, including emissions reduction in some sub-sectors. The GHG emission reduction targets in this section are all conditional upon international support (financial and technical support) made available.

Coverage. Energy; Transport, Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU), Waste, Wastewater and Trade.

Timeframe. From 1st January 2025-31st December 2035. Single year targets – 2035, including updates on 2030 targets.

Vanuatu submitted its initial NDC to the UNFCCC on 21st September 2016, and its revised and enhanced NDC 2.0⁷ on 9th August 2022.

This enhanced NDC 3.0 contribution is aligned with the ambition of the Updated Vanuatu Energy Roadmap 2016-2030⁸, including 11 policy targets for electricity generation that fall under the framework's key priority strategic areas of energy access, energy affordability, energy security as well as climate resilience. The NDC is also grounded in the National Sustainable Development Plan, the Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy, the NDC Implementation Road Map⁹, the NSDP monitoring and Evaluation Framework¹⁰, the Vanuatu Coconut Oil for Fuel Strategy, Vanuatu National Coconut Strategy 2016 – 2025¹¹

, Vanuatu National Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan (NEESAP) 2022-2030¹², Vanuatu's Low Emissions Development Strategy (LEDS)¹³, Vanuatu's 1st Biennial Transparency Report to the Paris Agreement¹⁴, the Vanuatu NDC On-Grid Electricity Investment Strategy¹⁵ and Vanuatu's new Carbon Cooperation Framework.

The mitigation commitments of Vanuatu's NDC 3.0 enjoy legal backing through the Electricity Supply Act (ESA), Utilities Regulatory Authority Act (URA Act) as well as Electricity Supply Concession contracts, thereby limiting risks of legal barriers to implementation, and enhancing the opportunities for private sector investment and donor support for full financing.

7 <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/NDC/2022-08/Vanuatu%20NDC%20Revised%20and%20Enhanced.pdf>

8 <http://ngef.vu/national-energy-road-map/>

9 https://docc.gov.vu/images/publications/reports/Vanuatu_NDC_Update_Report_r2.pdf

10 [gov.vu/images/publications/NSDP M&E Framework.pdf](http://gov.vu/images/publications/NSDP_M&E_Framework.pdf)

11 <https://pafpnet.spc.int/attachments/article/651/Vanuatu%20National%20Coconut%20Strategy%202016-2025.pdf>

12 <https://prdrse4all.spc.int/sites/default/files/vanuatus-neesap-2022-2030.pdf>

13 docc.gov.vu/images/publications/reports/Vanuatu_LEDS.pdf

14 <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Vanuatu-%20BTR1.pdf>

15 [docc.gov.vu/images/legislation/strategy/Vanuatu NDC On Grid Electricity Investment Strategy.pdf](http://docc.gov.vu/images/legislation/strategy/Vanuatu_NDC_On_Grid_Electricity_Investment_Strategy.pdf)

Moving beyond Business as Usual (BAU) Emissions¹⁶

Vanuatu's total greenhouse gas emissions (excluding removals) increased from 62.94 kt CO₂ eq in 1994 to 507.68 kt CO₂ eq in 2023. This represents an increase of 707% compared to 1994. Emissions peaked in the year 2000 amounting to 663.89 kt CO₂ eq, which is the highest level of GHG emissions ever reported in Vanuatu. Post-2000, emissions declined to 506.22 kt CO₂ eq in 2007 but remained consistently high compared to 1994. There was a subsequent increase, reaching 554.15 kt CO₂ eq in 2010, followed by a sharp decrease in 2009 reaching 423.44 kt CO₂ eq. Between 2011 and 2015, emissions showed minor fluctuations but remained within the 574.32 – 594.37 kt CO₂ eq range. The emissions have decreased during the years 2018 to 2022 from 586.17 kt CO₂ eq in 2018 to 451.55 kt CO₂ eq in 2022 respectively.

In 2023, total greenhouse gas emissions amounted to 507.68 kt CO₂ eq, according to the national GHG inventory of Vanuatu submitted to the UNFCCC as part of the 2024 Biennial Transparency Report, and is estimated using the tier 1 methodology and using Default emission factors provided by the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for the direct GHGs emissions.

The key sector with increasing emissions over the period 1994-2023 includes the Energy sector (increased by 145.50%), followed by the waste sector which shows an increase by 68% during the period 2000-2023, while Agriculture sector shows a decreasing trend (decreased by 44% during 2000-2023).

However, Vanuatu is net carbon negative, since the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector is a net sink of CO₂ in Vanuatu. In 2023, the net GHG emissions amounted to -13,596.24 kt CO₂ eq in 2023.

Figure 2: Total GHG emissions (excluding removals) per year, kt CO₂ eq

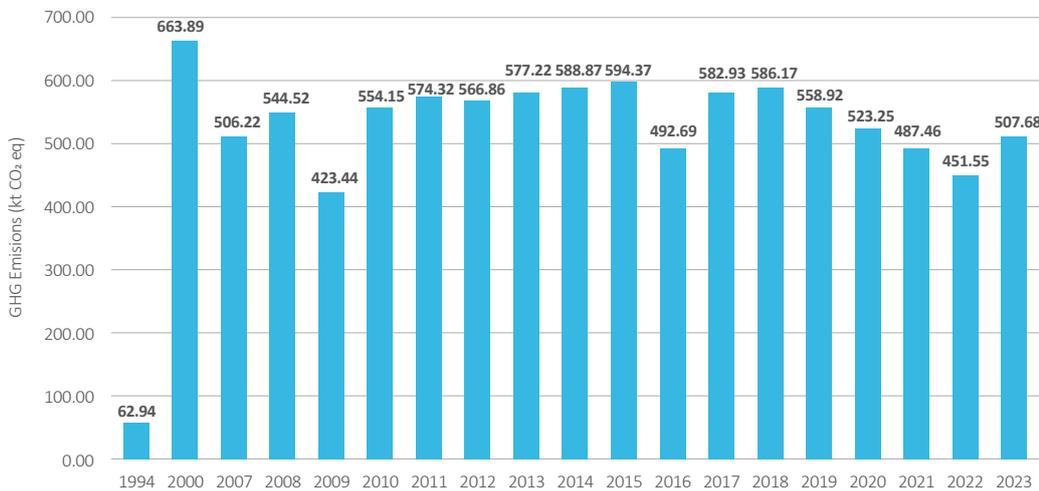
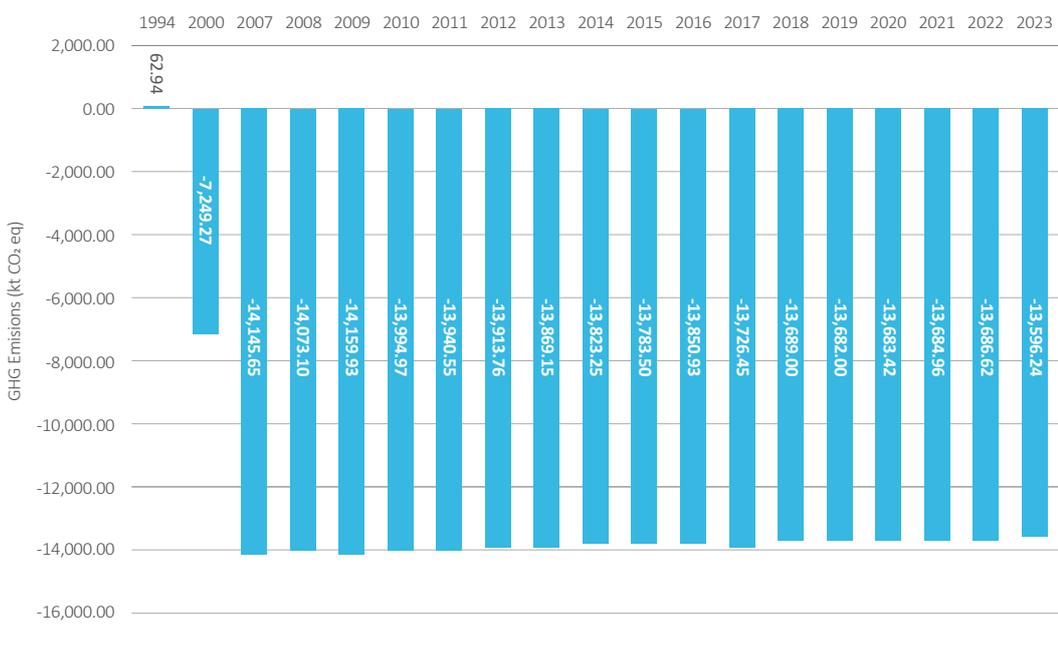


Figure 3: Total net GHG emissions per year, kt CO₂ eq



16 Vanuatu LEDS https://gghi.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/22216_Vanuatu-Low-Emission_v06_RC_LQ_compressed.pdf

This NDC commits Vanuatu to a substantially lower emissions pathway, well below Business as Usual (BAU). In the BAU pathway, fuel imports are expected to grow from 2.4 Petajoule (PJ) in 2020 to 4.9 PJ in 2050. The majority of fuel demand is diesel. Of total diesel demand of 3.7 PJ, the transport sector uses 1.7 PJ, electricity uses 1.3 PJ and industry uses 0.7 PJ.

In the BAU pathway in the agriculture, forestry, and land use sectors, forest area remains constant but is degraded due to increasing fuel wood losses. The currently reported forest area of 440,000 hectares (36.3% of land area) is maintained but forest fuel wood losses increase with population growth. Fuel wood consumption climbs from 182,000 m³ in 2020 to 269,000 m³ in 2050. Fuel wood consumption is estimated at 2.23 m³ per household per year.

Other drivers of forest degradation and deforestation in Vanuatu include human-induced activities such as agricultural expansion (e.g. small-scale subsistence farming, semi-commercial farming), forestry (e.g. logging), infrastructure development (e.g. tourism, residential settlements), as well as natural occurrences (e.g. tropical cyclones, invasive species).

In the BAU pathway, livestock production continues with the same herd and flock size and practices as the latest estimates available.

Vanuatu's GHG emissions in the BAU pathway for the agriculture, forestry, and land use sectors is dominated by livestock-sector emissions. Though the livestock sector is modelled as consistent in the size of herd and flock, and practices, the substantial weight of emissions from this sector continue to outweigh emissions from electricity generation, industry, residential, transport, and waste sectors. By 2050, the emissions from these sectors (419,000 tonnes CO₂e) will approach the current emissions from the livestock sector (428,000 tonnes CO₂e). Overall emissions are 39% higher in 2050 than at the most recent GHG inventory (610,000 tonnes CO₂e in 2015).

Under the BAU pathway, Vanuatu's forests absorb a declining amount of forest carbon in the years 2030 to 2050. The decline in forest carbon removals is due to increased demand for fuel wood, principally for cooking. The volume of fuel wood consumption increases to almost 270,000 m³ of wood per year in 2050. Net carbon removals are anticipated to decrease from approximately 6,340,000 tonnes in 2020 to 5,880,000 tonnes in 2050.

Specific Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Carbon dioxide (CO₂)

The energy sector and its sub-sectors are the main source of CO₂ emissions, accounting for approximately 100% of CO₂ emissions (excluding the LULUCF sector as it is a net sink). The CO₂ emissions from Vanuatu have shown an increasing trend from 1994-2023, the CO₂ emissions in 1994 was 55.15 kt and increased to 152.79 kt in 2023, indicating an increase by 177%. The combustion of fossil fuels remains the main contributor of CO₂ emissions in Vanuatu.

Methane (CH₄)

About 93% of Methane emission in Vanuatu comes from the agriculture sector i.e. from Livestock- Cattle, Swine, Horses, Goat and Chicken; enteric fermentation and manure management. The waste sector (Solid waste-MSW, Wastewater) is the second largest source of CH₄ emissions, accounting about 6.9% of emissions. A minor portion of methane emissions come from the energy sector; mainly as the emissions from combustion of fossil fuel (0.01%). In 2023, Methane emissions were 10.83 kt compared to 16.01 kt in 2000, indicating a decrease by 32.36% over the period 2000-2023.

Nitrous oxide (N₂O)

The Nitrous oxide (N₂O) emissions in Vanuatu were 0.19 kt in 2023 and 0.03 kt in 1994, which indicates an increase of about 17.34% from 1994-2023. In 2023, the main source of N₂O emissions in Vanuatu was livestock (manure management) (89%), Wastewater treatment and handling (8%) and energy sector (3%) mainly transport sector tail gas emissions (mobile combustion) and minor emission from stationary combustion.

Other GHGs (HFCs, PFCs, SF₆ and NF₃) and indirect emissions (NO_x, CO, NMVOC and SO₂)

The emissions of other GHGs i.e. hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs) and Sulphur hexafluoride (SF₆) are insignificant as sources of these gases are not imported or sold in Vanuatu; hence direct emission of these gases does not occur; however small amount of these gases present in equipment like ACs, refrigerators, switchboards and circuit-breakers, etc. There are only trace anthropogenic emissions of NO_x, CO, NMVOC and SO₂.

NDC 3.0 Overall emissions reduction goal by 2035

The NDC 3.0 will, if fully financed and implemented, reduce emissions from all sectors by 1,608.57 kt CO₂ eq by 2035, thus providing a clear and unambiguous overall emission reduction goal aligned with equity (acknowledging the conditional nature of the NDC which requires external financing), as well as the imperative to limit global warming to 1.5°C.

This NDC 3.0 maintains Vanuatu's position to become a Fossil Fuel Free Pacific¹⁷, the first region in the world to achieve the equitable phaseout of fossil fuel production and use. Given Vanuatu's net negative CO₂ emissions profile currently, this NDC 3.0 requires no reliance on Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) or Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) technologies, while offering meaningful carbon cooperation opportunities to other countries which are not able to meet their emission reduction targets in the short term, and providing Vanuatu with important resources to further reduce domestic emissions, expand adaptation and address losses and damages.

Vanuatu's Carbon Cooperation Framework was launched in 2025, and aims to leverage international carbon cooperation opportunities to attract international finance for the achievement of mitigation outcomes, and use these resources to finance climate action, sustainable development and the just transition towards a fossil fuel free future. The Framework is intended to support NDC implementation by consolidating and providing policy guidance on how Vanuatu intends to pursue carbon market and carbon cooperation initiatives, and clarifying and synthesizing institutional arrangements, general guidelines and procedures in response to market participants' and investors' interest in Vanuatu carbon-related opportunities

Vanuatu's Carbon Cooperation Framework incorporates more than a decade of work done by the Vanuatu REDD+ program of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Department of Energy's emissions reduction programs, and the work of local NGOs and the private sector, building on their systems, approaches, safeguards and tools. The Framework ensures that all types of Carbon cooperation and carbon market activities will be regulated and bring the greatest benefit to ni-Vanuatu communities and traditional carbon rights holders, whether on land, in forests, in the ocean, through national trading systems or on the voluntary carbon market. Importantly, the Framework stipulates that all carbon activities are conducted in a way that aligns with Vanuatu's cultural and environmental management contexts. As carbon cooperation activities involve risks, the Framework stipulates that these must be considered and evaluated against potential benefits by strong governance

mechanisms, and sets the Vanuatu rules of the game for a range of Paris Agreement and voluntary carbon cooperation approaches, including: Article 6.2 Bilateral Carbon Cooperation, Article 6.4 Central Carbon Marketplace, Article 6.8 Non Market Approaches, Forest Carbon, REDD+ and Blue Carbon, Domestic Carbon Pricing / Emissions Trading Systems (ETS) and Voluntary Carbon Markets. Vanuatu's Carbon Cooperation Framework lays out the governance mechanisms that are aligned to the existing governance mechanisms of the National Advisory Board on Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction, and ensures inclusive decision-making with the voices of civil society and the private sector.

The Department of Environment completed a Blue Carbon Ecosystems Policy in 2025 which aims to provide guidance towards the development of high integrity blue carbon opportunities for indigenous island communities that use and rely on mangroves and sea grasses. The Policy outlines mandates for various government agencies, provincial authorities, private sector and civil society to better manage the critical blue carbon ecosystems that store and sequester carbon as well as provide livelihood and cultural services to Vanuatu's people.

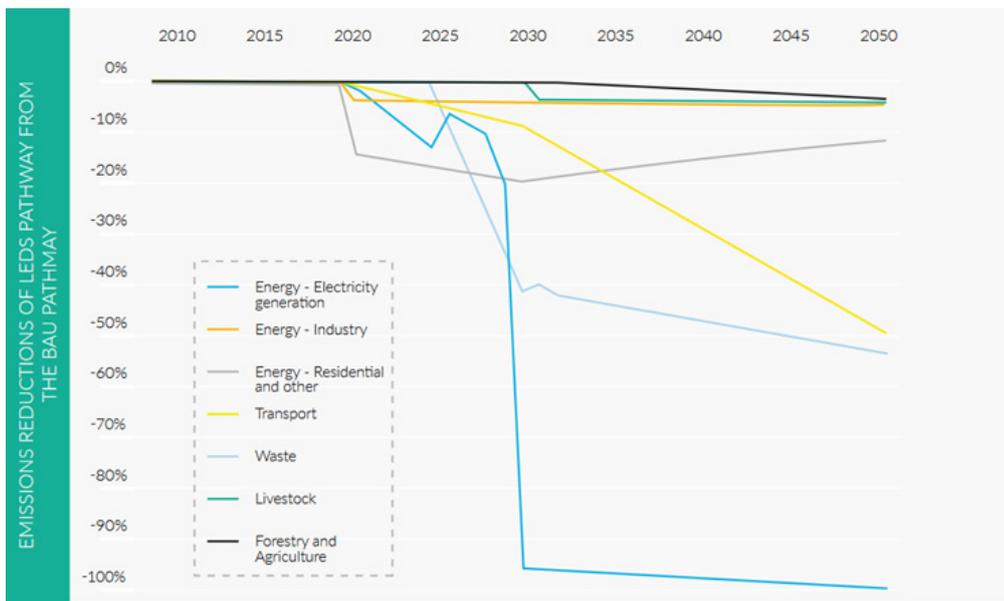
Cumulatively, this NDC 3.0 will see emissions from electricity generation reduced by 715 kt CO₂ eq overall. In the low emissions pathway outlined by this NDC 3.0, Vanuatu's energy supply composition is redirected towards lower emissions, cleaner and local fuel sources. The NDC pathway sees substantial reductions in the supply of fuel wood (-2.5PJ), diesel (-2.3 PJ) and gasoline (-0.3 PJ) compared to BAU. These energy sources are substituted by solar, wind, hydro, coconut oil, biogas, and biomass (collectively 2.3 PJ).

In addition to changing fuel supply composition, improvements in end use efficiency reduce overall energy demand. End use efficiency gains are made through adoption of technology with greater efficiency for the same fuel sources, such as replacing open fires with efficient wood stoves, and as well as technology with greater efficiency from alternative fuel sources, such as replacing diesel vehicles with electric vehicles. The overall impact of improvements in end use efficiency in residential, industrial, services, and transport sectors are a reduction in the required annual energy supply by 2.7 PJ, from 8.0 PJ to 5.3 PJ by 2050. The NDC 3.0 will, if fully implemented, reduce emissions from energy efficiency by 60.1 kt CO₂ eq overall.

Vanuatu's NDC 3.0 outlines additional emissions reductions actions in the livestock, waste, and forestry sectors to assist and reduce overall emissions from the BAU pathway and the overall balance of Vanuatu's emissions. Compared with a 2020 baseline of emissions, this NDC 3.0 pathway decreases net emissions by

17 <https://www.vanuatuicj.com/call>

Figure 4: Greenhouse Gas emissions reductions anticipated from the full implementation of each Mitigation Contribution target¹⁸



25,000 tonnes CO₂e by 2050 while the BAU pathway increases net emissions by 460,000 tonnes CO₂e by 2050. In both the BAU and NDC 3.0 pathways, Vanuatu remains net negative emissions due to the forest sector carbon removals. The NDC 3.0 will, if fully implemented, reduce emissions from Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU) by 587.07 kt CO₂ eq overall. It is important to note that within the AFOLU category, Nature-based Solutions (NbS) comprise the protection, restoration and sustainable use of forests, and pasturelands, as well as other ecosystems. Vanuatu NbS included in this NDC 3.0 can deliver a large percentage of the cost-effective CO₂ eq mitigation required through 2035, as well as providing co-benefits and adaptation outcomes.

In keeping with the global stocktake outcome to triple renewable energy and double energy efficiency, Vanuatu’s NDC 3.0 mitigation contribution would reduce business as usual (BAU) emissions in the electricity sub-sector by 100% and in the energy sector overall by 30%. These targets are conditional, depending on funding commensurate with putting the transition in place being made available from external sources. In addition, the transition to renewable energy-based electricity could be accelerated through the substitution of fossil fuels for locally produced biofuels. Opportunities for reducing the high emissions levels in agriculture and livestock sectors will be simultaneously pursued through cooperative programmes with nations having similarly high emissions in these sectors.

The forestry sector mitigation was to be treated as part of the existing REDD+ programme. The Government has prioritised the waste management sector as a key source of emissions.

As can be seen by the whole-of-society approach to all greenhouse gas emissions, Vanuatu seeks to address all sources of emissions, both public and private, subject to Vanuatu’s jurisdiction and control. As international human rights law is clear that States have obligations to take affirmative action to prevent foreseeable human rights harms caused by climate change, Vanuatu aims to undertake effective measures to assess and limit anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases and to effectively regulate the conduct of all actors under its jurisdiction, including with respect to emissions that occur extraterritorially. For Vanuatu, this includes NDC 3.0 commitments to mitigate emissions occurring as a result of the consumption of goods — those ultimately resulting from the export of fossil fuels or those associated with the conduct of businesses under its jurisdiction, even as these emissions occur abroad (see for example the transport, green building and waste emissions reductions commitments contained in the NDC 3.0).

With the additional measures articulated in this enhanced NDC 3.0 scenario, Vanuatu anticipates 2035 emissions of 343.25 kt CO₂ eq, a 31.37% reduction from business as usual. Overall, this NDC 3.0 will, if fully implemented, reduce emissions from all sectors from 2025-2035 by 1,608.57 kt CO₂ eq by 2035.

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Table 1: Emissions reductions in kt CO₂ eq by 2035 by mitigation sector commitment

Sector	NDC 3.0 Commitment	Emissions Reductions in kt CO ₂ eq by 2035	Sector	NDC 3.0 Commitment	Emissions Reductions in kt CO ₂ eq by 2035
Electricity Generation	M1	615.7	Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU)	M24	27.5
	M2	73.2		M25	309.77
	M4	17.1		M26	187.6
	M6	9.3		M27	62.2
M7	8.5	M28		-	
Energy Efficiency	M8	12	Solid Waste	M29	148.5
	M10	4.6		M30	109.4
	M11	7.9		M31	12.7
	M12	4.1	M32	7.1	
	M13	23	Waste Water	M33	148.5
Transport	M15	98.6		M34	6.5
	M17	26.1	Trade	M35	-
	M18	185		TOTAL	1,608.57 kt CO ₂ eq by 2035
	M19	2.9			
	M20	-			
Commercial and Residential Buildings	M21	78			
	M22	35			
	M23	3.5			



MITIGATION

Electricity Generation (M1 – M6)

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
M1	Vanuatu commits to more than doubling renewable energy capacity and to substituting fossil fuels with Coconut (copra) oil based Electricity Generation: transitioning to close to 100% renewable energy in the electricity generation sector, thereby reducing emissions by 615.7 kt CO₂ eq overall.					
	Updated Vanuatu National Energy Road Map, NDC On-Grid Electricity Investment Strategy, National Coconut Oil for Fuel Strategy	T3.1, E1-E5, Roadmap 1-4	ECO 2.3		100%	USD 64,300,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 13, 16 Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Coconut for Fuel Strategy endorsed in 2024, Government now procuring 2x coconut oil generators. Different island with different current levels of RE transition, Santo ~80-90%(100% by 2027- Sarakata Hydro), Malekula ~100% RE (Hydro), Tanna ~100%(75% by 2027-RESSET), Torba ~20%, Maewo ~100%. National Electrification Masterplan defines “access to electrification”, and includes costed activities now being implemented. Vanuatu is leading the Pacific call for a Fossil Fuel Free Pacific, the creation of a Pacific Energy Commissioner and advocating for a Fossil Fuel Non Proliferation Treaty.					
M2	Vanuatu commits to increase the proportion of electricity generated from biodiesel (including coconut biofuel) blending and the share of biomass to more than 14% of total electricity (grid) generation mix by 2035, thereby reducing emissions by 73.2 kt CO₂ eq overall.					
	NDC On-Grid Electricity Investment Strategy, National Coconut Oil for Fuel Strategy, Updated Vanuatu National Energy Road Map	E1, Roadmap 1.13 / 3.02, T4.1	ECO 2.3		100%	USD 2,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 13, 16 Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Coconut for Fuel Strategy endorsed in 2024. Procurement of 2x coconut oil generators underway for main utility company including a 6% RE Contribution, with support from the MFAT flexible financing program					
M3	Vanuatu commits to undertaking a coconut oil price stabilisation mechanism study to increase the proportion of coconut oil in diesel combustion engines					
	NDC On-Grid Electricity Investment Strategy, National Coconut Oil for Fuel Strategy	E2, Roadmap 1.08	ECO 2.3		99%	USD 500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 13, 16 Progress Narrative: Concept note to be developed and submitted to the GCF with the support of GGGI					
M4	Vanuatu commits to installing a solar PV and battery system for Ambae and Vanua Lava mini grids, thereby reducing emissions by 17.1 kt CO₂ eq overall.					
	NDC On-Grid Electricity Investment Strategy	E3	ECO 2.3		99%	USD 2,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 10, 13 Progress Narrative: Installation underway of 300KW BESS in Lolowai, and 20 KW BESS in Sola - Vanua Lava)					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
M5	Vanuatu commits to develop National Renewable Energy Legislation that will more than triple the mix of renewable energy in line with the outcome of the Global Stocktake					
	NDC On-Grid Electricity Investment Strategy	E4	ECO 2.3		100%	USD 100,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: Legislation currently under development, expected to be Gazetteted during the 2025- 2026 parliamentary session Gaps: 1, 9					
M6	Vanuatu commits to augmenting with solar PV and battery storage the capacity of the VUI Luganville Grid, thereby reducing emissions by 9.3 kt CO₂ eq overall.					
	NDC On-Grid Electricity Investment Strategy	E5	ECO 2.3		100%	USD 3,222,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: Concept Note Developed with the support of GGGI Gaps: 1, 10, 13					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Mitigation Finance – Electricity Generation (Commitments M1 – M6)

- ➔ The six electricity generation commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 73 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, SPC, SPREP), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 6) national climate funds (e.g., NGEF), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation), 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks), and 14) and carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market buyers).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with grants for grid upgrades, utility-scale solar PV, battery storage, coconut-biofuel facilities and outer-island mini-grids, supplemented by PPP structures and green or sustainability-linked bonds issued via national climate funds or domestic budget. Performance-based grants and verified carbon-credit purchase agreements would reward delivered renewable generation and diesel displacement, while partial-risk guarantees, impact investment equity, and commercial-bank co-lending could de-risk independent power producers and crowd in private finance.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 6, 9, 10, 12 – 14.

MITIGATION

Energy Efficiency (M7 – M14)

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
M7	Vanuatu commits to revise biannually the list of appliances/products covered under the mandatory Schedule 1 of the Energy Efficiency Act to reduce an influx of inefficient products, thereby reducing emissions by 8.5 kt CO₂ eq overall.					
	National Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan	1.1.2	ENV 2.3 ECO 2.1	  	0%	USD 500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: Amendment to the Energy Efficiency Act is in progress Gaps: 1, 7, 10					
M8	Vanuatu commits to introducing new minimum energy performance standards (MEPS) and improved labelling and quality requirements in revisions to Schedule 1 and 2 of EE act of 2016, thereby reducing emissions by 12 kt CO₂ eq overall.					
	National Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan	3.1.1	ENV 2.3 ECO 2.1	  	100%	USD 150,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: Act currently under implementation- Revised schedules to account for new appliances Gaps: 1, 3					
M9	Vanuatu commits to develop domestic energy efficiency compliance testing capabilities, including the establishment of third-party testing laboratories					
	"National Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan"	4.1.1	ECO 4.0	  	65%	USD 1,600,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 13
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: Department of Energy will develop appropriate plans and proposals Gaps: 1, 5, 8					
M10	Vanuatu commits to work towards the phase-out of incandescent lamps and CFLs completely, including through regulation and the establishment of LED distribution programmes, thereby reducing emissions by 4.6 kt CO₂ eq overall.					
	National Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan	7.1.1 / 7.3.1	ECO 1.9, ECO 2.9 ENV 2.3, ECO 2.1	   	100%	USD 250,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: Implemented underway since 2017 Gaps: 1, 8, 12					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
M11	Vanuatu commits to fully implement guidelines which regulate the default temperature setting for Air Condition units in all government, commercial and institutional buildings, thereby reducing emissions by 7.9 kt CO₂ eq overall.					
	National Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan	8.1	ECO 1.9, ECO 2.1 ECO 2.9		100%	USD 150,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 13		Progress Narrative: Air Condition units are already regulated through the Department of Energy			
M12	Vanuatu commits to introduce fiscal incentives for the import of energy efficient appliance, including through subsidies and the introduction of dynamic import duty based on energy labels, thereby reducing emissions by 0.41 kt CO₂ eq/Year or 4.1 kt CO₂ eq overall.					
	National Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan	9.1	ENV 2.3		100%	USD 150,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 10		Progress Narrative: Concept note to be developed by the Department of Energy			
M13	Vanuatu commits to introduce procurement standards for government buildings and offices, based on the development of green public procurement (GPP) criteria used in a centralized procurement system for energy efficient equipment and appliances, thereby reducing emissions by 23 kt CO₂ eq overall.					
	National Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan	10.1	ECO 2.9		100%	USD 200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 6, 13		Progress Narrative: DOE currently working closely with PWD & DUAP for the inclusion for Green Building standards into Vanuatu Building Code			
M14	Vanuatu commits to establish an Energy Audit and Green Building Unit and prepare guidelines for implementation of Energy audit schemes					
	National Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan	11.1	ENV 2.3 ECO 2.3		85%	USD 700,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 15		Progress Narrative: To procure a TA to prepare guidelines for the Implementation of Energy Audits Scheme			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Mitigation Finance – Energy Efficiency (Commitments M7 – M14)

→ The eight energy efficiency commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 4 million.

→ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, CIF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs, 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, UNIDO, UNCDF, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 6) national climate funds (e.g., NGEF), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation), 12) impact and investment funds (, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., bank credit lines), and 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market revenue).

→ Preferred instruments include concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans channelled via national climate funds or domestic budget, on-bill-repayment credit lines for high-efficiency appliances, and small green or sustainability-linked bonds to fund the testing laboratory and public-facility retrofits. Performance-based grants, results-based energy-savings payments, partial-risk guarantees, impact investment equity, commercial-bank efficiency loans and verified carbon-credit off-take agreements would reward measured demand reductions and crowd in private capital for appliance labelling, LED roll-outs and green-building upgrades.

→ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 6, 9, 12 – 14.

MITIGATION

Transport (M15 – M20)

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
M15	Vanuatu commits to a 10% improvement in transport (land and marine) energy efficiency, including tourism transport, by reducing fuel consumption and more efficient use of petrol (gasoline), diesel, Aviation Gasoline (AVG) and Jet Kerosene, thereby reducing emissions by 98.6 kt CO₂ eq overall.					
	Updated Vanuatu National Energy Road Map	T3.3	ECO 2.2		100%	USD 30,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16		Progress Narrative: SPC supported Vanuatu maritime transport efficiency... One-Vanuatu Maritime Policy (OVMP) under development			
M16	Vanuatu commits to continue its engagement with the Pacific Blue Shipping Partnership (PBSP) pursuing a commitment of a 100% carbon-free maritime transport sector by 2050, and will establish a policy and regulatory framework for the reduction of GHG in the maritime transport sector and transition all major ports to Green Ports with high resilience.					
	Vanuatu Ocean Policy 2nd edition	7 (a)(b)	ENV 5.1		60%	USD 1,750,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 15		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has been engaged in the Pacific Blue Shipping partnership since 2019			
M17	Vanuatu commits to expanding the access to and use of Electric Vehicles (e-mobility): by 2035 (a) Introduce e-buses for public transportation (10% of total public buses); (b) Introduce e-cars in Vanuatu (10% of government fleet); and (c) 1,000 electric two wheelers (e-bikes)/three wheelers (e-rickshaw), thereby reducing emissions by 26.1 kt CO₂ eq overall					
	Vanuatu Low Emissions Development Strategy	T1.1, T1.2, T1.3	ECO 2.2		100%	USD 11,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16		Progress Narrative: MoCC has already acquired 2 electric vehicles... GGGI is working on legislative arrangements for e mobility			
M18	Vanuatu commits to increase the blending of diesel with biodiesel (including coconut biofuel) for use in transportation to more than 20% by 2035, thereby reducing emissions by 185 kt CO₂ eq overall.					
	Updated Vanuatu National Energy Road Map	T4.1	ENV 2.3 ECO 2.3		100%	USD 3,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 9, 13		Progress Narrative: Coconut oil supply is insufficient... Vanuatu Coconut for Fuel Strategy endorsed in 2024			
M19	Vanuatu commits to fully implementing and enforcing the Fuel and Vehicle Emission Standards, thereby reducing emissions by 2.9 kt CO₂ eq overall					
	Vanuatu Low Emissions Development Strategy	4.3.1	ENV 2.3		100%	USD 750,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 3, 15		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Fuel Standards and Vanuatu Vehicle Emission Standard launched in 2024			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
M20	Vanuatu commits to expanding emissions free and active transport such as safe walking, cycling and micro-mobility through promotion and active facilitation of healthy lifestyles and health-seeking behaviours.					
	Vanuatu Health Sector Strategy	Goal 4	ENV 2.3		100%	USD 1,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 2, 8		Progress Narrative: The Vanuatu Cycling Federation developed a Strategic Plan... supported the development and extension of footpath networks			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Mitigation Finance – Transport (Commitments M15 – M20)

- ➔ The six transport commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 49 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, CIF, SCF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs, 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 6) national climate funds (e.g., NGEF), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation), 11) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., NBV, BSP, ANZ, BRED), and 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market revenue).
- ➔ Preferred instruments for capital and fleet measures (e.g., charging infrastructure, e-buses/e-cars, and biodiesel supply chains) include concessional loans, green or sustainability-linked bonds, vehicle-leasing credit lines, and PPP structures, supported by grants and partial risk / first loss guarantees. Performance-based grants and carbon credit off take agreements could reward verified fuel savings and diesel displacement. For the Pacific Blue Shipping Partnership (PBSP) engagement and green ports policy/regulatory package, prioritisation of technical assistance grants, policy-based support, and small concessional loans for port standards and compliance systems, could be blended with domestic budget resources. For the active emissions-free transport commitment (safe walking, cycling and micro-mobility), use of grants, small concessional municipal loans/on-lending from MDBs, and results-based payments linked to delivered pedestrian and cycling infrastructure and uptake.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 7, 9, 11 – 14.

MITIGATION

Commercial, Institutional and Residential (M21– M23)

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
M21	Vanuatu commits to (a) 100% electricity access by households in off-grid areas; (b) 100% electricity access by public institutions (on- and off-grid); (c) 13% greater end-use efficiency from electrical appliances and applications; (d) 14% improvement in cooking and drying efficiency through expansion of biomass-fuel devices ; (e) 65% renewable electricity use by rural tourism bungalows, thereby reducing emissions by 78 kt CO₂ eq overall					
	Updated Vanuatu National Energy Road Map	T4.2	ENV 2.3		100%	USD 113,050,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2:  Moderate Gaps: 1, 7, 13, 16		Progress Narrative: Considerable efforts on all islands to expand access through the Electrification Master Plan			
M22	Vanuatu commits to installing 1000 micro-biogas digesters for commercial and residential use, thereby reducing emissions by 35 kt CO₂ eq overall					
	Updated Vanuatu National Energy Road Map	T1.1	ENV 2.3		100%	USD 13,300,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2:  Limited Gaps: 1, 8, 10, 13		Progress Narrative: 7 schools supported to install biogas plants, although most face operational challenges			
M23	Vanuatu commits to doubling energy efficiency initiatives, including through (a) 5% increase in energy efficiency in commercial and residential buildings (measured by a 5% decrease in electricity usage) and (b) construction of at least 10 new energy efficient buildings (Green Buildings), thereby reducing emissions by 3.5 kt CO₂ eq overall					
	Updated Vanuatu National Energy Road Map	T1.2	ECO 2.1		100%	USD 2,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2:  Limited Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Nrel (natural resource laboratory) is working on guidelines for Green Building initiative			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Mitigation Finance – Commercial, Institutional and Residential (Commitments M21 – M23)

-  The three commercial, institutional and residential commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 128 million.
-  Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs, 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 6) national climate funds (e.g., NGEF), 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., NBV, BSP, ANZ, BRED), and 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market revenue).
-  Preferred instruments include layered concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans, green or sustainability-linked bonds, and partial-credit guarantees to finance mini-grids, public-facility connections, biogas digesters and green-building construction. Performance-based grants, on-bill-repayment or pay-as-you-save credit lines, and verified carbon/energy-savings certificates would reward measured efficiency gains and create revenue streams that attract impact investment equity and commercial co-lending, supplemented where appropriate by voluntary or compliance carbon-market off-take agreements.
-  Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 6, 12 – 14.

Livestock: AFOLU (M24 – M26)

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
M24	Vanuatu commits to expanded training and capacity building for livestock farming and pasture management, with a view to enhance manure management among 500 farmers ,thereby reducing emissions by 27.5 kt CO₂ eq overall					
	NDC 2.0	M10	ENV 4.7		100%	USD 470,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
	Progress from NDC 2:  Substantial Gaps: 8, 10, 12		Progress Narrative: The impact of above mitigation measures in livestock sub-sector's net GHG emissions reduction.			
M25	Vanuatu commits to converting at least 40% of existing grassland pastures to enhanced silvo-pastoral livestock systems, to reduce emissions from enteric fermentation and thereby reducing emissions by 309.77 kt CO₂ eq overall					
	NDC 2.0	M11	ENV 4.7		100%	USD 660,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 13
	Progress from NDC 2:  Moderate Gaps: 1, 11, 12		Progress Narrative: Department of Livestock engaged in grass variety replacement... introducing sustainable tree crops in suitable pastures			
M26	Vanuatu commits to expanded international collaboration on feed formulation and livestock husbandry to improve livestock efficiency feed to meat conversion, and thereby reducing emissions by 187.6 kt CO₂ eq overall					
	NDC 2.0	M12	ENV 4.7		100%	USD 660,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 13
	Progress from NDC 2:  Limited Gaps: 1, 10		Progress Narrative: VARTC and Vanuatu Agriculture College working on feed formulation improvements			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Mitigation Finance – Livestock: AFOLU (Commitments M24 – M26)

- ➔ The three Livestock AFOLU targets are estimated to cost approximately USD 2 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs, 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), and 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., NBV, BSP, ANZ, BRED).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include layered results-based grants and performance-payment windows from multilateral climate and development trust funds, MDBs and bilateral partners to reward verified reductions in enteric and manure emissions while underwriting farmer-training, feed trials and monitoring. Where capital outlays are needed (e.g., pasture conversion or small-scale anaerobic digesters) use of concessional MDB credit, sustainability-linked micro-loans, and impact/green bonds can mobilise commercial-bank co-investment, de-risked by guarantee facilities or first-loss tranches.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 7, 13.

MITIGATION

Forestry (M27– M28)

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
M27	Vanuatu commits to undertaking nationwide efforts to expand sustainable forest management, to ensure that the forestry sector in Vanuatu remains a net carbon sink, including fully enforcing the Code of Logging Practice outlined in Forestry Act No. 31 of 2019, thereby reducing emissions by 62.2 kt CO₂ eq overall					
	NDC 2.0	M13, M14	ENV 4.6		100%	USD 3,900,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: BTR 2025 found that Vanuatu remains a Carbon sink... Vanuatu code of logging practice operational Gaps: 1, 5, 7					
M28	Vanuatu commits to hold regular meetings on REDD+ with officials from across government departments, NGOs and private sector, including training and workshops to raise the capacity of relevant stakeholders.					
	Vanuatu Carbon Cooperation Framework, Vanuatu REDD+ R Package	7.5 pp 42; pp24, CP: MAE 72B	ENV 4.4		100%	USD 770,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: National REDD+ Strategy launched... Establishment of REDD+ Unit, Project Management Unit (PMU), and Civil Society Organization (CSO) Platform Gaps: 1, 7, 13, 14, 15					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Mitigation Finance – Forestry: AFOLU (Commitment M27 – M28)

- ➔ The two forestry (AFOLU) commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 5 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs, 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., NBV, BSP, ANZ, BRED), and 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., REDD+, voluntary and compliance carbon-market revenue).
- ➔ Preferred instruments for maintaining a national forest carbon sink and enforcing the Code of Logging Practice include use of results-based payments and off-take contracts for verified emission reductions (e.g., REDD+ or other voluntary/compliance credits) paired with performance-based grants for compliance and monitoring. Up-front capital for forest inventories, MRV systems, community stewardship and enforcement can be raised through concessional MDB loans, and green or sustainability-linked bonds, with backing from partial-credit guarantees. The REDD+ coordination and capacity building commitment could utilise technical assistance grants and small soft loans for training and workshops, with impact investment equity and blended finance vehicles with commercial banks and ESG investors to support certified timber and non-timber value chains that reinforce sustainable-forest management.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 7, 12 – 14.

MITIGATION

Municipal Solid Waste (M29 – M32)

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
M29 Vanuatu commits to expand Waste to Energy for Municipal Solid Waste (MSW), including by (a) installing a Waste to Energy Plant for Port Vila; (b) installing a Waste to Energy Plant for Luganville; and (c) installing a Waste to Energy Plant for Lenakel, thereby reducing emissions by 148.5 kt CO₂ eq overall					
NDC 2.0	M15	ENV 2.4		100%	USD 133,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: No waste to energy plants available in Vanuatu Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 13					
M30 Vanuatu commits to expanding composting if municipal organic waste to produce soil enhancer, thereby reducing emissions by 109.4 kt CO₂ eq overall					
NDC 2.0	M16	ENV 2.4		100%	USD 2,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 13
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: Organic waste has been collected by the Municipal... and converted into compost and animal feeds Gaps: 1, 8, 9					
M31 Vanuatu commits to a) implement and expand the collection, sorting and export of Recyclable Materials beginning in Port Vila, and expanding to other islands by 2035, as well as b) establish waste segregated landfill (solid and liquid) and develop its regulations, thereby reducing emissions by 12.7 kt CO₂ eq overall					
NDC 2.0	M17	ENV 2.4		100%	USD 1,330,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 13
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: A sort and collection scheme was implemented by the Port Vila Municipal... and a recycling export company is operational Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 7					
M32 Vanuatu commits to develop and Implement a National Plastics Strategy, in order to reduce emissions from plastic overconsumption and improper burning by 7.1 kt CO₂ eq overall					
NDC 2.0	M18	ENV 2.4		100%	USD 330,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has already moved to ban single use plastics beginning in 2018 Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 6, 9					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Mitigation Finance – Municipal Solid Waste (Commitments M29 – M32)

- ➔ The four municipal solid waste commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 137 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs, 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 6) national climate funds (e.g., NGEF), 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., NBV, BSP, ANZ, BRED), and 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., REDD+, voluntary and compliance carbon-market revenue).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with grants to finance waste-to-energy plants, composting facilities and segregated landfills, structured where feasible as PPP concessions backed by partial-risk guarantees. Performance-based grants, methane-reduction carbon-credit purchase agreements, and green or sustainability-linked bonds would create revenue streams that attract impact investment equity and commercial-bank co-lending for recycling systems and plastics-reduction initiatives.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 6, 12 – 14.

MITIGATION

Wastewater (M33– M34)

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
M33	Vanuatu commits to implement Wastewater Management Systems in Vanuatu, including through the installation of a centralised Wastewater collection and treatment system in the Port Vila municipal area, thereby reducing emissions by 148.5 kt CO₂ eq overall					
	NDC 2.0	M19	ENV 2.4		100%	USD 136,320,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited		Progress Narrative: No wastewater treatment yet available in Port Vila			
	Gaps: 1, 10, 13, 16					
M34	Vanuatu commits to making improvements to Public and Communal Toilet Facilities including the installation of Bio-Toilets, thereby reducing emissions by 6.5 kt CO₂ eq overall					
	NDC 2.0	M20	ENV 2.4		100%	USD 3,320,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate		Progress Narrative: Municipality working on market house toilets, and WB funding settlement toilets			
	Gaps: 1, 3, 14					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Mitigation Finance – Wastewater (Commitments M33 – M34)

- ➔ The two wastewater commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 140 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs, 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), and 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include concessional MDB and multilateral climate fund loans blended with grants to design and build the Port Vila treatment plant through a PPP arrangement, backed by risk-sharing guarantees and, where viable, debt-for-climate swaps to ease the fiscal burden. Performance-based grants and results-based payments would finance community bio-toilets and reward verified reductions in effluent discharge, with dedicated technical assistance windows strengthening local capacity and regulatory oversight across both commitments.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5.

MITIGATION

Trade (M35)

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
M35	Vanuatu commits to assess geothermal potential, initially on Efate Island, and to solve land and concession-related issues preventing its commercial exploitation.					
	Trade Policy Framework Update	9.4.1.4e	ECO 2.3		100%	USD 5,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate		Progress Narrative: A exploration exploration licence has been granted to Groundlink Energy... Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 5, 9			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Mitigation Finance – Trade (Commitment M35)

- The one trade commitment is estimated to cost approximately USD 5 million.
- Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs, 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 6) national climate funds (e.g., NGEF), 8) national pension fund (e.g., VNPF), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation), 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., NBV, BSP, ANZ, BRED), and 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market revenue).
- Preferred instruments include concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with grants to cover resource-assessment drilling, legal due-diligence and land-concession negotiations, backed by risk guarantees or performance-based convertible grants. Should geothermal resources prove bankable, impact investment equity, green or sustainability-linked bonds, and forward carbon-credit purchase agreements can crowd in commercial co-lending to further strengthen geothermal project finance.
- Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 6, 8, 9, 12 – 14.





03

ADAPTATION CONTRIBUTION

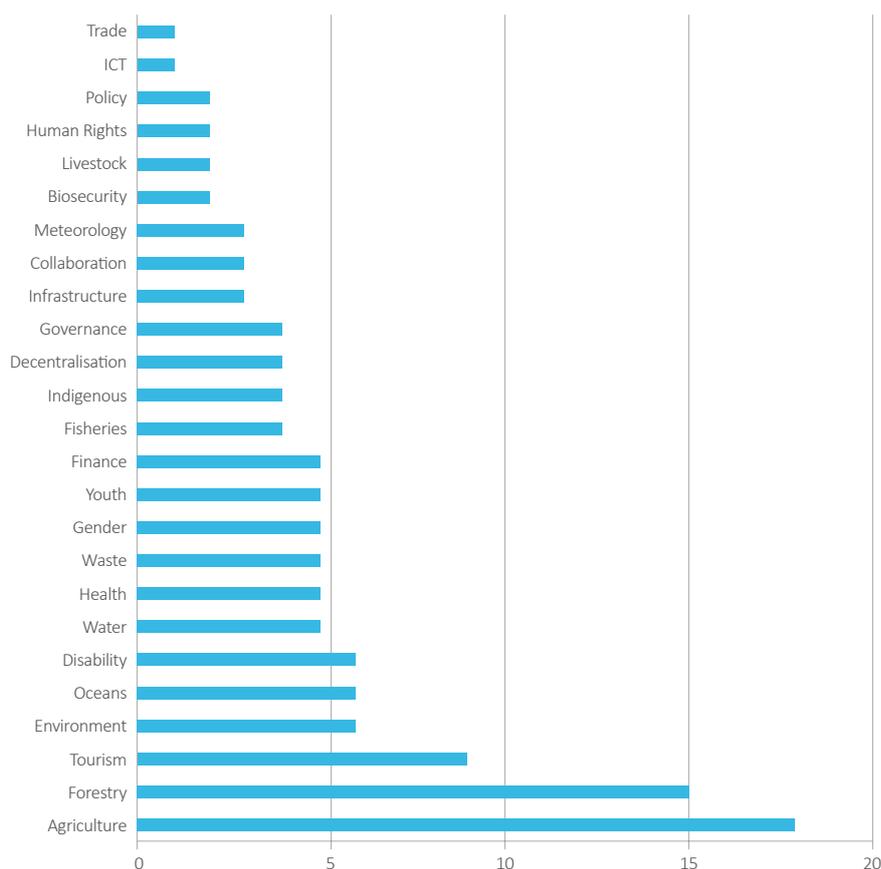
Adaptation Contribution

Vanuatu has prioritised transformative adaptation action in its National Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2nd edition, with a strategic goal of resilient development, including implementing activities that enable Vanuatu to absorb and quickly bounce back from climate shocks and stresses. Given Vanuatu’s current net-negative emissions profile, the highest priority of the Government is to enable and expand support for grassroots adaptation. In this context, Vanuatu is currently preparing its first National Adaptation & Loss and Damage Plan (NALDP), a document which will further elaborate the range of adaptation and loss and damage interventions that

require additional technical and financial means of support, and represent the highest priorities for stakeholders at all levels.

The following Adaptation Targets have been defined in an inclusive, participatory and decentralised way by the sectors that are themselves implementing and planning for a resilient future. For each target, the specific policy reference is provided, as well as the link to Vanuatu’s National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP), the most relevant Global Sustainable Development Goal (SGD), the level of conditionality of finance required from developed country Parties, and the overall financial envelope to successfully meet the target by 2035.

Figure 5: NDC 3.0 Adaptation Commitments per Sector



Agriculture (A1 – A11)

Sixty per cent (60%) of Vanuatu's population relies on agriculture as the basis of household incomes and livelihoods, and it accounts for more than 25% of GDP. A considerable portion of agricultural activity is micro-scale subsistence, for household consumption or sale at local markets, and dependent on rainfall, making the sector extremely vulnerable to climate impacts, loss and damage and other external shocks. Additional challenges include island infrastructure limitations, with substantial upfront investment required for establishing and maintaining local food markets and shortening nutrition- and fresh food-sensitive supply chains which are logistically complex.

Adaptation in the agriculture sector is one of the government's highest priorities, with a goal of agriculture's ability to support household income and food needs in a changing climate. Vanuatu acknowledges that food is a fundamental human right that is accomplished when people have timely and permanent physical, economic, and social access to food in sufficient quantity and quality for adequate consumption. This right to food security contributes to the wellbeing of the people of Vanuatu and to the fulfilment of their dietary and cultural needs. There are important co-benefits for adaptation in Vanuatu's efforts to cut GHG emissions in the Agriculture sector, including improved health, greater economic integration, enhanced educational opportunities, and access to new technologies and cultivars, all of which build resilience and yield better outcomes for Vanuatu's island farmers and their livelihoods.

Vanuatu has integrated the biodiversity focused targets of its revised and enhanced National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) into this NDC 3.0, including for example strengthening agrifood system resilience-focused efforts to ban the use of agricultural inputs that are harmful to human health, wildlife and ecosystems, such as synthetic pesticides and fertilizers, and improving the availability and affordability of locally produced, healthy and sustainable food options to replace imported, unhealthy, ultra-processed foods high in fats, sugars and salt. The promotion of backyard gardens and provincial food basket cultivar distribution sites is a component of many climate programmes. In order to improve connectivity between island-based rural, peri-urban, and urban farmers

and consumers, Vanuatu is working on a range of integrated interventions, including new and improved feeder roads, enhanced market infrastructure, food storage and preservation technologies to provide consumers a greater diversity of nutritious locally grown foods. Efforts are underway to establish and strengthen farmer cooperatives and associations across diverse value chains (coconut, fruits and vegetables, root crops, kava etc) to enable co-investment and sharing of the costs for farm inputs and the marketing of their products.

The use of digital technologies is expanding, including with smartphone apps and social media platforms, to improve cooperation and horizontal coordination between farmers and fishers, retailers and consumers. Considerable efforts are being expended on investigating, in situ testing and sharing of climate resilient cultivars, as diversified foods and crops, grown with indigenous and traditional farming practices, have been shown to better cope with stresses such as drought, heat, flooding, and salinity, as well as worsening pest outbreaks associated with climate change. Other adaptation solutions being employed include the provision of grants and subsidies for small-scale producers affected by climate change to coinvest in adaptive technologies and rehabilitation. Several programmes by government, civil society and private sector organisations enable local producers to adopt and expand indigenous and sustainable agricultural practices, including agroforestry and regenerative agriculture, that help reduce the costs of production and processing, and are often linked with conservation and agroecological landscape protections. Most farmers are implementing traditional knowledge-based soil fertility management and integrated pest and disease management approaches that are safe for plants, animals, people and the environment.

These and other Nature Positive agrifood interventions are a core focus of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and its partners. Representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture provide coordinated and complementary policy inputs into both the Biodiversity Advisory Council responsible for the NBSAP and the National Advisory Board on Climate Change responsible for the NDC.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A1	Vanuatu commits to mainstream climate variability, climate change and disaster risk reduction into agricultural planning in line with climate and biodiversity policies and plans.					
	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, and Biosecurity (MALFB) Corporate Plan (2026-2030)	MA: B, C, D, E, H	ENV 1.5		85%	USD 10,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 5, 10, 15		Progress Narrative: Climate embedded in majority of the 23 Programs of the DARD 2025 Business Plan. Major climate agriculture projects underway, including VCCRP, VANKIRAP, VCAP2 and FAO GEF projects. Some key commodity strategies still need to be developed, and climate mainstreamed			
A2	Vanuatu commits to continue formulating climate and disaster preparedness plans for the productive sector.					
	Overarching Productive Sector Policy	OI 4.3	ENV 1.5		60%	USD 1,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 13, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: At the area council level, Agriculture Development Officers work with the Community Climate Change and Disaster Committees to develop and implement CCDRR plans. Currently no climate change and disaster preparedness plan or strategy preparedness plan for the productive sector			
A3	Vanuatu commits to strengthen resilience in agriculture, through ensuring all people in Vanuatu have a nutritionally balanced diet from locally grown foods. including with a focus on traditional practices.					
	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, and Biosecurity (MALFB) Corporate Plan (2026-2030)	MA: C; 71 D	ENV 1.5		90%	USD 35,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 7, 10, 11, 12		Progress Narrative: Projects VANKIRAP and VCCRP support farmers traditional practices e.g intercropping, agroforestry, cover cropping and crop diversification. Tools developed through VANKIRAP identify weather and climate traditional knowledge, and a national traditional knowledge booklet and calendars for each province. Continued research required on climate adaptability of traditional crops, and merging of contemporary climate-smart farming practices with traditional knowledge (e.g. traditional pest management practices and cropping calendars).			
A4	Vanuatu commits to ensuring that 100% of farmers trained in sustainable production have access to AgroMeteorology information					
	NSDP M&E Framework	1.5.1	ENV 1.5		100%	USD 8,130,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12		Progress Narrative: DARD has successfully undertaken Agro-Met training with ~100 farmers each year, in collaboration with VMGD.			
A5	Vanuatu commits to develop a Food Systems for Economic Development and Disaster Resilience Plan, enabling key farmers to provide feeder support to small-scale primary producers (agriculture, livestock, forestry and fisheries) and accessing financing options to make these livelihood activities more resilient and recover from climate loss and damage, especially through partnerships with the private sector, international organisations, development partners and NGOs.					
	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, and Biosecurity (MALFB) Corporate Plan (2026-2030)	2.2.3, CP: 71DC	ENV 1.1		95%	USD 28,380,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7		Progress Narrative: DARD has successfully carried out an annual subsidy program, specifically during disaster response and recovery, and events like the National week of Agriculture. in collaboration with NGOs, private sector, international organization and development partners.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A6 Vanuatu commits to provide Agribusiness training to farmers and ensure that they understand how to access climate financing (including subsidies, risk sharing and insurance services) by 2035, including at least 500 kava farmers, 400 coconut farmers, 1000 cacao farmers, 300 coffee farmers, 500 spice farmers, 1000 fruit tree farmers, 1420 root crop farmers and 480 vegetable farmers.					
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, and Biosecurity (MALFB) Corporate Plan (2026-2030)	MA B, MA C	ECO 3.4		100%	USD 15,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 13, 15
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 4, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Agriculture Finance is the third thematic area of the National Agriculture Sector Policy, also part of Gudfala Kaka policy. Farmers receive support through DARD and donor funded projects, and DARD works with the microfinance section of the National Bank of Vanuatu for loans to farmers and enterprises. Vanuatu Rural Development Bank however not serving producers. Farmers and enterprises are not able to access other small grants due to project proposal writing gaps.			
A7 Vanuatu commits to train farmers in sustainable production, including plant health and protection, climate smart agricultural practices and resilience building approaches by 2035, including at least 1000 kava farmers, 800 coconut farmers, 800 cacao farmers, 600 coffee farmers, 500 spice farmers, 800 fruit tree farmers, 1420 root crop farmers and 480 vegetable farmers.					
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, and Biosecurity (MALFB) Corporate Plan (2026-2030)	Thematic Area 8, Policy Directives 8.2, b) Objective 3, 6, MAB, MAC	ECO 3.4		100%	USD 11,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 13, 15
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 4, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Current training is done in multiple informal sessions, DARD plans to create formalised clustered training to ensure farmers receive all the skills and knowledge required to sustainably farm their land.			
A8 Vanuatu commits to enable the use of climate-resilient crop varieties and livestock breeds by farmers by 2035, including at least 1000 kava farmers, 800 coconut farmers, 800 cacao farmers, 600 coffee farmers, 600 spice farmers, 800 fruit tree farmers, 1000 root crop farmers and 600 vegetable farmers.					
Overarching Productive Sector Policy 2025-2030; Vanuatu Agriculture Policy 2015-2030;	OI 4.4 ; TA 12, PD12.1;	ENV 1.5		95%	USD 28,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 13
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 13, 14, 10		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu is successfully implementing its Kava Strategy 2016- 2025, National Cacao Strategy 2020- 2025, National Fruits and Vegetable Strategy 2017-2027. DARD and VARTC have imported climate resilient fruits, vegetable cultivars and rootstock. While genetic improvement is encouraged, more research and and development is required.			
A9 Vanuatu commits to expand the number of projects or initiatives that integrate traditional ecological knowledge on agriculture into environmental and climate change management.					
Overarching Productive Sector Policy 2025-2030	OI 4.5	ENV 1.5		100%	USD 750,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 5, 10, 15		Progress Narrative: The MALFB Corporate plan 2025-2030 a commitment has been made to ensure all projects have been reviewed for their traditional ecological knowledge on agriculture into environmental and climate change management impacts and this will be measured through the subprogram impact surveys.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A10	Vanuatu commits to strengthen the resilience of the agriculture sector to the impacts of climate change and natural disasters through improved infrastructure, early warning systems, and adaptive management strategies.					
	Overarching Productive Sector Policy 2025-2030	PO 4.2	ENV 1.5		95%	USD 2,900,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 5, 10, 15		Progress Narrative: The MALFB Corporate plan 2025-2030 a commitment has been made to ensure all sub programs have been reviewed for their impacts of climate change and natural disasters and this will be measured through the sub-program impact surveys.			
A11	Vanuatu commits to integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation measures into agricultural development planning and practices at all levels.					
	Overarching Productive Sector Policy 2025-2030	PO 4.4	ENV 1.5		95%	USD 900,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 5, 10, 15		Progress Narrative: The MALFB Corporate plan 2025-2030 a commitment has been made to ensure all sub programs have been reviewed for their impacts of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation measures and this will be measured through the subprogram impact surveys.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Agriculture Adaptation Finance - Commitments A1 – A11

→ The 11 agriculture commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 142 million.

→ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks), and 15) insurance and risk transfer mechanisms (e.g., PCRIC, PICAP).

→ Preferred instruments include grants and concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with technical assistance windows to finance sector planning and preparedness, extension services, agro-meteorology access, nutrition and climate-smart production systems. Channelling on-lending through the National Rural Development Bank, supported by green/resilience bonds and credit guarantee facilities, could lower borrowing costs for farmer groups and agri-MSMEs. Deployment of index-based drought and cyclone insurance, parametric risk pools, and results-based payments tied to verified resilience outcomes (e.g., adoption of climate-resilient varieties, training completion, market access), could support crowding in of commercial co-lending and impact investment equity.

→ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 7, 9, 13, 15.

ADAPTATION

Biosecurity (A12 – A13)

In the context of a changing climate, Vanuatu will continue to protect its borders against the introduction and spread of foreign pests and diseases that affect crops, animals, humans and the environment. Vanuatu has observed the effects that rising temperatures, atmospheric CO₂ levels, and changing precipitation patterns have on pests, including triggering an expansion of their geographic range across the archipelago, and upwards into higher elevations, increased number of generations, increased risk of invasive insect species and insect-transmitted plant diseases, as well as changes in their interaction with host plants and natural enemies. A range of new pests and diseases, many linked to shifts in climate parameters, have caused considerable damage to crops, trees, livestock and local livelihoods. The increased impact of pest damage to crops and the environment due to climate change poses a great threat to the livelihood of Vanuatu citizens.

Biosecurity adaptation measures are therefore crucial to maintain good health, wellbeing and progress in our climate resilient community. Climate-smart pest management, and building resilience of Vanuatu's gardens and landscapes to changing pest threats, is a core part of Vanuatu's 2024 National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP), including efforts to revisit existing preventive agricultural practices and integrated pest management (IPM) strategies in order to

develop more effective and locally adapted measures that are resilient enough to tolerate extreme weather fluctuations and slow onset climate changes. The implementation of climate smart pest and disease management is focused on ensuring that current practices are improved in the context of a changing climate, often by considering local climate observations and forecasting, as well as additional climate risk assessment, into the currently island-based pest management processes.

One of the barriers this NDC 3.0 attempts to overcome is that it is often not possible to generalise and make climate-smart pest and disease recommendations for the entire Vanuatu archipelago, which requires instead tailored and fit for purpose solutions depending on specific location, environmental context, and local capacities. For this reason, Biosecurity Vanuatu uses a multistakeholder approach, including coordination with Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry extension officers, border control officials, local producers associations, private sector organisations, the media and even the policy and mobile force to undertake integrated adaptation action. The integrated approach most commonly employed includes: prevention of arrival and spread; early detection and rapid response; and management through scaling up new and existing solutions, all with a climate parameter lens.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A12	Vanuatu commits to a collaborative effort against damage caused by pests and diseases due to favourable climatic conditions as a result of climate change (Biosecurity Policy TA 15), specifically by entering into formal agreements between Biosecurity Vanuatu and climate change organisations (local, regional and international) (Biosecurity Policy D 2b).					
	Biosecurity Policy and Ministry of Agriculture Corporate Plan	BP: TA15, D2b, CP: 49F, 49I	ENV 5.4		75%	USD 2,580,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 8, 10, 13		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu The National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP) launched in 2024. There are Plant Health Emergency and Response Plans already developed, and are currently being implemented. The Plan is reviewed every 3 years to ensure up to date interventions.			
A13	Vanuatu commits to assessing the altered risk of new invasive species being established in the context of climate change					
	National Invasive Species strategy and Action Plan	B3.5	ENV 5.4		100%	USD 3,400,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 10, 12, 14		Progress Narrative: Few studies have considered the future climate risk of invasive species with climate change			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Biosecurity Adaptation Finance – Commitments A12 – A13

- ➔ The two biosecurity commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 6 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), and 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include grant-funded technical assistance and concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with domestic budget allocations to finance surveillance laboratories, rapid-response teams and cross-border information systems, de-risked where necessary by credit enhancements. Results-based grants linked to pest-incidence thresholds would reward effective containment, while modest green or resilience bonds can fund ongoing monitoring and invasive-species assessments without overstressing public debt capacity.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9.



ADAPTATION

Fisheries (A14 – A17)

More than 60% of households in Vanuatu regularly undertake fishing activities in the coastal zone. Throughout the country, nearshore fishing is small-scale, artisanal and primarily carried out by traditional methods, using a broad range of fishing gear and techniques including with casting devices (lines, hand spears, bows and arrows, cast nets, and spearguns) and dormant devices (fish traps, gill nets, and stake nets, poisons) to catch a wide range of species. The fishing effort is mainly concentrated in shallow waters, where two-thirds of the fish are caught. Fishing is generally not villagers' sole activity, but is undertaken in conjunction with farming, hunting, livestock production, and various other domestic or traditional activities. While Vanuatu has extensive stocks of pelagic tuna and other species found in its EEZ, most activities are undertaken by foreign fishing fleets licensed to fish in Vanuatu waters. The direct and indirect effects of climate change are expected to reduce the productivity of coastal fisheries in Vanuatu by 20–50% by 2100.

Vanuatu recognises these severe adverse impacts of climate change on Vanuatu fisheries and marine ecosystems, and the need for the fisheries sector to urgently adapt and address the loss and damage from climate-related disasters. Confronting habitat degradation, caused by agriculture, forestry and other land-based activities in catchments, and overfishing due to population growth and other economic and social drivers, present the two greatest challenges to resilience and adaptation in coastal marine ecosystems. Population growth and urbanization, patterns of economic development, status of fisheries resources and other oceans, governance and political stability, markets and trade, fuel costs, technological innovation and foreign aid all currently influence fisheries and aquaculture resilience in Vanuatu.

Adjustments made to wild catch and coastal fisheries activities

are central to adaptation in Vanuatu. Island communities are expanding the use of traditional marine management practices that keep catch numbers stable as the ocean warms and becomes more acidic, and extreme weather events become more intense and more frequent. Community based fisheries management and adaptation is therefore crucial to maintaining livelihoods and food security in ni-Vanuatu communities and for those in urban areas who depend on coastal resources. The management of fisheries in Vanuatu is undertaken in accordance with the National Fisheries Sector Policy, and built on a range of species- and issue-specific plans and strategies, including, inter alia the Revised Tuna Fishery Management Plan, National Plan of Action for Seabirds, Sharks and Marine Turtles, Aquarium Trade Management Plan, Snapper Fishery Management Plan, and Sea Cucumber Management Plan.

Vanuatu communities and private sector stakeholders are implementing a range of adaptation options for fisheries, including the management and restoration of catchments, enhanced management of coastal fish habitats, including through community conservation areas and traditional taboos, regulation of certain fishing gears, and species and size restrictions, an expanded use of fish aggregating devices as well as the expansion of aquaculture to relieve the pressure on particularly vulnerable reef and coastal fishery systems. Some communities are actively rehabilitating coral reefs through mariculture activities, as well as removing harmful species like crown of thorns starfish. There is an expansion of community-based monitoring of ecosystem health, and catch data, including through the use of mobile-phone based reporting and information sharing apps. Most fisheries adaptation options in Vanuatu are being integrated into livelihood enhancement programmes, and are strong examples of win-win adaptation and sustainable development initiatives.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A14	Vanuatu commits to strengthen community-based fisheries management and climate adaptation, including preserving traditional resource management and fishing practices (National Fisheries Policy SA 25), ensuring that 40 integrated coastal management plans developed and implemented by 2030 (NSDP SMART Indicator ENV 4.4.2)					
	National Fisheries Sector Policy	SA2.5	ENV 4.4		80%	USD 7,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 14		Progress Narrative: Under Vanuatu National Roadmap for Coastal Fisheries, VFD, Vanua-Tai network and DEPC, supporting 65+ communities across all 6 provinces to develop CBFM plans, including through projects like Pathways, including support from Japan JICA, ACIAR Pacific Community (SPC) and the Australian DFAT. Use of Tails app for village catch monitoring. VCAP project also providing support.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A15 Vanuatu commits to improve fish production and fish-based (wild capture) livelihoods and innovate new sustainable income activities, including building on practices emerging locally, in response to climate change					
National Roadmap for Coastal Fisheries	A6.1	ENV 4.4		95%	USD 8,900,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 7, 8, 10, 13, 15		Progress Narrative: The Department of Fisheries is implementing the By-catch and Integrated Ecosystem Management (BIEM) Initiative project in coastal communities in Malekula, Pentecost and Tongoa, as well as the Pathways project for more productive and resilient fisheries and better food and nutrition security			
A16 Vanuatu commits to improve access to appropriate adaptation technology, knowledge and skills in fisheries food production (NSDP ENV 1.4), and ensuring that by 2030, there are 100 FADs distributed throughout Vanuatu (NSDP SMART Indicator ENV 1.4.1).					
NSDP M&E Framework	1.4.1	ENV 1.4		80%	USD 7,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16		Progress Narrative: New FAD designed for Vanuatu under projects like Grace of the Seas and FishFAD with support of FAO and Japan. New Management Plan for the Regulation of FADs gazetted. Many FADs deployed are lost or missing, due to severe tropical cyclone impacts. 2024 endorsed 107.4 million GCF Pacific Regional Tuna Program, implemented by Conservation International and SPC will employ additional FADs. FAO and VCAP projects also providing support.			
A17 Vanuatu commits to regularly monitor and evaluate the state of coastal fisheries including to develop and implement procedures for climate change monitoring and impact assessment protocols.					
National Roadmap for Coastal Fisheries	2.2	ENV 4.4		90%	USD 6,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 7, 12, 13, 15, 16		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Coastal Regulations Toolkit developed by VFD and SPC. Launch of Vanuatu Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) and Inspection Plan for control of the foreign fishing vessels within Vanuatu EEZ and the Vanuatu flagged fishing vessel fleet active around the world. nationwide Coral Reef study completed in 2024 spanning all six provinces of Vanuatu, with Blue Prosperity Vanuatu. Development of new Ministry of Fisheries has elevated the priority of this target			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Fisheries Adaptation Finance – Commitments A14 – A17

- ➡ The four fisheries commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 29 million.
- ➡ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies)
- ➡ Preferred instruments include concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans paired with grants or budget appropriations to install fish aggregating devices, upgrade landing sites and strengthen community management, complemented by green or blue resilience bonds and credit-guarantee facilities that lower borrowing costs for cooperatives and small-scale fishers. Performance-based grants tied to sustainable-catch indicators and ecosystem-health metrics will ensure funds flow only when adaptive practices deliver measurable results, reinforcing long-term viability of coastal fisheries.
- ➡ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 7, 9.

Forestry (A18 – A30)

Impacts of climate change on the people and forests of Vanuatu are diverse and cross-sectoral, including inundation of forested land in low-lying areas, increased incidence of pests and diseases, prolonged periods of drought and flood conditions, increased frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, salinisation of forested land close to the coasts and the penetration of saltwater into the subterranean freshwater resources, adversely affecting forests and trees.

The combined impacts of climate change, population growth and soil fertility declines are exerting a growing and cumulative pressure on the remaining lowland forests of Vanuatu to be converted to agricultural land. On the other hand, Vanuatu's forestry offers opportunities for climate change mitigation through carbon conservation (SFM, protected areas, reducing of deforestation and forest degradation), carbon sequestration (afforestation and reforestation), and carbon substitution (replacement of carbon intensive products and fuels through wood products). Vanuatu's Carbon Cooperation Framework

highlights the opportunities for win-win mitigation and adaptation interventions with co-benefits.

Changing temperature and precipitation regimes are influencing the productivity of forested land and require the adaptation or introduction of new trees and silvicultural production systems. Forest restoration and resilient management is an important element of adaptation throughout Vanuatu and is a core objective of the Forestry Sector Policy. Climate adaptation and resilience programmes are currently being implemented across the archipelago by Government and non-government stakeholders and include interventions to control soil erosion and siltation to protect rivers, streams and the coastal areas; maintain or improve the fertility of soils and thereby contribute to food security; address the socioeconomic needs of forest dwellers and forest dependent communities; and reduce pressure on the natural forests and the vital services they provide.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A18	Vanuatu commits to maintain and enhance food security through agroforestry systems.					
	National Forest Policy, Vanuatu NDC Forest Investment Strategy	J21, F3	ENV 4.4		60%	USD 32,600,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 7, 13, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: DARD and DoF collaborating with NGOs and development partners on food security programmes. 7.1 million Adaptation Fund Project: Enhancing livelihood resilience in Vanuatu through forest and landscape restoration			
A19	Vanuatu commits to systematically assess and continuously monitor the impacts of climate change on forest systems (i.e. through PSPs permanent sample plots).					
	National Forest Policy, Vanuatu NDC Forest Investment Strategy	J21, F5	ENV 4.4		100%	USD 9,030,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu National Forest Inventory updated in National Forest Monitoring System on type, distribution and volume of forest resources, and 2023 National REDD+ Forest Reference Level submitted to UNFCCC			
A20	Vanuatu commits to establish and manage buffer zones around climate sensitive ecosystems, and undertake enrichment planting within these areas.					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
	National Forest Policy, Vanuatu NDC Forest Investment Strategy	J21, F4	ENV 4.4		100%	USD 1,940,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 7, 13, 14, 15	Progress Narrative: 20m buffer zone included in Tagabe River Management Plan. Newly launched Vanuatu Forest and Landscape Restoration Strategy				
A21	Vanuatu commits to conserve, protect and sustainably manage mangrove forests and mangrove ecosystems, wetlands, and shoreline trees especially as a measure to enhance resilience to the impacts of climate change.					
	National Forest Policy, Vanuatu NDC Forest Investment Strategy	E15, F4	ENV 4.4		100%	USD 1,510,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8	Progress Narrative: National Blue Carbon Ecosystem Policy launched in 2025. PEBC project new mangrove nurseries and replanting in several sites. MACBLUE project mangrove and seagrass distribution mapping.				
A22	Vanuatu commits to apply sustainable forest management concepts to reduce forest degradation and thus GHG emissions and to maintain healthy forest ecosystems to enhance resilience against the negative impacts of climate change.					
	National Forest Policy, Vanuatu NDC Forest Investment Strategy	B2, F4	ENV 4.4		100%	USD 9,290,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 7, 13, 14, 15	Progress Narrative: REDD+ Strategy outlines technical assistance to communities for sustainable forestry, being implemented in all 6 provinces				
A23	Vanuatu commits to promote and enable farmer and community-based afforestation and reforestation programmes for climate change adaptation.					
	National Forest Policy, Vanuatu NDC Forest Investment Strategy	G18, F1	ENV 4.4		80%	USD 42,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 7, 13, 14, 15	Progress Narrative: KIWA project on Empowering community resilience through reforestation. Forest without Borders support to MALAMPA Timber Producers Co-operative (MTPC). Forest and Landscape Restoration Strategy (FLRS) targets restoring 25 000 ha over ten years				
A24	Vanuatu commits to undertake cost benefit analyses and studies to better understand degradation dynamics and forest landscape restoration needs.					
	Forest and Landscape Restoration Strategy, Vanuatu NDC Forest Investment Strategy, Ministry of Agriculture Corporate Plan	1.3, F2, CP:72B MAE	ENV 4.4		90%	USD 970,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 10, 12, 14	Progress Narrative: Few studies have been undertaken on the costs and benefits of forest ecosystem rehabilitation				
A25	Vanuatu commits to develop a sustainable funding strategy for forest landscape restoration.					
	Forest and Landscape Restoration Strategy, Vanuatu NDC Forest Investment Strategy	5.2, F2	ENV 4.4		90%	USD 8,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 10, 12, 14	Progress Narrative: NDC Forest Investment Strategy launched in 2025				

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A26 Vanuatu commits to provide agribusiness training to local foresters and ensure that they understand how to access climate financing (including subsidies, risk sharing and insurance services) by 2035, including at least 100 Commercial Timber Tree (CTT) farmers, 100 Non timber Forest Products (NTFP) farmers, and 100 Sandalwood farmers.					
Vanuatu Recovery Strategy, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, and Biosecurity (MALFB) Corporate Plan (2026-2030)	MA B, MA C	ECO 3.4		100%	USD 7,300,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 13, 15
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 4, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Agriculture Finance is the third thematic area of the National Agriculture Sector Policy, also part of Gudfala Kakaē policy. Farmers receive support through DARD and donor funded projects, and DARD works with the microfinance section of the National Bank of Vanuatu for loans to farmers and enterprises. Vanuatu Rural Development Bank however not serving producers. Farmers and enterprises are not able to access other small grants due to project proposal writing gaps.			
A27 Vanuatu commits to train foresters in sustainable production, including plant health & protection, climate smart forestry practices and resilience building approaches by 2035, including at least 300 CTT farmers, 200 NTFP farmers and 300 sandalwood farmers.					
Agriculture Policy 2015-2030, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, and Biosecurity (MALFB) Corporate Plan (2026-2030)	Thematic Area 8, Policy Directives 8.2, b) Objective 3, 6, MAB, MAC	ECO 3.4		100%	USD 3,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 13, 15
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 4, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Current training is done in multiple informal sessions, Forestry plans to create formalised clustered training to ensure farmers receive all the skills and knowledge required to sustainably farm their land.			
A28 Vanuatu commits to maintain and strengthen its forest protected areas, including 1500 hectares of new forest (in botanical gardens/forest protected areas/kastom forest conservation areas) and improve 1500 hectares of forests with native plant species.					
Vanuatu National Forest Policy, Vanuatu Forest and Landscape Restoration Strategy	PD B	ENV 4.4		80%	USD 1,250,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 2, 4, 10, 12, 13		Progress Narrative: Forestry has protected hectares of new forest in the last 5 years and is developing strategies to increase the rate of protection and mechanisms to maintain current protected areas.			
A29 Vanuatu commits to support its foresters with local and improved tree varieties, including with research, by 2035, including 300 CIT foresters, 200 NTFP foresters and 300 sandalwood foresters.					
National Forest Policy, Vanuatu NDC Forest Investment Strategy, Ministry of Agriculture Corporate Plan	PD B, PD C, PD J, F7, CP: MAH 71U	ENV 4.4		95%	USD 10,750,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 2, 4, 10, 12, 13		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu DoF Forest Research Unit conducts and coordinates applied research on local forest industry and livelihood needs			
A30 Vanuatu commits develop updated maps of potential forest restoration sites, and by 2035 restore 25,000 hectares of degraded natural forest areas, and restore 1,000 hectares of degraded mangrove forest areas.					
Vanuatu National Forest Policy 2013- 2023, Vanuatu Forest and Landscape Restoration Strategy	PD B	ENV 4.4		100%	USD 1,450,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 13, 14
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 2, 4, 10, 12, 13		Progress Narrative: Forestry has developed mapping skills within the departemnt through the national Forestry Inventory. These skills are planned to be adapted to create maps of potential reforestation areas to accelerate the reforestation work.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

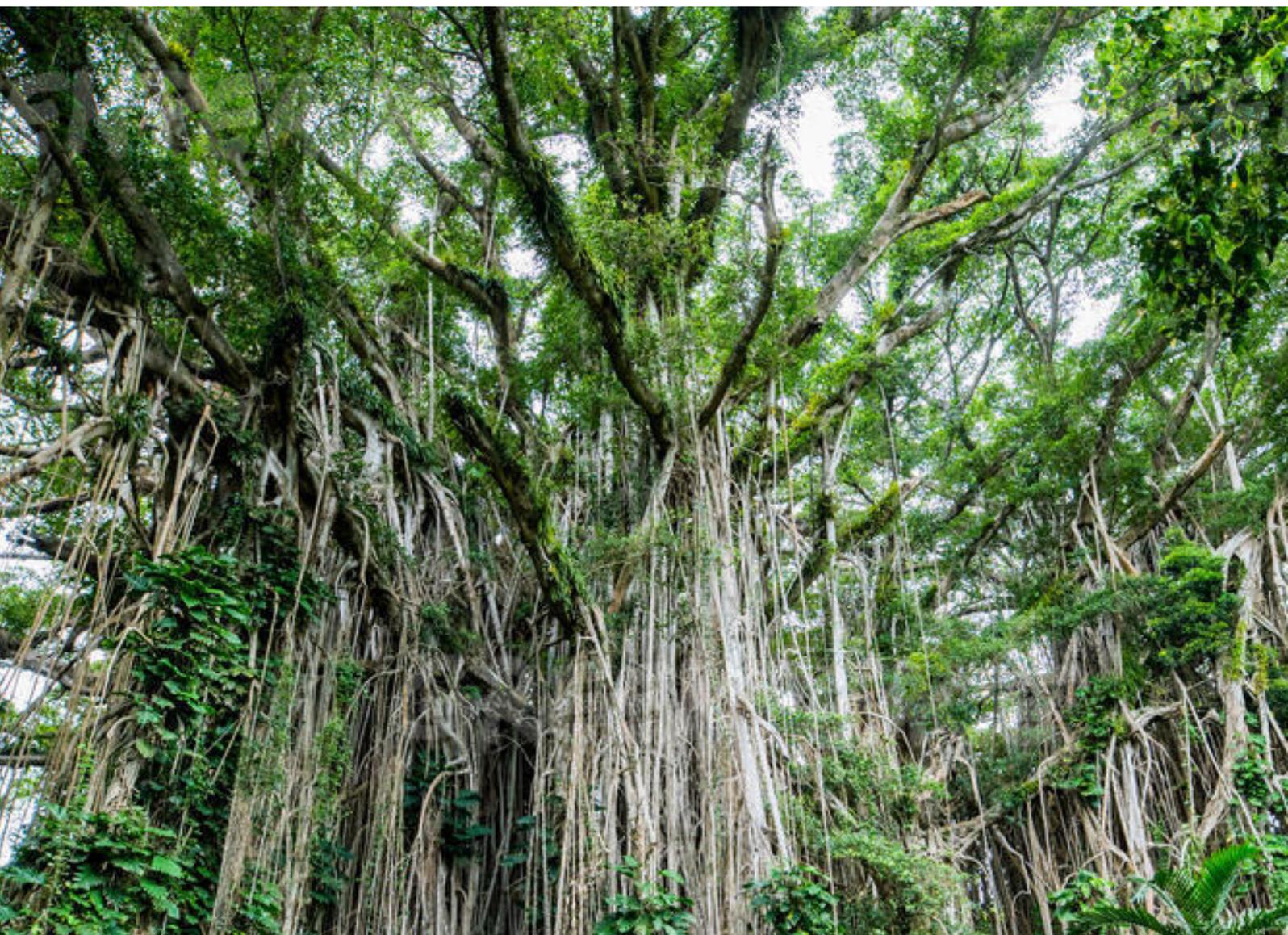
Forestry Adaptation Finance – Commitments A18 – A30

→ The 13 forestry commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 129 million.

→ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks), 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market buyers), and 15) insurance and risk transfer mechanisms (e.g., PCRIC, PICAP).

→ Preferred instruments include grants and concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans to finance community nurseries, monitoring plots, buffer-zone restoration, mangrove protection and agroforestry systems. Crowding in private capital through green/resilience bonds and credit guarantee facilities could lower borrowing costs for farmer cooperatives and forest user groups. Deployment of performance-based grants and REDD+/carbon credit purchase agreements could create predictable revenues for reduced degradation and verified ecosystem outcomes. For capacity building and strengthening access to finance, channelling of on-lending credit lines via the National Rural Development Bank or other concessional lenders could be paired with risk-sharing facilities and parametric insurance to protect borrowers from cyclone and flood shocks. Where appropriate, use of blended finance vehicles with impact investors and commercial banks to scale certified timber and non-timber value chains.

→ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 7, 9, 10, 12 – 15.



ADAPTATION

Livestock (A31 – A33)

Loss of livestock and higher livestock mortality occurs in Vanuatu during both extreme events, like cyclones as well as during slow onset events such as prolonged drought. Changes in climate have been observed to lead to new animal pests and diseases, as well as the return of previously eradicated diseases, to which animals in poor health are most susceptible. The secondary impacts of climate change on livestock in Vanuatu include; lower mature weight of livestock and longer time to reach mature weight, lower egg productivity, loss of genetic resources, increased pressure on remaining productive pastures and water sources.

Adaptation interventions have become critical and are widespread across large and small-holder farmers, including the adjustment of herd size and composition, favouring smaller animals that require less feed and water, such as chickens, ducks, goats and pigs. Food preservation, silage measures and water reservoirs and storage help to provide fodder and water to livestock during drought and flood periods. More resilient animals are being promoted and distributed, including

from targeted breeding and reintroduction of native species. Adaptation actions help Vanuatu achieve its general livestock sector goals, including becoming more modern, sustainably managed, able to benefit all stakeholders, contribute to greater socio-economic development, and ensure sound environmental and climate resilience practices.

Despite considerable successes on climate change adaptation in recent years, most farmers do not have sufficient knowledge or skills on breeds, farming systems or other methods to cope with the negative impacts of climate change. Poorer livestock farming households, including women, children and youth livestock farmers are especially vulnerable. Patriarchal structures often limit women in taking part in family livestock decision-making processes and the inheritance of animals, negatively affecting their ability to adapt. As a result, women and girls' adaptive capacity to climate change impacts on livestock is limited. Smallholder livestock farmers are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change with limited access to supplementary feed, water, and veterinary services.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A31	Vanuatu commits to provide agribusiness training to livestock farmers and ensure that they understand how to access climate financing (including subsidies, risk sharing and insurance services) by 2035, including at least 1000 cattle farmers, 60 bee farmers, 100 small ruminant farmers, 100 poultry farmers, and 100 pig farmers.					
	Vanuatu Recovery Strategy, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, and Biosecurity (MALFB) Corporate Plan (2026-2030)	MA B, MA C	ECO 3.4		100%	USD 3,900,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 13, 15
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 4, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15	Progress Narrative: Agriculture Finance is the third thematic area of the National Agriculture Sector Policy, also part of Gudfala Kaka policy. Farmers receive support through DARD and donor funded projects, and DARD works with the microfinance section of the National Bank of Vanuatu for loans to farmers and enterprises. Vanuatu Rural Development Bank however not serving producers. Farmers and enterprises are not able to access other small grants due to project proposal writing gaps.				
A32	Vanuatu commits to train livestock farmers in sustainable production, including plant health and protection, climate smart forestry practices and resilience building approaches by 2035, including at least 1000 cattle farmers, 90 bee farmers, 400 small ruminant farmers, 200 poultry farmers, and 400 pig farmers.					
	Agriculture Policy 2015-2030, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, and Biosecurity (MALFB) Corporate Plan (2026-2030)	Thematic Area 8, Policy Directives 8.2, b) Objective 3, 6, MAB, MAC	ECO 3.4		100%	USD 5,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 13, 15
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 4, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15	Progress Narrative: Current training is done in multiple informal sessions. Livestock plans to create formalised clustered training to ensure farmers receive all the skills and knowledge required to sustainably farm their land.				

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A33	Vanuatu commits to enable the use of climate-resilient livestock breeds by farmers by 2035, including at least 500 cattle farmers, 60 bee farmers, 200 small ruminant farmers, 200 poultry farmers, and 200 pig farmers				
Overarching Productive Sector Policy 2025-2030; Vanuatu Agriculture Policy 2015-2030;	OI 4.4 ; TA4	ENV 1.5		95%	USD 1,650,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 13
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 2, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu is successfully implementing the Livestock policy. Livestock and VARTC have imported climate resilient breeds. While genetic improvement is encouraged, more research and development is required.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Livestock Adaptation Finance – Commitments A31 – A33

➡ The three livestock commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 11 million.

➡ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks), 15) insurance and risk transfer mechanisms (e.g., PCRIC, PICAP).

➡ Preferred instruments include grant financed technical assistance and concessional loans for pasture rehabilitation, climate-smart feed systems, veterinary and biosecurity upgrades, and farmer training, with partial risk guarantees to reduce borrowing costs. Use of index-based drought and cyclone insurance, parametric risk pools, and resilience bonds to protect producers and lenders against climate shocks. Results-based payments could be tied to verified improvements in animal health, productivity and emissions intensity. Crowded in private capital through impact investment equity and commercial bank credit lines for herd improvement and agri-business upgrades, supported where relevant by national budget co-financing and targeted de-risking facilities.

➡ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 7, 9, 13, 15.



ADAPTATION

Water (A34 – A41)

Vanuatu's water sector is profoundly affected by climate variability and change, especially in water-scarce areas and small islands that rely on rainwater. More frequent and intense extreme weather events, such as floods and droughts, are damaging water infrastructure, contaminating water sources, and posing significant risks to public health. These events overwhelm drainage systems and latrine pits, leading to stagnant, contaminated water and increasing the incidence of water-borne diseases. Furthermore, inadequate water catchment infrastructure limits the availability of ground and rainwater.

The country acknowledges that access to sufficient, high-quality water is a fundamental human right. However, the adverse conditions generated by climate change are severely affecting water resources and, consequently, undermining other basic rights like access to healthcare and a healthy environment.

Vanuatu has a strategic plan to enhance its WASH infrastructure and resilience, with key commitments focused on improving access to safe water and sanitation. Vanuatu is committed to ensuring all people have reliable access to safe drinking water and sanitation infrastructure.

This commitment is seeing Moderate Progress. The Green Climate Fund (GCF) project, "Enhancing Adaptation and Community Resilience by Improving Water Security in Vanuatu,"

is climate-proofing water infrastructure and improving water management planning systems for over 215,000 people. The country is making Substantial Progress in strengthening climate risk management through a GCF-funded project. This initiative, supported by the Department of Water Resources (DoWR), UNICEF, and other partners, focuses on mapping water resources and increasing storage capacity.

There is also Substantial Progress in improving climate preparedness for the water sector. The DoWR, with UNICEF's support, has conducted damage and loss assessments and developed recovery plans following recent disasters like Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin and a recent earthquake. This work is crucial for building back better and strengthening response capabilities.

A commitment to protect vulnerable watersheds and declare six Water Protection Zones by 2030 has seen Limited Progress. While the Tagabe water supply Catchment Zone has been designated as a restricted development area, more work is needed to meet the national target.

The commitment to have 60% of communities develop Drinking Water Safety and Security Plans (DWSSPs) by 2030 has seen Moderate Progress. The DoWR and its partners have completed 550 DWSSPs, covering 28% of the total target, providing over 27,000 people with access to improved water systems.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A34	Vanuatu commits to ensuring that all people have reliable access to safe drinking water and sanitation infrastructure.					
	NSDP M&E Framework	2.2.1	ECO 2.2		95%	USD 135,450,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 12, 13
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 8, 13, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu's GCF project on Community Resilience and Improving Water Security, implemented by the Department of Rural Water, the Pacific Community (SPC) and UNICEF, is climate-proofing water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure and improve water management planning systems for more than 215,000 people, mainly in rural areas			
A35	Vanuatu commits to strengthened climate risk management through mapping water resources (ground, surface, rain) and increase storage, giving priority to rain / groundwater for drinking and surface water for agriculture and industry.					
	National Water Policy	1.7	ECO 2.2		95%	USD 6,450,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 12, 13
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 10, 13, 14		Progress Narrative: GCF Vanuatu Water Security Project 23 million USD project with DoWR, UNICEF and SPC. Multi Donor Water Sector Partnership with New Zealand, UNICEF and Engineers Without Borders, and others. Water for Women project, UNDP Gov4Res Project			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A36 Vanuatu commits to improved climate preparedness, response and recovery for the water sector: building on local knowledge to improve the protection of water supplies, strengthen response through improved data management and sharing knowledge to build back better after climate loss and damage events.					
National Water Policy	1.7	ECO 2.2		80%	USD 4,130,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14		Progress Narrative: Coastalwater.vu Weekly Monitoring Coastal Water Quality for Safe Swimming in and around Port Vila. Commonwealth Marine Economies Programme water quality analysis on Tanna and Efate			
A37 Vanuatu commits to protect climate-vulnerable watersheds, catchments and freshwater resources, including community water sources (NSDP ENV 4.2), ensuring the declaration of 6 Water Protection Zones by 2030 (NDC Adaptation Target Wa2 & NSDP SMART Indicator ENV 4.2.1).					
NDC Adaptation Targets	Wa2	ENV 4.2		80%	USD 11,090,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14		Progress Narrative: Tagabe (Matnakara) water supplies Catchment Zone labelled as restricted development area by the Ministry of Lands and the Tagabe River Management Committee has been established.			
A38 Vanuatu commits that 60% of communities in the six provinces have developed drinking Water Safety and Security Plans (DWSSPs) by 2035.					
NDC Adaptation Targets	Wa2	ENV 4.2		70%	USD 7,740,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14		Progress Narrative: Launched Vanuatu National Implementation Plan for Safe and Secure Community Drinking Water in 2022. Support by NGOs and partners, including the PaCWaM+ project and Vanuatu Water Sector Partnership (VWSP) with New Zealand. Drinking Water Safety & Security Planning (DWSSP) has mixed results, with community Implementation Plans often not being progressed by communities due to a lack of ownership and collective action			
A39 Vanuatu commits to collaborate with Ministry of Climate Change to develop comprehensive databases and models combining ground, surface and rainwater resources to enable prioritising investments and consumption, identification of water risks areas and priority areas.					
Vanuatu National Water Strategy 2018- 2030	7.2	SOC 3.1		85%	USD 5,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14		Progress Narrative: The Department of Water Resources (DoWR) has established an online Water Information Management System (WIMS) to track and share progress on the National Implementation Plan and Capital Assistance Program (NIP/CAP). This system supports monitoring of national targets outlined in the National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP). In addition, DoWR conducts a legitimized nationwide Water Resource Inventory (WRI) every five years, providing updated data on the functionality of water systems and access to both rainwater and groundwater across rural communities in Vanuatu. WRI is also access for public use on WIMS. UNICEF supported the Department of Water Resources (DoWR) in conducting a scoping study for groundwater mapping. This initiative was carried out with technical expertise from the University of Technology Sydney and the British Geological Survey. As part of the study, a detailed roadmap was developed along with associated cost estimates for implementing a comprehensive groundwater mapping project.			
<p>However, there is still a need to develop a comprehensive WASH database to identify service gaps, prioritize investments, and support the achievement of national targets for delivering safe, secure, and climate-resilient water services to all people in Vanuatu. Therefore, a comprehensive groundwater mapping study is essential to better understand the characteristics of groundwater resources and to identify areas at risk of saltwater intrusion, particularly in coastal zones. This is especially important for rural communities that heavily rely on rainwater, as it will help inform sustainable water resource planning and improve climate resilience.</p>					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A40 Vanuatu commits to strengthen risk management by enhancing the capacity of rural and urban water providers to integrate Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) into their Drinking Water Safety and Security Planning (DWSSP), collaborate with NDMO to strengthen coordination through WASH cluster and sharing lessons learned for improvement					
Vanuatu National Water Strategy 2018- 2030	7.2	SOC 3.1		85%	USD 10,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
<p>Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14</p> <p>Progress Narrative: Under Vanuatu’s Green Climate Fund (GCF) project on Enhancing Adaptation and Community Resilience by Improving Water Security, the Department of Water Resources (DoWR) is implementing community-level training for Area Administrators and rural water committees on the updated Drinking Water Safety and Security Planning (DWSSP) methodology. This training emphasizes climate vulnerability and climate-resilient water management practices to strengthen local capacity.</p> <p>A simplified version of the Drinking Water Safety and Security Planning (DWSSP) has been applied during emergency responses to assess damaged water systems, identify needs, and guide recovery planning. The Department of Water Resources (DoWR) works in close collaboration with the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) to deliver WASH services, including conducting joint assessments and capturing lessons learned to improve future emergency preparedness and response efforts.</p>					
A41 Vanuatu commits to achieve 100% target to develop Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) Plan - this involves developing the watershed management plans in the communities. The integrated plan will include Agriculture, Forestry, Environment, Livestock and Water Resources.					
Integrated Water Resource Management Plan	7.2	SOC 3.1		80%	USD 10,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
<p>Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14</p> <p>Progress Narrative: The Department of Water Resources (DoWR) is actively working with rural communities to develop watershed management plans and conduct community awareness sessions on basic hydrology and watershed management. These efforts aim to ensure the provision of sustainable and climate-resilient water supply systems for drinking, domestic use, and economic activities. However, an Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Plan has yet to be developed. This will require close collaboration with key line ministries, including Agriculture, Forestry, Environment, Livestock, and Energy, to ensure a coordinated and holistic approach to managing the country’s water resources sustainably.</p>					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Water Adaptation Finance – Commitments A34 – A41

- ➔ The eight water commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 190 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 12) impact and investment funds, and 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with grants to expand safe-water access, storage and climate-resilient catchment works as well as budget allocations backed by credit guarantees or risk-sharing facilities. Green or resilience bonds, performance-based grants for verified service levels, and equity investments supplemented by commercial co-financing could fund community water-safety planning, watershed protection and early-warning systems. Use of index-based insurance products (e.g., drought, cyclones) could help safeguard repayment streams.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9, 10, 12, 13.

ADAPTATION

Health and Nutrition (A42 – A52)

Vanuatu, like other countries in the region, faces a "triple burden": communicable and vector-borne diseases such as malaria, combined with increasing rates of non-communicable diseases (including diabetes and heart disease) and the effects of climate change. Climate-sensitive health risks in Vanuatu are extreme, especially related to water-borne diseases and food-borne diseases. High climate health risks also include vector-borne diseases, malnutrition, non-communicable diseases, temperature-related illnesses, and occupation-related illnesses. Medium risks are related to respiratory infections, skin conditions, eye diseases, mental health disorders and traumatic injuries and deaths.

Climate change is already exacerbating the triple burden of malnutrition and the metabolic and lifestyle risk factors for diet-related NCDs by reducing short- and long-term food and nutrition security both directly, through its effects on agriculture and fisheries, and indirectly, by contributing to underlying risk factors such as water insecurity, dependency on imported foods, urbanization and migration, and health service disruption. Heat stress impacts, especially on elderly people, children, individuals with pre-existing conditions (e.g. diabetes) are manifesting as heat rash/heat cramps, dehydration, heat exhaustion/heat stroke and death. Climate change is observed to have had significant negative effects on mental health of Vanuatu's people, particularly in the context of acute events (i.e. severe tropical cyclones), slow onset and long-term changes (i.e. heat stress and loss of coral reefs), and the existential threat of long-lasting changes (i.e. sea level rise, and displacement).

Vanuatu is particularly vulnerable to climate change-induced natural disasters which create additional public health emergencies. Climate change related events will continue to threaten Vanuatu's health service planning and delivery.

Health services are stretched, and unable to effectively deliver to all islands, as the Ministry of Health has limited technical capacity to effectively integrate climate-related risks into policy, planning, and regulatory frames, and into interventions to control the current and projected future burden of climate-sensitive health outcomes. To overcome these challenges, Vanuatu is now working towards the development of a Health National Adaptation Plan and a National Health and Climate Change Strategy and investing in increasing the capacity of national health systems and institutions, and sub-level actors, to manage long-term climate-sensitive health risks.

Adaptation activities are showing success, including conducting hazard assessments; climate-informed planning and costing; strengthening structural safety of health infrastructure; contingency planning for essential health delivery systems (electricity, heating, cooling, ventilation, water supply, sanitation services, waste management and communications), rolling out training for public health and health care professionals to better understand of climate risks to individuals, communities and health care facilities. The National Health Cluster is active, and directly responding to climate related impacts as part of humanitarian and recovery operations.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A42	Vanuatu commits to implement programmes that create, promote and protect a better environment and hygienic conditions to improve health, climate resilience, and wellbeing of the people of Vanuatu.					
	Ministry of Health Policy	Pg. 10	SOC 3.1		80%	USD 30,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 12
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 5, 9, 14	Progress Narrative: Projects supported by World Vision, ADRA, IsrAID, WHO and UNICEF including the Port Vila Urban WASH (PVUW) project, and retrofitting 100 facilities to make them more climate resilient. GEF Project also working on facilities (12/147) retrofitting, with holistic approach WASH, roofing and climate proofing. there was soap distributions, with education and awareness in high reporting communities with skin disease issues, and behaviour focused interventions with WHO support and Bridges to Development.				

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A43 Vanuatu commits to establish an Environmental Health Authority that will develop standards for all Vanuatu in the areas of clinical waste, food, water, solid waste management, housing, pollution, sanitation and port health.					
Ministry of Health Policy	Pg. 17	SOC 3.1		80%	USD 5,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 7, 9		Progress Narrative: Environmental Health, Health Standards and Inspection unit established under Public Health department. Sanitation Board established. Reviewing Public Health Act, Sanitation and hygiene guideline developed. Need more staff in unit.			
A44 Vanuatu commits to develop and refine public health emergency procedures.					
Environmental Health Policy and Public Health Act of 2021	8.2	SOC 3.4		70%	USD 10,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 5, 7, 9		Progress Narrative: SOPs developed during Declaration of Public Health Emergency Due to the continuous global impact of COVID-19 in 2022, including strengthening of the Health Incident Management Team through the National Health Emergency Operations Center (NHEOC). Developing a National Health Security Action Plan, and conducting Joint External Evaluation (assessment obligation under IHR for preparedness and response legislation, policies). One Health programme working with Agriculture/Livestock/Fisheries. Active National Health Cluster, co-led by Director Planning and DG with WHO, working with NDMO. MoH has a national surveillance system to monitor health status, needs development, including Malaria, and other notifiable diseases. Project e-notification for notifiable diseases, funded by Burnett Institute and WHO. Working with UNDP and WHO GEF project (Climate Change and Health), in 28 sentinel sites, including connectivity to remote communities to reduce reporting time. NCD for public health emergencies, Health cluster, provides mental health support, but limited resources available and requires external experts in crises. Nutrition is an issue, UNICEF working to support. Reproductive health services disrupted after disaster, causing teenage pregnancies and GBV.			
A45 Vanuatu commits to establish or reinforce appropriate structures and plans for system responses to disasters and climate change which ensure continuity of essential functions (including public health, clinical and primary health care services), and protection of long-term investments in health system improvements.					
Vanuatu Health Sector Strategy	3.1	ENV 3.3		90%	USD 1,290,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 12
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Health and Nutrition Cluster continuously active, led by Ministry of Health (MoH), and supported by World Health Organisation to reduce mortality and morbidity, and restore the delivery of preventive and curative health care as quickly as possible in an equitable, sustainable manner. There is a new CC officer in the HR Plan and organisational structure of the Ministry, from national to provincial levels. This is to cover disaster and emergencies. DFAT and WHO supporting primary health care, beginning in SANMA province and ensuring health facilities are climate adapted. Under GEF project there is starlink and satellite internet for reporting of facilities in provinces and remote areas. There is a project concept for PV solar electrification of 333 health centers and dispensaries and aid posts , endorsed by NAB ,but requires funding.			
A46 Vanuatu commits to improve system level preparedness and response capabilities for the provision of timely nutrition interventions in response to and recovery from disasters as well as enhancing systems of surveillance to monitor trends and provide timely and coordinated food and nutrition security interventions in response to disasters, and manage risks.					
Vanuatu Food Safety Security & Nutrition Policy 2022-2030	Pg. 13-15	ENV3.2		90%	USD 500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Nutrition is a sub-cluster under the Health Cluster with MoH as a lead and UNICEF as co-lead. There are limited nutrition actors in the country thus, the membership to the sub-cluster is also limited. Despite this, the sub-cluster had ensured that the nutrition in emergency guidance notes on breastmilk substitutes donation and healthy food donations have been standardized immediately released during an emergency. Nutrition assessment during the State of Emergency has also been initiated but further capacity strengthening is required. There is currently no nutrition surveillance system in place to support early warning and early action on climate-induced nutrition crises. MoH and UNICEF is working together to strengthen community screening systems including capacity building of health workers and village health workers to screen for malnutrition, and identify, refer and manage malnutrition cases.			

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A47 Vanuatu commits to ensure nutrition security remains central to multisectoral efforts to enhance food security and food system resilience to climate change, natural disasters and other system shocks.					
Vanuatu Food Safety Security & Nutrition Policy 2022-2030	Pg. 15	ENV3.2		95%	USD 1,700,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Nutritional trainings for Health Care workers including Provincial Hospital staffs and VCH in six Provinces funded by UNICEF and Vanuatu Government. Training types: Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM), scale up of High Impact nutrition Intervention (HINI), NCD and Mental Health Trainings; Maternal Young Child Feeding training, Supervisory visits at Provincial level including health facilities. Distribution of commodities example micronutrient Packet (MNP) distributed after disasters. F75 and F100 for malnourished children treatment including RUTF (Ready to Use Therapeutic Food). Nutritional screening for Children 0-5 years (MUAC)- Mid Upper Arm Circumference). These are undertaken to identify malnourished children.			
A48 Vanuatu commits to improving the well-being of children, adolescents, families, and communities by providing mental health and psychosocial support services. These services will foster resilience and help children and adolescents (who are often the most vulnerable) cope with the psychological impacts of climate-related events and the wider effects of a changing climate.					
Mental Health Policy and Strategic Plan 2021-2030	3.4	ENV3.2		100%	USD 1,750,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: MHPSS support in terms of training and counselling supported by UNICEF to affected communities including displaced communities after an extreme events. MHPSS Training delivered to community leaders during peace time. On-going MH GAP training program for Nurses across six provinces. Counselling, Assessment, monitoring and evaluation yearly.			
A49 Vanuatu commits to achieve 100% of healthcare facilities to have support plans available to communities for coordination, planning, response and recovery.					
Ministry of Health Corporate Plan 2026-2030	Pg. 35	ENV 3.3		90%	USD 1,250,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: CCHDRM Six emergency provincial response plans in draft funded by WHO and World bank 2025. Fully established and operational PHEOC (Provincial Health Emergency Operations centers) trainings, need to be fully equipped, vulnerability risk assessments, emergency medical teams training for provinces. Vulnerability risk assessments for 72 Area Councils in Vanuatu. Health facilities to be climate proof and earthquake proof, storage capacity, access to renewable energy including connectivity.			
A50 Vanuatu commits to ensuring vaccine storage and cold chain management to address vaccine security and efficiency for climate-resilient disease management and response to climate disasters.					
Immunization Policy and Strategic Guide 2025	KPA 5.3	ENV 3		95%	USD 1,650,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: All health facilities include hospitals, Health centers, dispensaries have functional cold chain equipments including the national vaccine cold room and dry storage. During an extreme event, rapid assessments and maintainance of cold chain equipment including new installations of cold chain equipments and restocking supported by UNICEF and ADB. Procurement of vaccines and commodities.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A51 Vanuatu commits to a redesign of our health system to be more resilient to health shocks caused by disease outbreaks, disasters and climate change while we better prevent, detect and manage communicable diseases.					
Health Sector Strategy Plan 2021-2030	G3/Pg. 5	SOC 3.1		95%	USD 8,350,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu is resourcing health facilities to meet the standards of the Role Delineation policy in terms of staffing, infrastructure, equipment, functional space etc. Vanuatu is strengthening governance system by fulfilling the requirements of the Role Delineation Policy (RDP). Continue to strengthen, improve and expand the existing surveillance of communicable to include non-communicable diseases in order to provide accurate evidence to support health management interventions. And build the capacity of human resources to conduct early detections of identified cases and report for monitoring and surveillance in the Provinces. A need to increase the capacity of laboratories services in the six Provinces. For example, gene experts to be made available at the Provincial hospital level in order for prompt interventions of cases to be carried out and also for quick and better early interventions.			
A52 Vanuatu commits to climate-related child protection by ensuring an effective response from the health sector to identify, manage, and refer child protection cases, including those involving violence against children and sexual abuse, including through the establishment of systematic protocols and resources for receiving and supporting survivors, especially as climatic shocks increase the risk of abuse among children.					
Vanuatu Health Sector Strategy	SO 2.5, Pg. 21	SOC 3.1		90%	USD 1,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: MoH coordinates global health status report on prevention of violence against children funded by WHO, MoH develops Child Protection Policy which covers protection of children under healthcare, training of health workers to identify cases of child abuse and violence and make referral pathway for consultations investigations and consultations. There is still gap on the negligence of child care due to the absence of one or two direct parental care. Ministry of Health collaborates with other partners such as UNICEF and Save the Children, WHO, Care, Ministry of Justice, Israel Aid, Ministry of Internal Affairs to implement interventions addressing violence against children.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Health and Nutrition Adaptation Finance – Commitments A42 – A52

- ➔ The 11 health commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 62 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), and 12) impact and investment funds.
- ➔ Preferred instruments include grant financed technical assistance and concessional loans to climate-proof health facilities, strengthen emergency preparedness systems, expand surveillance, and upgrade cold chain and backup power capacity. Domestic budget resources for co-financing and partial risk guarantees to lower borrowing costs for provincial health authorities and NGOs. Resilience bonds, impact investment equity, and pay-for-performance grants tied to continuity-of-care and nutrition security indicators to crowd in private capital. Support for community health information platforms and other service continuity investments could utilise results-based grants and credit lines that disburse against verified coverage and uptime.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 6, 9 – 13, 15.

ADAPTATION

Nature, Biodiversity and Environment (A53 – A58)

The key challenge faced by Vanuatu in the context of environmental management and development planning is climate change, which is already impacting the ecosystem goods and services such as clean water and food on which people in Vanuatu rely. Vanuatu's diverse ecosystems are being threatened by climate change as are the livelihoods and wellbeing of the ni-Vanuatu people who rely on them. Vanuatu supports scientific findings that there is no viable route to limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees without urgently protecting, restoring and sustainably using nature. The Paris Agreement itself notes "the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, including oceans, and the protection of biodiversity."

The Constitution of the Republic of Vanuatu and other laws recognize specific, measurable, and robust tenure and natural resource rights of Indigenous customary owners, which this NDC 3.0 fully respects and upholds. Similarly, the NDC is based on the constitutionally recognised fundamental duty of every person in Vanuatu has to himself and his descendants and to others to safeguard the national wealth, resources and environment in the interests of the present generation and of future generations.

Ecosystems provide cost-effective adaptation services, and effective natural resource management can minimise the risks of climate change and disasters while enhancing livelihoods resilience. Vanuatu's environmental goals include climate resilience and nature-based solutions to achieve a strong and resilient nation in the face of climate change and disaster risks. Nature-based Solutions (NbS) are actions to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use and manage natural or modified terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems, which address social, economic and environmental challenges effectively and adaptively, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services and resilience and biodiversity benefit. NbS in Vanuatu have significant, but currently underutilised potential to help address global challenges such as climate change, human health, food and water security, natural disasters and biodiversity loss. Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA), involving the conservation, sustainable management and restoration of ecosystems is already helping Vanuatu's people adapt to the impacts of climate change, and is of itself a nature-based solution that harnesses biodiversity and ecosystem services to reduce vulnerability and build resilience

to climate change. Synergies between mitigation and adaptation NbS actions and targets are commonplace in Vanuatu, and there are substantial mitigation benefits of adaptation action related to nature.

Figure 6: NbS Diagram (IUCN)¹⁹



Vanuatu has first-hand experience that healthy ecosystems and their services are essential to enable Vanuatu's people to adapt to the effects of an already changing climate. For decades, Vanuatu has been implementing a wide range of approaches that work with nature and its services, building a body of evidence that NbS can provide important benefits for climate adaptation and resilience across sectors as well as mitigation opportunities to reduce emissions and remove and store carbon.

The focus of Vanuatu's NbSs is on meeting the needs and interests of its island communities and people, including their resilience to climate change. Climate change related loss of biodiversity affects the livelihoods of rural and urban populations. In Vanuatu, biodiversity is our food, our culture, our tradition, our money, our medicine, our shelter, our fresh air (oxygen), our firewood, our coastline stabiliser, our protector against storm surge, protector of our freshwater systems, our

18 Vanuatu LEDS: https://ggi.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/22216_Vanuatu-Low-Emission_v06_RC_LQ_compressed.pdf

19 <https://portals.iucn.org/library/sites/library/files/documents/2019-030-En.pdf>

carbon sequestration and our ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change. Our biodiversity is vital for our survival.

Vanuatu's NDC 3.0 is aligned with the revised National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) which has been updated to reflect the new goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Target 8 of Vanuatu's NBSAP commits to Vanuatu implementation at least 80% of the priorities in the

National Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction Policy, as well as meeting the biodiversity and environment targets within the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the Paris Agreement, including those with a focus on averting minimising and addressing the cascading, compounding and intensifying impacts of climate change on biodiversity through locally-led nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A53 Vanuatu commits to prioritising development actions that minimise threats and incorporates climate solutions from the 'ridge to the reef' of island communities (National CCDRR Policy 7.4.5), by strengthening local authorities and municipal planning authorities to enact and enforce land use planning laws and regulations (NEPIP PO2.2).					
National Environment Policy, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	NEPIP PO2.2, CCDRR7.4.5	ENV 4.7		80%	USD 5,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9		Progress Narrative: GEF-funded Pacific Ridge to Reef (R2R) Programme underway. VCA{ and VCCRP projects are supporting achievement of this target Amendment of the Fisheries Act No.10 of 2014 to empower community based authorised officers			
A54 Vanuatu commits to prioritising adaptation and risk reduction actions that build on, incorporate and protect taboos and conservation areas (National CCDRR Policy 7.4.5), including by officially registered 20 Community Conservation Areas (CCAs) by 2030 (NEPIP 1.2.1).					
National Environment Policy, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy, revised NBSAP	NEPIP PO1.2.1, CCDRR7.4.5, NBSAP T1 and T3	ENV 5.1		70%	USD 9,680,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 5, 6, 7, 12, 15		Progress Narrative: Expanding Conservation Areas Reach and Effectiveness (ECARE) project underway with DEPC, and Vanuatu Coastal Adaptation Project (VCAP2) with DoCC, and FAO/GEF Forestry and Protected Area Management Project. DEPC is currently reviewing the Environment Act and The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan			
A55 Vanuatu commits to identifying and minimising negative impacts on the environment from proposed adaptation and risk reduction activities (National CCDRR Policy 7.4.5), ensuring that 90% of development projects comply with EIA requirements by 2030 (NEPIP 1.5.5).					
National Environment Policy, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	NEPIP PO1.5.5, CCDRR7.4.5	ENV 5.1		70%	USD 1,100,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8		Progress Narrative: ADB-supported Strengthening Implementation Capacity for EIA in Vanuatu project, and engagement with the Pacific Network for Environmental Assessment (PNEA) with SPREP on EIAs and strategic environmental assessment (SEA) and Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS).			
A56 Vanuatu commits to quantifying the value and benefit of ecosystem services for resilience and building this into planning and budgeting (National CCDRR Policy 7.4.5), including adding questions about ecosystem services in national surveys (NEPIP 5.1.12).					
National Environment Policy, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	NEPIP 5.1.12, CCDRR7.4.5	ENV 5.1		100%	USD 590,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 10, 12, 14		Progress Narrative: MACBIO project supported National marine ecosystem service valuation, PEBACC project undertook Vanuatu Ecosystem and Socio-economic Resilience Analysis and Mapping (ESRAM), and MESCAL project undertook Economic valuation of mangrove ecosystem services. PDNA from TC Harold incorporated DEPC led ecological impact assessment.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A57 Vanuatu commits to developing advocacy and educational programmes around the value of ecosystem-based adaptation (National CCDRR Policy 7.4.5), including at least one model school in each province implementing environmental resilience programmes by 2030 (NSDP SMART Indicator ENV 5.5.1).					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.4.5	ENV 5.5		80%	USD 590,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 8, 11		Progress Narrative: Aligning Ecosystem-based Adaptation and Nature-based Solutions in Vanuatu workshop in 2024, Nature-based Solutions for Forests and People project by Live & Learn, GEF Small Grants active across Vanuatu			
A58 Vanuatu commits to conserve at least 17% of important biodiversity areas, at least 30% of natural forest, at least 10% of wetland areas, and 10% of marine areas through effective community and government management measures by 2030.					
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan	6.2, 6.3.1	ENV 5.1		90%	USD 590,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 14		Progress Narrative: Community Conservation Areas being registered across Vanuatu, along with Marine Reserves and Kastom Forest Conservation Areas			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Environment Adaptation Finance – Commitments A53 – A58

- ➔ The six environment commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 18 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 11) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 12) impact and investment funds, and 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market buyers).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include grants and concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with domestic budget allocations to finance spatial planning reforms, conservation-area registration and EIA enforcement. Credit-guarantee facilities could help lower borrowing costs for local authorities. Green, resilience or biodiversity bonds, payments for ecosystem services and voluntary carbon-credit purchase agreements could fund community conservation and watershed protection, while impact investment equity and corporate ESG contributions could support education, ecosystem-services valuation and awareness campaigns.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9 – 12, 14.

ADAPTATION

Oceans (A59 – A64)

Vanuatu is a Big Ocean State, and in 2025 the Ministry of Oceans, Fisheries and Maritime Affairs was created. This was in response to growing observation that Vanuatu’s oceans are severely affected by climate change across its ocean ecosystems. Ocean warming, acidification, deoxygenation, and changes in primary productivity are the most severe climate change stressors affecting Vanuatu’s marine ecosystems, and occur simultaneously, creating high risk for compounding and cascading impacts, and will continue to occur even with the most aggressive mitigation of global emissions. Coral reefs in Vanuatu have been particularly impacted, due to ocean climate stressors, severe tropical cyclones, land-based runoff and outbreaks of corallivorous crown of thorns starfish. Many impacts have not yet been fully assessed, including from climate induced ocean deoxygenation which results in changes to sea water solubility, stratification, and respiration, and carries significant ecosystem consequences.

In 2024, the Government released its Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) as an essential tool to address increasing ocean threats, including unsecured maritime rights and climate change. The MSP plays a vital role in ensuring the sustainable management of marine resources and the protection of marine ecosystems. In 2025, Vanuatu began work on its Blue Carbon Ecosystems Policy, in order to ensure that coastal ecosystems continue to play their role as long-term carbon sinks, provide invaluable ecosystem services to ni-Vanuatu communities, expand the national economy as well as generate carbon cooperation opportunities. Mangroves, sea grasses and coral reefs are habitat-forming marine species that provide key ecosystem services including fisheries production and coastal buffering but sustain negative

impacts from climate change.

Adaptation action in ocean systems has been ongoing for decades, primarily related to indigenous and traditional marine management approaches in the coastal zone. Ocean adaptation is being undertaken in a variety of ways, including through area-based management, ecosystem protection, expansion and restoration (including blue carbon sinks), as well as marine environmental assessment, data gathering, monitoring and surveillance. For example, efforts are now underway to create a joint Melanesian Conservation Corridor, to ensure protection of major parts of these countries’ exclusive economic zones. Given that ocean-based goods and services exports contribute to Vanuatu’s GDP, Vanuatu is working on a range of ocean economy measures including the use of trade tools like tariffs, non-tariff measures, trade facilitation, and blue industrial policies. In these ocean economy interventions, Vanuatu is focused primarily on adaptation actions related to marine and coastal tourism, marine fisheries, and marine transport and related services.

Vanuatu’s efforts to mobilise blue finance are expanding, with the creation of new financial instruments dedicated specifically to ocean-friendly and water resources projects, and are especially important for Vanuatu because of its expansive oceans that hold vast and yet-to-be-realized possibilities. In this context, Vanuatu launched its Blue and Green Bond Framework in 2025 which aims to create a funding arrangement for sustainable and resilient ocean finance. Conscious that some ocean interventions may be sustainable and beneficial and some may not, Vanuatu has called for a global ban on deep sea mining.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A59	Vanuatu commits to Integrate uncertainty into marine protected area planning, management and evaluation, for example, by replicating protection across space.					
	Vanuatu Ocean Policy 2nd edition	VNOP1 7 (a)	ENV 5.1		90%	USD 570,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: DEPC supporting communities to develop CCA Management Plans, including climate risks, now 15+ registered CCAs across Vanuatu Gaps: 1, 10					
A60	Vanuatu commits to ban sand mining on white sand beaches and to develop alternate sources of sand through sustainable limestone crushing, and other options that are less harmful to the environment.					
	Vanuatu Ocean Policy 2nd edition	10 (b)	ENV 5.1		90%	USD 900,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: Temporary bans on sand mining enacted along Teouma Bay and Mele Bay, although exemptions given in response to local needs after disasters Gaps: 1, 9					

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A61 Vanuatu commits to utilize the Ecosystem-Based Approaches (EBA) and Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) for addressing climate threats to marine systems .					
"Vanuatu Ocean Policy 2nd edition "	10 (a)	ENV 5.1		80%	USD 7,600,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: CBFM approaches being supported by VFD and NGOs Gaps: 1, 5, 7, 13, 14, 15					
A62 Vanuatu commits to fully protect 30% of Vanuatu’s ocean through MSP and Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs), including MPA’s, including the establishment of a “Melanesian Corridor” of traditionally managed ocean space of all Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG) members to benefit Melanesian countries.					
Vanuatu Ocean Policy 2nd edition	3 (b)	ENV 5.1		90%	USD 15,350,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: Vanuatu’s Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) launched in 2024 which includes multiple types of ocean zones, including a national network of ecologically representative Marine Protected Areas. Gaps: 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8					
A63 Vanuatu commits that Marine Scientific Research (MSR) in Vanuatu waters will include data sharing agreements and engage scientific and other research organizations/partners to work with Vanuatu scientists and experts to develop baselines and evidence-based research on the status of Vanuatu’s ocean, and ensure results are integrated into government processes and systems.					
Vanuatu Ocean Policy 2nd edition	6 (b)(c)	ENV 5.1		70%	USD 1,100,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: New Ministry of Oceans established in 2025, with work underway to establish research protocols and agreement. MACBIO project supported National marine ecosystem service valuation, PEBACC project undertook Vanuatu Ecosystem and Socio-economic Resilience Analysis and Mapping (ESRAM), and MESCAL project undertook Economic valuation of mangrove ecosystem services. PDNA from TC Harold incorporated DEPC led ecological impact assessment. Gaps: 1, 5, 7, 13, 14, 15					
A64 Vanuatu commits to the enforcement of fishing activities and regulations through use of community-based management plans to sustain utilization of coastal fisheries resources.					
Vanuatu Ocean Policy 2nd edition	5 (b)	ENV 5.1		90%	USD 4,350,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: Most coastal communities have some form of traditional and community based marine management underway, supported technically or financially by government or civil society organisations Gaps: 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Oceans Adaptation Finance – Commitments A59 – A64

-  The six oceans commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 30 million.
-  Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 11) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks), and 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market buyers).
-  Preferred instruments include concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with grants and domestic budget resources to underwrite marine spatial planning, coastal risk management works, reef and mangrove restoration, and upgraded disaster response systems, all supported by credit guarantee facilities that lower borrowing costs for local implementers. Blue or sustainability-linked bonds, voluntary or compliance blue carbon credit purchase agreements, impact investment, corporate ESG contributions and parametric reef insurance products could support crowding in private capital and performance-based revenue streams.
-  Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9 – 14.

Waste (A65 – A69)

Vanuatu has uniquely fragile marine, aquatic and terrestrial resources due to its size, lack of natural storage, competing land uses and vulnerability to climate change. Pollution and the growing volumes of solid and hazardous wastes are major threats to the environment and sustainable development of Vanuatu. Globalisation is accelerating the transition of our urban communities towards consumer economies, with increasing urbanisation, migration, and participation in international trade, resulting in an escalation in the generation of solid and liquid wastes, and these increase the risk of coastal and marine pollution. The lack of controls on imported chemicals and the lack of capacity for managing pollutants threaten to undermine the quality and health of vulnerable ecosystems on which Vanuatu's climate resilience depends.

Climate change is putting further pressure on natural resources affected by waste, threatening the long-term viability of communities and islands. There are promising adaptive actions underway, including for example in 2018, Vanuatu implemented the first policy to outlaw the sale and distribution of certain single-use plastics, including plastic bags and plastic straws, in a bid to reduce waste and pollution in the river and marine environment. These now-banned items used to make up 35% of Vanuatu's waste, but now make up less than 2%. In the years since the ban took effect, plastic shopping bags are now rarely used, with most shoppers carrying reusable bags at their local market or grocery stores. At festivals and outdoor events, food is more often served wrapped in banana leaves instead of polystyrene takeaway boxes. In 2020, a second phase of the policy added seven more items to the list of banned plastics, which now covers cutlery, single-use plates and artificial flowers.

The government and private sector also launched a Product Stewardship Scheme (PSS) to collect beverage containers, with deposit/fee-type benefit for consumers and local residents. The Vanuatu Recyclers and Waste Management Association consists of businesses and organisations, registered in Vanuatu, that have had a demonstrable association with recycling, waste management, waste minimization or commercial waste

production for at least 12 months. The goals of the VRWMA are to assist waste producers (retailers and manufacturers) to reduce waste they produced by ensuring they are aware of opportunities that arise, and to create and improve systems and infrastructure for waste streams that have potential to be recycled. Vanuatu Brewing Limited (the home of Tusker beer), is one of several companies with a "Return & Earn" policy to promote the re-using of its glass bottles. During its 30+ years of existence, Vanuatu Brewing Limited has reused over 100,000,000 bottles of beer and sparkling water with a collection rate of 90% throughout Vanuatu.

Managed or controlled waste disposal sites are found on Port Vila and Luganville, and a few others at Tafea and Malampa provinces. In Port Vila urban areas the waste generation was calculated at 465-900g per person per day. Luganville waste generation was 1.2 kg per person per day. Outside of the urban centres the waste generation is estimated to be lower (68g per person per day for Lelepa Island near Efate). Hazardous waste is accepted at both Bouffa and Luganville waste sites. Some of the e-waste are collected for recycling. Asbestos wastes are buried at the landfill. Healthcare waste is incinerated and is only buried at the landfill if the incinerators are not working.

Agrifood systems both contribute to pollution and are vulnerable to its impacts. Crop and livestock production, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture are crucial to the achievement of this target, which includes components related to reducing excess loss of nutrients in the environment, for example those arising from fertilizer/pesticide as well as other highly hazardous chemical use by at least half, including through integrated pest management, and preventing, reducing and working towards eliminating pollution. Integrated pest management includes techniques that discourage the development of pest populations by combining biological, chemical, physical and crop-specific (cultural) management practices to minimize pesticide use. The agrifood sectors can also contribute to the target by minimising, reusing or recycling waste and improve waste management processes at all levels.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A65	Vanuatu commits to developing, for all 6 provincial governments, a Waste Management Plan by 2035.					
	National Waste Management & Pollution Control Strategy	O1.1.7	ENV 2.4		70%	USD 390,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited		Progress Narrative: Sanma Province & Luganville Municipality's Waste Management Plan Gaps: 1, 7, 10, 11, 16			
A66	Vanuatu commits to ensuring at least two pollution guidelines/standards are enforced by 2035.					
	National Waste Management & Pollution Control Strategy	O1.1.11	ENV 2.4		90%	USD 320,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Fuel Standards and Vanuatu Vehicle Emission Standard launched Gaps: 1, 10, 14, 15			
A67	Vanuatu commits to Develop and deliver Training of Trainers (TOT) programme on waste management, pollution control and clean production.					
	National Waste Management & Pollution Control Strategy	3.1.4a	ENV 2.4		90%	USD 100,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited		Progress Narrative: PacWaste Plus programme delivers training on disaster waste management. NGOs including Erakor and Nguna CBOs undertook inline course in Municipal Waste Management in 2023 Gaps: 1, 11, 12			
A68	Vanuatu commits to develop and implement a waste minimisation plan (Including 3Rs, composting, characterisation, source separation) by 2030.					
	National Waste Management & Pollution Control Strategy	4.1.1	ENV 2.4		90%	USD 500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited		Progress Narrative: launch of National Waste Management, Pollution Control Strategy and Implementation Plan. Establishment of Vanuatu Recyclers and Waste Management Association (VRWMA) to help businesses improve waste management and recycling. RecycleCorp undertakes collection, processing and export of scrap metal, machinery hire, fabrication and contracting Gaps: 1, 10, 14, 15			
A69	Vanuatu commits to approving and installing at least 1 waste treatment and storage facility in each province.					
	National Waste Management & Pollution Control Strategy	5.1.2	ENV 2.4		90%	USD 18,700,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu National Waste Audit Analysis Report in 2023 found that none of the four documented waste disposal facilities in Vanuatu meet the requirements of being a 'modern' facility: Bouffa landfill and Lenekel, Lakatoro and Luganville dumpsites. Gaps: 1, 9, 10			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Waste Adaptation Finance – Commitments A65 – A69

- ➔ The five waste commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 20 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), and 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with grants to finance waste-treatment plants, training programmes and waste-minimisation plans, channelled through national budget allocations and backed by credit guarantees or PPP concessions that transfer construction and operational risk to private operators. Performance-based grants and results-based payments linked to pollution-reduction metrics could secure predictable cash flows, while resilience bonds can mobilise additional capital for community composting and source separation initiatives.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9.



ADAPTATION

Information and Communication Technology (A70)

As the impacts of climate change intensify in Vanuatu, stakeholders are turning to innovative strategies to adapt. Information and communication technologies (ICTs) are playing a key role in strengthening adaptive capacity at all levels, supporting climate information gathering, decision making, implementation and evaluation of adaptation. Specific ICT applications now in use throughout Vanuatu enable delivery of particular adaptational actions related to poverty, water, agriculture and food security, human health, terrestrial and marine ecosystems, and disaster management. Internet-based applications, satellite internet, mobile phones, and community radio are increasingly available and have provided an exceptional opportunity for Vanuatu stakeholders to improve the creation, management, exchange and application of relevant climate change information and knowledge.

ICTs in Vanuatu have facilitated the inclusion of multiple voices in the design of adaptation strategies at all levels, from simple broadcast and awareness raising of issues to be decided; to fuller engagement through the use of social media and online polling of those likely to be affected; to the use of group decision support systems to model and analyse different scenarios, and

enable decisions to be made. GIS applications, earth browsers, and Web-based clearinghouse sites are now offering possibilities for Vanuatu citizen monitoring and accountability. Web 2.0 tools (e.g. social networking sites, Wikis and blogs), smart phones (mobile phones with Internet capabilities, allowing text and audiovisual data sharing) and online discussion fora are fostering new forms of engagement and participation in climate change adaptation and crisis response, converging and mobilise stakeholders' interests towards common adaptational goals. These ICTs unleash creative collaborations and climate-focused actions of various public and private entities, academia, civil society and the public in general.

Increasing access to these ICTs for Vanuatu citizens is transforming government services and public administration, as well as supercharging advances in the socio-economic development of the nation and its resilience to climate change. While there are risks and downsides of the increased use of and dependence on ICTs, the country is working to empower users with tools and services, and enhancing relevance of ICTs by promoting the availability of local content and through capacity building programmes.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A70	Vanuatu commits to using ICTs in climate change mitigation and adaptation, ensuring that GoV planning and response agencies shall have potential to have free access to public and private network infrastructure and resources.				
ICT Policy	4.4	ECO 2.9		80%	USD 12,510,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 10, 13		Progress Narrative: International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Kacific and Starlink providing disaster satellite communications. Interchange Limited implementing the TAMTAM system, a Science Monitoring and Reliable Telecommunications (SMART) cable set to connect Vanuatu to New Caledonia. MoE offering remote learning and Homeschooling Packages for climate affected students			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

ICT Adaptation Finance – Commitment A70

- ➔ The one ICT commitment is estimated to cost approximately USD 13 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), and 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include grant-funded technical assistance and concessional loans for climate-resilient telecom infrastructure and e-government platforms, supported by resilience bonds and partial-risk guarantees. Results-based grants tied to network-uptime and service-coverage targets could attract private co-financing from telecom operators and impact investors seeking measurable adaptation outcomes.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9



ADAPTATION

Infrastructure (A71 – A73)

Infrastructure is the foundation for climate resilient development in urban and rural areas, operating industries and commerce, improving living standards, delivering community services and driving economic growth. Vanuatu has made substantial progress in providing infrastructure, and planning for further investment is underway in individual sub-sectors. Vanuatu has three international airports: Bauerfield (Port Vila) and Santo-Pekoa (Luganville), White Grass (Tanna), and a total road network of 1070 km, with only 24% of these being paved. With three international maritime ports, and more than 100 island landings, maritime transport infrastructure is critical for enabling the distribution of adaptation materials and support.

Most of Vanuatu's infrastructure assets are highly compromised by climate change, despite recent climate proofing efforts, due primarily to inadequate resources for operation and maintenance once they are deployed. The Government of Vanuatu funds little infrastructure and other capital expenditure from domestic revenues, as it relies on a narrow tax base (VAT, excise, import duties). Development partner grants (and more recently concessional loans) have been the main finance source for infrastructure development and resilience.

For example the World Bank funded Vanuatu Climate Resilient Transport Project (VRCTP) is providing a sustainable climate resilient road infrastructure along the 60 km South Santo Road corridor including localised adaptations such as wet crossings/bridges, coastal road protection measures, and upgrading

vented fords to larger culverts or bridges with adequate capacity to pass storm flows. The South Paray domestic wharf in Port Vila was completed in 2025 and was fully engineered to future climate projections, including cyclone and sea level rise. Vanuatu's 2023 Road Design Guide now incorporates the projected impacts of future climate change into the nation's official manual of road construction, so that road engineers can systematically factor in projections for climate-related impacts, like extreme rainfall and sea level rise into the planning, construction and maintenance of the nation's road network. All infrastructure projects underway now include strong climate resilience elements to provide solutions that are fit-for-purpose and adopting relatively new technologies. As climate extremes become more intense and change in frequency, there are ever more critical motivations for expanding adaptive approaches in public infrastructure in Vanuatu, particularly in remote outer islands.

Vanuatu seeks to invest in active transport and healthy lifestyle options of walking and cycling to meet triple goals of climate mitigation, healthy adaptation and financial efficiency, all while ensuring that infrastructure and transport climate action is inclusive, equitable, and people-focused, benefiting both communities and the workforce. Similarly, Vanuatu aims to redirect financial flows and reform economic mechanisms in favour of sustainable infrastructure and transport solutions, and incentivising the competitiveness of low-carbon transportation modalities

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A71	Vanuatu commits to provide infrastructure services that contribute to inclusive (broad-based and gender-balanced) economic growth, human development, and poverty reduction, with increasing resilience to climate risks.					
	Vanuatu Infrastructure Strategy and Implementation Plan	Goal 1, Pg. 104	ECO 2.1		90%	USD 42,570,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 8, 9		Progress Narrative: World Bank's Vanuatu Infrastructure Reconstruction and Investment Program (VIRIP) reconstructed or repaired 50 kilometers of roads, and rebuilt 40 schools and 26 public facilities. Vanuatu Climate Resilient Transport Project (VCRTP) roads in Port Vila and Santo Island			
A72	Vanuatu commits to assessing, for all new government infrastructure investments, the "Resilience of Project Assets to Climate Change and Natural Disaster Risk", and build to high climate change and disaster risk reduction standards, with backup, failover, low vulnerability location, etc.					
	Vanuatu Infrastructure Strategy and Implementation Plan	1.16, Pg. 109, 2.16, Pg. 110, 3.2.2, Pg. 112	ECO 2.1		90%	USD 3,610,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 10, 12		Progress Narrative: 2024 review and update of the Vanuatu Rural Road Design Guide,			
A73	Vanuatu commits to ensuring that the design and construction of public and other major infrastructure and development projects consider current and projected risks to minimise loss and damage, especially by developing and adhering to climate-proofed building codes, environmental impact assessments, regulations and development guidelines.					
	Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.4.4	ECO 2.1		90%	USD 212,850,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 10, 12		Progress Narrative: The Climate Resilient Road Standards (CRRS) Project funded by Australia.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Infrastructure Adaptation Finance - Commitments A71 – A73

→ The three infrastructure commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 260 million.

→ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 6) national climate funds (e.g., NGEF), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 8) national pension fund (e.g., VNPF), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 12) impact and investment funds, and 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks).

→ Preferred instruments include large-scale concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with grants for resilient transport, energy and key public infrastructure. Projects could be structured as PPPs and supported by green or sustainability-linked bonds, credit-enhancement facilities and grants for technical assistance. Equity investments and commercial bank co-lending could be mobilised through partial-risk guarantees and performance-based payment mechanisms that reward assets meeting climate-resilience and performance-based standards.

→ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 9, 12, 13

ADAPTATION

People with Disabilities (A74 – A76)

In Vanuatu, persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected by climate change, commonly due to stigmatization, unequal economic opportunities and systemic yet unintentional exclusion from climate adaptation and support mechanisms. Vanuatu's people with disabilities are more vulnerable to climate hazards than counterparts without disabilities in the same villages and islands, particularly due to mobility limitations, physical barriers and lack of accessibility that put persons with disabilities disproportionately more at risk during climate-induced disasters. For the same structural inequalities, persons with disabilities in Vanuatu often lack general access to information and resources and are systematically underrepresented in decision making. Many persons with disabilities have limited education and employment opportunities and are often financially dependent on their caretakers. Given the fact that many of Vanuatu's persons with disabilities are so directly dependent on their families and local communities, specially tailored adaptation activities are critical to ensure that communities are able to enhance the informal support systems that can address the scale of the challenges posed by climate change. This is especially of concern in Vanuatu's remote, rural, underserved island villages, where communities depend on climate-sensitive resources for their livelihoods.

Evidence from Vanuatu indicates that persons with disabilities experience greater risk in a disaster. They are less likely to evacuate safely and without injury due to a lack of accessible information regarding evacuation processes, and limited availability of accessible evacuation shelters. Persons with disabilities are not always included adequately in community or

national disaster risk reduction planning and response processes or structures such as Community Disaster and Climate Change Committees, and Clusters.

Vanuatu acknowledges that planning for climate change resilience must more comprehensively include persons with disabilities at the national, provincial and community levels. To ensure that no one is left behind, targeted efforts are underway in Government and civil society, including the Vanuatu Society for People with Disability (VSPD) and the Vanuatu Disability Promotion and Advocacy (VDPA) are elucidating requirements of persons with disabilities in early warning systems, climate-resilient infrastructure development and disaster preparedness plans. Work is proceeding in all climate programmes to incorporate the differentiated vulnerabilities of persons with different types of disabilities, supporting the economic empowerment of persons with disabilities, direct participation in climate change adaptation programs. More generally, the Government of Vanuatu has put in place guidelines on the composition of area councils and community disaster and climate change committees on the ways that persons with disabilities should be represented in decision-making on climate action.

Most climate adaptation projects now include awareness campaigns to change community attitudes towards persons with disabilities, promoting inclusiveness and to proactively engage community members together with persons with disabilities in activities. Vanuatu has observed that increased collaboration between climate and disability advocates is bridging these complementary fields.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A74	Vanuatu commits to support mainstreaming of the rights of persons with disabilities in all policies, plans and programmes across the climate change sector.					
	Vanuatu Disability and Inclusive Development Policy	1.5	SOC 4.5		70%	USD 320,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 10, 12	Progress Narrative: Project support by Women I TokTok Tugeta (WITTT) network and its disability chapter, WITTT Sunshine. Vankirap project training on Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) principles in climate resilience				
A75	Vanuatu commits to work with persons with disabilities to identify barriers to climate change initiatives.					
	Vanuatu Disability and Inclusive Development Policy	1.5.1	SOC 4.5		70%	USD 970,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 8, 11	Progress Narrative: The Vanuatu Society for People with Disability has undertaken considerable work to sensitize government and non government stakeholders on the climate impacts on people with disabilities, as well as strategies to enable adaptation and resilience				
A76	Vanuatu commits to strengthen the inclusion of organisations of persons with disabilities in national climate decision-making process involving planning and programme implementation which directly and indirectly affects their lives.					
	Vanuatu Disability and Inclusive Development Policy	8.2.ii	SOC 4.5		70%	USD 450,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 8, 11	Progress Narrative: VSDP is a member of the Vanuatu Climate Action Network				

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Disability Adaptation Finance – Commitments A74 – A76

- ➔ The three people with disability commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 2 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), and 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include grant-financed technical assistance and small concessional loans to retrofit facilities, develop inclusive early-warning systems and build organisational capacity. This support could be channelled through budget appropriations and backed by micro-guarantees that lower borrowing costs for disability-service providers. Results-based grants linked to accessibility and inclusion indicators could create incentive aligned funding flows, while modest resilience bonds can engage impact investors focused on social and climate outcomes.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9.

Gender and Social Inclusion (A77 – A84)

Climate change is not gender neutral, and Vanuatu’s women and girls have most acutely felt the consequences of climate change, including those that are particularly vulnerable, such as children, older persons and people with disabilities. Women and men in Vanuatu have differentiated contributions and access to the benefits derived from climate action. In this context, Vanuatu strongly supports gender equality and gender-responsive action to address climate change, as well as the empowerment, leadership, decision-making and full, equal and meaningful participation of women and girls, and the role that women play as managers, leaders and defenders of natural resources and agents of change in safeguarding the climate and natural environment.

This NDC 3.0 aims to eliminate gender disparities through the recognition of gender equality and women’s empowerment in all commitments, as well as by aligning with the UNFCCC’s Enhanced Lima Work Program on Gender and its Action Plan and dozens of gender decisions under the Convention and the Paris Agreement. Vanuatu has a range of dedicated safeguards and regulations to overcome practical and cultural barriers to the participation of women, girls, and gender-diverse persons in climate action, including for example formally establishes gender quotas for the formal registration of Community Disaster and Climate Change Committees (CDCCCs) ensuring women and girls have a place in climate decision-making bodies; the NAB encouraged practice of providing stipends and sitting allowances to women and girls who participate in climate planning workshops, ensuring financial barriers do not prevent engagement; the practice of scheduling community consultations and participatory processes at times and places that accommodate women’s caregiving, educational and household responsibilities; the requirement that climate programme staff undergo gender equity and inclusion training with a focus on local cultural contexts; the enforcement of gender-based violence (GBV) prevention protocols and reporting mechanisms in all climate initiatives; training, extension, and outreach programs that utilise gender-sensitive materials; and the requirement for collection and reporting of gender, age, and disability-disaggregated data for all climate programmes.

Climate vulnerability and its consequences not only reflect existing gender inequality, they also reinforce and exacerbate socially constructed relations of power, norms, and practices

that constrain progress toward gender equality in Vanuatu. This includes culturally influenced gender roles and responsibilities that confine women’s activities and mobility to the home; traditions that limit women’s access to natural, financial, and social capital, and thus their ability to cope with climate shocks and to adapt to climate change; and norms that inhibit women’s ability to access information, knowledge, skills, and capacity building that could be lifesaving during and after a weather-related disaster. As a result, women and girls in Vanuatu experience heightened social, economic, and health impacts of climate change. More women than men (49% and 41% respectively) are involved in the subsistence economy in Vanuatu, which makes them more susceptible to climate change, disasters and other livelihood stresses.

When age is added to considerations of gender- that is, if the focus is specifically on girls- there is another layer of vulnerability and impact through which climate change intersects. After climate events, adolescent girls are at additional risk of being pulled out of school to help alleviate extra domestic burdens, like fetching water, that are shouldered by women in households under climate-related stress. Leaving school also makes girls less likely to be informed about climate change and further increases their vulnerability. Such circumstances put into play the early onset of key life transitions, including early pregnancy, that function to direct girls into a cycle of intergenerational poverty, vulnerability, and marginalisation.

Despite the potential for exacerbated vulnerability, women and girls are highly impactful agents of change in Vanuatu, holding important traditional decision-making roles in their families, communities and schools. Women and girls have unique abilities as drivers of solutions when they are empowered, as men and women have different coping mechanisms, capacities and experiences in the face of climate change. Women and girls play an important role in climate change adaptation and mitigation because of their roles in core climate change sectors: agriculture, livestock management, energy, disaster risk reduction (DRR), forestry, water management and health. Increasingly, women are entering, but still under-represented in, renewable energy and mitigation activities in Vanuatu. Women’s local and environmental knowledge and survival strategies are major ingredients for recovery and resilience.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A77 Vanuatu commits to upholding gender equity and responsiveness when implementing climate action and planning for durable solutions that are responsive to the different risks and needs of all people, including women and girls, men, and children.					
National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement	GP4	SOC 4.1		80%	USD 10,960,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
<p>Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 8, 11</p> <p>Progress Narrative: Durable solutions apply to communities that have been impacted by displacement, or are at risk of permanent or long-term displacement.</p> <p>Government of Vanuatu has begun to identify these risks and begun to plan for durable solutions for select communities and develop relocation guidelines and practices that will encompass gender equity principles.</p> <p>ActionAid project Women-Led Climate Resilience and Adaptation. NAB includes gender screening in climate project endorsement process. GCF funded FP184: Vanuatu community-based climate resilience project (VCCRP) includes the development of Gender action plans. STRENGTH project and IOM are supporting the displacement of climate affected communities.</p>					
A78 Vanuatu aims to ensure that all people are empowered agents of change and thus included in climate action planning and have equal opportunities to lead community-driven mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage response processes.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	8.2, 8.4	SOC 4.1		80%	USD 2,190,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
<p>Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 8, 11</p> <p>Progress Narrative: The National Adaptation and Loss & Damage Planning process, commenced in 2025, aims to ensure that all people are empowered to lead actions at the local level, and contribute to localised planning. The VCCRP includes work on more than 250 community adaptation plans which are based on whole of society consultation and engagement</p>					
A79 Vanuatu commits to adhering to best-practice monitoring, evaluation and learning processes in its climate change programming that receive endorsement from the National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction including promoting the use of gender analysis, sex-disaggregated data, and gender indicators.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	8.2	SOC 4.1		80%	USD 1,030,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
<p>Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 15</p> <p>Progress Narrative: NAB requires use of sex disaggregated MEAL indicators. NSDP indicators include gender focused metrics</p>					
A80 Vanuatu commits to ensure that climate change and disaster risk reduction policies, projects and governance mechanisms such as the National Advisory Board on Climate Change (NAB) are gender responsive.					
National Gender Equality Policy	4.I.7	SOC 4.1		70%	USD 840,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
<p>Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 8, 11</p> <p>Progress Narrative: NAB requires use of sex disaggregated MEAL indicators, and special consideration of women and girls in formal project endorsement processes</p>					
A81 Vanuatu commits to acknowledging that there is a high level of diversity among women; and recognise that certain groups are more vulnerable than others, including girls, young women, women with disabilities, widows and lone female headed households.					
National Gender Equality Policy	OP4	SOC 4.1		50%	USD 390,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
<p>Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 8, 9, 11</p> <p>Progress Narrative: National Gender Equality Policy seeks to accelerate the realization of equal rights, opportunities, resources and rewards for women and girls. Provincial Gender Action Plans developed. Sista, CARE collaborating in climate Gender Equality Program.</p>					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A82 Vanuatu commits to strengthen and improve protective, social and support services including protection of women, children and persons with disabilities in times of climate emergencies.					
National Gender Equality Policy	SA1.3	SOC 4.1		90%	USD 12,640,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: Gender and Protection Cluster leads and coordinates emergency action Gaps: 1, 8, 11					
A83 Vanuatu commits to promote women's representation on national climate taskforces and working committees, with a target of least 30% women members of government climate taskforces and working committees by 2035					
National Gender Equality Policy	SA3.5	SOC 4.1		50%	USD 190,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: National Advisory Board on Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction current gender composition is 4/20 (20%) Gaps: 9					
A84 Vanuatu commits to initiate research on relevant climate issues related to women's issues and gender equality.					
National Gender Equality Policy	SA4.3	SOC 4.1		100%	USD 580,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: ActionAID and others undertaking research on gender and climate, some published in peer reviewed journals Gaps: 1, 10, 14					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Gender and Social Inclusion Adaptation Finance – Commitments A77 – A84

- ➡ The eight gender and social inclusion commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 29 million.
- ➡ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, SPC, SPREP), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), and 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives.
- ➡ Preferred instruments include grant-financed technical assistance and concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with domestic budget allocations, reinforced by corporate ESG or impact investments that channel capital to women-led MSMEs. Results-based grants tied to sex-disaggregated indicators could support funding for gender-responsive planning, monitoring and implementation.
- ➡ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9, 10.

Human Rights and Climate Justice (A85 – A86)

The adverse impacts of climate change significantly impinge on the enjoyment of human rights of the people of Vanuatu, including with respect to the rights to life, food, health, housing, self-determination, water, sanitation, decent work and a clean, healthy and sustainable environment as has been described in numerous resolutions and reports to the Human Rights Council²⁰. The ICJ has also confirmed that the right to an effective remedy is a fundamental principle of international human rights law²¹, and applies to human rights violations relating to adverse impacts from climate change, and calls for reparations to be provided for its violation.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) itself provides climate-relevant human rights obligations of States, guaranteeing several rights impacted by climate change²², such as the rights to life, liberty, and security; privacy, home and family life; freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State; not be arbitrarily deprived of one's property; a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of oneself and one's family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services; and cultural life²³. Importantly, the UDHR expressly extends these rights to "[a]ll human beings" without imposing any territorial or temporal restriction on States' obligations to respect, protect and fulfill them.

Vanuatu strongly endorses and supports the UN General Assembly Resolution²⁴ on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment that it co-sponsored, which recognizes the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment as a human right and calls on States to undertake measures to scale up efforts to ensure a clean, healthy and sustainable environment for all. Vanuatu is taking measures to formally recognise and incorporate the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment through proposed constitutional amendments and has initiated regional discussions on further

recognition of the right at the regional level. Vanuatu reaffirms that all States have legal obligations to respect, protect and promote human rights, including in all actions undertaken to address climate change, and to take measures to protect the human rights of all.

Vanuatu acknowledges that the rights of certain groups of people are disproportionately and often intersectionally affected. Loss and damage experienced by persons in vulnerable situations is often unaccounted for due to a lack of group-disaggregated data or unaddressed due to cultural norms.

Vanuatu seeks rights and justice approaches that include not only the interests of all humans but of the nonhuman, such as other animals, plants, forests, rivers and ecological systems. Vanuatu asserts that there is a moral and political obligation for the basic institutions of society – including our political and legal systems – to take those interests into account when making decisions. Rights cannot be dismissed simply because they are inconvenient or costly (for certain humans), and attending to them is not a matter of charity or generosity. Similarly, Vanuatu has direct experience with rights-based approaches as critical for climate-resilient development, leading to more legitimate and effective outcomes for society, ecosystems and individuals alike.

Vanuatu holds that human and interspecies rights norms, standards, considerations and obligations should shape and guide all climate action. International rights law applies to averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with climate change and its impact on human rights. Vanuatu's commitments in this NDC 3.0 shall adhere to a rights-based approach to climate action which is affirmed in the Paris Agreement, whose preamble includes the provision that Parties should respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights when taking action to address climate change²⁵.

20 <https://docs.un.org/en/A/HRC/57/30> including 7/23, 10/4, 18/22, 26/27, 29/15, 32/33, 35/20, 38/4, 41/21, 44/7, 47/24, 50/9 and 53/6; and A/HRC/31/52, A/HRC/32/23, A/HRC/35/13, A/HRC/38/21, A/HRC/41/26, A/HRC/44/30, A/HRC/47/46, A/HRC/50/57, A/HRC/53/47 and A/HRC/55/37.

21 <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/basic-principles-and-guidelines-right-remedy-and-reparation>

22 <https://www.ohchr.org/en/specialprocedures/sr-climate-change>

23 [https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_RES_217\(III\).pdf](https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_RES_217(III).pdf)

24 <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3982508?ln=en&v=pdf>

25 https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf

Climate change can and does have differing social, economic, public health, and other adverse impacts on underprivileged populations. Global warming is an ethical, political and rights issue, not purely environmental or physical in nature. In Vanuatu, the government recognises the need to relate the causes and effects of climate change to fundamental human rights, including integrating concepts of environmental justice and social justice. There are real concerns about the inequitable outcomes for different people and places associated with vulnerability to climate impacts, loss and damage. Climate change is fundamentally an issue of human rights that connects the local to national to the global, with those who are most affected having contributed least to climate change. Climate change is one of the greatest threats to human rights of our generation, posing a serious risk to fundamental human rights.

To give full effect to the ICJ Advisory Opinion, Vanuatu will operationalise the Opinion through the following integrated measures.

1. Due-diligence and EIA alignment. All climate-relevant decisions by public authorities will be screened against a national “ICJ implementation test” that gives practical effect to the international standard of due diligence and the obligation to conduct environmental impact assessments where planned activities under Vanuatu’s jurisdiction or control emit greenhouse gases in a manner likely to cause substantial pollution or significant harmful changes, including to the marine environment. This test will be embedded in licensing, permitting and procurement, will require use of best available scientific information, and will consider cumulative and transboundary impacts, consistent with Vanuatu’s existing Environmental Protection and Conservation Act framework and related regulations. Decisions that fail the test will be revised or revoked.
2. Invocation of State responsibility and remedies. Recognising that the core climate-protection obligations are owed erga omnes and that responsibility may be invoked by injured and non-injured States, Vanuatu will establish procedures to (i) issue formal notifications to responsible States seeking cessation of wrongful conduct and appropriate assurances/guarantees of non-repetition, and (ii) pursue reparation—restitution, compensation and/or satisfaction—where a sufficiently direct and certain causal nexus can be shown. These procedures will include standard templates for diplomatic notes, evidence standards, and escalation pathways to judicial or arbitral fora, to be administered by an ICJ Implementation Taskforce (see Governance of Climate Change below).
3. Non-refoulement and protection pathways. In line with the Court’s articulation of non-refoulement, Vanuatu will adopt administrative directions and, where appropriate, legislative measures to ensure that no person is returned to

a territory where climate-related conditions create a real risk of irreparable harm to life or other non-derogable rights. This will be integrated with the National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement and with planned relocation frameworks.

4. Sea-level rise and maritime zones security. Vanuatu will complete the preparation, publication and deposit of charts or lists of geographical coordinates of our baselines and the outer limits of our maritime zones in accordance with UNCLOS, and will maintain these limits without reduction notwithstanding physical changes due to sea-level rise. This approach is consistent with the evolution of international law and regional State practice and will be accompanied by diplomatic engagement to secure broad recognition.
5. National Loss-and-Damage Claims and Evidence Facility. To enable effective reparation claims, Vanuatu will establish a national facility to register evidence of climate-related damage, loss and injury; apply internationally recognised attribution methodologies; and prepare dossiers for claims before international mechanisms, including the UN Loss and Damage arrangements and other fora. The facility will report annually and will coordinate with the Country Platform’s Loss and Damage Fund window.
6. UNFCCC alignment communication. Within twelve months of adoption of this NDC, Vanuatu will submit a supplementary communication under Article 4.11 of the Paris Agreement demonstrating how this NDC has been aligned with the ICJ Opinion and, where needed, updating components to ensure consistency with the Opinion’s findings.

To ensure human rights are upheld throughout the implementation of all measures continued in this NDC 3.0, Vanuatu employs a range of safeguards and principles on Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) for protecting the rights and interests of local communities. These measures help to prevent exploitation and ensure that community members are fully informed and actively participate in decision-making processes regarding climate initiatives. These include, inter alia, the Environment Impact Assessment Regulations enshrined within the Environmental Protection and Conservation Act, regulations on the discharge of pollution, wastewater and the emission of noise, odour or electromagnetic radiation enshrined in the Pollution Control Act, policies to protect water resources enshrined in the Water Resources Management Act, recognition and protection of indigenous land enshrined in the Land Reform Act, labour codes and minimum wages enshrined in the Employment Act, child protection regulations enshrined in the Rights of the Child Act, regulations on the protection of cultural assets enshrined in the Preservation of Sites and Artefacts Act and the Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Expressions of Culture Act, as well as enhanced safeguard and FPIC regulations in the Ministry of Climate Change’s Environmental and Social Management Framework.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A85 Vanuatu commits to make climate justice a part of the mandate of government programming, including directing line agencies to develop programmes, policies, and activities to address the disproportionate health, environmental, economic, cultural and social impacts of climate change on disadvantaged communities and individuals.					
Climate Diplomacy Strategy	O1	SOC 5.1		100%	USD 1,420,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 12		Progress Narrative: Climate justice considerations have not yet been incorporated into sector plans or strategies			
A86 Vanuatu commits to campaigning for the UN General Assembly to adopt a 2nd resolution accepting the Advisory Opinion from the International Court of Justice on the obligations of states under international law to protect the rights of present and future generations against the adverse effects of climate change.					
Climate Diplomacy Strategy	O2	SOC 5.1		100%	USD 5,160,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 9, 10		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu successfully obtained General Assembly Resolution A/77/L.58 Requesting International Court of Justice Provide Advisory Opinion on States' Obligations Concerning Climate Change in March 2023. The Advisory Opinion is expected in 2025.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Human Rights and Climate Justice Adaptation Finance – Commitments A85 – A86

- ➔ The two human rights and climate justice commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 7 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), and 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives.
- ➔ Preferred instruments comprise grants and concessional loans from MDBs, multilateral climate trust funds and institutional partners to underwrite climate justice advocacy, legal analysis and curriculum development, complemented by corporate ESG and philanthropic contributions linked to progress on human rights and climate justice indicators. This blended approach would provide predictable resources for participatory governance while crowding in public and private capital that values rights-based adaptation outcomes.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 10.

ADAPTATION

Indigenous People (A87 – A90)

Vanuatu’s hundreds of unique indigenous cultures manage livelihood risks in a changing climate with traditional knowledge and solutions that deserve greater attention and consideration within national and global climate action arenas. Vanuatu’s indigenous peoples’ traditional ecological knowledge is based on a life lived in marginal and challenging environments, already implementing mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage strategies as part of traditional natural resources management. At the same time, Indigenous Peoples and local communities safeguard invaluable knowledge and traditions based on their respective worldviews and the relationships with nature that these entail, which are and will continue to be the basis for addressing climate action in Vanuatu’s islands. This NDC 3.0 is based on Vanuatu’s experience that climate commitments and targets have benefitted substantially from the integration of traditional knowledge into mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage interventions.

Climate induced loss and damage threatens the survival of this traditional knowledge, and destroys records relating to personal identification, ownership of assets and land. Traditional

knowledge is the practices, systems, skills and “know-how” developed by a community and passed on from one generation to another, forming part of the spiritual and cultural identity of the group. For the implementation of this NDC 3.0, Vanuatu recognises the important role of traditional knowledge and commits to respecting, protecting, and fulfilling the rights of Indigenous Peoples with respect to their knowledge. Vanuatu also commits to respect, protect and promote the rights of Indigenous Peoples in line with international law, including the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), including their rights to their lands, territories, resources, and traditional knowledge, the conservation and protection of the environment, their rights that might be affected by climate change, the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their lands, territories, waters, and coastal seas, and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard. All of Vanuatu’s climate policies include a requirement that interventions must follow predefined and rigorously monitored processes to ensure that Indigenous Peoples’ right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent will be respected.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A87	Vanuatu commits to build on and share existing traditional knowledge and expand its use by collecting, recording and incorporating climate-relevant traditional knowledge into planning, decision-making, and school curricula, while ensuring appropriate cultural protocols are respected.				
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.3.2	SOC 1.2		90%	USD 3,610,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 14		Progress Narrative: Projects VANKIRAP and VCCRP support farmers traditional practices e.g intercropping, agroforestry, cover cropping and crop diversification. Tools developed through VANKIRAP identify weather and climate traditional knowledge, and a national traditional knowledge booklet and calendars for each province. Continued research required on climate adaptability of traditional crops, and merging of contemporary climate-smart farming practices with traditional knowledge (e.g. traditional pest management practices and cropping calendars).			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A88	Vanuatu commits to preserve and enhance cultural and traditional knowledge (NSDP SOC 1.2) including appropriate climate adaptation and resilience practices relating to land tenure, agriculture, climate, biodiversity, music, weaving, dance and ceremonial rites that may enhance the cultural resilience of communities facing climate impacts.				
National Sustainable Development Plan	1.2	SOC 1.2		80%	USD 1,680,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 8, 12		Progress Narrative: Projects VANKIRAP and VCCRP support farmers traditional practices e.g intercropping, agroforestry, cover cropping and crop diversification. Tools developed through VANKIRAP identify weather and climate traditional knowledge, and a national traditional knowledge booklet and calendars for each province. Continued research required on climate adaptability of traditional crops, and merging of contemporary climate-smart farming practices with traditional knowledge (e.g. traditional pest management practices and cropping calendars).			
A89	Vanuatu commits to map traditional knowledge of communities at risk of displacement and investigate ways for traditional knowledge to be used in adaptation efforts.				
National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement	11.4	SOC 1.2		100%	USD 2,190,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 11, 13		Progress Narrative: Several NGOs and government led climate projects are documenting traditional knowledge related to adaptation. TK is a part of the NAP development process			
A90	Vanuatu commits to bridging the gap between traditional and scientific knowledge to make contributions from indigenous peoples to climate action more visible.				
Vanuatu Framework for Climate Services	Pg. 27, Pg. 38, RM6	SOC 1.2		100%	USD 3,100,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 10, 11		Progress Narrative: National Traditional Knowledge Indicators booklet documents 43 traditional climate knowledge indicator species commonly used by people across the Vanuatu archipelago. ClimateWatch App Vanuatu – A digital tool to allow Ni-Vanuatu communities and Vanuatu government collect traditional knowledge data and monitor ecosystem changes with climate.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Indigenous People Adaptation Finance – Commitments A87 – A90

- ➡ The four indigenous people commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 11 million.
- ➡ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), and 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies).
- ➡ Preferred instruments include community-level grants and concessional loans or budget appropriations to support traditional knowledge mapping, cultural site protection and climate-resilient livelihood initiatives, backed by credit-guarantee facilities that reduce borrowing costs for indigenous organisations. Results-based grants and small resilience or biodiversity bonds tied to indigenous stewardship indicators could attract impact investors and ensure sustained financing for culturally appropriate adaptation actions.
- ➡ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9

ADAPTATION

Children, Youth, and Education (A91 – A100)

Children are among the most affected by climate change, facing health risks, disrupted education, and threats to their well-being and development. Children and future generations are increasingly exposed to climate induced risks, including extreme weather events, sea level rise, and ecosystem degradation. The climate crisis poses an urgent threat to education services and directly impacts children and young people worldwide, jeopardizing fundamental rights, health, and long-term development outcomes.

Education and children’s rights sit at the core of the country’s climate adaptation and loss and damage strategies. Acknowledging the disproportionate impact of climate change on children and youth, the Government commits to ensuring that all learners—irrespective of environmental, geographical or socio-economic barriers—have equitable access to resilient, safe, and quality education services.

A core national commitment is to reduce disparities in education service delivery by ensuring that climate and disaster events do not interrupt learning. The Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) leads this through the implementation of the School-Based Disaster Risk Reduction and Education in Emergencies (SBDRR&EIE) Policy, targeting 100% integration of DRR activities in School Implementation Plans (SIPs). Key actions include Training of Trainers (ToT), and the establishment of a national Education in Emergency Focal Point. These efforts are further reinforced by decentralized mechanisms involving Provincial Education Officers and Zonal Curriculum Advisors to ensure rural and remote school engagement.

Child protection and well-being are prioritized through strengthened mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services that are essential in preparedness and response systems. Progress has been made under WASH in Education initiatives, piloted in Penama Province and now scaling nationally. Complementary efforts include the development of a Health Promoting Schools (HPS) and inclusive education policy.

Integrating Climate, environmental, and disaster risk education into the national curriculum and teacher training is essential. Vanuatu has progressed in integrating Curriculum development and implementation, along with teacher training, across all

educational levels: Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), primary, junior secondary, and senior secondary.

Commitments also extend to climate-resilient, low-emission educational infrastructure. Guided by national frameworks—including the Minimum Quality Standards (MQS), School Plumbing and Maintenance Manual, Asset Master Plan, and the National School Infrastructure Development Plan (NSIDP)—Vanuatu is actively upgrading infrastructure and embedding climate adaptation into school design. The Climate Resilient Sheltering Schools Programme, funded by the European Union and UNICEF (USD 11.4 million), exemplifies this by rehabilitating and constructing school facilities in Malampa and Penama provinces, including solarization, broadband access, and inclusive WASH services.

Vanuatu is also committed to ensuring 100% of schools become Health Promoting Schools (HPS), with equitable access to quality, climate-resilient WASH facilities for all population groups (women, girls, boys, men, those affected by poverty, learners with special needs, gifted learners, out-of-school children, those in remote areas, and persons with disabilities).

In parallel, the government prioritizes digital resilience by expanding broadband internet and renewable energy access in schools.

Ensuring a safe and supportive environment is further strengthened by establishing quality counselling services and safeguarding protocols in all schools. These services address trauma, prevent abuse, and promote climate-sensitive mental well-being.

To address unavoidable loss and damage, Vanuatu commits to expanding child-sensitive early warning systems, enabling children and caregivers to act on timely, understandable hazard information. Additionally, assessments under the Asset Master Plan inform infrastructure relocation for schools at risk—such as over six primary schools identified as threatened by sea-level rise.

A significant commitment is to make 100% of schools safer, greener, and more resilient to climate-related challenges. This

involves constructing climate-resilient school infrastructure with safe and accessible WASH facilities and adopting low-carbon design standards for all new buildings.

Vanuatu commits to ensuring uninterrupted access to education for children affected by displacement or relocation, including those in informal settlements, and providing school rehabilitation, temporary learning spaces, WASH facilities, and food supplies. The recognition that schools can be repurposed as safe shelters during and after disasters highlights their dual role as educational institutions and community resilience hubs. Many school buildings are already designed to meet disaster standards and serve as evacuation centers.

Given young people's immense potential to be agents of change for advancing adaptation in their island communities, Vanuatu

climate programmes are acknowledging, and actively and meaningfully engaging children and youth throughout all stages of the adaptation process at the village, area council, provincial and national levels. Vanuatu also acknowledges that its youth cannot be portrayed or treated as a homogeneous group, and therefore seeks to engage island youth in their different capacities and according to their different interests and areas of expertise: young entrepreneurs are being engaged in their capacity as entrepreneurs, and young farmers in their capacity as farmers.

Children, Youth and Education are core pillars of climate action in Vanuatu. Through integrated policies, resilient infrastructure, and targeted support for vulnerable learners, the country is strengthening its education system to withstand climate impacts and ensure continued learning for all.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A91	Vanuatu is committed to reducing disparities so that all children, regardless of climate or hazard/disaster conditions, have access to education services.					
	School Based Disaster Risk Reduction & Education in Emergency Policy (SBDRR&EiE)	4.4.1	SOC 2.1		90%	USD 12,181,050 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 9	Progress Narrative: Education in Emergency Focal Points established (EiE FP) at national level in the MoET. Vanuatu Education Cluster led by MoET and Save the Children, the coordinating body with its function aimed at ensuring DRR/DM activities are rolled out in schools across Vanuatu. Decentralised action supported by Provincial Education Officers in six provinces with the help of Zonal Curriculum Advisors				
A92	Vanuatu commits to supporting all levels of education planning to mitigate risks to development, aiming for 100% of schools to incorporate Disaster Risk Reduction Management (DRR/M) activities in their School Implementation Plans (SIP) by 2030.					
	Vanuatu Education Training Sector Strategic Plan (VETSS)	VETSS strategy 8	ENV 3.1		60%	USD 12,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16	Progress Narrative: Developed SBDRR & EiE policy. Delivered 2 Training of Trainers (ToT) training to PEO and Senior officers from all six Provinces. Provincial training delivered for schools in SHEFA Province. SBDRR & EiE pilot training in all schools in PENAMA Province, Nation-wide scale up of SBDRR & EiE.				
A93	Vanuatu commits to ensuring child protection in education including mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS) by strengthening preparedness and response systems to minimize disruptions caused by climate shocks.					
	School Based Disaster Risk Reduction in Education in Emergency Policy (SBDRR&EiE)	10.1.2	SOC 3.1		100%	USD 12,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 5, 7, 10, 13, 16	Progress Narrative: WASH in Education pilot sites done 2019 and 2022 in Penama Province, now undergoing nation wide scale up. Five activity frameworks developed in 2022: 1) Provincial consultation, 2) Base lines 3) WASH Improvement Plans (WIP) 4) Procurement 5) Handyman training 6) Review of full programme. HPS policy developed, facilities inclusive of gender and special needs. Inclusive education policy in progress. Inclusive training conducted by NUV's School of Education (SoE) under Bachelor programme 2021.				

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A94 Vanuatu commits to integrating and enhancing climate, environmental, and disaster risk education into the national curriculum and teacher training, including DRM and emergency curricula in both pre-service and in-service programmes.					
School Based Disaster Risk Reduction & Education in Emergency Policy (SBDRR&EIE)	4.6	SOC 2.2		90%	USD 6,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 7, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16		Progress Narrative: Implementation of climate change and disaster risk management curriculum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECCE- 2014: development and implementation and now 2025 review of curriculum and syllabus with teacher's training funded by DFAT • Years 1-6- 2014: development and implementation of the syllabus with teacher's training funded by DFAT • Years 7-10- 2021-2026: development and implementation of the syllabus with teacher's training funded by MFAT • Years 11- 13- 2018-2025: development, implementation and review of the syllabus with teacher's training funded by Vanuatu Government 			
A95 Vanuatu commits to implementing climate-resilient, low-carbon infrastructure and preventive maintenance in 100% of schools, using school financing mechanisms guided by the MQS, School Plumbing and Maintenance Manual, Asset Master Plan, and National School Infrastructure Development Plan (NSIDP).					
Vanuatu Education and Training Sector Strategy 2021 - 2030	VETSS Strategy 3	ECO 3.3	 	100%	USD 35,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 13
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16		Progress Narrative: EU funding on repairs and provision of new buildings targeting 35 schools in Malampa and Penama Provinces, including provision of WASH, solarisation and broadband internet access. APTUS devices containing all school curriculum class 1 - 10, were distributed to 15 schools in SHEFA Province, coordinated by MoET (Technical Vocational Education & Training [TVET]), for flexible learning funded by Commonwealth of Learning. The pilot program was successful but scaling has been an issue due to limited funding.			
A96 Vanuatu commits to ensuring that 100% of schools become Health Promoting Schools (HPS), with equitable access to quality, climate-resilient WASH facilities for all population groups, including women and girls, boys and men, those affected by poverty, learners with special needs, gifted learners, out-of-school children, those in remote areas, and persons with disabilities.					
Vanuatu Education and Training Sector Strategy 2021 - 2030	VETSS Strategy 5	SOC 3 & ECO 2.2		100%	USD 12,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 12
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16		Progress Narrative: WASH in Education with pilots implemented in 2019 and 2022 in Penama Province, currently undergoing nation wide scale up. Five activity frameworks developed in 2022: 1) Profincial consultation, 2) Base lines 3) WASH Improvement Plan (WIP) 4) Procurement 5) Handyman training 6) Review of full programme. HPS policy developed, facilities inclusive of gender and special needs. An inclusive education policy in progress. Inclusive training conducted by NUV's School of Education (SoE) under Bachelor programme 2021.			
A97 Vanuatu commits to achieving 100% access to broadband ICT infrastructure and supplying all schools with clean, renewable energy as a reliable and climate-resilient power source to ensure continuity of education during and after emergencies.					
Vanuatu Education and Training Sector Strategy 2021 - 2030	VETSS Strategy 13	ECO 2.9		100%	USD 46,700,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16		Progress Narrative: Out of 30 schools targeted under EU funding, some of them will have access to broadband internet access and renewable energy sources for electricity. Department of Digital Communications Transformation has piloted some schools to access broadband internet including the office of the TRBR CLICC programs targeting installing VSAT in schools. The National Green Energy Fund (NGEF) subsidy fund for schools			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A98	Vanuatu commits to strengthen child protection by establishing quality counselling services and safeguarding protocols in all schools across the country. This is to prevent and response to abuse and harm of children, which can be exacerbated during and after disasters and to promote their mental well-being responding to trauma and climate-related anxiety.				
Child Protection Policy 2021 - 2026	Strategy 8	SOC 5		100%	USD 12,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 12	Progress Narrative: MoET, in collaboration with MoH and MoJYCS, has initiated the establishment of counselling services in schools, by introducing counselling training for identified focal points and strengthening referral pathways, and by developing national minimum standards for child counselling (currently going through the formal government endorsement process)- including parameters for accreditation, monitoring and supervision, to ensure the services do no harm to children.				
A99	Vanuatu commits to achieving 100% of schools and school communities with early warning systems that are child-sensitive and ensure children and their caregivers receive and understand timely information about climate hazards.				
Vanuatu Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy Second Edition 2022 – 2030	6.4	ECO 3.2		100%	USD 12,700,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 13
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 8, 10, 13, 14, 16	Progress Narrative: The VCAP project funded by GEF/UNDP have progressively installed early warning systems in the communities.				
A100	Vanuatu is committed to equipping 100% of schools with climate-resilient infrastructure, safe and accessible WASH facilities, and adopting low-carbon design standards for all new buildings, to ensure safe, sustainable, and resilient educational environments.				
Vanuatu Education and Training Sector Strategy 2021 - 2030	VETSS Strategy 3	ECO 3.3	 	100%	USD 35,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 13
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16	Progress Narrative: An Asset Master Plan assessment was done in all primary schools throughout Vanuatu on the new buildings that will need to be constructed.				

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Children, Youth, and Education Adaptation Finance – Commitments A91 – A100

➡ The ten youth commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 197 million.

➡ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 11) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 12) impact and investment funds, and 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks).

➡ Preferred instruments include grant financed technical assistance and concessional MDB/multilateral climate fund loans to retrofit schools, deliver climate-resilient WASH and child protection protocols, upgrade DRM curricula and teacher training, and deploy school-level early warning systems. Domestic budget co-financing to support operations and maintenance. For renewable power and broadband in schools, use of PPPs or service-contract models (e.g., solar or connectivity “as-a-service”) financed by sustainability-linked loans and impact/ESG capital, with grants as needed. Results-based grants tied to verified indicators (e.g., school safety audits, WASH functionality, uptime of clean energy and connectivity, attendance continuity) to release funds on performance. Establishing youth innovation challenge funds could attract philanthropic and private contributions to climate resilient learning environments.

➡ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9 – 13.

ADAPTATION

Partnerships and Collaboration (A101 – A103)

Effective implementation of Vanuatu’s NDC 3.0—particularly its adaptation goals—depends on inclusive, sustained, and coordinated cooperation across all sectors of society. As a small island developing state highly vulnerable to climate impacts, Vanuatu recognizes that adaptation efforts must reflect the priorities, knowledge, and capacities of those most at risk. This NDC 3.0 is therefore grounded in a whole-of-society approach, mobilizing the leadership and participation of government institutions, civil society, the private sector, and communities themselves to achieve programmatic outcomes that are locally relevant and systemically transformative.

At the national level, Vanuatu’s commitment to multi stakeholder governance is exemplified by the National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (NAB), which serves as the central platform for climate coordination and decision-making. The NAB includes representatives from government ministries, civil society organizations, and the private sector, ensuring inclusive oversight of NDC implementation. Furthermore, under national guidelines, Community Disaster

and Climate Change Committees (CDCCCs) at the local level are required to include representatives from key groups: traditional chiefs, the church, women, youth, persons with disabilities, and business owners. These diverse perspectives ensure that climate solutions are socially embedded, culturally appropriate, and equitably distributed.

Beyond structural representation, Vanuatu is embracing principles of transparency, respect for Indigenous and traditional knowledge systems, gender equality, intergenerational equity, and subsidiarity in its approach to multi stakeholder cooperation. The NDC process is intentionally designed to strengthen trust, foster ownership, and enable communities to shape their own adaptive futures. By aligning national and subnational planning, empowering local institutions, and enhancing cross-sectoral partnerships, Vanuatu aims to create a governance ecosystem where collaborative action becomes the norm, not the exception—ensuring that the benefits of climate resilience reach all members of society.



Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A101 Vanuatu commits to continue meaningful consultation with actors outside of government, including acknowledging and formalising the private sector and civil society, as important for analysis, context-setting and identification of partners for climate actions. Civil society organisations (CSOs), non-government organisations (NGOs) and community-based organisations (CBOs) are important actors at subnational and community levels, particularly for ensuring the integration of climate action at the local level, and with women, girls, youth, children, indigenous minorities, the elderly and people with disabilities.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.1.1	SOC 4.4		60%	USD 450,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 5, 7		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Association of NGOs (VANGO) is a NAB member, and the Vanuatu Climate Action Network (VCAN) and Vanuatu Business Resilience Council (VBRC) are active observers on the Vanuatu National Advisory Board on Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction. GCF FP184: Vanuatu community-based climate resilience project (VCCRP) is implemented by Save the Children with Government of Vanuatu			
A102 Vanuatu commits to strengthen its climate action and planning consultation processes, including making observers formal members, and building on the current multi-sector National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction and its founding principle of inclusive collaboration.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.1.1	SOC 4.4		50%	USD 260,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 5, 7		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu NAB includes 18 members and 2 active observers from across 11 Ministries			
A103 Vanuatu commits to minimising top-down methods of resolving climate adaptation and loss and damage challenges, and instead prioritises community-led approaches to increase participation and ensure all people are given choices and making decisions about options without coercion.					
National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement	pp19	SOC 1.4		80%	USD 590,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 5, 7		Progress Narrative: Community Disaster and Climate Change Committees (CDCCCs) and Provincial Disaster Committees (PDCs) are the institutionalised mechanism for local planning and climate action			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Partnerships and Collaboration Adaptation Finance – Commitments A101 – A103

→ The three collaboration commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 1 million.

→ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), and 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives.

→ Preferred instruments comprise small grants and soft loans to civil society organisations and subnational government for participatory planning, supported by domestic budget allocations. Performance-based grants and corporate ESG contributions linked to inclusive governance indicators could support multi-stakeholder processes. Seed grants could stimulate private sector engagement in community adaptation partnerships.

→ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9, 10.

ADAPTATION

Decentralisation and Locally Led Adaptation (A104 – A107)

Vanuatu’s NDC 3.0 is grounded in the principle of subsidiarity, which ensures that decision-making authority and resources are placed at the level closest to implementation. The Government of Vanuatu has made significant strides in decentralisation through the financing and empowerment of all 72 Area Councils, enabling them to develop and implement their own climate resilience priorities. This transformation builds on the foundation laid by Community Disaster and Climate Change Committees (CDCCCs), and is legally underpinned by the Decentralisation Act, which mandates a people-centered approach to governance. For the first time, direct climate financing is flowing to the subnational level, empowering Area Councils to translate national policy into locally grounded action, guided by community-identified risks and solutions.

Area Administrators for each council area, employed under the same public service conditions and salary scales as national government directors—ensuring parity, professionalism, and sustainability of leadership at the local level.

In line with its endorsement of the Principles for Locally Led Adaptation, Vanuatu has carefully incorporated these principles into all climate programs and investments, from planning to implementation and monitoring. This includes commitments to devolved decision-making, local capacity strengthening, flexible financing, and mutual accountability. Through this robust framework, Vanuatu is institutionalising locally led adaptation as the cornerstone of its climate strategy—ensuring that adaptation is not only effective, but equitable, just, and community-owned.

To operationalize this commitment, Vanuatu has recruited

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A104 Vanuatu commits to strengthen provincial and area level coordination for implementation, in line with the Decentralisation Plan, such that Provincial and Community Climate Change Committees take a lead role in responding to climate concerns at the local level.					
Disaster Induced Displacement Policy	A1.7	SOC 6.1		90%	USD 1,420,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: PDCCCs operational in all six provinces Gaps: 1, 5, 7, 15					
A105 Vanuatu commits, by expanding decentralisation processes and renewed focus on municipal development, to boost urban-rural resource efficiency and build on municipality, ward and area council’s ambitious climate and resilience plans.					
Decentralisation Policy	O1.5	SOC 6.1		90%	USD 7,100,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: Port Vila Urban Greening Master Plan includes climate resilience planning. Greater Port Vila Climate Vulnerability Assessment undertaken Gaps: 1, 5, 9					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A106	Vanuatu commits to produce and supply detailed land use capability maps and supporting information to rural authorities (including provincial councils) that shall include information on climate risks and hazard.					
	Vanuatu Land Use Planning Policy	10.1	ENV 4.1		100%	USD 4,900,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 10, 11, 12, 14		Progress Narrative: Climate maps for Vanuatu (National and Provincial Atlas) were developed by the VanKIRAP project. GIS and RS User group meetings Coordinated and Chaired by the Surveyor Generals Office. Malakula, Efate, Tanna islands with LIDAR in 2022. National Geospatial Data Policy being implemented.			
A107	Vanuatu commits to the publication and distribution of Labour Mobility Community Development Guidelines that incorporate voluntary, community-led processes and initiatives in relation to planning for natural disasters and climate change adaptation, including undertaking a study on linkages between inflation during disasters and Labour Mobility remittances					
	Vanuatu National Labour Mobility Policy	4.4	SOC 6.1		100%	USD 9,300,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 10, 15		Progress Narrative: Ni-Vanuatu workers travel abroad to Australia to work as part of the Pacific Australian Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme, which includes the Seasonal Worker Program (SWP) and Pacific Labour Scheme (PLS). In New Zealand, they take part in the Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) program. Almost 20 percent of Vanuatu's prime-aged adult male workers were employed in ANZ in 2022–2023			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Decentralisation Adaptation Finance – Commitments A104 – A107

- ➔ The four decentralisation commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 23 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), and 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include concessional loans and grants channelled through subnational budgets to fund local climate action, land-use mapping and resilience projects, complemented by credit enhancement facilities that lower borrowing costs for provinces and municipal councils. Results-based grants and resilience bonds tied to subnational service delivery targets could attract impact investors and commercial co-lending. Directing adaptation funding to local communities via direct access channels would support priority measures identified through decentralised participatory processes.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9.

Governance of Climate Change (A108 – A111)

Vanuatu Council of Ministers decision No81 of 2025 establishes the Ministry of Climate Change as one of five core central agencies responsible for leading national sustainable and resilient development.

Vanuatu's 'Meteorology, Geological Hazards and Climate Change Act No. 25 of 2016 (Climate Change Act)²⁶' mandates the now well-established joint governance arrangements for climate change and disaster risk reduction programming, policy and action alongside additional guidance by the Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) Policy 2nd Edition 2022-2030²⁷ and the National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) 2016-2030.

The Act provides a legal mandate for the National Advisory Board (NAB) on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction, as tasked by the Council of Ministers in 2012, to act as Vanuatu's highest level policy making and advisory body for all climate change and disaster risk reduction programs, projects, initiatives and activities'.

The NAB assembles high-level representatives of key Vanuatu Government departments and agencies, and is co-chaired by the Directors General of the Ministry of Climate Change²⁸ and the Ministry of the Prime Minister's Office.

According to the CCDRR Policy²⁹, the NAB has the following core composition: The Director, Department of Forestry has been added to the NAB core group recently, which will enable NAB to better consider REDD+ priorities in its decision making, and for coordination on financing aspects for implementation, and for providing an oversight role for the REDD+ Technical Committee.

Vanuatu's Climate Change Act lists additional NAB members:

- Director General of MoCC
- Director of the Department of Climate Change

- Director of the Department of Meteorology
- Director of the Department of Geological Hazards
- Director of the Department of Forestry
- Director of the Department of Energy
- Director of the Department of Local Authority
- Director of the Department of Environment
- Director of the Department of Foreign Affairs
- Director of the Department of Strategic Management
- Director of the National Disaster Management Office
- Director of the Department of Finance
- Director of the Department of Woman's Affairs
- Director of the Department of Public Works
- Chief Executive Officer of the Vanuatu Non-Government Organizations (VANGO)

The NAB is supported by a Secretariat, which sits within the Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation, Meteorology & Geo-Hazards, Energy, Environment and National Disaster Management.

The NAB Secretariat prepares reports on key climate projects to the Council of Ministers on behalf of the NAB, reports on projects through the government reporting system, and is the lead for all official communications to the UNFCCC. The NAB Secretariat also plays a strategic policy and coordination role.

The NAB Secretariat has several standing working groups including the UNFCCC Taskforce, the Adaptation and Loss & Damage Working Group, the Project Screening Committee, the Climate Policy and Compliance Working group, the REDD+ Technical Committee and the Climate Finance Taskforce.

This NDC 3.0 seeks to further strengthen governance of climate change resilience at all levels.

26 <https://www.vmgd.gov.vu/vmgd/images/admin-media/docs/Official-Gazette-No.-6-of-2017-dated-1-February-2017.pdf>

27 <https://www.nab.vu/document/vanuatu-national-ccdr-policy-2022-2030-2nd-edition>

28 The Director General of the Ministry of Climate Change is also Vanuatu's National Designated Authority (NDA) to the Green Climate Fund, the Nationally Designated Entity (NDE) to the Climate Technology Center and Network, and the focal point of the Global Environment Facility.

29 <https://www.nab.vu/sites/default/files/documents/National%20CCDRR%20Policy%202022-2030.pdf>

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A108 Vanuatu commits to further mainstreaming climate governance roles and responsibilities across the whole of government, including by strengthening the multi-agency National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR Policy 7.1.1), and catalysing institutional change by establishing focal points and resilience units within diverse ministries and departments to decentralise and broaden climate action (CCDRR policy pp5).					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.1.1	SOC 6.1		80%	USD 1,810,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 6, 9		Progress Narrative: Climate focal points have been employed at the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Education. Vanuatu NAB includes 18 members and 2 active observers from across 11 Ministries			
A109 Vanuatu commits to integrating and harmonising climate change requirements into sectoral legislation and policies.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.1.2	ENV 3.1		70%	USD 840,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 3		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has mainstreamed CC considerations into more than 50 policies and sector strategies			
A110 Vanuatu commits to broaden its climate resilient development and policymaking beyond a focus on economic growth, by expanding the use of a culturally relevant and comprehensive set of indicators for use in tracking progress towards achieving sustainable development and climate action goals.					
Melanesian Wellbeing Indicators	Ch2	SOC 1.2		60%	USD 2,320,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 10, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Wellbeing Indicators used as part of NSDP M&E Framework, including non-economic measures of resilience (such as access to natural resources, linguistic diversity, and cultural participation)			
A111 Vanuatu commits to prioritize multilateral cooperation on climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience, reflecting the NSDP's focus on safeguarding the environment, including advocate for the implementation of international climate agreements and encouraging countries to commit to more robust emissions reductions.					
Vanuatu Foreign Policy	I.1	ENV 3.4		60%	USD 15,300,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 7, 9		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Climate Diplomacy program leading initiatives at the UNFCCC and beyond, such as on the Fossil Fuel Non Proliferation Treaty, Ecocide at the International Criminal Court, and the ICJ Climate Advisory Opinion			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Governance Adaptation Finance – Commitments A108 – A111

- ➡ The four governance commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 20 million.
- ➡ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), and 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives.
- ➡ Preferred instruments include grant-funded technical assistance and concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with domestic budget allocations to strengthen the National Advisory Board on CCDRR, align sector laws and mainstream climate responsibilities. Results-based grants and corporate ESG contributions tied to performance-based indicators could be paired with small resilience bonds to finance training and data-sharing platforms.
- ➡ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9, 10.

Climate Policy and Plans (A112 – A113)

Vanuatu's Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) Policy 2nd Edition 2022-2030³⁰ and the National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP):2016-2030 provide the framework to ensure that our communities, environment and economy are resilient to the impacts of climate change and disaster risks.

The vision of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy is for Vanuatu to be a nation whose communities, environment and economy are resilient to the impacts of climate change and disaster risks. As risks cannot be completely eliminated; however, the policy provides a framework through which risks can be identified, assessed, reduced and managed.

At the global, regional and national levels, disaster risk reduction and climate change agencies, activities and funding have been previously managed separately. A recent shift in philosophy now views the integration of climate change and disaster risk reduction initiatives as the best way to make use of resources and avoid duplication of effort. Vanuatu started this process with the establishment of the National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction in 2012¹. The government undertook a risk governance assessment to analyse Vanuatu's climate change and disaster risk governance capacity and needs at both national and local levels.² The policy incorporates recommendations from that assessment and draws on local, provincial and national consultations.

The CCDRR Policy applies six principles: 1) accountability, 2) sustainability, 3) equity, 4) community focus, 5) collaboration, and 6) innovation. It aims to be accessible to and implemented by all government agencies and non-governmental stakeholders.

The policy takes a practical approach, taking into consideration Vanuatu's resources, exposure to risks, and demographic situation. It seeks to strengthen existing capacity at national, provincial and area council levels, drawing on the country's rich heritage, traditional knowledge and the lessons learned from the broad range of initiatives regarding climate change and disaster risk reduction.

The government of Vanuatu is committed to six key priorities to direct the country's climate change and disaster risk reduction efforts. These priorities fall into two categories — systems and themes. Systems include governance, finance, knowledge and information, while themes include climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, low carbon development, and response and recovery.

A number of cross-cutting issues have also been considered in developing this policy and will be applied during implementation, including social and gender inclusion, capacity building, multi-hazard approaches, partnerships and mainstreaming into the business of a broad range of agencies and sectors. While the policy includes high-level strategies, detailed actions, lead and support agencies, resources and timelines will be further developed for implementation.

The Vanuatu CCDRR Policy seeks to strengthen existing capacity at national, provincial and area council levels, drawing on the country's rich heritage, traditional knowledge, and the lessons learned from the broad range of initiatives regarding climate change and disaster risk reduction.

³⁰ <https://www.nab.vu/document/vanuatu-national-ccdr-policy-2022-2030-2nd-edition>

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A112 Vanuatu commits to, as soon as possible, commence the process to develop a National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and complete it by the end of 2025.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.1.3	ENV 3.4		100%	USD 3,870,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 5, 11		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has secured in 2024 a Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Grant to GGGI to develop a National Adaptation Plan (NAP) and six Provincial Adaptation Plans (PAPs) covering all six provinces in Vanuatu.			
A113 Vanuatu commits to commence the process to develop an Adaptation Communication, which will also include information on limits to adaptation resulting in Loss and Damage, and submit it to the UNFCCC by the end of 2025.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.1.3	ENV 3.4		100%	USD 320,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 5, 11		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu commenced work on the National Adaptation and Loss & Damage Plan in 2025, but has not yet submitted an Adaptation Communication			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Climate Policy Adaptation Finance – Commitments A112 – A113

- The two climate policy and plans commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 4 million.
- Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), and 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD).
- Preferred instruments include grants and soft loans for UNFCCC submission preparation, supported by domestic budget allocations, technical assistance windows, and credit-guarantee facilities. Performance-based contracts could crowd in philanthropic and ESG contributions to support policy development and integration of climate-related loss and damage evidence.
- Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5.

Meteorology and Climate Information Services (A114 – A116)

As the effects of global warming further manifest and the hazards of climate change arise at accelerating rates, there is a need to shift the paradigm towards the standardized and mainstreamed use of science based climate information, at multiple timescales, to support resilient development pathways in Vanuatu.

Vanuatu is strengthening and applying Climate Information Services across sectors, including by building the technical capacity in Vanuatu to harness and manage climate data; develop and deliver practical CIS tools and resources; support enhanced coordination and dissemination of tailored information; enhance CIS information and technology infrastructure; and support the application of relevant CIS through real-time development processes, for more resilient outcomes.

Vanuatu has identified the need to address information gaps and priority needs of target beneficiaries at national, provincial and local community levels on the basis of the Vanuatu Framework for Metrological Services (and the Global Framework for Metrological Services).

Several major climate programmes are delivering enhanced climate information services including the US\$ 21.8 million GCF-funded Climate Information Services for resilient development in Vanuatu project, which is delivering enhanced capacity and capability of national development agents, to understand, access and apply CIS, enhanced CIS communications, knowledge products, tools, and resources for practical application to development processes, enhanced reliability, functionality, utility and timeliness of underlying CIS delivery systems and data collection infrastructure, and enhanced scientific data, information and knowledge of past, present and future climate to facilitate innovative and resilient development.

Meteorology and climate services must reach all end-users, and play a central role in effectively helping people manage and adapt to climate variability and change in Vanuatu. The production and dissemination of climate data and information, an integral part of what can be referred to as a Climate Early Warning System (CLEWS), are an essential part of Vanuatu's adaptation strategy. The goal of Vanuatu's CLEWS is for it to be integrated with other hazard warnings as a Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for the benefit of all ni-Vanuatu society.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A114	Vanuatu commits to tailor climate information so that it best meets the needs of Provincial Government and directly informs their climate action and response plans.				
Vanuatu Framework for Climate Services and VMGD Strategy Plan 2024-2029	14.4	ENV 3.2		80%	USD 1,550,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 10, 11, 12, 13	Progress Narrative: GCF 22 mil USD Vanuatu Klaemet Infomesen blong Redy, Adapt mo Protekt (Van-KIRAP) Project has expanded the use of Climate Information Services (CIS) in five targeted sectors: tourism, agriculture, infrastructure, water and fisheries.				
A115	Vanuatu commits to work with key sectors and Provincial Government to develop tailored Climate Watches accompanied by actions that are tailored to the capacity of the end-user and incorporate traditional knowledge where appropriate.				
Vanuatu Framework for Climate Services and VMGD Strategy Plan 2024-2029	14.6	ENV 3.2		90%	USD 1,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 5, 7, 10, 13	Progress Narrative: Critical products developed by VMGD, including: Climate Mapping Tool (interactive visualization of select climate variables, greenhouse gas emissions pathways, time periods and locations to generate customised maps and datasets to Area Council level) . Current Vanuatu Climate Status updates (2 week rainfall outlook, coral bleaching outlook, sea surface temperature and enso). Agriculture Mapping Tool (maps of current and future regions climatically suitable and diseases for Kava, Coffee, Cocoa, Taro and Yam.				
A116	Vanuatu commits to improve its Climate Early Warning System (CLEWS), with tailored climate bulletins issued to specific end-users and incorporating mobile phone apps.				
Vanuatu Framework for Climate Services and VMGD Strategy Plan 2024-2029	14.9	ENV 3.2		90%	USD 2,710,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 5, 7, 10, 13, 14	Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Weather Radar System under construction (GCF funded), Multihazard National Warning / Data Center: Common Data Analysis Software, Seiscomp3. Tide Tool, Clide, TC Module, Smart Met / Smart Alert, Synergie / MeteoFactory. Introduction of new GIS tools (PACSAFE, RISKSCAPE and QGIS) to strengthen our pre-disaster spatial data				

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Meteorology and Climate Information Services Adaptation Finance – Commitments A114 – A116

- ➡ The three meteorology and CIS commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 5 million.
- ➡ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), and 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies).
- ➡ Preferred instruments include concessional loans and grants to upgrade climate information systems, early warning infrastructure and tailored climate services, supported by green or resilience bonds and risk guarantees to attract commercial co-lending. Results-based grants tied to warning dissemination targets could mobilise private capital and impact investments.
- ➡ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9.

ADAPTATION

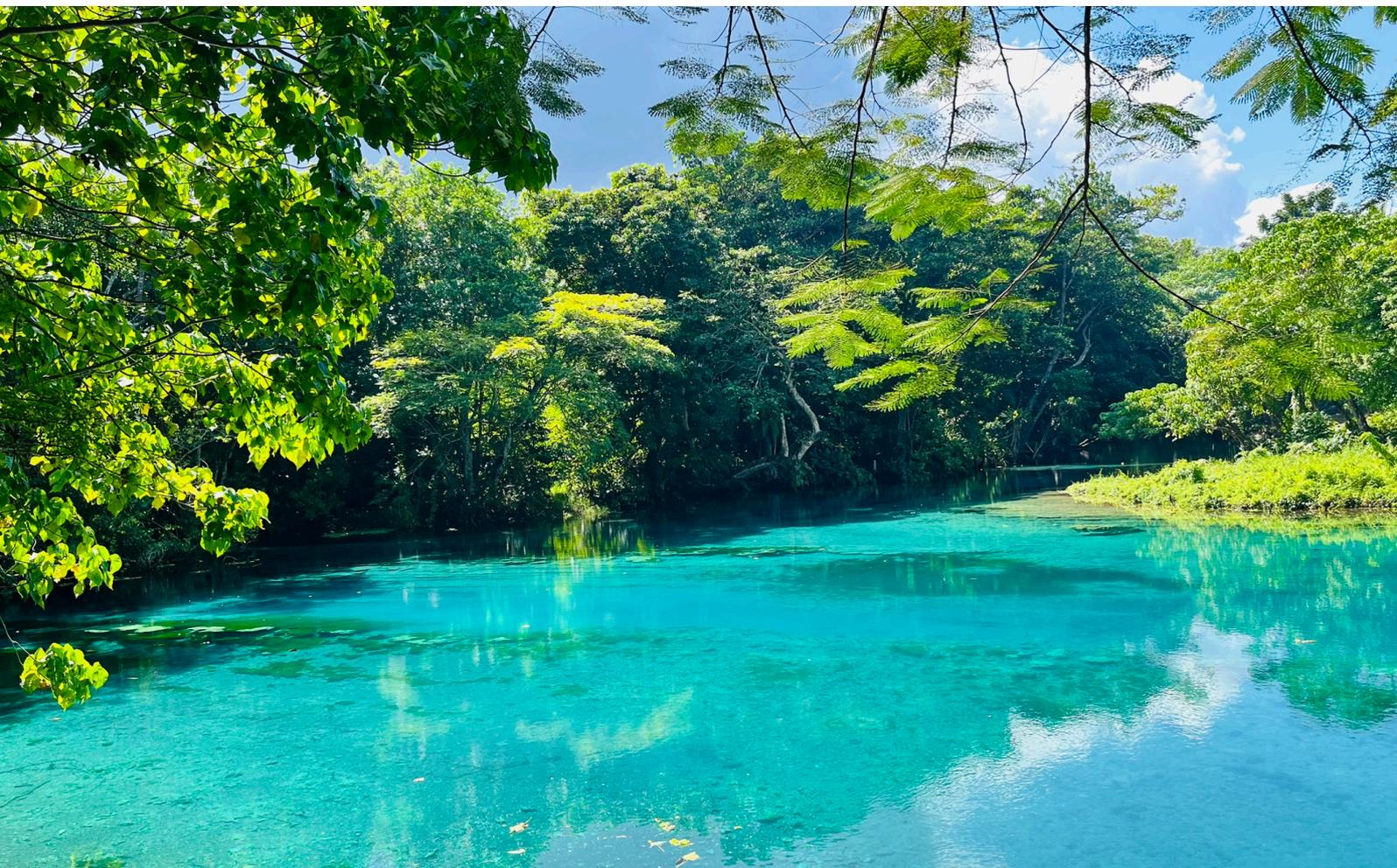
Tourism (A117 – A125)

Vanuatu recognizes the vital role that a climate-resilient tourism sector plays in national sustainable development. To safeguard this economic lifeline from climate risks, the Government of Vanuatu is actively supporting the transformation of tourism through green certification programs that encourage low-carbon operations, waste minimization, water conservation, and energy efficiency. These certification schemes also promote nature-based solutions and sustainable land-use practices, helping tourism businesses become stewards of the environment. Vanuatu's NDC includes measures to expand such programs across the sector, ensuring that adaptation is embedded in tourism operations from planning through to service delivery.

In parallel, the government is championing regenerative agriculture and farm-to-table supply chains that link local farmers with tourism operators. These efforts not only build resilience in food systems, but also reduce import dependence

and ensure that tourism dollars circulate within local economies. Coastal and marine-based tourism is being reoriented to support and benefit from resilient marine and coastal management practices, including locally managed marine areas (LMMAs), coral restoration, and sustainable fisheries. These initiatives generate tangible co-benefits—restoring ecosystems, sustaining livelihoods, and delivering authentic experiences for visitors.

At the heart of Vanuatu's tourism adaptation strategy is inclusive economic empowerment. The government, in partnership with local councils and the private sector, is working closely with grassroots micro- and small-scale enterprises, especially those led by women and youth—to build capacity, access finance, and link to sustainable tourism markets. Moreover, the electrification of tourism sites with renewable energy solutions not only decarbonizes the sector but also provides reliable power for climate-resilient infrastructure and essential services.



Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A117	Vanuatu commits to ensuring that tourism planning will encourage climate change adaptation strategies for the development, siting, design, and management of facilities as well as consider how tourism sites contribute to the sustainability and resilience of Vanuatu.				
Vanuatu Sustainable Tourism Policy	Pg. 8	ECO 4.4		70%	USD 770,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate	Progress Narrative: The Vanuatu Business Resilience Council delivers comprehensive business continuity training designed to help tourism businesses in Vanuatu mitigate risks, minimize disruptions, and recover from crises				
Gaps: 1, 5, 7					
A118	Vanuatu commits to ensuring that the tourism industry stakeholders are aware of climate-related risks and actively engage in climate change adaptation strategies.				
Vanuatu Sustainable Tourism Policy	G.1.O.6	ECO 4.4		90%	USD 15,480,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial	Progress Narrative: Vanuatu launches Innovative Climate Risk Assessment Framework for Tourism Sector in 2024				
Gaps: 1, 8					
A119	Vanuatu commits to undertaking an inventory of all significant environmental and cultural resources are listed in provincial tourism plans, and placing restrictions on types of development in these areas, including sites that pose or exacerbate a climate change risk or exposure.				
Vanuatu Sustainable Tourism Policy	G.1.A.1.1	ECO 4.4		90%	USD 6,450,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited	Progress Narrative: No work has yet commenced on mapping of tourism-relevant cultural sites				
Gaps: 1, 11					
A120	Vanuatu commits to undertaking Preliminary Social and Environmental Impact Assessments on all tourism development applications that integrate climate change adaptation strategies.				
Vanuatu Sustainable Tourism Policy	G.1.A2.3	ECO 4.4		90%	USD 2,450,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate	Progress Narrative: DEPC and SPREP training program on Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) and the Mitigation Hierarchy				
Gaps: 1, 10, 11, 12, 14					
A121	Vanuatu commits to implanting internationally recognised Sustainability Standards and Certification programmes to demonstrate leadership in climate-sensitive green growth.				
Vanuatu Sustainable Tourism Policy	G.1.A2.8	ECO 4.4		90%	USD 2,840,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate	Progress Narrative: DoT launches Vanuatu Tourism Certification Program, and Agritourism Certification Program. Vanuatu Tour Operator Minimum Standards launched. Regenerative Agritourism Pathway Recognition Program developed by Regenerative Vanua supports a transition to regenerative agriculture based on the principles of agroecology and enhancing biodiversity				
Gaps: 1, 9					
A122	Vanuatu commits to tasking a National Tourism Committee with managing the tourism industry's activities in relation to climate change adaptation and resilience strategies.				
Vanuatu Sustainable Tourism Policy	G.1.A3.1	ECO 4.4		50%	USD 520,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited	Progress Narrative: Tourism Business Recovery Program (TBRP) and committee launched in 2023				
Gaps: 1, 9					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A123 Vanuatu commits to community-based adaptation projects developed through partnerships between tourism operators and tourism dependent communities to reduce vulnerabilities to climate change.					
Vanuatu Sustainable Tourism Policy	G4.A.1.5	ECO 4.4		70%	USD 640,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Tourism Infrastructure Project (VTIP) funded by New Zealand to contribute to a buoyant, resilient tourism sector Gaps: 1, 7, 8					
A124 Vanuatu commits to tourism product diversification, underpinned by training and capacity building in rural areas, to enhance the resilience of rural populations.					
Vanuatu Sustainable Tourism Policy	G.5.A2.3	ECO 4.4		90%	USD 2,320,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: Six Provincial Sustainable Tourism Management Plans (PSTMPs) Gaps: 1, 9					
A125 Vanuatu commits to filling climate technology gaps in the agriculture sector, especially related to crop diversification and new varieties, agroforestry and Farmer Field Schools, as well as the water sector, especially related to rainwater harvesting from rooftops, Water Safety Plans and Flood Hazard Mapping.					
Technology Needs Assessment	Pg. 7	ENV 2.1		90%	USD 5,420,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 13, 14
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: gcf project FP035: VANKirap project expands the use of Climate Information Services (CIS) in five targeted sectors in Vanuatu: tourism, agriculture, infrastructure, water management and fisheries. Gaps: 1, 13					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Tourism Adaptation Finance – Commitments A117 – A125

- ➔ The nine tourism commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 37 million.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks), and 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market buyers).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with grants to support climate proofing of tourism facilities, map climate sensitive sites, and roll out sustainability certification schemes. Use of risk guarantees and PPPs could shift construction and operational risk to private operators. Green or blue resilience bonds, results-based grants linked to sustainability indicators, impact investments and voluntary carbon credit off-take agreements could crowd in corporate ESG and commercial co-financing.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 7, 9, 13, 14.

ADAPTATION

Trade (A126)

Vanuatu’s trade sector is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, from the disruption of agricultural supply chains—such as kava, copra, cocoa, and beef—to the destabilizing effects of cyclones, droughts, and sea level rise on infrastructure critical to export and import flows. Climate shocks also affect labour mobility, a key component of Vanuatu’s economic resilience, with increasing risks to seasonal workers under the Pacific Labour Mobility Scheme who face extreme heat and uncertain employment conditions. The Government of Vanuatu is committed to upholding the rights and protections of all Ni-Vanuatu workers abroad, and recognizes that just and sustainable trade must go hand in hand with climate adaptation and social safeguards.

To ensure long-term resilience, Vanuatu’s NDC 3.0 prioritizes adaptation measures that strengthen the sustainability and efficiency of its trade networks. These include climate-proofing port and airport infrastructure, investing in cold storage and decentralized processing to reduce post-harvest loss, and promoting climate-smart agriculture and agroforestry to stabilize export production. Efforts are also underway to green and decentralize logistics and transportation, reduce trade-related emissions, and support local enterprises to access low-carbon certification and climate-resilient market standards. At the same time, the high costs of moving goods from Vanuatu to international markets demand regional and global cooperation to ensure that trade remains viable, inclusive, and aligned with the Paris Agreement.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A126	Vanuatu commits to raising awareness on the linkages between trade and natural disasters, and seek membership of the NAB so that trade can be further mainstreamed into climate change mitigation and adaptation, and disaster response, recovery, and resilience.					
	Trade Policy Framework Update	9.4.2.1a	ENV 3.1		70%	USD 200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 8	Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Green Transformation (VGET) (CAP-IT) project for renewable energy. Vanuatu and Switzerland engage in Internationally Transferrable Mitigation Outcomes (ITMOs) to accelerate the implementation of climate mitigation projects				

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Trade Adaptation Finance – Commitment A126

- ➔ The one trade commitment is estimated to cost approximately USD 200,000.
- ➔ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), and 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies).
- ➔ Preferred instruments include small grants and soft loans for awareness campaigns on trade and climate links, blended with domestic budget support and grant-financed technical assistance. Performance based grants could be to trade and climate relevant indicators (e.g., inclusion on the National Advisory Board on CCDRR). Modest resilience bonds could channel additional concessional debt.
- ➔ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5, 9

ADAPTATION

Finance (A127 – A131)

Article 9 of the Paris Agreement and the principles and provisions of the Convention mandate that climate finance must be delivered by developed countries to developing countries based on equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.

Transparency arrangements on climate finance must be related to a definition which is agreed on what to count and what not to count as climate finance. Loans at market rate and private finance at market rate of return cannot be termed as climate finance under this NDC 3.0. Rather, they represent a reverse capital flow from developing to developed countries when repayments are considered.

Vanuatu is of the position that climate finance is about provision of climate finance from developed to developing countries in concessional terms; it cannot include loans at the market rate, and private finance the market rate of return, ODAs, or non-climate specific finance.

Climate Finance must not impose additional conditionalities to the provision and/or mobilization of climate finance to developing countries. It must provide access features that operationalize the requirement for access channels to ensure

efficient and swift access to, and enhance the coordination and delivery of climate finance for developing countries, noting the special considerations for SIDS and LDCs as set out in the Paris Agreement.

Climate finance must be delivered via provision of public finance in a grants-based or concessional manner to address macroeconomic constraints of developing countries, including limited fiscal space, and the need for support to enhance the economic situations of net-economic benefit for developing countries.

A clear agreement burden sharing amongst developed countries is critical to establish a 'fair share' allocation of their collective obligation to provide climate finance, which allows predictability, transparency, and accountability. These partners must work proactively with Vanuatu to address "dis-enablers" of climate finance such as the high cost of capital, high transaction costs associated with access, unilateral measures such as CBAM, etc.

This NDC 3.0 is conditionally dependent on the fulfilment of developed countries to deliver support for developing countries like Vanuatu in line with Article 9 of the Paris Agreement.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A127 Vanuatu commits to identifying innovative sustainable financing mechanisms to support the establishment and management of ecosystem-based climate adaptation in Vanuatu. These may include initiatives such as a green tax, tax benefit systems, establishment of trusts or endowment funds (NBSAP CA3.2), payment of ecosystem services (NBSAP FIW2.4) and exploring options for a climate change and disaster risk reduction insurance or risk sharing scheme (CCDRR Policy 7.1.1).					
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	NBSAP CA3.2, NBSAP FIW2.4, CCDRR 7.1.1	ENV 3.5		90%	USD 1,170,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 10		Progress Narrative: The Environment Act includes provisions for the establishment of the Environmental Trust Fund, which will aim to collect taxes/levies from international visitors to fund nature based solutions			
A128 Vanuatu commits to ensuring that adequate resourcing is available for climate change and disaster risk reduction activities, building financial capacity to manage resources, and enabling access to increased international funding.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.1.1	ENV 3.5		80%	USD 890,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 9, 10		Progress Narrative: NAB Climate Finance Taskforce is active, with annual planning and implementation. Vanuatu has submitted accreditation application to GCF for MFEM to become national direct access entity			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A129	Vanuatu commits to obtaining National Implementing Entity accreditation from the major climate change funds, including by meeting fiduciary standards and making measurable improvements in climate change and disaster risk reduction budgeting, financial statements, reporting, audit processes, procurement practices, project management, and transparency policies (CCDRR Policy 7.2.2).					
	Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.1.1	ENV 3.5		90%	USD 1,030,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 9, 11		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has submitted accreditation application to GCF for MFEM to become national direct access entity with support of GGGI			
A130	Vanuatu commits to gender-responsive budgeting for climate change, including prioritising climate financing tools that target women's grassroots initiatives and resilient development outcomes.					
	National Sustainable Development Plan	Soc 4	SOC 4.1		80%	USD 590,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 9, 10		Progress Narrative: No efforts undertaken to date to operationalise gender-responsive budgeting for climate change			
A131	Vanuatu commits to developing Public Private Partnerships to deliver new assets and services to support the delivery of priority actions in Vanuatu, as well as essential or emerging sectors					
	Public Private Partnerships Policy	1.6 (f)	ENV 3.5		80%	USD 5,900,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 9, 10		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu Business Resilience Council and Vanuatu Chamber of Commerce and Industry have developed new partnerships with government to deliver adaptation and mitigation outcomes			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Finance – Commitments A127 – A131

→ The five finance commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 10 million.

→ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 6) national climate funds (e.g., NGEF), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 8) national pension fund (e.g., VNPF), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 11) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks), 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market buyers), 15) insurance and risk transfer mechanisms (e.g., PCRIC, PICAP), and 16) litigation and settlement funds.

→ Preferred instruments include grant-financed technical assistance, concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans, and blended finance vehicles that could support establishing adaptation funds, levy schemes, and climate risk insurance pools. Green or sustainability linked bonds, results-based grants tied to fiduciary milestones, and parametric risk transfer products could support diversified revenue streams. Credit guarantee and first-loss facilities could crowd in commercial lending for PPP projects and gender-responsive finance tools.

→ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 16.

ADAPTATION

Statistics (A132)

Robust, timely, and inclusive statistical systems are essential to guiding climate adaptation efforts and ensuring that no one is left behind in Vanuatu’s response to climate change. The Vanuatu Bureau of Statistics (BoS) plays a central role in strengthening the country’s evidence base for climate-informed policy and planning. Through the integration of climate and environmental indicators into national data collection tools—including the national census, household income and expenditure surveys, and the Vanuatu Labour Market Survey—the BoS is ensuring that climate vulnerabilities, impacts, and adaptation capacities are more visible, measurable, and actionable at both local and national levels.

To make statistics more fit-for-purpose in a climate-vulnerable context, Vanuatu is implementing a range of best practices in climate data collection. These include the development of localized wellbeing indicators to monitor holistic adaptation outcomes, the application of geo-referenced data for disaster

risk analysis, and the inclusion of climate risk modules in socioeconomic surveys. Vanuatu is also advancing new methodologies to capture the lived experience of climate change, such as integrating participatory approaches in data collection and tracking non-economic losses. These investments ensure that adaptation priorities are based on grounded realities and that progress is regularly monitored using inclusive, climate-relevant, and gender-sensitive metrics.

The Statistical development plan for Vanuatu disaster-related statistics 2024–2028³¹ aims to coordinate, collate, produce, and disseminate quality and timely disaster-related statistical information for managing and reporting on the risk, occurrence, and impact of major disasters in Vanuatu, including to produce a minimum set of disaster-related statistics that will meet national, regional and international needs for disaster-related statistics.

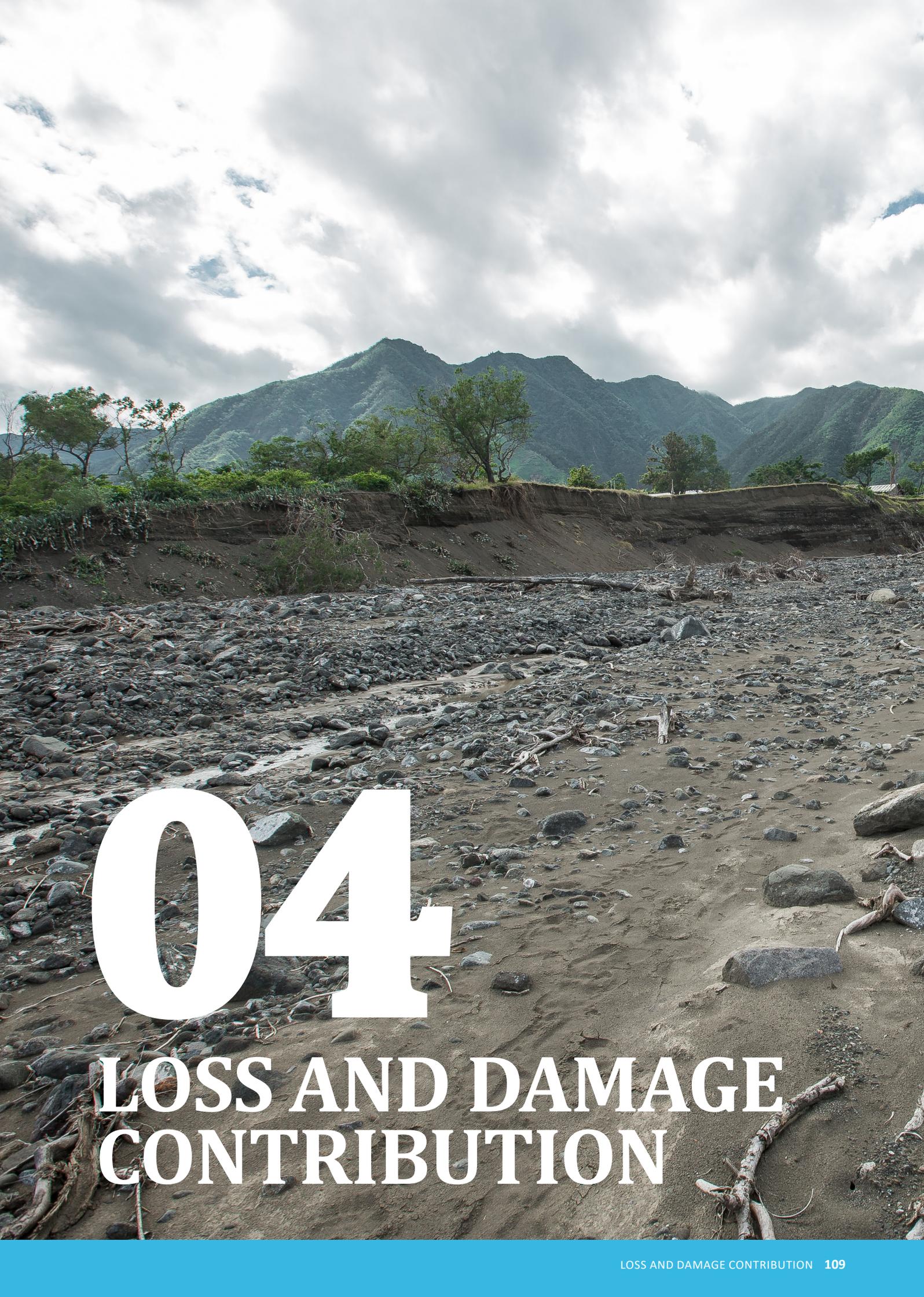
	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
A132	Vanuatu commits to improve coverage and access to climate change and disaster risk reduction statistics, including the development of a disaster-related statistics database and web page					
	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics	6.18	ENV 3.5		100%	USD 5,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate		Progress Narrative: SPREP and SPC are supporting Vanuatu to refine and collate climate statistics			
	Gaps: 1, 10, 12, 14, 15					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Statistics Adaptation Finance – Commitment A132

- The one statistics commitment is estimated to cost approximately USD 5 million.
- Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), and 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD).
- Preferred instruments include grants and concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with domestic budget allocations to develop the disaster-risk statistics database. Grant-financed technical assistance could be paired with modest resilience bonds. Results-based payments tied to timely data publication and accuracy indicators could attract philanthropic and impact investments supporting statistics to inform evidence-based decision making.
- Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 5.

31 <https://vbos.gov.vu/sites/default/files/NSDS%3B%20Disaster%20Related%20Statistics%202024-2028.pdf>



04

LOSS AND DAMAGE CONTRIBUTION

Loss and Damage (L1 – L52)

Vanuatu has long been leading international efforts to raise the profile of climate change impacts on vulnerable nations and expand international action and support for climate loss and damage. As the co-founding chair of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), first called for Loss & Damage finance in the early 1990s to become a part of the multilateral UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The nation has consistently been a voice of high ambition action throughout the operationalisation of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss & Damage, and the creation of the Santiago Network on Loss & Damage and holds a shared Pacific SIDS seat on the board of the new UN Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage.

Where UN mechanisms are unable to provide adequate relief from loss and damage resulting from the negligent actions of fossil fuel-related companies and the states that subsidise them, Vanuatu will seek legal redress elsewhere.

In this context, when the Republic of Vanuatu deposited its Paris Agreement instrument of ratification on 21 September 2016, the compendium declaration reads, in part:

“...the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu declares its understanding that ratification of the Paris Agreement shall in no way constitute a renunciation of any rights under any other laws, including international law, and the communication depositing the Republic’s instrument of ratification shall include a declaration to this effect for international record.”

Vanuatu led an historic initiative at the United Nations General Assembly in 2023 to request for an Advisory Opinion to the UN’s International Court of Justice³² seeking clarity, under International Law with the following questions³³:

- 1) What are the obligations of States under international law to ensure the protection of the climate system and other parts of the environment from anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases for States and for present and future generations;
- (2) What are the legal consequences under these obligations for States where they, by their acts and omissions, have caused significant harm to the climate system and other parts of the

environment, with respect to:

- (a) States, including, in particular, small island developing States, which due to their geographical circumstances and level of development, are injured or specially affected by or are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?
- (b) Peoples and individuals of the present and future generations affected by the adverse effects of climate change?”

To prevent and disincentivise environmental loss and damage from climate change, in 2024 Vanuatu (along with Fiji and Samoa) proposed to the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) that ecocide be formally classified as an international crime³⁴, defined as “unlawful or wanton acts committed with knowledge that there is a substantial likelihood of severe and either widespread or long-term damage to the environment being caused by those acts.”

The Vanuatu Department of Climate Change has developed a first-in-the-world Loss and Damage Policy and Implementation Roadmap in 2025³⁵, as a critical first step in launching Vanuatu’s own Loss and Damage Fund and making a major funding request to the UN Fund for responding to Loss and Damage. Vanuatu’s Loss & Damage Policy includes the following features:

- 85 LnD policy directives, phased into short, medium and long-term priorities, across 11 thematic areas:
 - Governance of Loss and Damage (11)
 - Assessment of Loss and Damage (8)
 - Programmatic Approach to Address Loss and Damage (4)
 - Economic and Non-Economic Loss and Damage (8)
 - Extreme, Rapid and Slow-Onset Events (8)
 - Locally Led Action and Traditional Knowledge to Address Loss & Damage (6)
 - Displacement, Relocation and Human Mobility (12)
 - Uncertainty, Tipping Points, Extreme Future Risks (5)

32 <https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/ltid/n23/094/52/pdf/n2309452.pdf?token=MYe2stN3ptvJrPYEGB&fe=true>

33 <https://www.icj-cij.org/case/187>

34 <https://www.theguardian.com/law/article/2024/sep/09/pacific-islands-ecocide-crime-icc-proposal>

35 <https://docc.gov.vu/index.php/Ind/Ind-policy>

- Climate Justice, Protecting Human Rights and Upholding to International Legal Obligations (4)
- Loss & Damage Finance and Means of Implementation (12)
- International Engagement and Advocacy (7)
- Short term implementation roadmap for 2025-2030, with full costs of implementation reaching 1,010,820,000 VUV
- Comprehensive history of Vanuatu’s loss and damage international leadership
- Theoretical Framework linking loss & damage to sustainable development goals, mitigation of greenhouse gasses, adaptation, disaster risk reduction, humanitarian action and disaster recovery
- Vanuatu specific definition of Loss and Damage, according to 15 core conceptual elements
- Typology of actions which fall under the remit of “addressing loss and damage” and that would qualify for loss and damage financial and technical support.
- List of current and future L&D projects and initiatives
- Review of capacity and technology needs for Loss & Damage
- Future Research Priorities in Vanuatu on Loss and Damage

This NDC 3.0 fully aligns with the Loss and Damage Policy and aims to elevate the profile and critical importance of addressing loss and damage to achieve Vanuatu’s overall climate goals and commitments to the Paris Agreement.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
L1 Vanuatu commits to contribute to and engage constructively with the UNFCCC, Paris Agreement, Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage and associated committees, bodies and networks thereof.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.1.3 and 7.4.4	ENV 3.1		90%	USD 2,900,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 10		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has contributed significantly to UNFCCC Loss and Damage Process, including making submission on the review of the WIM and a L&D focused submission on the Baku to Belem 1.3T Roadmap			
L2 Vanuatu commits to establish mechanisms to assess and redress loss and damage incurred as a result of climate change.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.4.4	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 20,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 5, 7, 10, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu led the UN General Assembly resolution requesting the International Court of Justice to provide an advisory opinion on the climate obligations of states. Vanuatu also signed a grant agreement with the government of New Zealand to establish a national loss and damage fund.			
L3 Vanuatu commits to implementing a Loss and Damage Policy Framework and Implementation plan, including risk sharing, insurance and compensation approaches at replacement value by 2030.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.4.4	ENV 3.3		90%	USD 1,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 15, 16
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 9, 10		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu developed a Loss & Damage Policy Framework and Implementation Roadmap in 2025			
L4 Vanuatu commits to conducting assessments on potential and actual loss and damage across the country linked with ongoing vulnerability assessment processes, and quantifying losses (e.g. food security, culture, ecosystem services and integrity) (National CCDRR Policy 7.4.4), particularly through the Post Disaster Needs Assessment approach.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.4.4	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 3,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 5, 7, 10, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has undertaken biodiversity-related cyclone impacts assessments as part of the Post Disaster Needs Assessment, with local experts publishing assessments of human-rights and culture related impacts in peer reviewed journals, and in written submissions to the International Court of Justice			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
L5 Vanuatu commits to ensuring that the design and construction of public buildings and major infrastructure consider current and projected risks in order to minimise, avert and address loss and damage, especially by developing and adhering to climate-proofed building codes, environmental impact assessments, regulations and development guidelines.					
Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy	7.4.4	ENV 3.3		90%	USD 3,220,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: Vanuatu's work on the South Santo road has used new climate risk assessment models to anticipate major future events, and has included climate risk requirements in the Vanuatu Infrastructure Plan Gaps: 1, 10, 12					
L6 Vanuatu commits to ensuring uninterrupted access to education for children affected by displacement or relocation, including those in informal settlements. This includes constructing new schools where needed, in line with DRR standards and building codes, and providing school rehabilitation, temporary learning spaces, WASH facilities, and food supplies.					
Vanuatu National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-induced Displacement,	Strategic Area 8 & Action 8.2	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 12,400,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 11, 13, 15
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: 6 schools have been identified by the Provincial Education officers in the six Provinces that are under threat to sea level rise and would require relocation: (1) port resolution (2) suango (3) kamewa (4) Baldwin Lansdale (5) Robin school (6) Win Primary school. Feasibility studies are required to confirm costs Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15					
L7 Vanuatu commits to establishing school infrastructure that can serve as safe shelters during and after disasters or emergencies, recognising that schools may be repurposed as temporary havens for affected communities.					
School Based Disaster Risk Reduction and Education in Emergency Policy (SBDRR&EIE)	Pg. 22	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 7,489,204 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 13
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: Schools are often used for safe evacuation centre during and in the aftermath of disaster. All new school buildings are being designed to meet disaster standards and can be repurposed as shelter during disasters. Gaps: 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15					
L8 Vanuatu commits to ensure that all people affected by displacement are included in infrastructure planning and have equal access to WASH services, especially those that strengthen resilience, ensure service continuity, and equitable WASH services for all, as well as for energy supplies, transportation, telecommunications and ICT.					
Vanuatu National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-induced Displacement,	SA 9	ENV 3.3		90%	USD 35,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 13
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: For recovery efforts, the Department of Water Resources (DoWR), with technical support from UNICEF, led the assessment of damages and losses in the WASH sector for the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) following Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin in 2023. DoWR also conducted WASH sector assessments following Tropical Cyclone Lola (2023/24) and the post earthquake (2024/25), and subsequently developed and submitted the corresponding WASH recovery plans to the Recovery Operations Center (ROC) under the Prime Minister's Office. The need to restore WASH infrastructure—particularly water supply systems—is urgent and imminent. However, government and donor investments remain limited, posing significant challenges to building sustainable and climate-resilient WASH infrastructure that can withstand future shocks. Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
L9	Vanuatu commits to provide assistance to communities returning to places of origin to restore basic infrastructure following disasters, including deliver life-saving and essential WASH services by rapidly restoring access to water, sanitation, and hygiene, as well as affordable and renewable energy, roads, drainage, adherence to disaster-resilient building codes, telecommunications, and ICT.					
	Vanuatu National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-induced Displacement,	A 9.3	ENV 3.3		90%	USD 10,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14	Progress Narrative: The Department of Water Resources (DoWR) is the lead agency for WASH Cluster during emergencies, working in close coordination with the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) to ensure effective and timely delivery of essential WASH services. This includes strengthening information management and coordinating WASH responses across partners. During the response to Tropical Cyclone (TC) Judy/Kevin and Tropical Cyclone Lola in 2023 and 2024, UNICEF and its partners delivered essential WASH services to prevent disease outbreaks across Penama, Malampa, and Epi provinces with funding support from CERF, MFAT, and ECHO. In 2024 and 2025, following the earthquake affecting Efate and the Shefa outer islands, CERF, DFAT, FCDO, and MFAT provided critical funding through UNICEF to support both immediate WASH emergency response and early recovery efforts.				
L10	Vanuatu commits to implement affordable risk transfer and “climate insurance” models at the micro and macro levels to provide additional safety nets to remedy loss of income, damage to housing, infrastructure, crops and other assets from climate disasters.					
	Vanuatu National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-induced Displacement,	A10.8	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 35,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 13, 15
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 12, 14	Progress Narrative: Vanuatu piloted a parametric micro insurance programme with UNCTD to make insr				
L11	Vanuatu commits to facilitate community-led plans to ensure connections to ancestors and relatives buried in original locations are sustained, and as an important cultural aspect of relocation planning.					
	National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement, Loss and Damage Policy	A11.2 / 7.11	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 3,800,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 5, 7, 8	Progress Narrative: Communities facing climate displacement do not yet receive dedicated or well coordinated support to maintain cultural identity or connection with ancestral remains				
L12	Vanuatu commits to ensure that climate displaced people, people at risk of displacement, internal migrants, people living in informal settlements, communities relocating to new locations and host communities, have continued access to basic health and medical services, including post-sexual assault treatment and care relating to sexual and reproductive health and chronic illness, as well as nutrition advice and information.					
	Vanuatu National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-induced Displacement	7.1	ENV 3.3		70%	USD 16,700,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 8, 9	Progress Narrative: IDisplacement and Evacuation Centre Management Cluster has collected data on health needs after all recent displacement events including TC Judy / Kevin, TC Lola, Vanuatu Earthquake, and provided referrals to Health Cluster to ensure displaced populations in evacuation centres and host households have continued access to basic health and medical services. Coordination with Evacuation Centre Coordinator within the Health Cluster has been established and continues. World Bank Affordable and Resilient Settlements Project, US\$25 million subsidising housing costs for low-income erners which may enable the resettlement of vulnerable urban populations. MoH provides health services to evacuation centers, and treat and screen NCD, skin diseases,, psychosocial support, nutrition packages and supplements, deworming, vitamin tablets, mosquito nets, general medications and reproductive health via mobile health teams.				

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
L13 Vanuatu commits to 75% of new and existing health infrastructure buildings are in compliance with the building code for climate resilience and preparedness.					
Ministry of Health Corporate Plan 2022-2025	Pg. 28	ECO 2.3		90%	USD 8,333,333 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 13
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 13, 14		Progress Narrative: Australian Recovery Program contributes to the restoration of health and education facilities; improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) , Vanuatu Australia Health Partnership (VAHP) includes climate governance reform. Refurbishments of staff houses at VCH including temporary national immunization cold room and dry storage supported by Unicef. Renovations of Erasa dispensary supported by UNFPA.			
L14 Vanuatu commits to provide continuing support for life-saving and essential health care to affected populations, including rapid measures to repair and/or rebuild damaged health facilities, and erect temporary health facilities with particular attention on restoring WASH infrastructure.					
Health Cluster Strategic Plan	1.1	ENV 3.3		90%	USD 32,770,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 13, 14		Progress Narrative: Australian Recovery Program contributes to the restoration of health and education facilities; improved water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) , Vanuatu Australia Health Partnership (VAHP) includes climate governance reform			
L15 Vanuatu commits to address the needs of and provide durable solutions for people affected by displacement, including people at-risk of displacement, displaced people, internal migrants, people living in informal settlements, and host communities (CCDRR Relocation Policy Strategic Area 10) by enabling ministries to work together to provide protections for people at each stage of the displacement cycle (CCDRR Relocation Policy Strategic Area 3).					
National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement, Vanuatu's National Planned Relocation Framework	Area 10 & Area 3, Case Study 1-5	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 12,310,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 13, 14		Progress Narrative: New Relocation Taskforce established, and led by Ministry of Climate Change with the support of IOM and other international partners.			
L16 Vanuatu commits to careful consideration of planned relocation as an option of last resort, and where communities do need to move away from hazards, either temporarily or permanently, Vanuatu aims to ensure that lessons learned from previous relocation experiences globally and in the Pacific are considered, so that movement takes place with dignity and with appropriate safeguards and human rights protections in place.					
Vanuatu National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-induced Displacement,	Action 3.7	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 880,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9		Progress Narrative: Review of Displacement Policy underway, with action plan being developed			
L17 Vanuatu commits to expand its calls for and actions taken to obtain compensation for climate loss and damage (including quantifiable as well as intangible and non-economic loss) within the UNFCCC multilateral climate regime.					
Climate Diplomacy Strategy	1.1	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 1,290,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu ICJ climate obligations case awaiting advisory opinion			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
L18	Vanuatu commits to pursue compensation for climate loss and damage (including quantifiable as well as intangible and non-economic loss) through legal action outside of UNFCCC processes.				
Climate Diplomacy Strategy	1.2	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 2,580,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 16
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: Vanuatu ICJ climate obligations case awaiting advisory opinion Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15					
L19	Vanuatu commits to ensure that actions to avert, minimise and address Loss and Damage will be acknowledged and mainstreamed in all climate-relevant laws, policies, plans and strategies developed by all sectors and at all levels, for example in the revised National Sustainable Development Plan, Provincial Development Plans, Area Council Development Plans, Ministry Corporate Plans, Department Business Plans, New Project Proposals, Sector Strategies, and Project Implementation Plans.				
Loss & Damage Policy	1.1	ENV 3.3		10%	USD 4,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: Currently, climate is mainstreamed in more than 50 policies and strategies, but Loss and Damage is often misperceived as being synonymous with disaster management Gaps: 1, 2, 10, 12					
L20	Vanuatu commits to establishing a Loss & Damage Technical Working Group under The National Advisory Board on Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction to guide and provide technical inputs into loss and damage initiatives, projects and programmes, and will be inclusive of experts from within and outside of government, including from civil society, the private sector, development partners, regional technical experts, scientists, academic and humanitarian practitioners.				
Loss & Damage Policy	1.5	ENV 3.3		5%	USD 30,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: IWG/Commission has been operational since 2023 Gaps: 1, 6, 9					
L21	Vanuatu commits to designing new and enhanced loss and damage assessment approaches and methodologies to address specific use-cases and tangible decision-making needs, including for example, the determination of financial, technical and capacity needs to address loss and damage in a specific geographical area and estimating long-term non-economic impacts and solution options for slow onset impacts.				
Loss & Damage Policy	2.3	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 4,300,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: BOLD project under SPREP will work towards loss and damage needs assessments. Some NELD now being incorporated into PDNA processes Gaps: 1, 10, 14, 15					
L22	Vanuatu commits to prepare and publish an annual Vanuatu Loss and Damage Gap Report on the occurrence, impacts, solutions, finance needed and provided, and policy innovations being used throughout Vanuatu to avert, minimise and address loss and damage.				
Loss & Damage Policy	2.8	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 4,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: IWG/Commission developed a 2024 policy brief on status of L&D in Vanuatu Gaps: 1, 10, 11, 12, 15					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
L23	Vanuatu commits to develop and implement a long-term Loss and Damage Programme and Investment Framework which provides a comprehensive consideration of the full L&D financing landscape, with a goal to achieve coherence and complementarity among diverse funding arrangements as well as innovative sources of finance.					
	Loss & Damage Policy	3.1	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 7,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 7, 10, 13		Progress Narrative: Santiago Network support to Vanuatu will develop a L&D Country Programme, including investment framework			
L24	Vanuatu commits to ensuring a balanced and dual-track consideration of economic and non-economic loss and damage impacts and extreme and slow onset events, in all climate related assessments, programmes, initiatives and funding arrangements.					
	Loss & Damage Policy	4.1/5.1	ENV 3.3		40%	USD 2,300,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 10, 12, 14, 15		Progress Narrative: Currently most loss and damage considerations and actions focus on economic or market oriented effects			
L25	Vanuatu commits to endorsing a set of principles to guide the planning, implementation and monitoring of locally led loss and damage action, including by prioritising traditional knowledge and cultural systems.					
	Loss & Damage Policy	6.1	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 2,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 10, 12		Progress Narrative: The Vanuatu STRENGTH project has developed an innovative loss and damage policy lab approach to identify and articulate locally determined loss and damage priorities and plans			
L26	Vanuatu commits to develop regulations, including redress and compliance mechanisms, to ensure that self-determination and subsidiarity (action and decision-making takes place at the level where impacts are being manifested) are maintained in all loss and damage activities in Vanuatu, especially so that affected individuals and groups (including traditional, customary and tribal groups) autonomously formulate their own responses to losses and damages.					
	Loss & Damage Policy	6.3	ENV 3.3		90%	USD 2,400,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 9		Progress Narrative: No regulations have yet been established to ensure decentralised and locally determined actions and approaches are acknowledged, respected and supported			
L27	Vanuatu commits to promote the use of traditional knowledge and cultural practices at all levels to address loss and damage.					
	Loss & Damage Policy	6.6	ENV 3.3		30%	USD 1,750,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Gaps: 1, 10, 12		Progress Narrative: Traditional approaches to addressing loss and damage are the most commonly employed in all villages, and the Government continues to promote and strengthen these indigenous-led mechanisms			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
L28	Vanuatu commits to strengthen institutional and governance arrangements to address climate-induced displacement by identifying a lead Ministry to act as focal point and coordinating entity for all matters relating to climate displacement, and legislating arrangements for responding to requests from people affected by displacement.					
	Loss & Damage Policy	7.1	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 59,850 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 5, 9		Progress Narrative: A displacement taskforce has been established under the Ministry of Climate Change and Ministry of Lands			
L29	Vanuatu commits to ensure the delivery of essential services (emergency, security, health, nutrition, education, infrastructure, WASH services, energy, transportation, telecommunications and ICT) to all people affected by climate displacement, including migrants and host communities.					
	Loss & Damage Policy	7.5, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 5,920,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9		Progress Narrative: Communities facing climate displacement do not yet receive dedicated or well coordinated services			
L30	Vanuatu commits to mainstream climate displacement and migration considerations into national agricultural, fisheries, livestock and employment policies and TVET initiatives.					
	Loss & Damage Policy	7.1	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 700,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 2, 5, 7, 10, 14		Progress Narrative: Most policies have not yet mainstreamed climate displacement into their sectoral targets and priorities			
L31	Vanuatu commits to strengthen access to justice and public participation mechanisms for people affected by climate displacement, including complaint mechanisms, accessible and affordable legal support, including for people making insurance claims relating to climate displacement.					
	Loss & Damage Policy	7.12	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 230,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 10, 12, 14		Progress Narrative: Legal resources and justice for those affected by climate displacement is limited			
L32	Vanuatu commits to identify thresholds and tipping points which represent intolerable risk to our social, economic and environmental systems, and prioritise efforts on averting, minimising and addressing these scenarios.					
	Loss & Damage Policy	8.3	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 3,400,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 10, 12		Progress Narrative: Limited research has been undertaken on Vanuatu specific ecological, economic or social tipping points			
L33	Vanuatu commits to respect, protect and fulfill human rights obligations by adopting and enforcing laws and policies to protect people and nature against harm, injury loss and damage from adverse climate impacts.					
	Loss & Damage Policy	9.1	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 8,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Gaps: 1, 9		Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has led international efforts to secure an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice on international legal obligations, but has not yet undertaken efforts to develop new and enhanced domestic legislation. Vanuatu has a National Human Rights Institution.			

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
L34 "Vanuatu commits that it will take all available measures to ensure that persons whose human rights have been violated as a result of climate change have access to an effective remedy, including by seeking redress for loss and damage in formal courts and other jurisdictional justice systems, including on the issue of compensation, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trial tort law against carbon majors - Humanitarian Law - UN Law of the Sea - WTO Rules or other treaties and agreements to which Vanuatu is a party - UN General Assembly resolutions - The International Court of Justice - The International Criminal Court" 					
Loss & Damage Policy	9.3	ENV 3.3		90%	USD 35,000,000 Preferred Sources: 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has taken loss and damage related cases to the ITLOS, ICJ, ICC and IMO Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 12					
L35 Vanuatu commits to allocating increasingly more of its recurrent budget to addressing loss and damage, including by reforms to the state of emergency financing limits, and by preparing climate-responsive national budgets, which actively incorporate climate change considerations, including loss and damage, into spending decisions, allocating funds specifically to address climate loss and damage initiatives, and aligning national financial planning with climate goals and addressing impacts across different sectors of the economy.					
Loss & Damage Policy	10.1	ENV 3.3		90%	USD 16,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has made use of 1.5% disaster allocation each year since 2020, and has established a Disaster Risk Financing Policy and a new Unit on climate and disaster finance at the Ministry of Finance Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15					
L36 Vanuatu commits to establish a dedicated Loss and Damage Fund at the national level, in order to attract and manage loss and damage finance and disburse it to those most in need.					
Loss & Damage Policy	10.2	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 700,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: Vanuatu secured finance from New Zealand to establish and capitalise new L&D Fund Gaps: 1, 10, 11, 12					
L37 Vanuatu commits to explore and operationalise new and innovative delivery mechanisms to ensure financial flows are directly accessible to vulnerable people in alignment with national principles for climate-just financing, including small grants programmes, cash transfer and vouchers, payment for risk transfer premiums, investment in adaptive social protection services, and use of court mandated financial compensation.					
Loss & Damage Policy	10.8, 10.9, 10.12	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 22,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has employed cash transfer pilots, micro insurance and has small grants opportunities for direct access Gaps: 1, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
L38	<p>"Vanuatu commits to include loss and damage in all of its major international climate and development submissions and obligatory documents, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement - Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) - National Communications - National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) - Long-Term Low Emissions Development Strategies LT LEDS - Universal Period Reviews - Statements to the UN General Assembly" 					
	Loss & Damage Policy	11.2	ENV 3.3		60%	USD 10,500,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9
	<p>Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has included L&D in its NDC, BTR and working towards a NAP+L&D Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 12</p>					
L39	<p>"Vanuatu commits to fulfil its role as Board Member of the Fund for responding to Loss & Damage (FRLD) in the current rotation among Fiji, Cook Islands and Vanuatu, as agreed within the AOSIS group, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attending all FRDL Board meetings - Proactively making submissions and forwarding operational proposals - Supporting the preparation of funding requests for Vanuatu from the FRLD" 					
	Loss & Damage Policy	11.5	ENV 3.3		90%	USD 13,000,000 Preferred Sources: 4, 5, 9, 10
	<p>Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: Vanuatu will become a FRLD board member in 2026, and has attended all TC and Board meetings to date Gaps: 1, 9</p>					
L40	<p>"Vanuatu commits to continuously engage with the Santiago Network on Loss and Damage to seek technical assistance, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintaining a representative group of National SNLD Liaison Officers - Submitting TA requests" 					
	Loss & Damage Policy	11.6	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 2,500,000 Preferred Sources: 4, 5, 10
	<p>Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has made the first request to the SNLD and is in the process of obtaining TA Gaps: 1, 10, 12</p>					
L41	<p>"Vanuatu commits to developing standard operating procedures in the form of a disaster risk financing manual covering access, use, and accountability of DRF, including of specific instruments and in specific disaster contexts."</p>					
	Disaster Risk Financing Policy	1.3.1	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 1,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	<p>Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: Vanuatu established a Disaster Risk Financing Policy and a new Unit on climate and disaster finance at the Ministry of Finance Gaps: 1, 5, 9, 10, 12</p>					
L42	<p>Vanuatu commits to developing guidelines for the Emergency Fund as mandated by the Disaster Risk Management Act.</p>					
	Disaster Risk Financing Policy	2.2.1	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 1,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	<p>Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: No efforts yet undertaken to operationalise the Emergency Fund Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 12</p>					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
L43	Vanuatu commits to subscription to the Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company sovereign risk insurance products and to undertaking comprehensive awareness to highlight its utility.					
	Disaster Risk Financing Policy	2.2.3	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 100,000,000 Preferred Sources: 3, 4, 5, 10, 15
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: Vanuatu has subscribed to climate insurance twice, and received payouts both times Gaps: 1, 9					
L44	Vanuatu commits to the accountable use of grants for effective emergency response, including through the social protection system, specifically by undertaking a feasibility study on the use of grants through existing grant facilities (e.g. school grant system).					
	Disaster Risk Financing Policy	3.3.2	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 1,100,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: The Ministry of Education undertakes annual monitoring of the use of school grants, but most grant programs do not yet have adequate monitoring to ensure accountable use Gaps: 1, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15					
L45	Vanuatu commits to develop an Adaptive Social Protection National Coordination Protocol (ASP-NCP), including the establishment of an Adaptive Social Protection Taskforce and a unified social registry that consolidates data on beneficiaries, vulnerabilities, and social protection program participation.					
	Adaptive Social Protection Policy	Annex 1	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 8,900,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Substantial Progress Narrative: Adaptive Social Protection Policy adopted in 2024 Gaps: 1, 6, 8, 10					
L46	Vanuatu commits to develop a national fruits and vegetable contingency plan with specific actions aimed at assisting policy makers and farmers in minimizing costs incurred during climate extremes and natural disasters.					
	Vanuatu Fruits and Vegetable Strategy	4.14	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 8,900,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: The Fruits and Vegetable contingency plan has not yet been developed Gaps: 1, 10, 11, 12					
L47	Vanuatu commits to develop a framework for the support of people displaced by natural disasters.					
	Vanuatu National Security Strategy	4.1	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 12,000,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: Displacement policy under review, Displacement task force established Gaps: 1, 5, 6, 7, 9					
L48	Vanuatu commits to expand its disaster response capacities by reviewing national disaster supply chains to ensure the appropriate prepositioning of nutritional supplies.					
	Vanuatu Food Safety, Security & Nutrition Policy	1.8.2	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 1,600,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: The Vanuatu Business Resilience Council, and the NDMO, have undertaken various reviews and stocktaking of disaster relief supply chains Gaps: 1, 10, 11, 12					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

	Sector Policy	Policy Reference	NSDP Reference	SDG Goal Most Relevant	Conditionality (Expressed as %)	Finance Required USD
L49	Vanuatu commits to developing a multi sectoral food safety emergency response plan including standard operating procedures for food handling and risk reporting during disasters.					
	Vanuatu Food Safety, Security & Nutrition Policy	2.5.3	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 1,450,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Limited Progress Narrative: No work yet undertaken to develop a Food Safety in Emergencies strategy Gaps: 1, 10, 11, 12					
L50	Vanuatu commits to develop rapid assessment tools for food security responses to communities during disasters.					
	Vanuatu Food Safety, Security & Nutrition Policy	3.4.4	ENV 3.3		100%	USD 3,200,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: The Food Security and Agriculture Cluster, led by the Ministry of Agriculture and supported by FAO, has developed a range of tools and methodologies for rapid food security assessments Gaps: 1, 10, 11, 12					
L51	Vanuatu commits to ensure that staff of community service organizations working with at-risk demographics have adequate skills to identify and provide support to people at risk of or who have mental illness, especially by developing tailored mental health training which focuses on counselling capacity building, especially during climate emergencies.					
	Vanuatu NCD Policy and Strategic Plan	7.3.2	SOC 3.1		100%	USD 1,300,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 3, 4, 5
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: The Health Cluster and the Ministry of Health have developed basic tools to sensitize the public about support options for people affected by mental illness Gaps: 1, 10, 11, 12					
L52	Vanuatu commits to strengthen procedures and related governance structures for investigating and responding to food safety incidents and emergencies.					
	Vanuatu Food Safety Security & Nutrition Policy 2022-2030	Pg. 14	ENV3.2		80%	USD 875,000 Preferred Sources: 1, 2, 3, 4, 9
	Progress from NDC 2: ● Moderate Progress Narrative: Food safety training and inspection for food handlers in food industry (hotels, restaurants, street food vendors, farmers). Gaps: 1, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15					

Refer to Annex II for explanations of footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources'.

Loss and Damage Finance Commitments L1 – L52

➡ The 52 loss and damage commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 1.2 billion.

➡ Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 6) national climate funds (e.g., NGEF), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 8) national pension fund (e.g., VNPF), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 11) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks), 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market buyers), 15) insurance and risk transfer mechanisms (e.g., PCRIC, PICAP), and 16) litigation and settlement funds.

➡ Preferred instruments include grants and concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans blended with domestic budget resources to establish national loss assessment systems, restore essential services, and scale adaptive social protection delivery. Development of parametric risk transfer products (e.g., sovereign or household-level index insurance and catastrophe bonds) and contingent credit lines with climate resilient debt clauses to provide rapid post-shock liquidity. Litigation settlement funds, results-based grants tied to social impact, and blended vehicles that pair first-loss guarantees with private equity or impact investments could crowd in commercial lending and ESG investors. Voluntary and compliance carbon credit revenue, impact investments, and litigation and settlement proceeds could help capitalise the national loss and damage fund.

➡ Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 16.





05

MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION AND FINANCING NEEDS

Means of Implementaion and Financing Needs

There are 219 commitments across mitigation (35), adaptation (132), and loss and damage (52) thematic areas and are estimated to cost approximately USD 3 billion to achieve over the 2025-2035 time period.

Table 2: Summary of Finance Required by Thematic Area (USD and VUV)

Finance by Thematic Area	Finance Required (USD)	Finance Required (USD) (By Conditionality)	Finance Required (VUV) ³⁶	Finance Required (VUV) (By Conditionality)	Share of Budget
Mitigation	541,632,000	539,737,000	65,537,472,000	65,308,177,000	17.94%
Adaptation	1,260,011,050	1,129,020,945	152,461,337,050	136,611,534,345	41.72%
Loss and Damage	1,218,167,387	1,158,614,054	147,398,253,827	140,192,300,498	40.34%
Total	3,019,810,437	2,827,371,999	365,397,062,877	342,112,011,843	100.00%

Finance by Thematic Area	Finance Required (USD)	Finance Required (USD) (By Conditionality)	Finance Required (VUV)	Finance Required (VUV) (By Conditionality)	Share of Budget
Mitigation – Electricity Generation	72,822,000	72,792,000	8,811,462,000	8,807,832,000	13.44%
Mitigation – Energy Efficiency	3,700,000	2,535,000	447,700,000	306,735,000	0.68%
Mitigation – Transport	49,000,000	48,300,000	5,929,000,000	5,844,300,000	9.05%
Mitigation – Commercial, Institutional and Residential	128,350,000	128,350,000	15,530,350,000	15,530,350,000	23.70%
Mitigation – Livestock: AFOLU	1,790,000	1,790,000	216,590,000	216,590,000	0.33%
Mitigation – Forestry: AFOLU	4,670,000	4,670,000	565,070,000	565,070,000	0.86%
Mitigation – Municipal Solid Waste	136,660,000	136,660,000	16,535,860,000	16,535,860,000	25.23%
Mitigation – Wastewater	139,640,000	139,640,000	16,896,440,000	16,896,440,000	25.78%
Mitigation – Trade	5,000,000	5,000,000	605,000,000	605,000,000	0.92%
Sub-Total	541,632,000	539,737,000	65,537,472,000	65,308,177,000	100.00%
Adaptation – Agriculture	142,260,000	133,826,000	17,213,460,000	16,192,946,000	11.29%
Adaptation – Biosecurity	5,980,000	5,335,000	723,580,000	645,535,000	0.47%

36 FX conversion rate of 1 USD = 121 VUV / 100 VUV = 0.83 USD.

Table 3: Summary of Finance Required by Thematic Area (USD and VUV)

Finance by Thematic Area	Finance Required (USD)	Finance Required (USD) (By Conditionality)	Finance Required (VUV)	Finance Required (VUV) (By Conditionality)	Share of Budget
Adaptation – Fisheries	29,400,000	25,505,000	3,557,400,000	3,086,105,000	2.33%
Adaptation – Forestry	129,490,000	106,305,500	15,668,290,000	12,862,965,500	10.28%
Adaptation – Livestock	10,750,000	10,667,500	1,300,750,000	1,290,767,500	0.85%
Adaptation – Water	189,860,000	173,149,000	22,973,060,000	20,951,029,000	15.07%
Adaptation – Health and Nutrition	62,490,000	51,501,000	7,561,290,000	6,231,621,000	4.96%
Adaptation – Environment	17,550,000	13,139,000	2,123,550,000	1,589,819,000	1.39%
Adaptation – Oceans	29,870,000	25,903,000	3,614,270,000	3,134,263,000	2.37%
Adaptation – Waste	20,010,000	17,931,000	2,421,210,000	2,169,651,000	1.59%
Adaptation – ICT	12,510,000	10,008,000	1,513,710,000	1,210,968,000	0.99%
Adaptation – Infrastructure	259,030,000	233,127,000	31,342,630,000	28,208,367,000	20.56%
Adaptation – PWD	1,740,000	1,218,000	210,540,000	147,378,000	0.14%
Adaptation – Gender and Social Inclusion	28,820,000	24,178,000	3,487,220,000	2,925,538,000	2.29%
Adaptation – Human Rights and Climate Justice	6,580,000	6,580,000	796,180,000	796,180,000	0.52%
Adaptation – Indigenous People	10,580,000	9,883,000	1,280,180,000	1,195,843,000	0.84%
Adaptation – Children, Youth, and Education	197,281,050	190,532,945	23,871,007,050	23,054,486,345	15.66%
Adaptation – Collaboration	1,300,000	872,000	157,300,000	105,512,000	0.10%
Adaptation – Decentralisation	22,720,000	21,868,000	2,749,120,000	2,646,028,000	1.80%
Adaptation – Governance	20,270,000	12,608,000	2,452,670,000	1,525,568,000	1.61%
Adaptation – Climate Policy and Plans	4,190,000	4,190,000	506,990,000	506,990,000	0.33%
Adaptation – Meteorology and CIS	5,460,000	4,759,000	660,660,000	575,839,000	0.43%
Adaptation – Tourism	36,890,000	32,711,000	4,463,690,000	3,958,031,000	2.93%
Adaptation – Trade	200,000	140,000	24,200,000	16,940,000	0.02%
Adaptation – Finance	9,580,000	7,884,000	1,159,180,000	953,964,000	0.76%
Adaptation – Statistics	5,200,000	5,200,000	629,200,000	629,200,000	0.41%
Sub-Total	1,260,011,050	1,129,020,945	152,461,337,050	136,611,534,345	100.00%
Loss and Damage	1,218,167,387	1,158,614,054	147,398,253,827	140,192,300,498	100.00%
Sub-Total	1,218,167,387	1,158,614,054	147,398,253,827	140,192,300,498	100.00%

Each NDC 3.0 commitment is assessed against a typography of 16 preferred sources of finance with accompanying financial instruments. These include both external partners (e.g., MDBs, climate trust funds, development programs, institutional development partners, bilateral agencies) and domestic resources (e.g., national climate funds, national development banks, national pension funds, domestic government budget). Non-governmental sources are also captured, including

philanthropic foundations and private sector actors (e.g., corporate finance, impact and investment funds, commercial banks). New and innovative sources include accessing carbon markets (e.g., carbon credits, emission trading), risk transfer schemes (e.g., parametric insurance), and litigation and settlement funds (e.g. compensation payments, legal reparations).



Table 4: Preferred Sources, Potential Instruments, and Examples of Sources

#	Preferred Sources	Potential Instruments	Examples of Sources
1	Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)	Grants, guarantees, equity investments, technical assistance, PPP financing, risk-sharing mechanisms	ADB, World Bank (IBRD, IDA, IFC)
2	Multilateral Climate Trust Funds	Grants, guarantees, results-based financing, equity investments, performance-based payments, blended finance, technical assistance	Green Climate Fund (GCF), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Adaptation Fund (AF), Climate Investment Funds (CIF), Strategic Climate Fund (SCF), Pacific Resilience Facility (PRF)
3	Multilateral Development Trust Funds and Programs	Grants, in-kind support, technical assistance, PPP financing, blended finance	IFAD, GAFSP, UNCDF, GFDRR, Regional Pacific NDC Hub
4	Institutional Development Partners	Grants, in-kind support, technical assistance, research funding, policy advisory services, training and capacity building	SPREP, SPC, PIFS, UNDP, FAO, UNICEF, UNDRR, GGGI, GIZ
5	Bilateral Development Agencies and Funds	Grants, technical assistance, debt-for-climate swaps, blended finance, PPP financing, results-based financing	Australia DFAT, New Zealand MFAT, Japan JICA, France AFD, KOICA, China Aid
6	National Climate Funds	Loan guarantees, blended finance, PPP financing, credit enhancements	National Green Energy Fund (NGEF), National Loss and Damage Fund
7	National Development Bank	Green/blue/climate/resilience bonds, loan guarantees, blended finance, PPP financing, credit enhancements	Vanuatu Rural Development Bank (VBRD)
8	National Pension Fund	Green/blue/climate/resilience bonds, ESG-focused portfolio allocations, sustainability-linked investments, direct equity investments	Vanuatu National Provident Fund (VNPF)
9	Domestic Government Budget	Direct budget allocations, PPPs, sovereign bonds, new taxes/levies (e.g., climate levies, carbon pricing), debt-for-climate swaps, climate-focused fiscal policies	Vanuatu National Budget Allocations for Agriculture & Disaster Preparedness
10	Philanthropic Foundations	Grants, impact investments, in-kind support, research funding, technical assistance, program-related investments	Rockerfeller Foundation, ClimateWorks Foundation, IKEA Foundation
11	Corporate Finance and ESG Initiatives	Corporate social responsibility (CSR) investments, direct equity, corporate green bonds, sustainability-linked finance, voluntary carbon offsets, impact-linked finance, PPPs	Regional SMEs and corporate enterprises
12	Impact and Investment Funds	Equity, blended finance, venture capital, sustainability-linked finance, impact bonds, results-based financing, PPPs	Global Climate Partnership Fund (GCPF), BlueOrchard Finance, responsibility, Breakthrough Energy Ventures, Pegasus Capital Advisors
13	Private Sector Finance and Commercial Banks	Green bonds, climate resilience bonds, sustainability-linked credit, trade finance, credit risk guarantees, impact bonds, PPPs	National Bank of Vanuatu (NBV), ANZ, BRED Bank, Bank of the South Pacific (SBP)
14	Carbon Markets and Compliance Schemes	Carbon credits, emissions trading, results-based payments, blue carbon finance, voluntary carbon market investments	Voluntary Carbon Market Buyers, Corporate Offset Programs (e.g., Shell, Microsoft, Patagonia's Climate Fund)
15	Insurance and Risk Transfer Mechanisms	Climate risk insurance, parametric insurance, catastrophe bonds, disaster risk pools, credit guarantees	Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company (PCRIC), Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme (PICAP), Swiss Re, Munich Re, World Bank Disaster Risk Finance Facility
16	Litigation and Settlement Funds	Climate liability settlements, compensation payments from fossil fuel companies or high-emitting industries, legal reparations for environmental damage	Potential funds secured through legal action against polluting entities or contributions from climate-related liability lawsuits

Approach to Estimating NDC 3.0 Finance Needs

The approach to estimated required finance per commitment was derived through a two-track process that distinguished between legacy commitments carried over from the previous NDC (Revised and Enhanced) and the suite of new targets introduced in NDC 3.0. For existing actions, 2020 cost baselines were first escalated to 2025 prices using the average consumer price inflation observed in Vanuatu since 2020 (about 2.8% per year, or 12 percent cumulative). A further 15% premium was added to capture the region's higher freight, logistics and construction costs after the COVID-19 pandemic. To account for the implementation period of 2025-2035, one-off activities such as policy preparation retained their real 2020 values, whereas multi-year programs were normalised over the longer period.

Sector-specific trends were then applied. For mitigation, falling global module prices were more than offset by higher balance-of-system and shipping expenses, yielding a net real increase of roughly 33% on 2020 figures. For adaptation, unit rates were aligned with recent Pacific grant projects financed by the GCF, ADB and others. For loss and damage, contingency-funding needs followed UNDRR and ADB guidance on contingency-funding capitalisation (e.g., approximately 1% of exposed public assets), use of PCRAFI public-asset exposure data, and benchmarking against PDNA/GRADE data from recent Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin (e.g., USD 433m and 27% of infrastructure damage) to inform capitalisation of the national loss and damage fund.

For new commitments, costs were estimated from the bottom up. Activity quantities (e.g., number of biogas digesters, hectares of restored mangroves, or provincial water-supply schemes) were multiplied by benchmark unit prices drawn from comparable Pacific projects and regional studies, then adjusted by the same inflation and logistics factors used for legacy items. Large civil works investments were cross-checked against multilateral project averages (e.g., USD 15 million per provincial water system in recent ADB operations).

All assumptions were validated through an in-depth stakeholder consultation process. Desktop research provided initial parameters, which were refined via key informant interviews, focus group discussions, technical workshops, and online data collection surveys. These engagements supported validation of both quantitative and qualitative elements of each commitment, ensuring that the final figures reflect both internationally recognised benchmarks and national realities.

Overview of Mitigation Finance Required (Commitments M1 – M35)

The 35 mitigation commitments across nine sub-sectors are estimated to cost approximately USD 542 million.

Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, SPC, SPREP), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 6) national climate funds (e.g., NGEF), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 8) national pension fund (e.g., VNPF), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 11) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks), and 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market buyers).

Mitigation commitments will be financed through a layered blended finance structure. Large, capital-intensive assets (e.g., renewable energy plants, electric vehicle charging networks, waste-to-energy facilities, wastewater treatment plants) will rely on concessional MDB and multilateral climate fund loans. These loans will be complemented by green or sustainability-linked bonds, PPP concessions, and grant-financed technical assistance to attract institutional investors while shifting construction and operating risks to private sector actors.

Smaller, distributed actions (e.g., appliance efficiency, building retrofits, clean cooking devices, livestock productivity measures) will utilise results-based grants, pay-as-you-save credit lines, and micro-loans from the local financial intermediaries. Impact and equity investments can be paired with first-loss guarantees to de-risk private sector capital.

Forestry mitigation is centred on REDD+ results-based payments, voluntary or compliance carbon-credit purchase agreements, and payments for ecosystem services. Concessional loans could fund nurseries, inventory work, and monitoring. Across renewables, waste, and geothermal trade projects, verified carbon-credit revenues and corporate ESG contracts could support performance-linked revenues streams that improve project bankability.

Additionally, parametric insurance and catastrophe-bond could be utilised to transfer risk from transport, livestock, and waste assets from climate shocks. Blending grants with concessional

debt, and domestic resources could speed up project pipelines. Identified instruments match the risk-return profile of each sub-sector (electricity generation, energy efficiency, transport, commercial-institutional-residential, livestock, forestry, municipal solid waste, wastewater, and trade) and aim to preserve fiscal space and debt sustainability.

Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 14.

Overview of Adaptation Finance Required (Commitments A1 – A132)

The 132 adaptation commitments across 26 sub-sectors are estimated to cost approximately USD 1.3 billion.

Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, SPC, SPREP), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 6) national climate funds (e.g., NGEF), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 8) national pension fund (e.g., VNPF), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 11) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks), 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market buyers), 15) insurance and risk transfer mechanisms (e.g., PCRIC, PICAP), and 16) litigation and settlement funds.

Adaptation commitments will be financed through a blended mix of public concessional capital, market-rate instruments, and risk transfer mechanisms. Grants and concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans will support service delivery sectors (e.g., agriculture, water, health, biosecurity, fisheries, livestock, and meteorology) covering core infrastructure, extension services and data systems. Results-based grants and impact investments could be tied to measurable indicators for commitments under gender and social inclusion, youth engagement, human rights, indigenous knowledge, collaboration, and decentralisation.

Capital-intensive areas (e.g., forestry, environment, oceans, waste, ICT, resilient infrastructure, and tourism) could utilise green, resilience or blue bonds, credit-enhanced PPP concessions, and grant-financed technical assistance to leverage private finance. Guarantee facilities and first-loss tranches could lower borrowing costs for MSMEs and cooperatives across trade and agriculture value chains.

Use of parametric insurance, catastrophe bonds and adaptive social protection windows will help address systemic risk, providing support for agriculture, livestock, coastal fisheries and public assets from climate shocks. Blended finance could pair carbon or biodiversity payments with public grants to fund ecosystem-based measures such as under forestry, oceans and environment commitments.

Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 16.

Overview of Loss and Damage Finance Required (Commitments L1 – L52)

The 52 loss and damage commitments are estimated to cost approximately USD 1.2 billion.

Key sources of finance include: 1) MDBs (e.g., ADB, World Bank), 2) multilateral climate trust funds (e.g., GCF, GEF, PRF), 3) multilateral development trust funds and programs (e.g., IFAD, UNCDF), 4) Institutional development partners (e.g., UNDP, GIZ, GGGI, Regional Pacific NDC Hub), 5) bilateral development agencies and funds (e.g., DFAT, MFAT, China Aid, JICA, AFD), 6) national climate funds (e.g., NGEF), 7) national development banks (e.g., VRDB), 8) national pension fund (e.g., VNPF), 9) domestic government budget (e.g., parliamentary budget allocation, new taxes / levies), 10) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 11) corporate finance and ESG initiatives, 12) impact and investment funds, 13) private sector finance and commercial banks (e.g., domestic and regional commercial banks), 14) carbon markets and compliance schemes (e.g., voluntary and compliance carbon-market buyers), 15) insurance and risk transfer mechanisms (e.g., PCRIC, PICAP), and 16) litigation and settlement funds.

Loss and damage commitments will be financed through a blended finance approach. Foundational work (e.g., technical assessments, institutional strengthening, capacity building, policy and regulatory frameworks, community engagement) will utilise grants and concessional MDB or multilateral climate fund loans paired with domestic budget allocations. These sources secure predictable, low-cost capital.

Access to rapid liquidity after extreme weather events will rely on utilisation of sovereign and household-level parametric insurance, catastrophe bonds, contingent credit lines, and climate-resilient debt clauses. Risk transfer instruments will complement adaptive social protection programming and cash transfer schemes that are triggered by pre-agreed impact thresholds.

Long-term recovery, relocation and livelihood restoration will be financed through blended finance vehicles that pair first-loss or guarantee facilities with philanthropic, impact investments, and private sector ESG funding. New and innovative sources could include voluntary or compliance carbon credit schemes, litigation or settlement proceeds, and potential international compensation payments could help capitalise the national loss and damage fund.

Sources and instruments footnotes: 1 – 16.

Additional Financing Considerations

These figures represent the highest priority placed by Vanuatu on resilience, and the extremely high costs associated with failure to adapt, as exemplified by the devastating financial, social and environmental losses and damages experienced already and expected to increase exponentially as climate change accelerates.

The activities will be implemented over a period of 10 years (2025-2035) by integrating them under the government's recurrent budgets as various subsidy policies, projects or programmes. As these targets are well aligned with the country's existing policies and plans, they will have high ownership and will be implemented in a timely manner.

Vanuatu has the institutional structure for implementation of the enhanced NDC. The National Advisory Board (NAB) is the supreme policy making and advisory body for all disaster risk reduction and climate change programmes, projects, initiatives and activities in Vanuatu. The NAB develops Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change policies, guidelines and positions, advises on international and regional DRR and CC obligations, facilitates and endorses the development of new DRR and CC programmes, projects, initiatives and activities, acts as a focal point for information sharing and coordination on CC/ DRR, and guides and coordinates the development of national climate finance processes.

The Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation (MoCC), Meteorology and Geo-Hazards, Energy, Environment and National Disaster Management is the nodal agency as part of the Government's efforts to streamline Vanuatu's climate change natural disaster responses and sustainable development of the environment. The Department of Climate Change (DoCC), within the Ministry of Climate Change, is mandated to ensure that high quality services are provided in relation to climate change in Vanuatu. The Ministry and the National Advisory Board (NAB) are mandated with coordinating all government and non-government initiatives addressing climate change and disaster risk reduction in the country.

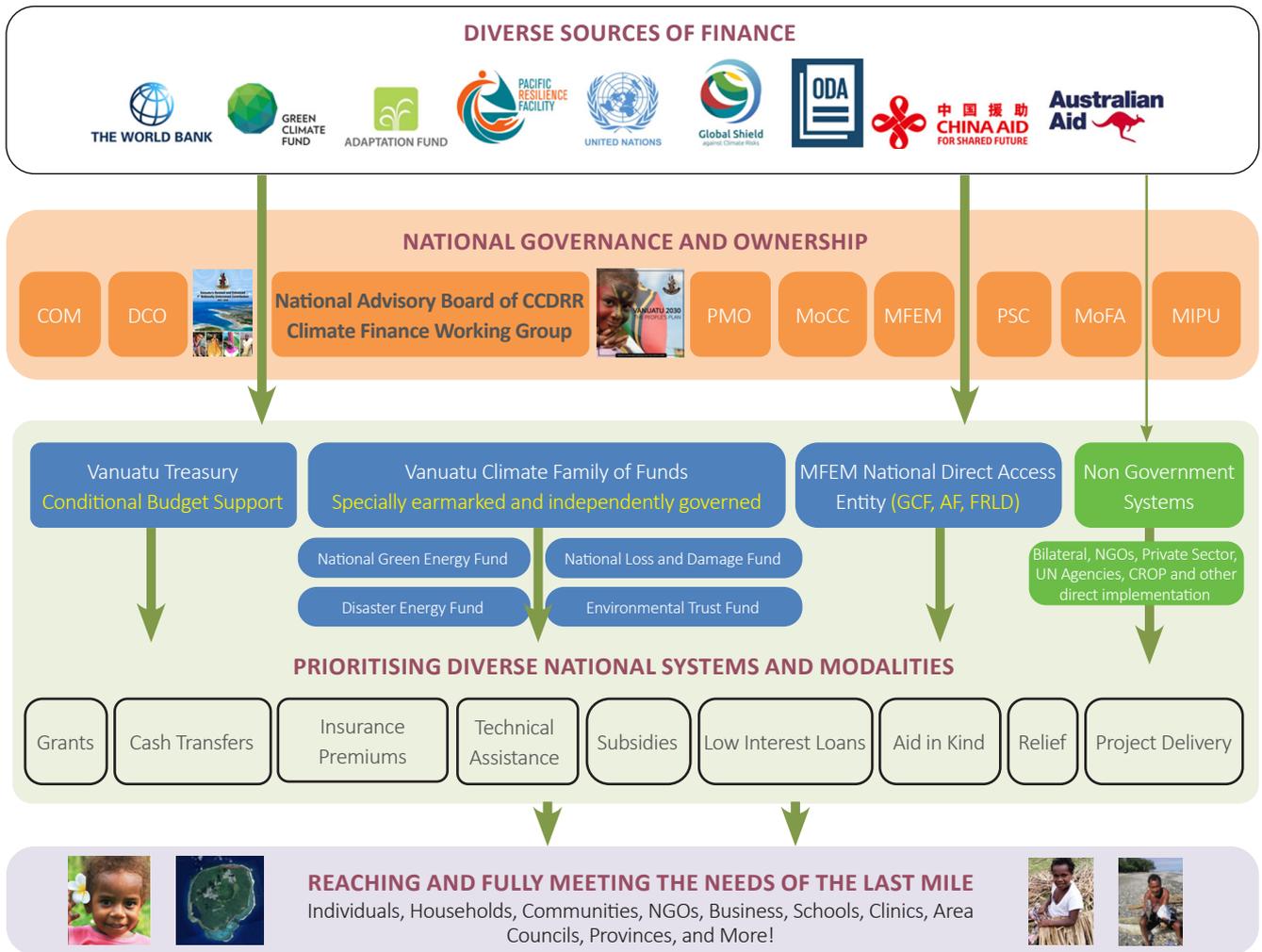
The Vanuatu NDC 3.0 will be implemented in close coordination with other line ministries, provincial governments, private sector organisations, academic organisations, donor agencies and development partners, civil society and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

Vanuatu Climate Finance Country Platform to implement the NDC

Vanuatu's National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction is working towards the implementation of a Country Platform for Climate Finance in order to ensure coordinated, complementary and coherent resourcing and implementation of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the Paris Agreement and resourcing of other key climate initiatives.

Vanuatu's Country Platform is a mechanism to streamline finance flows and ensure national ownership through multi-stakeholder and multi-sector structures which are nationally led, aligned with local priorities, and designed to bring together diverse finance sources behind programmatic and unified investment approaches rooted in national strategies.

Figure 7: Vanuatu Climate Finance Country Platform for Implementation of the NDC 3.0 and other key climate initiatives



Vanuatu's programmatic Country Platform aims to align and mobilize diverse financial flows—public and private, international and domestic—toward the implementation of Vanuatu's new and fully costed NDC 3.0 and other key climate initiatives.

The NDC 3.0 serves as the coordinating policy document for climate change in Vanuatu as it comprehensively pulls together the climate targets articulated in all sector policies, plans and strategies and is fully aligned to regional and international climate obligations.

Vanuatu's NDC Climate Finance Country Platform performs the following core functions:

- Link investment directly to national priorities, leveraging the NDC as a guiding policy and implementation framework.
- Coordinate multiple modalities of finance, including direct budget support, small grants for communities and civil society, concessional loans, insurance and risk finance instruments, and public-private partnerships.
- Strengthen national systems, by channeling an increasing share of climate finance through national fiduciary systems, incentivizing public finance management reform and improving long-term financial sustainability.
- Promote inclusivity and ownership over climate priorities, ensuring strong engagement of women, youth, customary leaders, persons with disabilities, and civil society in decision-making, implementation, and accountability processes.
- Coordinate the Vanuatu Climate Funds, which will include the National Green Energy Fund, the Emergency Fund, the Loss & Damage Fund and the Environmental Trust Fund.

Strategic Alignment and Justification

Vanuatu's Climate Finance Country Platform approach is aligned with key international processes and frameworks:

- The Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the forthcoming FfD4 Conference call for innovative, country-led financing models to bridge the gap between climate ambition and delivery.
- The Global Stocktake (GST) and NDC Synthesis Report underscore the need for adaptation-focused finance in LDCs and SIDS.

- The Champions Group on Adaptation Finance have highlighted the need for more programmatic approaches to delivering adaptation finance.
- At COP29 (2024), ten multilateral development banks (MDBs) released a joint statement signalling their intention to focus more attention on Country Platforms.
- The G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group, the UN Financing for Development process, and the Finance in Common Summit have endorsed Country Platforms as a pathway toward a more coherent, inclusive and scalable climate finance architecture, including by shifting from donor-driven, fragmented finance to nationally owned, programmatic models.
- Vanuatu is co-chair of the Climate and Development Ministerial process, alongside the UK, which has prioritized the operationalisation of programmatic approaches and improved country ownership of climate finance.
- Pacific Climate Finance Access and Mobilisation Strategy (CFAMS)

Gender-Responsive Climate Finance

Vanuatu fully commits to providing the enabling conditions for and supporting gender-responsive climate finance mechanisms in its own national climate finance architecture, as well as through the use of innovative climate financing tools and modalities. Vanuatu is working to enhance its national finance systems to ensure that climate funds benefit people most affected by climate change and is systematically integrating gender equality and the rights of women and girls into governance structures, project approval processes, implementation protocols, and public participation mechanisms.

Many NAB-endorsed climate programmes have begun to utilise ex ante and ex post gender and human rights impact assessments; undertake regular reporting, with new indicators, on the implementation of gender policies based on quantitative and qualitative indicators; collect gender- age and disability-disaggregated data throughout the programme cycle, and actively engage women, girls and gender-diverse persons in participatory monitoring; facilitate the participation of national and subnational groups working on gender equality and climate change and increasingly direct funding to support grass-roots



06

ANNEXES

Annex I: Information for Clarity, Transparency and Understanding

Information on Vanuatu's NDC provided in accordance to guidelines in Decision 4/CMA.1

- Type of NDC: Mitigation, Adaptation, Loss and Damage
- Activity-based targets, sectoral and policy targets across multiple sectors, including emissions reduction in some sub-sectors.

The GHG emission reduction targets in this section are all conditional upon international support (financial and technical support) being made available.

Most of the adaptation and loss and damage targets are fully or partially conditional upon international action and support (finance, capacity and technical) being made available. Information to facilitate clarity, transparency and understanding (ICTU) of the enhanced nationally determined contribution of Vanuatu for the timeframe 2025-2035.

1. Quantified information on the reference point, including, as appropriate, a base year

1a. Reference year(s), base year(s), reference period(s) or other starting point(s)

The reference year used in Vanuatu's updated NDC 3.0 is 1994.

1b. Quantifiable information on the reference indicators, their values in the reference year(s), base year(s), reference period(s) or other starting point(s), and, as applicable, in the target year

As per the Greenhouse Gas Inventory (under Vanuatu's 1st Biennial Transparency Report of 2024), Vanuatu's total greenhouse gas emissions (excluding removals) increased from 62.94 kt CO₂ eq in 1994 to 507.68 kt CO₂ eq in 2023.

The direct GHG emission for the following IPCC sectors is:

- Energy: 154.51 Gg CO₂eq
- IPPU: 0 Gg CO₂eq
- Transport: 91.49 Gg CO₂eq
- AFOLU: 328.40 Gg CO₂eq
- Waste: 8.3 Gg CO₂eq
- Others: 0 Gg CO₂eq.

1c. For strategies, plans and actions referred to in Article 4, paragraph 6, of the Paris Agreement, or policies and measures as components of nationally determined contributions where paragraph 1(b). above is not applicable, Parties to provide other relevant information

The mitigation policies presented in this NDC will be further developed/enhanced and implemented upon international (technical and financial) support by 2035.

The mitigation, adaptation and loss & damage policy targets derive from the following Policies:

- Adaptive Social Protection Policy
- Agriculture Sector Policy
- Biosecurity Policy
- Child Protection Policy
- Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2nd Edition
- Climate Diplomacy Strategy
- Decentralisation Policy
- Disaster Induced Displacement Policy
- Disaster Risk Financing Policy
- Education Policy Statement
- Environmental Health Policy
- Forest and Landscape Restoration Strategy
- Fruit and Vegetable Strategy
- Gudfala Kakae Policy

- Health Cluster Strategic Plan
- ICT Policy
- Loss & Damage Policy
- Ministry of Health Policy
- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
- National Coconut Oil for Fuel Strategy
- National Coconut Strategy
- National Energy Efficiency Strategy and Action Plan
- National Environment Policy
- National Fisheries Sector Policy
- National Forest Policy
- National Gender Equality Policy
- National Invasive Species strategy and Action Plan
- National Kava Strategy
- National Livestock Policy
- National Roadmap for Coastal Fisheries
- National Strategy for the Development of Statistics
- National Sustainable Development Plan
- National Waste Management & Pollution Control Strategy
- National Water Policy
- National Youth Development Policy
- NDC 2.0
- NDC Adaptation Targets
- NDC On-Grid Electricity Investment Strategy
- NSDP M&E Framework
- Overarching Productive Sector Policy
- Public Private Partnerships Policy
- Technology Needs Assessment
- Trade Policy Framework Update
- Updated Vanuatu National Energy Road Map
- Vanuatu Disability and Inclusive Development Policy
- Vanuatu Education Training Sector Strategic Plan
- Vanuatu Food Safety, Security and Nutrition Policy
- Vanuatu Foreign Policy
- Vanuatu Framework for Climate Services
- Vanuatu Fruits and Vegetable Strategy
- Vanuatu Health Sector Strategy
- Vanuatu Infrastructure Strategy and Implementation Plan
- Vanuatu Land Use Planning Policy
- Vanuatu Low Emissions Development Strategy
- Vanuatu National Labour Mobility Policy
- Vanuatu National Security Strategy
- Vanuatu NCD Policy and Strategic Plan
- Vanuatu NDC Forest Investment Strategy
- Vanuatu Ocean Policy 2nd edition
- Vanuatu Recovery Strategy
- Vanuatu REDD+ R Package
- Vanuatu Sustainable Tourism Policy
- Vanuatu's National Planned Relocation Framework
- VMGD Strategic Plan 2024-2029

1d. Target relative to the reference indicator, expressed numerically, for example in percentage or amount of reduction

The quantified mitigation targets presented in this NDC are all conditional and will be implemented upon international (technical and financial) support by 2035.

Most of the adaptation and loss and damage targets are fully or partially conditional upon international action and support (finance, capacity and technical) being made available. In some cases, adaptation and loss and damage numerical targets are expressed in the commitments highlighted above.

Energy Sector Target Indicator	2010	2025	2035
Renewable Energy Generation Grid Connected (%)	11.69%	50%	100%
Improve transport (land and marine) energy efficiency	-	-	10%
Improve biomass end use (cooking and drying) efficiency	-	-	14%
Electric Vehicles – e-buses	-	-	10% of public transport buses
Electric Vehicles – e-Cars	10% of government fleet	-	
Electric Vehicles – 2/3 wheelers	-	-	1000 No.
Bio-diesel (bio fuel) blending in diesel	-	-	20%
Renewable electricity use by rural tourism bungalows	-	-	65%
Energy Efficiency in Commercial and Residential Sector	-	-	5%
Energy Efficient Building (Green Building)	-	-	10 No

Waster Setor Target Indicator	2010	2025	2035
Waste to Energy Plant	-	-	3
Composting Plant	-	-	1
Public and Communal Toilet Facilities including Bio-Toilets	-	-	1000

1e. Information on sources of data used in quantifying the reference point(s)

The key data references and documents assessed include, but are not limited to:

- Vanuatu's first Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC);
- Vanuatu Biennial Update Report BTR of 2024
- National Sustainable Development Plan: 2016-2030 (NSDP or Vanuatu 2030: The People's Plan);
- Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) Policy;
- Meteorology, Geological Hazards and Climate Change Act No.25 of 2016;
- National Energy Roadmap (NERM): 2016- 2030 and NERM-Implementation Plan;
- NDC Implementation Roadmap;
- National Communications (NC-1,2 and 3);
- Utilities Regulatory Authority (URA) Reports
- Data and information provided by the Government of Vanuatu line ministries and departments; Public and Private Sector and, Stakeholder consultation including NGOs, and
- Development Partners
- International experts' consultation

1f. Information on the circumstances under which the Party may update the values of the reference indicators

Vanuatu may update the base year data in future NDCs on the basis of:

- Additional technical analysis in Biennial Update Reports, National Communications, and as the economic and non-economic impacts of climate disasters and slow onset events become better understood.
- Lack of climate finance, capacity or technical support from developed country parties and other international sources.
- Sector adaptation/Loss and Damage policies and targets are reviewed and amended.
- Some of the mitigation actions are part of the NERM implementation plan and subject to international support (technical and financial); in the delay or absence of support.
- In the next greenhouse gas inventory, Vanuatu may update the reference indicators of existing sectors and/or may provide new values for sectors that were not previously covered.
- Vanuatu is prone to and highly vulnerable to the effects of natural disasters (tsunami, cyclones, earthquakes, volcano eruptions, etc.), in the case of any major natural disaster or pandemic situation similar to COVID-19, Vanuatu may update/change the reference point.
- Vanuatu is in a transition phase after graduation from the least developed country (LDC) category; hence any major change in economic and social environment may lead to updates or change the values of the reference indicators.

2. Time frames and/or periods for implementation

2a. Time frame and/or period for implementation, including start and end date, consistent with any further relevant decision adopted by the CMA.

Several targets are a continuation and expansion of efforts listed in the first and second NDCs. Vanuatu has already begun to implement these targets.

The new mitigation adaptation and loss and damage target time frame is from 1st October 2025- 31st December 2035.

2b. Whether it is a single-year or multi-year target, as applicable.

Single-year target 2035, including updates in 2030.

(The NDC interventions will be implemented in phases as per annual work plans; however, the targets final year is 2035).

3. Scope and coverage

3a. General description of the target

Vanuatu enhanced and revised NDC presents sectoral activity-based and policy targets on adaptation, loss and damage and mitigation, including emissions reduction in some sectors.

The Government of Vanuatu will meet conditional targets upon receiving international action and support including financing, technology transfer and/or capacity building.

3b. Sectors, gases, categories and pools covered by the nationally determined contribution, as applicable, consistent with IPCC guidelines

The IPCC Sectors, Sub-sector and Gases applicable for Vanuatu:

(1) Energy

- Energy Industries- Electricity
- Generation/Renewable Energy
- Transport
- Other Sectors (Residential, Institutional and Commercial)

(2) Industrial Processes and Product Use (IPPU)- Not Applicable

(3) Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use (AFOLU)

- Livestock
- Forests – Not Included

(4) Waste

- Solid Waste
- Wastewater

(5) Gases

- Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)
- Methane (CH₄)
- Nitrous Oxide (NO₂)

A co-benefit of reducing CO₂ emission from the above-mentioned sectors is that there will also be concomitant reductions in emissions in other gases like NMVOCs.

The Adaptation and Loss and Damage sectors covered by this NDC include:

- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Tourism
- Environment
- Oceans
- Disability
- Water
- Health
- Waste
- Gender
- Youth
- Finance
- Fisheries
- Indigenous
- Decentralisation
- Governance
- Infrastructure
- Collaboration
- Meteorology
- Biosecurity
- Livestock
- Human Rights
- Policy
- ICT
- Trade

3c. How the Party has taken into consideration paragraphs 31(c) and (d) of decision 1/CP.21

As per paragraph 31(c) of decision 1/CP.21, Vanuatu is not including all IPCC sectors, sub-sectors and categories. Nevertheless, Vanuatu's NDC target constitutes the highest possible ambition, in the context of our national analyses of mitigation potential.

According to national circumstances given that Vanuatu is a small-island developing state, with limited technical, financial and skilled resources to collect data, process and analyse data, Vanuatu has decided that at this time, other sources and sinks of emissions (most of negligible relevance for Vanuatu) would not be included in this updated NDC.

Note that all key categories and gases identified as relevant for Vanuatu have been included in the NDC. Furthermore, Vanuatu is willing to include other remaining categories of anthropogenic emissions or removals (as may become applicable) in its future nationally determined contributions.

Vanuatu aims to extend the scope of the coverage of its NDC over time to all categories of anthropogenic emissions and removal, as more robust data, finance, technical support and capacity becomes available. This approach is in line with the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances.”

Vanuatu plans to demonstrate leadership among developing countries by continuing to enhance its mitigation efforts and to move towards economy-wide emissions limitation or reduction targets over time.

In keeping with Article 2 of the UNFCCC, Vanuatu demands that emission stabilisation should be achieved globally, and domestically by all countries within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner.

3d. Mitigation co-benefits resulting from Parties’ adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans, including description of specific projects, measures and initiatives of Parties’ adaptation actions and/or economic diversification plans

The majority of Vanuatu’s adaptation and loss and damage commitments contain mitigation co-benefits. In many cases (for example in infrastructure, forestry and waste adaptation targets), it is difficult to classify a target as primarily adaptation or purely mitigation.

Some of the co-benefits expected for specific activities are as follows:

- Carbon sequestration by developing and implementing better practices in agricultural, livestock and forestry production;
- Climate proofing buildings and infrastructure often involves using more fossil fuel efficient designs and lowering emissions profiles
- Reduced emissions from implementing fuel efficient technologies for aquaculture and fishing operations;

- Reduced emissions from wastewater management and introduction of renewable energy technologies in the Water sector;
- Reduced emissions from implementing resilient ecosystem and environmental activities to better manage the available ecosystem services and resources.

The mitigation co-benefits of adaptation actions contained within this NDC were not quantitatively evaluated due to a lack of quality data and technical resources. However, Vanuatu will soon begin efforts to develop its NAP, including a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan which will focus on tracking the implementation of the cross-sectoral measures with mitigation co-benefits. This tool will monitor and evaluate adaptation, and to some extent, mitigation actions on climate change implemented in Vanuatu and include new or additional information as part of the NAP iterative process.

The mitigation co-benefits from forest sector interventions cannot be included at this point due to ongoing negotiations on Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, in conjunction with Vanuatu’s rollout of a national REDD+ programme.

4. Planning Process

4a. Information on the planning processes that the Party undertook to prepare its NDC and, if available, on the Party’s implementation plans, including, as appropriate:

4a(i). Domestic institutional arrangements, public participation and engagement with local communities and indigenous peoples, in a gender-responsive manner.

The Republic of Vanuatu’s NDC has been developed based on extensive consultations, one on one discussions and public dialogues undertaken throughout 2025, led by the Ministry of Climate Change with the support of the Pacific regional NDC hub and the Global Green Growth Institute , with the primary purpose of making it more ambitious by including sector-led adaptation and loss and damage commitments.

The NDC enhancement process was led by a core group made up of the Director of the Department of Energy (DoE), the Director of the Department of Climate Change (DoCC) and technical officers from the Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation, Meteorology, GeoHazards Energy, Environment and Disaster Management (MoCC).

The comprehensive mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage target enhancement process involved stakeholders from the Departments of Climate Change, Environment, Energy, Environment, Water, Meteorology/Geohazards, Strategic Policy Planning/Aid Coordination, Local Authorities, Finance, Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries, Biosecurity, Foreign Affairs, Public Works, Women's Affairs, State Law, Disaster Management, Education, Tourism and Statistics. In addition, the following representatives from private sector and non-government organizations provided expert guidance and input: Vanuatu Climate Action Network, Vanuatu Association of NGOs, Vanuatu Climate Adaptation Project, Save the Children, Live and Learn, Global Green Growth Institute, UK High Commission, Vanuatu Business Resilience Council, UN Development Programme, UNICEF, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, the Pacific Community, German Agency for International Cooperation, UN Food and Agriculture Organisation, International Union for the Conservation of Nature and the Pacific NDC Hub.

Gender equality and the inclusion of women, youth, people with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups was an integral part of the NDC enhancement process. A gender expert within the Department of Climate Change Team reviewed the gender-responsive considerations in the enhanced NDC. In addition, a gender analysis was commissioned by the Pacific NDC Hub and provided recommendations on the gender-sensitive implementation of this revised and enhanced NDC.

The enhanced NDC actions/measures comply with key issues and requirements of gender sensitive design as per the national policies and 'Gender Analysis and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)' guidance. None of the enhanced NDC actions are expected to impact negatively on gender equality and women's rights, or limit women's access to and control over natural resources and the goods and services covered under the enhanced NDC.

Furthermore, all targets and commitments align with the requirements under NSDP, CCDRR Policy and NERM. These policies extensively promote gender responsive, youth-specific needs and roles on green employment, awareness and capacity building.

The enhanced NDC actions/measure will contribute positively on gender, youth and other vulnerable group-specific needs and will provide these demographics the opportunity to play a more active role in design and implementation.

All targets have undergone scrutiny by experts and leaders through a series of internal and external consultations carried out during the NDC enhancement process and several national level public consultations to receive the comments and feedback.

Further, the enhanced/revised NDC has been endorsed by the Vanuatu's National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk reduction (NAB- the supreme policy making and advisory body for all disaster risk reduction and climate change programmes, projects, initiatives and activities in Vanuatu) and Council of Ministers (CoM), Government of Vanuatu.

4a(ii). Contextual matters, including, inter alia, as appropriate

4a(ii)a. National circumstances, such as geography, climate, economy, sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Geography: The Republic of Vanuatu is an island nation located in the Western Pacific Ocean. Vanuatu is an archipelago of over 80 islands stretching 1,300 kilometres from North to South in the Western Pacific Ocean. Vanuatu is located between latitude 12° to 23° South and longitude 166° to 173° East.

Vanuatu's terrain is mostly mountainous, with narrow coastal plains with a total land area of 12,336 km² and a maritime exclusive economic zone of 680,000 km². Almost 74% of the land area in Vanuatu is covered by natural vegetation, with around one third covered by forest; which is more than 36.1% (440,000 hectares covered by tropical forest).

The largest island is Espiritu Santo, while the island of Efate is home to the capital, Port Vila and the central Vanuatu Government. From largest to smallest, the islands are Espiritu Santo, Malekula, Efate, Erromango, Ambrym, Tanna, Pentecost, Epi, Ambae or Aoba, Vanua Lava, Gaua, Maewo, Malo, and Anatom or Aneityum. The two largest islands, Espiritu Santo and Malekula, comprise nearly 50% of the total land mass. Larger islands are characterised by rugged volcanic peaks and tropical rainforests. The highest peak, Mount Tabwemasana on Espiritu Santo, is 1877m above mean sea level and the total coastline is about 2,528 km long.

Vanuatu is geographically located in the "ring of fire" and the "cyclone belt" of the Pacific. The island nation is located in a seismically and volcanically active region and has high exposure to geologic hazards, including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tsunamis and landslides. Almost 81% of its landmass and 76% of its population is exposed to two or more potential hazards

including volcanic eruptions, cyclones, earthquakes, droughts, tsunamis, storm surges, coastal and river flooding and landslides. Climate: Vanuatu is situated in a tropical maritime climate with characteristic uniform temperature, high humidity and variable rainfall. The tropical climate is moderated by southeast trade winds that occur from May to October. There are two main seasons, hot and wet from November to April, and cool and dry from May to October. Being an equatorial country, Vanuatu has relatively uniform temperature throughout the year with daily temperature ranging from 20°C to 30°C. Temperatures in the warmest months (January-February) are about 4°C higher than those in the coolest months (July-August).

Population: According to the most recent National Population and Housing Census undertaken in 2020, Vanuatu's population was reported to be 300,019 compared to 234,023 in the 2009 census. Vanuatu's population is largely based within rural areas – 76% as per the 2020 census.

Economy: Vanuatu is traditionally known for its strong cultural heritage, traditional activities and subsistence farming. The four mainstays of Vanuatu's economy are agriculture, tourism, offshore financial services, and raising cattle. Exports include copra, kava, beef, cocoa, and timber, and imports include machinery and equipment, foodstuffs, and fuel.

Growth decelerated to 1% in 2023 as the country was hit by two severe cyclones in March and October. Government expenditure fell 8% in 2023 compared with the previous year. Economic growth slowed in 2024 as Air Vanuatu ceased operations affecting trade, transportation, and tourism. Political instability impacted public services, while an earthquake devastated the capital in December. Nonetheless, the economy grew 1.7% in 2024 driven largely by the recovery of agriculture from the cyclones in 2023.

With no income tax revenues, the Government has maintained budget flows through its citizenship by investment programmes. Overall, the economy has been relatively stagnated requiring extensive government subsidies and private sector support programmes.

4a(ii)b. Best practices and experience related to the preparation of the NDC.

In addition to the planning process discussed in section 4 (a) (i). The Government of Vanuatu has taken a one-of-a-kind initiative to identify the circular economy options for Vanuatu and constituted the metabolic analysis of its economy and economic sectors.

A metabolic assessment has been conducted to define a resource efficient and low-carbon future for Vanuatu. The metabolic assessment observed that the average material use and per capita GHG emissions in Vanuatu is low in comparison to the global average. The existing consumption-based resource footprint of Vanuatu is 58%, which is already relatively circular, meaning that 58% of the materials used in the country is relying on secondary or renewable materials and energy sources.

The remaining 42% of material use is not circular and can be characterised as following a linear 'take-make-waste' trajectory. These 42% of materials are mostly of foreign origin and undermine the development ambitions of the country since they create issues with waste disposal and the deterioration of natural assets as a result of the pollution of soils, surface waters and marine environments. The circular economy analysis identified some of the opportunities which contribute to the domestic and transboundary (international) GHG emission reductions. Some of the key circular economy actions (CE strategies) identified by the metabolic assessment have been included in Vanuatu's enhanced NDC.

Furthermore, the Government of Vanuatu has also developed and implemented an Integrated Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Tool for the Energy Sector (currently being enhanced to cover additional mitigation sectors according to the updated NDC) and a Monitoring, Reporting Verification Tool for NERM 2016-2030. Vanuatu's integrated MRV Tool is a first of its kind initiative to integrate most of the domestic and international climate action monitoring, tracking and reporting requirements. Further, it supports government agencies, development partners, and NGOs towards evidence-based decisions and data insights reporting. Vanuatu's integrated MRV Tool has been customised to track, monitor and report data critical for climate actions and sustainable development goals.

One of Vanuatu's most advanced and transformative best practices is the establishment of the National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction which achieves two goals: 1) the merging of resources to address both climate and non-climate disasters into a single institutional framework and 2) providing a single entry point for climate change policy and governance which embodies a range of ministries, sectors and stakeholders. This enhanced and revised NDC would not have been able to include both adaptation and loss and damage without such an integrated and comprehensive institutional structure.

Another important best practice employed in the development of this NDC is the full reliance and decentralisation of climate action to sectors. Sector agencies and stakeholders know best

the ambitions and realities of action and have already codified these into their endorsed and gazetted policies, plans and strategies. Thus, this NDC uses the outstanding work being planned and actioned, without duplicating work or causing consultation fatigue.

The following are additional best practices that have been identified during the preparation of Vanuatu's NDC:

- A key component of Vanuatu's NDC is that it was built upon existing processes, data collection, policies, initiatives, and commitments. In doing so, Vanuatu was able to take advantage of updated inventories, robust data and crosscutting expertise.
- Capitalising on the synergies and timing of the different processes, Vanuatu increased collaboration across Implementing Partners and reduced the need to conduct separate stakeholder consultations on similar issues, therefore reducing stakeholder fatigue. It is essential for Implementing Partners to work together in a seamless manner.
- The engagement of stakeholders from public sector, private sector, academia and civil society was key to ensuring the interest and buy-in to the NDC process and revised targets.

4a(ii)c. Other contextual aspirations and priorities acknowledged when joining the Paris Agreement.

The Government of Republic of Vanuatu is fully committed to effective, and transparent implementation of the Paris Agreement (PA), and supports its aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, and also limit global average temperature rise to 1.5°C; which poses lower risks for Vanuatu in comparison to 2°C or higher temperatures.

The Government of Vanuatu's commitment is reflected in its declaration:

"WHEREAS the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu declares its understanding that ratification of the Paris Agreement shall in no way constitute a renunciation of any rights under any other laws, including international law, and the communication depositing the Republic's instrument of ratification shall include a declaration to this effect for international record;

FURTHERMORE, the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu declares that, in light of best scientific information and assessment on climate change and its impacts, it considers

the emission reduction obligations in Article 3 of the Kyoto Protocol, the Doha Amendment and the aforesaid Paris Agreement to be inadequate to prevent global temperature increase of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-Industrial levels and as a consequence, will have severe implications for our national interests..."

4b. Specific information applicable to Parties, including regional economic integration organisations and their member States, that have reached an agreement to act jointly under Article 4, paragraph 2, of the Paris Agreement, including the Parties that agreed to act jointly and the terms of the agreement, in accordance with Article 4, paragraphs 16–18, of the Paris Agreement.

Vanuatu is not part of an agreement to act jointly under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement.

4c. How the Party's preparation of its NDC has been informed by the outcomes of the global stock take, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 9, of the Paris Agreement.

As a responsible party of the Paris Agreement, the Government of Vanuatu complied with the decisions under the PA and actively participated in the first global stock take in 2023. Furthermore, Vanuatu's enhanced NDC 3.0 for 2025-2035 is more ambitious than its previous one, both in terms of its sectoral coverage and in terms of its net emission reduction contribution as well.

Importantly, Vanuatu's enhanced and revised NDC includes substantially more mitigation, adaptation and loss and damage contributions and targets.

Vanuatu calls on all Parties to increase ambition in line with the best available and most recent science and obligations under the agreement.

4d. Each Party with an NDC under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement that consists of adaptation action and/or economic diversification plans resulting in mitigation co-benefits consistent with Article 4, paragraph 7, of the Paris Agreement to submit information on:

4d(i). How the economic and social consequences of response measures have been considered in developing the NDC.

The effects on vulnerability, resilience, economic transformation and standards of living were considered in developing the updated NDC.

The majority of households in Vanuatu are located in remote locations with no on-grid electricity access, in fact, most households already rely on renewable energy to meet their basic lighting and cooking needs. Thus there will be minimal consequences for the people of Vanuatu as the nation enables the transition of economies and societies away from fossil fuels and towards a low-carbon future. Rather, the implementation of mitigation policies, programmes and actions “in-jurisdiction” are widely expected to bring adaptation and resilience co-benefits.

4d(ii). Specific projects, measures and activities to be implemented to contribute to mitigation co-benefits, including information on adaptation plans that also yield mitigation co-benefits, which may cover, but are not limited to, key sectors, such as energy, resources, water resources, coastal resources, human settlements and urban planning, agriculture and forestry; and economic diversification actions, which may cover, but are not limited to, sectors such as manufacturing and industry, energy and mining, transport and communication, construction, tourism, real estate, agriculture and fisheries.

There are multiple projects and project concepts currently underway and already approved by the National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction which are expected to have mitigation co-benefits from adaptation and loss and damage actions. For example:

- Climate Information Services for Resilient Development in Vanuatu (Van-KIRAP)- including adaptation activities around climate smart agriculture, expanded use of renewable energy, climate smart tourism and other adaptation-mitigation initiatives.
- Adaptation to Climate Change in the Coastal Zone in Vanuatu Project (VCAP2) – includes climate smart infrastructure as well as ecosystem-based adaptation (protected forest areas) and other adaptation-mitigation initiatives.
- Blue Carbon Project will focus on protecting and enhancing management of coastal habitats including coral reefs and mangroves and other adaptation-mitigation initiatives.

As mentioned in 3(d) above, Vanuatu is still in the process of developing additional programming for other priority sectors for adaptation and loss and damage. As the development of the NAP is a continuous and ongoing process, these might, in the future, include projects with mitigation co-benefits on

adaptation actions; however, they are not mentioned here as the specific projects could change or additional projects added to the current project portfolios.

5. Assumptions and methodological approaches, including those for estimating and accounting for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and, as appropriate, removals:

5a. Assumptions and methodological approaches used for accounting for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and removals corresponding to the Party’s nationally determined contribution, consistent with decision 1/CP.21, paragraph 31, and accounting guidance adopted by the CMA.

Vanuatu accounts for its anthropogenic GHG emissions and removals using the 2006 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories).

Two additional guidelines will be considered for quality assurance: the IPCC Good Practice Guidance and Uncertainty Management in National GHG Inventory (2000) and the IPCC Good Practice Guideline for Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry (2003).

5b. Assumptions and methodological approaches used for accounting for the implementation of policies and measures or strategies in the nationally determined contribution.

As discussed above, Vanuatu will also apply specific assumptions and methodologies where relevant when accounting for various policies and measures in its Biennial Update Report, Biennial Transparency Report, or National Communications.

5c. If applicable, information on how the Party will take into account existing methods and guidance under the Convention to account for anthropogenic emissions and removals, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 14, of the Paris Agreement, as appropriate.

As discussed above, the IPCC 2006 Guidelines have been used to calculate emissions in the GHG Inventory for National Communication and NDC.

5d. IPCC methodologies and metrics used for estimating anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and removals.

Further to above discussion, the preparation of national GHG inventories for Vanuatu, uses both Tier1 and Tier2 methodologies (as appropriate) of 2006 IPCC guidelines.

5e. Sector-, category- or activity-specific assumptions, methodologies and approaches consistent with IPCC guidance, as appropriate, including, as applicable:

5e(i) Approach to addressing emissions and subsequent removals from natural disturbances on managed lands.

As discussed in the above sections, all the categories are not applicable for Vanuatu.

Furthermore, due to data availability and capacity limitations, not all the sectors are covered in Vanuatu's NDC.

However, in the future, Vanuatu would like to update its emission inventories and will cover all the applicable sectors following the 2006 IPCC guidelines.

5e(ii). Approach used to account for emissions and removals from harvested wood products.

Not applicable.

5e(iii). Approach used to address the effects of age-class structure in forests.

Not applicable.

5f. Other assumptions and methodological approaches used for understanding the nationally determined contribution and, if applicable, estimating corresponding emissions and removals, including:

5f(i). How the reference indicators, baseline(s) and/or reference level(s), including, where applicable, sector-, category- or activity-specific reference levels, are constructed, including, for example, key parameters, assumptions, definitions, methodologies, data sources and models used.

Not applicable. Please see Section 5(a-e) for assumptions and methodologies used.

5f(ii). For Parties with nationally determined contributions that contain non greenhouse-gas components, information on assumptions and methodological approaches used in relation to those components, as applicable.

Not applicable.

5f(iii). For climate forces included in nationally determined contributions not covered by IPCC guidelines, information on how the climate forces are estimated.

Not applicable.

5f(iv). Further technical information, as necessary.

Not applicable.

5g. The intention to use voluntary cooperation under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, if applicable

6. How the Party considers that its NDC is fair and ambitious in light of its national circumstances

6a. How the Party considers that its NDC is fair and ambitious in the light of its national circumstances;

The Government of Vanuatu is steadfast in its conviction that global mitigation efforts should focus on stabilising global GHG emissions at levels that will limit increases in global average temperatures to well below 1.5°C above preindustrial levels.

Vanuatu is a small island developing country that has an insignificant contribution to global GHG emissions, historically its GHG emissions have been very low: Vanuatu's total CO₂ equivalent emissions was approximately 0.0011% of the Global GHG emissions for 2015.

Vanuatu has taken an ambitious target of transitioning to close to 100% renewable energy in the electricity sector by 2035. With this enhanced NDC, Vanuatu is planning to further reduce its national GHG emissions by 2035. Vanuatu's adaptation and loss and damage targets are some of the most ambitious and comprehensive in the world, highlighting the priority of these two pillars of the Paris Agreement to Vanuatu. Thus, this NDC, and the accompanying information, reflects Vanuatu's commitment under the Paris Agreement to address climate change.

Vanuatu's NDC target constitutes the highest possible ambition, in the context of our national analyses of mitigation potential.

Vanuatu plans to demonstrate leadership among developing countries by continuing to enhance our mitigation efforts and to move towards economy-wide emissions limitation or reduction targets over time.

6b. Fairness considerations, including reflecting on equity.

Vanuatu aims to extend the scope of the coverage of its NDC over time to all categories of anthropogenic emissions and removal, as more robust data, finance, technical support and capacity becomes available. This approach is in line with the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances.”

In keeping with Article 2 of the UNFCCC, Vanuatu demands that emission stabilisation should be achieved globally, and domestically by all countries within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner.

6c. How the Party has addressed Article 4, paragraph 3, of the Paris Agreement.

Vanuatu’s updated NDC represents a significant enhancement of its first and second NDCs. Vanuatu’s enhanced NDC 3.0 builds on the ambition of its first NDCs, both in terms of its sectoral coverage and in terms of its net emission reduction contribution as well.

Most significantly, this NDC 3.0 now includes a range of new adaptation and loss and damage commitments and targets which set us up for a more resilience future.

6d. How the Party has addressed Article 4, paragraph 4, of the Paris Agreement.

The ambition of this target must be considered against the background of the country’s small, open economy and limitations in natural, financial, technological and human resources to implement the measures necessary to achieve the intended emissions reductions.

It must also be noted that the value of Vanuatu’s forest cover as a carbon sink is recognised, despite the fact that these values are not included in the projections.

In addition to the sectoral activity-based targets for electricity generation, transport energy efficiency, other livestock, and waste sector, this NDC also includes additional policy targets for sectors where data and/or baseline information is not available such as for livestock, solid waste and wastewater management. This paves way for Vanuatu to establish economy-wide emissions target, based on national circumstances and capabilities.

6e. How the Party has addressed Article 4, paragraph 6, of the Paris Agreement.

Vanuatu, as a SIDS and considering Article 4, paragraph 6, has the option to prepare and communicate strategies, plans and actions reflecting its special circumstances.

In light of Vanuatu’s commitment to limiting increases in global average temperatures to well below 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, it has submitted quantifiable targets as outlined in 1(b) above.

As Vanuatu’s NDC now covers adaptation, loss and damage as well as mitigation, its plans and actions addressing adaptation and the possible limits to adaptation that may result in loss and damage, are outlined by Vanuatu’s various submissions to the UNFCCC.

In addition to the sectoral activity-based mitigation targets Vanuatu’s enhanced NDC also includes policy targets (See section 1(d)) for areas where data and/or baseline information is not available. These mitigation areas include livestock and waste management.

7. How the NDC contributes towards achieving the objectives of the Convention as set out in its Article 2

7a. How the NDC contributes towards achieving the objective of the Convention as set out in its Article 2.

See 6(a) above.

Vanuatu feels that Article 2 of the convention is closely linked to Article 8 of the Paris Agreement on the importance of averting, minimising and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including extreme weather events and slow onset events, and the role of sustainable development in reducing the risk of loss and damage.

Unfortunately, Vanuatu has reached the limits of adaptation in many instances, with climate change already causing loss and damage as exemplified in Article 2, disabling ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, witnessing threats to food security, and observing devastation to economic development.

In this context, Vanuatu’s enhanced and revised NDC makes every effort to more comprehensively to undertake adaptation action, while at the same time, calling for increased support to address loss and damage. All three Pillars of the Paris Agreement are critical, and equally addressed in this NDC.

7b. How the NDC contributes towards Article 2, paragraph 1(a), and Article 4, paragraph 1, of the Paris Agreement.

See 6(a) above. Vanuatu is planning to work on a long-term strategy to decarbonise the economy in line with Article 2 paragraph 1(a) and Article 4 paragraph 1.

Annex II: Descriptions of Footnotes in Commitments Tables

The following tables contain the explanations for the footnotes listed under 'Gaps' and 'Preferred Sources' in the commitments tables."

Footnote	Gap
1	Insufficient Funding
2	Weak Policy
3	Legislative Gaps
4	Inadequate Regulations
5	Fragmented Institutional Arrangements
6	Weak Governance
7	Uncoordinated Efforts
8	Low Public Awareness/Engagement
9	Insufficient Political Will
10	Limited Technical Expertise
11	General Workforce Shortages
12	Limited Skills and Training
13	Technology Gaps
14	Lack of Data
15	Weak Monitoring
16	Deficient Infrastructure (including IT / Comms)

Footnote	Preferred Source	Potential Instruments	Examples of Sources
1	Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)	Grants, guarantees, equity investments, technical assistance, PPP financing, risk-sharing mechanisms	ADB, World Bank (IBRD, IDA, IFC)
2	Multilateral Climate Trust Funds	Grants, guarantees, results-based financing, equity investments, performance-based payments, blended finance, technical assistance	Green Climate Fund (GCF), Global Environment Facility (GEF), Adaptation Fund (AF), Climate Investment Funds (CIF), Strategic Climate Fund (SCF), Pacific Resilience Facility (PRF), Fund for responding to Loss and Damage (FRLD)
3	Multilateral Development Trust Funds and Programs	Grants, in-kind support, technical assistance, PPP financing, blended finance	IFAD, GAFSP, UNCDF, GFDRR
4	Institutional Development Partners	Grants, in-kind support, technical assistance, research funding, policy advisory services, training and capacity building	UNDP, FAO, UNICEF, UNDRR, Regional Pacific NDC Hub, GGGI, GIZ
5	Bilateral Development Agencies and Funds	Grants, technical assistance, debt-for-climate swaps, blended finance, PPP financing, results-based financing	Australia DFAT, New Zealand MFAT, Japan JICA, France AFD, KOICA
6	National Climate Funds	Loan guarantees, blended finance, PPP financing, credit enhancements	National Green Energy Fund (NGEF), National Loss and Damage Fund
7	National Development Bank	Green/blue/climate/resilience bonds, loan guarantees, blended finance, PPP financing, credit enhancements	Vanuatu Rural Development Bank (VRDB)
8	National Pension Fund	Green/blue/climate/resilience bonds, ESG-focused portfolio allocations, sustainability-linked investments, direct equity investments	Vanuatu National Provident Fund (VNPF)
9	Domestic Government Budget	Direct budget allocations, PPPs, sovereign bonds, new taxes/levies (e.g., climate levies, carbon pricing), debt-for-climate swaps, climate-focused fiscal policies	Vanuatu National Budget Allocations for Agriculture & Disaster Preparedness
10	Philanthropic Foundations	Grants, impact investments, in-kind support, research funding, technical assistance, program-related investments	Rockerfeller Foundation, ClimateWorks Foundation, IKEA Foundation
11	Corporate Finance and ESG Initiatives	Corporate social responsibility (CSR) investments, direct equity, corporate green bonds, sustainability-linked finance, voluntary carbon offsets, impact-linked finance, PPPs	Regional SMEs and corporate enterprises
12	Impact and Investment Funds	Equity, blended finance, venture capital, sustainability-linked finance, impact bonds, results-based financing, PPPs	Global Climate Partnership Fund (GCPF), BlueOrchard Finance, responsibility, Breakthrough Energy Ventures, Pegasus Capital Advisors
13	Private Sector Finance and Commercial Banks	Green bonds, climate resilience bonds, sustainability-linked credit, trade finance, credit risk guarantees, impact bonds, PPPs	National Bank of Vanuatu (NBV), ANZ, BRED Bank, Bank of the South Pacific (SBP)
14	Carbon Markets and Compliance Schemes	Carbon credits, emissions trading, results-based payments, blue carbon finance, voluntary carbon market investments	Voluntary Carbon Market Buyers, Corporate Offset Programs (e.g., Shell, Microsoft, Patagonia's Climate Fund)
15	Insurance and Risk Transfer Mechanisms	Climate risk insurance, parametric insurance, catastrophe bonds, disaster risk pools, credit guarantees	Pacific Catastrophe Risk Insurance Company (PCRIC), Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme (PICAP), Swiss Re, Munich Re, World Bank Disaster Risk Finance Facility
16	Litigation and Settlement Funds	Climate liability settlements, compensation payments from fossil fuel companies or high-emitting industries, legal reparations for environmental damage	Potential funds secured through legal action against polluting entities or contributions from climate-related liability lawsuits



The Government
of Vanuatu

ISBN 978-982-102-040-4



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