

 <p><b>United Nations Development Programme</b> <b>Pacific Office</b></p>	<p><b>BACK TO OFFICE REPORT (BTOR)</b></p> <p>Submitted by: Navin Bhan  Title: Associate Project Manager  Date Submitted: December 9, 2019  TA Serial Number:</p>
<p>1. Practice Area: RESPAC Project, Pacific Office  2. Service Line(s): Climate Early Warning, Disaster Preparedness and Recovery</p>	
<p>3. Mission Period (incl. of travel days):  From: 10 November 2019 To: 15 November 2019</p>	
<p>4. Type of Service/Mission</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy  <input type="checkbox"/> Analysis  <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Advice  <input type="checkbox"/> Programme / Technical Backstopping  <input type="checkbox"/> Resource Person  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional Technical Consultations  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Training / Capacity Development  <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify):</p>	<p>5. Client(s)  Vanuatu Meteorological and GeoHazards Division (VMGD)  Department of Strategic Planning, Policy and Aid Coordination (DSSPAC)</p>
<p>6. Purpose of Mission:  Mission to Vanuatu to participate in the Green Climate Fund (GCF) project Validation Workshop and follow up on outstanding RESPAC Project implementation of activities.</p>	<p>7. Documents, Materials, Resources from Mission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presentation to the GCF Project Validation Workshop</li> <li>- CLiDE Implementation Update</li> <li>- AWS Specifications for Loh Island</li> <li>- Training Agenda for Cadets</li> </ul>
<p>8. Mission Member(s) (include consultants if any)  Navin Bhan – Associate Project Manager – RESPAC  Atish Kumar – Climate Data Manager – Fiji Meteorological Services</p>	<p>9. Cost (for RCC staff only)  Air ticket = USD1,100  DSA and Terminals = USD2,300</p>
<p>10. Brief Summary of the Mission:  10A. Findings</p> <p><b>GCF Validation Workshop</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) is currently leading the development of a regional (Multi-Country) project to be funded by the Global Green Climate Fund. The proposal involves Fiji, PNG, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.</li> <li>- RESPAC was invited to contribute its thoughts on the validation workshop and the Associate Project Manager made a presentation on what the key regional priorities were looking at it from the perspective of the RESPAC project and its key outputs and activities particularly on component 1 – Climate Early Warning Systems.</li> <li>- One of the activities that RESPAC contributed towards and which could potentially turn out to be a strong model for capacity building at the regional scale was the Regional Training Center (RTC). It was encouraging to note the support for the Regional Training Center (RTC) from the Directors and their representatives and the notional allocation from the regional pool to further support the development of the RTC.</li> </ul> <p><b>Outstanding Activities under VMGD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As per the VMGD workplan funded by the RESPAC project for 2019, several activities has been planned however implementation rate was quite slow. Just prior to the mission, Vanuatu had completed its National Climate Outlook Forum which focused on the Agricultural Sector. The NCOF</li> </ul>	

represented the only activity which was completed as per the VMGD RESPAC workplan aged in July. Other activities that were scheduled to be undertaken during the week included:

- **Data Digitization:** As agreed with VMGD, 6 university students will be hired on part-time contracts to assist the climate unit with digitization of manual records. This activity was completed in the week with the APM and the Director of VMGD officiating at the event where the students signed their respective contracts. Thereafter the student trainees were given hands on training led by the Head of the Climate Division and assisted by the Climate Database Manager from the Fiji Meteorological Services (FMS)
- **Climate Data Analysis and Storage:** Prior to the APM's visit to VMGD, the Climate Data Manager for VMGD attended a week long attachment training with the Fiji Meteorological Services (FMS) in Nadi, Fiji. The objective of this training attachment was to ensure that the VMGD Climate Data Manager had a first-hand experience of managing the CLiDE database and the data interface from the source (AWS and Manual) to the final repository i.e., CLiDE. During the course of this week-long training attachment in Fiji, several procedural gaps were identified in terms of how the VMGD team manages its CLiDE database however the Climate Data Manager could not take corrective actions as access to CLiDE outside of the VMGD premises in Vanuatu was restricted. The Climate Database Manager from Fiji Met then requested to travel to Vanuatu to learn more about the CLiDE issues in Vanuatu. His travel coincided with the APM and was further extended by one week at the request of the VMGD. Report of the Fiji Climate Database Manager's exchange with the VMGD is attached separately.
- **Cadet's Training –** VMGD also commenced a 9-week Basic Observation Training with Cadets and outposted staff. UNDP/RESPAC has partially provided the funding for this training which is being carried out internally by senior VMGD staff.
- **Health Sector Interaction –** There was no progress recorded on this activity and Manager Climate assured that the activity will see some progress in 2020.
- **AWS for Loh Island, TORBA Province –** Discussions were held with Head of the IT section at VMGD and the Head of Observations on the purchase of the additional AWS for the Loh Island. The outcome of this discussion in summary was VMGD's preference to maintain a uniform or similar technical and equipment specification for their AWS network. Hence their preference was to engage with the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Sciences (NIWA) in New Zealand to supply the components for the remaining installation in Loh Island. The APM advised that he will look into this issue with his procurement counterpart in UNDP and advise on how the procurement will be conducted.

#### **Outstanding Activities under DSSPAC**

- **Ambae Early Recovery Proposal –** The APM met with the Director of DSSPAC and his 2 advisors and was briefed on the changes to the proposal submitted to the Pacific Early Recovery Fund (PERF). These changes were necessary due to the stability required by the evacuees in terms of socio-economic conditions which were marginally better in Santos viz. a viz that in Maewo and Vila. These conditions including potential for better income livelihoods in Santo meant that funding needed to be shifted from Carpentry Training to provision of goods and supplies to improve water and sanitation facilities for the re-settled population in Santo. The DSSPAC advisors were ready with their revised proposals hence the APM indicated that as soon as he receives clearance from the RESPAC Project Manager, they will work on the FACE Form to transfer the funds for activities to be implemented in quarter 4. The LOA for the PERF proposal was earlier submitted, approved and signed by UNDP and the Office of the Prime Minister in Vanuatu.

#### **10B. Results Achieved (concrete outputs)**

- The mission was able to achieve the following key results:
- l) Significant progress or movement or implementation of activities relating to the VMGD workplan agreed with RESPAC. As per the summaries above, progress was shown in the data digitization, cadet training and CLiDE. Other areas where implementation was not well reflected included AWS procurement for Loh Island and Health Sector integration.

- ii) Mission was able to refine and move the PERF proposal for Ambae and also finalized the FACE Form for approval. As a consequence, it is expected that the implementation of the PERF proposal will contribute USD150K to the overall delivery of the office.

#### 10C. Expected Outcome(s) and Impact

As the RESPAC will formally close at the end of 2020, it is imperative that it links up with other major initiatives such as the GCF to ensure that major activities that were initiated by RESPAC will continue in the post RESPAC era. Collaboration with SPREP and partners is absolute necessity.

#### 11. Key counterpart (s) and persons you met in each location and their contact details:

Name:

##### **Vanuatu Meteorological and Geo-Hazards Division (VMGD)**

Ms. Esline Garaebiti – Director

Mr. Allan Rarai – Climate Head of Division.

Mr. Kalo Abel – Climate Data Manager

Ms. Glenda Pakoa – Climate Division

Ms. Patricia Mawa – IT Division

Mr. Joe Mala - Observations

##### **Office of the Prime Minister- Department of Strategic Planning, Policy and Aid Coordination**

Mr. Jerry Lapi – Director DSSPAC

Mr. Mark Vaughn – Advisor

Mr. Jeff Lee - Advisor

##### **Contact Information:**

#### 12. Follow-up Action Matrix

##### 12.1 Disaster Resilience for Pacific SIDs (RESPAC)

Actions to be taken	By Whom	Expected Completion Date
Follow up on health sector interaction and developing joint workplans	Allan Rarai	1 January 2020
Purchase of AWS for Loh Island	Navin Bhan	27 December 2019
Follow up on funding and liquidation of the VMGD portion of the advance	Navin Bhan/Allan Rarai	31 December
Follow up on the liquidation of the Ambae Early Recovery Advance	Navin Bhan/Jeff Lee	31 December

#### 13. Distribution List (BTOR sent to): Internal Clients: - RESD Group Email, MET Directors