



Government of the Republic of Vanuatu  
 National Disaster Management Office  
 Phone: +678 22699 / +678 23035 Email: ndmo@vanuatu.gov.vu  
 Post: NDMO, Private Mail Bag 9107, Port Vila, Vanuatu



## VANUATU DRR & DM TERMINOLOGY WORKING GLOSSARY

TERM	DEFINITION
HAZARD	Something natural or man-made that <b>may cause</b> disruption or damage to life, property and/or environment
DISASTER	When a hazard strikes a community and the result level of impact <b>exceeds the affected</b> community's <b>ability</b> to respond and allow the community to get <b>back to normal</b> .
DISASTER RISK	Impacts that <b>could happen</b> to life, property and or environment if a hazard strikes a community.
VULNERABILITY	Vulnerability is the <b>degree</b> to which life, property and/or environment is open to being <b>affected</b> by, or <b>unable to cope with</b> , adverse effects of hazard impacts.
DISASTER MANAGEMENT	All aspects of <b>planning for and responding</b> to emergencies and disasters, including both <b>pre-and post-event activities</b> .
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION	<b>Prevention, Mitigation, Preparedness and Response Activities</b> , that a community may decide to undertake <b>to reduce</b> present and future <b>hazard impact</b> .
DISASTER PLAN	An agreed <b>set of</b> arrangements that is developed and acted upon by the community to <b>reduce the impact</b> on to life, property and/or environment, <b>when a hazard strikes</b> .
PREVENTION	The measures taken <b>to avoid a disaster</b> from occurring
MITIGATION	Measures taken <b>before and after an event</b> to <b>reduce the extent of a disaster or potential disaster</b>
PREPAREDNESS	Measures <b>taken in anticipation of a hazard</b> to <b>reduce the level of damage</b>

ALERT	A <b>notice</b> indicating that <b>precautions should be taken</b> because a <b>hazard is expected</b> to affect the specified community or area in the near future
RESPONSE	<b>Actions</b> taken in <b>anticipations of, during and immediately after a hazard</b> strikes to ensure that that it's <b>effects are minimized</b> and that people affected are <b>given relief and support as soon as possible</b> .
REHABILITATION	<b>Restoring people's life back to normal</b> , re-establish essential services, including the repair of physical, economic, social and psychological damage
RECONSTRUCTION	<b>Permanent measures</b> to repair or replace damaged dwellings and infrastructure and set the <b>economy back on course</b>
RECOVERY	The <b>immediate and long term restoration</b> of physical, social and psychological damage.
REVITALIZATION	Move to <b>higher than pre disaster levels</b> of social and economic wellbeing in the community
EMERGENCY	A situation generated by the real or imminent occurrence of an event that requires immediate attention.
RESILIENCE	A person, household or community's adaptability (ability to cope) and capacity to prepare for hazards and recover from disaster.