

ERROMANGO ISLAND IN-DEPTH LOOK AT VCAP SITE IN PORT NARVIN



SITE COORDINATORS MEET THE SITE BASED **COORDINATORS**

Project Board Meeting

RESULTS FROM FIRST VCAP PROJECT **BOARD MEETING**



INCEPTION WEEK VCAP STAKEHOLDERS MEET TOGETHER

BIMONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

VCAP (VANUATU COASTAL ADAPTATION PROJECT)



(Participants of VCAP Inception week during June 15-18, 2015 in Port Vila)

Introduction



"Adaptation to Climate Change in the Coastal Zone in Vanuatu" or the Vanuatu Coastal Adaptation Project (VCAP), has made steady progress lately towards enabling the Vanuatu government to increase the resilience of targeted communities to future climate change induced risks such as declining coastal and marine resources and intensifying climate related hazards.



VCAP is implemented by the Vanuatu government in partnership with UNDP with financial support from GEF-LDCF

photo by Nicky Kuautonga

As VCAP begins to address community level adaptation to climate change, the Vanuatu government has taken its first steps to engage community level representatives. Communities were consulted in the selection process for site based coordinators in Tafea, Shefa and Penama provinces. Hiring processes for the Project Implementation Unit in Port Vila continue to take place as well.

VCAP was able to facilitate several days of consultations and planning activities with community, Area Council, provincial and national level stakeholders during VCAP Inception Week. The final authority for VCAP is the Project Board, which had its first sitting during this reporting period. The results from this Project Board meeting will drive VCAP forward throughout the remainder of 2015.

This bi-monthly progress report details the various activities conducted from May to mid-July of 2015. This is the second of an ongoing series of VCAP bi-monthly reports.

Bi-Monthly Report Contents:

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Listing key activities and developments within VCAP with corresponding dates for this reporting period.

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Details regarding planning forum for community, provincial and national government stakeholders along UNDP representatives.

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Understanding the role of the provincial authorities in VCAP & introduction of staff from Tafea, Shefa & Penama province based sites

Port Narvin, Erromango - Page 13 An in-depth look at a VCAP target community in Tafea Province

Project Board Meeting - Summary - Pages 14 - 15 Details & outcomes from first VCAP Project Board Meeting VCAP Inception Week (June 15 -18, 2015)







Inception Week provided an opportunity for community and provincial stakeholders to meet with officers from the various national government agencies that will be implementing VCAP and supporting community based adaptation to climate change.

photos by Nicky Kuautonga

Key Dates for VCAP

Dates	Description		
May 13	UNDP Regional Director Haoliang Xu & UNDEP Resident Representative Osnat Lubrani visit VCAP PIU in Port Vila, Vanuatu		
May 13 - 18	Field visit to recruit Site Coordinator on Pentecost Island in Central Pentecost Area Council 2, Penama Province		
May 28 - 31	Field visit to recruit Site Coordinator on Epi Island in Vermali / Vermaul Area Councils, Shefa Province		
June 9 - 13	Field visit to recruit Site Coordinator on Erromango Island in North Erromango Area Council, Tafea Province		
June 15	VCAP Inception Week, Day 1: Briefing of Site Coordinators, Area Secretaries and Secretary Generals		
June 16	VCAP Inception Week, Day 2: Coordination meetings with Department of Local Authorities and stakeholders from Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries, Forestry & Bio-security		
June 17	VCAP Inception Week, Day 3: Coordination meeting with Public Works Department, the Department of Environmental Protection & Conservation & the Department of Water Resources		
June 18	First VCAP Project Board Meeting . Social night for VCAP stakeholders held at Vanuatu Kaljoral Senta		
July 14	Coordination meeting held between VCAP PIU, PRRP and the Department of Local Authorities		
July 15	Hiring notice advertised by PMU for Project Manager of VCAP		

photo by Nicky Kuautonga



Picture above: VCAP Interim PIU staff and participants from VCAP Inception Week

VCAP Inception Week

VCAP Inception Week allowed for VCAP stakeholders at all levels (community, provincial government, national government and UNDP) to once again scrutinize the project document and validate project outcomes and outputs, gauging their relevance considering the passage of time since the PPG phase and also the occurence of major events such as TC Pam that may affect implementation. VCAP Inception Week was considered by the VCAP PIU to be a valuable opportunity to incorporate contextual bottom-up along with top-down planning processes into the proposed Annual Work Plan for 2015, which was presented to the Project Board at the conclusion of Inception Week on June 18th.

photo by Nicky Kuautonga Province DLA zothic Encomen elola System (Poo

Provincial Area Secretaries and community based Site Coordinators, who live and work within the various VCAP sites, provided updates to baselines on target communities and much valuable context regarding project implementation during VCAP Inception Week. Pictured above: Ms. Eslyne Mabon, a provincial Area Secretary employed by the Penama Provincial Government Council, describing impacts of Tropical Cyclone Pam to Central Pentecost and listing priorities to support development within the Area Council where she works. The VCAP Interim PIU coordinated the logistics in facilitating this meeting in Port Vila throughout May and early June. There were 15 participants from VCAP sites that were invited and who traveled to take part in Inception Week activities including participants traveling from Pentecost, Ambae, Epi, Tanna, Aneityum, Futuna, Aniwa & Erromango islands. The Interim PIU arranged for the accomodation and travel to Port Vila for these participants.

Invited participants representing communities and provincial governments included the Secretary Generals for Shefa and Tafea provincial governments, the District Administrative Officer for Epi Island Sub-district, along with 8 provincial Area Secretaries and 5 Site Coordinators from all of the various VCAP sites in Shefa, Tafea and Penama provinces.

Various government officers based in Port Vila were also invited to participate throughout VCAP Inception Week. These national government agencies were consulted by the VCAP Interim PIU in the weeks prior to VCAP Inception Week in order to encourage active participation in workshop sessions and planning processes. The Interim PIU met with senior officials from the following agencies in preparation for VCAP Inception Week: the Ministry of Climate Change (MCC) and its Project Management Unit (PMU), the Vanuatu Meteorological & Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD), the Department of Local Authorities (DLA), the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD), the Department of Livestock (DOL), the Department of Water Resources (DWR), the Vanuatu Fisheries Department (VFD), the Department of Forests (DOF) and finally the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC).



Pictured above: Interim VCAP PIU Staff discussing development plans w Area Secretary of Aniwa Area Council

Meetings were conducted with these numerous national stakeholders in order to fully apprise and inform senior officials regarding progress to date by VCAP Interim PIU and to inform these valued stakeholders of plans for VCAP Inception Week. These briefings allowed for participating agencies to prepare as required in order to successfully take part in the planning process and provide relevant input into the proposed Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2015.

On the weekend of the June 13 - 14, participants traveling from other islands arrived by plane to Port Vila, where they were welcomed and then transported by the VCAP Interim PIU to their booked accomodation.

The first day of meetings for VCAP Inception Week took place on Monday, June 15 at the Melanesian Hotel's conference room. This first day consisted largely of sessions facilitated by UNDP to re-familiarize participants with the project and was attended by the provincial and community based representatives. Participants were able to share relevant experiences from their home communities where climate induced vulnerabilities had affected their quality of life and where community based adaptation methods were indicated as needed. This gathering became a forum where ideas regarding possible VCAP interventions (under project component 1, which deals with community based climate change adaptation) were explored thoroughly.

To conclude the first day's meeting- participants shared ideas regarding how the delivery of certain elements of VCAP interventions could possibly be expedited in wake of Tropical Cyclone Pam and in response to immediate vulnerabilities experienced by communities within VCAP target sites.

On June 16th, the Director of the Department of Local Authorities, Ms. Cherol Ala and her senior staff joined the VCAP team in discussing the community engagement process. Working together with the DLA and communities to establish Village Development Committees and produce Community Development Plans (incorporating elements of disaster risk reduction and CCA) are the first tasks at hand for the VCAP PIU when it begins to engage communities. The development of Village Development Plans at VCAP sites is a necessity in order to properly identify which climate adaptation interventions are appropriate in each of the unique VCAP sites and to also foster a sense of ownership of VCAP by the actual communities themselves.

Some VCAP communities have already established Village Development Committees with support from the DLA while others have not. The Director of the DLA was able to advise the VCAP Interim PIU about the best approach moving forward with VCAP while also supporting existing government processes, including the creation and review of Area Council Development Plans. The possibility of working together with select INGO's was also discussed, with the community and provincial representatives sharing their previous experiences with various organizations. Overall, the morning session on June 16th provided great clarity regarding the approach to be used to support communities within VCAP sites in creating Community and Area Council Development Plans, which will guide sector based interventions delivered by VCAP partners.

Following the morning sessions held with the DLA Director and senior staff, the afternoon of June 16th was spent with the key implementing stakeholders from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, Livestock & Biosecurity. These sessions were of great importance in regards to these national government officers being able to hear directly from provincial and community stakeholders about issues related to upland and coastal resource management along with possible climate change adapatation measures that could be supported within the VCAP sites.

As the Director General from the MoALFFB, Mr. Howard Aru, was overseas attending a workshop with FAO at the time of Inception Week, the Acting Director General, Mr Timothy Tumukon (also the Director of Biosecurity) was able to attend on his behalf. The Directors and senior officers representing Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock departments also took part in workshop sessions and shared the role of facilitator with UNDP representatives. Presentations were made by all participants regarding community, provincial and national level plans to engage in productive sector climate change adaptation through VCAP implementation.

On June 17th, the VCAP Inception team invited the Director of the Public Works Department as a key implementing stakeholder to attend morning sessions regarding the strengthening of public infrastructure and accessways. Participants shared the climate-induced challenges to public conveyance infrastructure that regular prohibits access to vital community based service centres such as schools, clinics, markets, airports and churches. The Director of PWD was able to lead detailed discussions with the VCAP Interim PIU and Project Management Unit staff from the MCC regarding his suggestions for ensuring that VCAP has the proper institutional arrangements when coordinating work between various ministries within the Vanuatu national government.

The afternoon sessions on the 17th were spent with the Department of Water Resources and the Department of Environmental Protection & Conservation. The VCAP Interim PIU also helped facilitate a session for the Site Coordinators to help them understand the roles and responsibilities that they would hold as VCAP staff.

In summary, VCAP Inception Week was a valuable opportunity for various VCAP stakeholders to unite and formulate ideas regarding project implementation and contribute towards the finalization of an Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2015 by the Project Board on June 18th.



Jotham Napat, DG of MCC



Cherol Ala, Director of DLA



Erickson Sammy, Director of Water



Kalo Pakoa, Director of Fisheries

VCAP INCEPTION WEEK PARTICIPANTS

MCC - Jotham Napat, David Gibson, Trinison Tari, Brian Phillips, Rebecca Iaken, Florence Iatu, Chris Simelum
MoAFFLB - Timothy Tumukon, Kalo Pakoa, Sompert Gereva, Pascal Dumas, Graham Nimoho, Jayden Ham, James Wasi, Mark Vurobaravu, Hannington Tate, Lonny Bong, Michael Karo 3.) DLA - Cherol Ala, Ben Tabi, Michelle Jonas
PWD - Samuel Namuri 5.) Water - Erickson Sammy, Obed Tabi, Brecht Mommen 6.) Provincial Governments-Michel Kalworai, Reynold Surmat, Louis Korah, Toka Iatipu, Reuben Neriam, Tomasi Sembet, Remi Nembil, Lenon Luka, Graham Abei, Gideon Yonah, Eslyne Mabon 7.) Site Coordinators - Jacky Dick, Jimmy Mase, Hamish Ture, Basil Mael, Sergio Tabi 8.) UNDP- Winifereti Nainoca, Jose Padilla, Loraini Sivo, Donald Wouloseje, Matthew Hardwick, Corey Huber, Malcolm Dalesa, Janet Jack

VCAP Inception Week Schedule

The schedule below details various workshop sessions held with participants at the Melanesian Hotel's conference room in Port Vila during VCAP Inception Week. These active planning sessions provided much valuable input necessary for establishing an Annual Work Plan and Budget to present to the Project Board on June 18th, 2015.

VCAP Inception Week - Meeting & Workshop Schedule					
	15-Jun	16-Jun	17-Jun	18-Jun	
VENUE:	Melanesian	Melanesian	Melanesian	Melanesian	
7:30 AM	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
8:00 AM	Welcome Housekeeping / Introductions	VCAP Community Based Approaches DLA	PWD]	
8:30 AM	housekeeping / incloudedons		Climate Resilient Infrastructure Support		
9:00 AM	VCAP Project Briefing VCAP PIU	Component 1 Discussion VCAP Area Council Strengthening DLA		OPENING - LAUNCH	
9:30 AM					
10:00 AM	Component 1 Discussion coffee break	coffee break	coffee break	coffee break	
10:30 AM	VCAP Project Management &	Provincial Level Integration DLA	PWD	Inception - Project Board Review of VCAP Results Framework	
11:00 AM	Proccesses - Roles of PIU Staff How Project will be delivered! VCAP PIU	SG's, Area Secretaries & SG's	Climate Resilient Infrastructure Support	Project Work Plan & Budget	
11:30 AM		Penama, Tafea & Shefa provinces			
12:00 PM					
12:30 PM	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
1:00 PM					
1:30 PM	Underted existing offer TC Date	Overview of Resource Management	Water Resources	M & E Requirements	
2:00 PM	Updated priorities after TC Pam Lessons learned from experience in disaster w Area Secretaries & Site Coordinators	Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries (DG of MALFFB invited for this portion, welcome to remain after)	Site by site discussion of WASH infrastrature & CC resilience in re to water supply		
2:30 PM		Coastal Management & Fisheries	DEPC	Other Business	
3:00 PM	coffee break	coffee break	coffee break		
3:30 PM	Project Site Definitions w Site Coordinators & SG's & Area Secretaries / DAO	Agriculture	DEPC	Closing Ceremony Preparation	
4:00 PM	Mapping exercise, clarifing boundaries	Forestry	Site Coordinators Roles & Responsibilities	SG's, Area Sec's, Project Board, Participar	
4:30 PM	of project sites, target communities	11 set of	M&E Training Sessions	from govt depts invited to attend	
5:00 PM	Planning - scheduling for target sites	Livestock	Distribution of materials to be circulated	closing ceremony in afternoon	
Invited	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
Participants	*Provincial SG's (Shefa, Tafea, Penama) *Area Secretaries (VCAP sites) + DAO *Site Coordinators (from VCAP sites)	*Provincial SG's (Shefa, Tafea, Penama) *Area Secretaries (VCAP sites) + DAO *Site Coordinators (from VCAP sites) *Director & DLA senior staff *DG of MALFFB *Director & senior staff from Fisheries *Director & senior staff from Agriculture *Director & senior Staff from Forestry *Director & senior Staff from Livestock	*Provincial SG's (Shefa, Tafea, Penama) *Area Secretaries (VCAP sites) + DAO *Site Coordinators (from VCAP sites) *DG from MIPU *Director & senior staff from PWD *Director & senior staff from Water Resources *Acting Director & senior staff from DEPC	* <u>Project Board consisting of:</u> (DG of MCC, DG of MALFFB, Director of VMGD, Director of PVD, Director of DLA Acting Director of DEPC & UNDP Reps) <u>Invited guests including:</u> *Provincial SG's (Shefa, Tafea, Penama) *Manager of PMU, Brian Philips *Directors of Fisheries, Agriculture, Forestr Livestock & Water	

VCAP Inception Week - Meeting & Workshop Schedule

Criteria for Selection of Site Coordinators

*Site coordinators must live within boundaries of VCAP site

*Community development or project experience & record of volunteerism

*Positive endorsement from chiefly council & provincial authorities required

*Education and work experience

*Ability to communicate clearly- written and verbally, moderate understanding of English

*Ability & willingness to travel to remote areas

Women were encouraged to apply!!!



Above: Villagers gathered in Ponkovio Village, Epi island during Site Coordinator recruitment mission.

Site Coordinators

Roles & Responsibilities of Site Coordinators

The main role of the community based Site Coordinators is to facilitate the linkage between the VCAP PIU and target communities. Site Coordinators live and work within the project sites, where they will facilitate community based implementation of project components. The permanent presence of the Site Coordinators at the project sites will ensure their participation in all aspects of community engagement and availability to assist as needed by VCAP implementing partners, including participating in planning, awareness, implementation, monitoring and evaluation activities.

Site Coordinators will maintain positive working relationships with community leaders and will contribute to the efficient coordination various project initatives to assist government stakeholders and VCAP PIU staff as they visit and work with comunities.

Recruitment of Site Coordinators

Recruitment of the community based Site Coordinators by the Interim VCAP PIU took place between March and June of 2015. The recruitment process included meeting with individual communities within VCAP sites, ensuring widespread awareness about the project and the vacant position.

Printed notices were advertised in public places, such as community halls, bulletin boards and churches- where applicants were encouraged to apply regardless of gender, age or ethnicity. Brief awareness sessions were facilitated by the Interim VCAP PIU where a designated interview time was shared with participants, so that interested parties would have sufficient time to prepare.

A standard interview was developed and candidates were graded following a weighted criteria (*see critera listed in column to left*) developed by VCAP PIU. Finally provincial and chiefly authorities were consulted to select the final candidate. Candidates were identified after a careful examination of their background and qualifications. Five successful Site Coordinators were selected, see map and information on Site Coordinators on following page for more information.

VCAP SITE COORDINATORS

Selected by VCAP Interim PIU to support VCAP implementation for at least 1 year, they participated in VCAP Inception Week activities.

Sergio Tabi PENTECOST, Savat Village Village Youth Committee Secretary, Carpenter





Basil Mael EPI, Masou Village; Former School Council Chairman, CDC member



Jacky Dick ERROMANGO, Ipota Village; Health Committee Chairman, CDC member, Red Cross Volunteer



ANIWA, Isavae Village; former VCR Project "Community Mobilizer"





Jimmy Mase ERROMANGO, Happyland Village; Development Committee Chairman, former FAO Project Coordinator



Provincial Authorities & VCAP

The empowerment of Vanuatu's 52 Area Councils (while under the supervision of the Provincial Governments and the Department of Local Authorities seated within the Ministry of Internal Affairs) through the recently enacted Amendment to the Decentralization Act in 2013 is very significant for future development based projects working in Vanuatu, including V-CAP. A majority of VCAP's outputs aim to deliver support to rural communities that are often isolated from service delivery. The effective engagement of community level stakeholders will not be possible without close cooperation & support offered to provincial authorities and by following the existing protocol in

Area Secretaries

Provincial Area Secretaries are field officers employed by Vanuatu's six provincial government councils and they live and perform provincial services within their respective Area Councils. Their basic duties include the following services: tax collection, voter registration, government awareness duties, Statistics enumeration duties and assisting development projects within their respective Area Councils. Area Secretaries will be invited to play an integral role in facilitating future V-CAP implementation.

It is hoped that the Area Secretaries will coordinate closely with the VCAP PIU and Site Coordinators to facilitate community meetings / awareness / development plans, coordinate with any other partners working within VCAP sites and to assist with site level communications and logistics. VCAP in return will offer capacity building opportunities for Area Secretaries and materials and support needed to effectively engage communities & provide services within the various Area Councils.

Secretary Generals

Provincial Secretary Generals (SG's) hold the ultimate responsibility for strategic development, planning and management of the provincial government councils and supervision of all staff appointed by the councils. SG's are appointed by the Public Service Commission (thus they are civil servants and nonpolitical) and they assist elected representatives of the council and their staff to plan, deliver and report back on provincial services. The SG's will play an important oversight role in V-CAP implementation and are non-voting members of the Project Board.

Provincial Authories Participating in VCAP Inception Week Activities by Province:

PENAMA PROVINCE

Eslyne Mabon Area Secretary, Central Pentecost Area Council 2 (CP2) Office based in Melsisi Village, Pentecost. Originally from eastern coast of CP2 in Savat Village. One of the only female Area Secretaries employed by any Provincial Government Council in Vanuatu.



SHEFA PROVINCE

SG, Michel Kalworai Secretary General of Shefa Provincial Government Council. Office based in Port Vila, Efate Island.





DAO, Lois Korah District Administrative Officer for Epi Island Subdistrict. Unique position for Shefa Province, responsible for 4 Area Councils and Area Secretaries located on Epi Island.

Gideon Yonah Area Secretary for Vermaul Area Council. Based in Mavilao Village, Epi Island.



Graham Abei Area Secretary for Vermali Area Council newly appointed in June of 2015 . Based on Lamen Island (offshore Epi).



TAFEA PROVINCE

SG, Reynold Surmat Secretary General of Tafea Provincial Government Council. Office based in Isingel, Tanna Island.

The second second



Tomasi Sembet

Area Secretary for South Erromango Area Council. Based in William's Bay Village, Erromango Island.



Remi Nembil Area Secretary for North Erromango Area Council. Based in Port Narvin Village, Erromango Island.







Toka Iatipu Area Secretary for Futuna Area Council. Based on Futuna Island.



Reuben Neriam Area Secretary for Aneityum Area Council. Based on Aneityum Island.



PORT NARVIN, ERROMANGO



An inside look at target VCAP community on Erromango Island, Tafea Province

The community of Port Narvin on the island of Erromango is among the most remote communities within all VCAP sites, given its lack of major public conveyance infrastructure and the considerable distance from its location to the nearest airport. Due to the village being situated directly along the coastline and adjacent to a large river, it is particularly vulnerable to experiencing climatic hazards such as cyclones, tsunamis, landslides, flooding along with coastal erosion. Tropical Cyclone Pam inflicted severe damage to the Port Narvin, in particular to crop yields and drinking water supply systems.

As with other outer islands of Tafea Province, there is a demonstrated need to address a range of climate-induced challenges on Erromango. Priority concerns involve water security, upland resource management of forest resources, food security along with sustainable coastal resource management, and climate proofing of footpaths to ensure access to vital services such as schools and health centers. Livelihoods in Port Narvin are derived primarily through the sale of sandalwood and marines resources.

photo by Corey Huber

VCAP Project Board

June 18th, 2015 at Melanesian Hotel Conference Room, Port Vila

Project Board Composition (and non-board members present):

1.) Executive - National Project Director: DG of MCC - Jotham Napat

2.) <u>Senior Beneficiaries</u> - Director of DLA - Cherol Ala; Acting Director of VMGD- David Gibson; Acting DG of MoAFFLB - Timothy Tumukon; Director of PWD - Samuel Namuri; Acting Director of DEPC - Trinison Tari; SG of Shefa Province- Michel Kalworai, SG of Tafea Province- Reynold Surmat

3.) Senior Supplier - Deputy Resident Representative- Winifereti Nainoca

(<u>Non-board members present at meeting</u>)- Manager of PMU- Brian Phillips; PMU- Rebecca Iaken; & Florence Iatu; Acting Director of Energy- Chris Simelum; Water Resources- Obed Tabi; UNDP- Jose Padilla, Loraini Sivo, Donald Wouloseje, Bernard O'Callaghan, Matthew Hardwick, Corey Huber, Leah Nimoho

Brief Summary of Board Meeting

This was the first Project Board sitting for VCAP and it took place from 10 AM - 3 PM on Thursday, June 18th, 2015. The VCAP National Project Director, DG Jotham Napat, gave the official opening welcome speech. The Senior Beneficiaries (Directors from implementing agencies) and the Senior Supplier (representative from UNDP Fiji MCO) also spoke briefly during the opening.

After the opening, a review of the Strategic Results Framework was conducted, led by Bernard O'Callaghan and assisted by Matthew Hardwick. VCAP components, outcomes, outputs and the indicators that will be used to verify actions results obtained during and after delivery were discussed with the Project Board in detail.

Next, the Project Board considered the Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2015 along with a summary of the 5 year work plan for VCAP. The suggestions incorporated within the Annual Work Plan and Budget for 2015 by the VCAP Interim PIU took into consideration the consultations and planning that had occured the prior 3 days (June 15 - 17) with senior representatives from VCAP implementing partners from the national government, provincial government and community representatives during Inception Week.

Finally, there was a brief presentation by the Senior Supplier, Winifereti Nainoca, about the requirements for VCAP in regards to Monitoring and Evaluation, followed briefly by "Other Business".

Important outcomes from the Project Board Meeting are listed on the following page.

VCAP Project Board

June 18th, 2015 at Melanesian Hotel Conference Room, Port Vila

Bullet points covering important outcomes from first-ever VCAP Project Board meeting from June 18, 2015:

*Site locations for VCAP remain the same as those identified and approved in Project Document. Project Board endorses plan to begin work in 3 priority sites most affected by TC Pam: Tafea Outer Islands, Epi Island and Pentecost Island. Work in Malampa, Sanma and Torba provinces to be initiated afterwards.

*Agreement that sector specific VCAP implementing staff to be housed by implementing partners (PWD, DLA, Fisheries, Agriculture, VMGD, PMU).

*Concerns raised over the need to hire staff for VCAP (Project Manager & Sector Based Coordinators). Project Board agrees that this should be completed as soon as possible by responsible government agencies.

*Agreement that Matthew Hardwick will play the role of Interim Project Manager until a Project Manager is successfully hired.

*Project Board agree that existing government systems to be used as VCAP is a Nationally Implemented Modality type of project.

*Project Board agrees to lower the budget for 2015 AWP to \$500,000 USD only instead of the original \$ 2.8 million. If additional funding is needed it can be requested through UNDP

*Project Board agrees that next meeting will take place in November of 2015 in Rovo Bay, on Epi Island.

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