



NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD
on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction
GOVERNMENT OF VANUATU

THE NAB SECRETARIAT (NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD)



Ministry of Climate Change



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"Together Lets Build a Sustainable and Climate Resilience Vanuatu"



Welcome !



Chair of the National
Advisory Board :
Director General, Mrs Esline
Garaebiti Bule

Welcome to our readers to this first edition of the NAB Secretariat newsletter. This quarterly newsletter is an initiative to share information on the Secretariat's activities in coordinating climate change and disaster risk reduction related programs and initiative aiming at strengthening and increasing the resilience of our people and communities to the issues affecting them as a result of climate change and natural disasters.

In this first edition, we provide an overview of the Secretariat's roles and function, key activities and highlights carried out last year 2021 and the first quarter of this year 2022, which supports the function of the National Advisory Board on CCDRR (NAB) in Vanuatu. We hope you will find it to be informative and interesting to read. You can find out more by contacting our office at the Ministry of Climate Change Complex in Port Vila or by checking the NAB Portal www.nab.vu.

END

NAB Secretariat Coordination Role & Functions

The National Advisory Board (NAB), operates at a strategic level with operational activities being carried out by departments and other implementing agencies including, where appropriate, a project management unit.

The Secretariat's key areas of focus are outlined as follows;

- Implement national obligations, develop international summits, identify priorities and develop national policy on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR)
- Act as the coordination point for CCDRR matters, investigate funding mechanisms for Vanuatu, provide support and advice on procurement for CCDRR and implementing projects.
- Provide technical advice to government departments and NGOs, starting endorsement process for projects and information materials working to support standardized approaches.

Aim: To integrate the governance of CC&DRR in an integrated and holistic way to reduce duplication

Further to that the NAB Secretariat do its job by working through four (4) smaller committees or task force:

1. **The NAB United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change Taskforce - (NAB UNFCCC)**
2. **The NAB Climate Policy and Compliance Working Group (CPCWG)**
3. **The NAB Project Screening Committee (NAB PSC)**
4. **The NAB Climate Financing Working Group (CFWG)**

These working groups has supported and has enhanced the NAB Secretariat in the coordination of the CCDRR towards its activities and roles and functions as a whole.

Presidencies Consultations On Adaptation For Heads Of Delegation On Adaptation

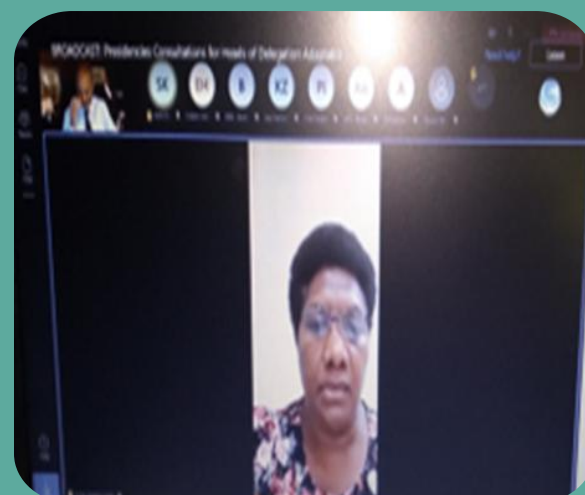
Despite the Current Covid lock down challenges, the HoD for Vanuatu to the UNFCCC, Mrs. Esline Garaebiti also the Director General for the Ministry of Climate Change made it a priority to participate at the Presidencies consultations on Adaptation on the 10th of March this year 2022. The consultations were being organized by the United Kingdom COP26 Presidency and the COP27 Incoming Egypt Presidency. Reflecting on progress to date on adaptation and on the outcomes from COP26 and in light of the IPCC Working Group II Report published on 28 February, the consultations were being carried out to seek Parties' guidance on how we can collectively make further progress on adaptation in 2022 and at COP27.

Mrs Esline highlighted what needs to happen now in the lead up to COP27 notable Comprehensive Reviews by adaptation practitioners and implementing agencies on lessons learned, including recommendations and views from the beneficiaries of past adaptation, identifying adaptation priorities for each region and a consultative and bottom up process for defining adaptation goals in unique contexts, including qualitative and quantitative measures for monitoring and evaluating the achievement of adaptation goals. She also made it clear what Vanuatu is expecting at COP27 which includes amongst others; 1- Rapid scale up of climate finance for adaptation, noting that we have already identified and costed adaptation projects and programs across all sectors that require urgent resource mobilization. 2 -Unambiguous Global political commitment to accelerate implementation of adaptation, including concrete pledges of technology, technical assistance and improved modalities and innovative vehicles for simplified and direct access to adaptation finance, including directly to our non-government, private sector and institutional partners at regional, national and importantly at local scales closest to where adaptation happens. 3 - A decision for a standing agenda Item under the COP and CMA on the Global Goal on Adaptation. 4 - Recognition of the importance of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Adaptation Communications as tools to understand the experiences of countries, guide and demonstrate adaptation action, as well as to set out local and national priorities and needs.

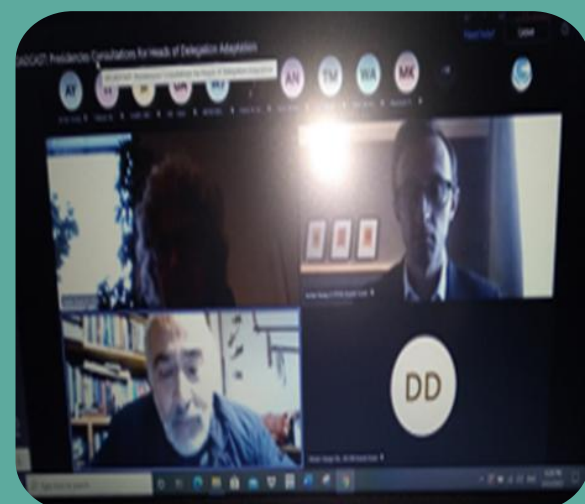
In addition, Vanuatu would mostly like to see the full implementation of the objectives of the two-year Glasgow-Sharm el Sheikh Work Programme on the Global Goal on Adaptation endorsed in COP 26 and in particular; The Work program to be based around a set of clear principles, which set acceptable benchmarks, ensure equity and inclusivity and national ownership, Also the work program to make available sufficient financial resources for the implementation of adaptation actions and support, including Supporting countries to finalize and start implementing their national adaptation plans and delivering quality adaptation communications and the implementation of the work programme reflects a country-driven approach of adaptation and avoid creating any additional burden to implement, and mostly Vanuatu would like to see the Avoiding top-down indices and globally imposed indicators of adaptation, allowing setting of local targets in a global framework and lastly Vanuatu would like to see the Bridge existing gaps and challenges using a bottom-up country driven inclusive approach to identify and help countries implement their national adaptation priorities.

The Presidencies consultations also included the discussions around how can NDCs, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications support enhanced action on adaptation and a better understanding of progress on adaptation.

Mrs Esline emphasized that the NDC needs to be seen as a vehicle for promoting Adaptation commitments, and a mechanism whereby those most impacted can articulate their costed adaptation needs. In addition, NDCs and Adaptation Communications outwardly expressing our Adaptation aspirations, while the NAP process inwardly directing implementation and resource mobilization. These are important processes that enables the vulnerable countries like Vanuatu reflect and communicate national adaptation priorities in return for the appropriate action and support needed for implementation in particular climate finance and in the context of the Paris Agreement, achieving balance between mitigation, adaptation, loss and damage and climate finance. She added that it should be noted that there is both a hard and soft limit to adaptation as indicated in the IPCC's AR6 WG II Report.



Picture: Mrs Esline giving her speech during the Presidencies consultations on Adaptation (zoom meeting)



Picture: Participates during this Zoom meeting

Mrs Esline,
highlighted what
needs to happen now
in the lead up to
COP27

CCDRR Policy Reviewed Against Implementation Plan endorsed by NAB

Review of the Vanuatu National Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) Policy 2016-2030 & The New National CCDRR Implementation Plan Phase 1: 2022-2026

The National Advisory Board (NAB) Secretariat has undertaken another step forward, last year 2021 in Reviewing the Vanuatu Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) Policy 2016 – 2030 to its second edition which is the Vanuatu Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) Policy 2022-2030 and including the new National Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) Implementation Plan Phase one (1) 2022-2026. This has been successfully reviewed and completed by the NAB Policy & Planning Officer, Mr Ericksen Packett with the guidance and support from the Director General, Mrs Esline Garaebiti Bule and the NAB Secretariat, Strategic Manager, Mrs Florence Iautu.



Director General, Mrs Esline Garaebiti Bule



NAB Strategic Manager, Mrs Florence Iautu



NAB Policy & Planning Officer, Mr Ericksen Packett

The NAB has officially endorsed the two strategic documents on 8th December 2021 on the NAB sixth Meeting in 2021. These documents will guide CCDRR advance innovation for Vanuatu for the next 8 years. For the last 6 years Vanuatu has actively conducted its CCDRR state affairs in the presence of its national CCDRR principal policy 2016-2030. However, with the absence of a complimentary implementation, our efforts and initiatives require timely response and progressive monitoring, and strategic alignment of the policy objectives.

It is therefore a major milestones achievement for Vanuatu, a very vulnerable island nation to the impacts of climate change and natural disaster to possess a National CCDRR Implementation Plan exceedingly effective as of this year 2022-2026. With a lot of collaborative efforts from government sectors and wide range of stakeholders, the USAID Disaster Readiness Project funded the collective development of the Vanuatu’s National CCDRR Implementation Plan 2022-2026.

Furthermore, the development of the National CCDRR Implementation Plan also reminisces the importance to review and update the current principal plan CCDRR Policy. A rapid policy review was conducted by the NAB Secretariat from October to November last year and was able to compile a **Second Version of the National CCDRR Policy**. As it was endorsed, this policy will be active from 2022-2030 serving as overarching CCDRR policy for Vanuatu. Both documents will be implemented in complimentary to each other and are scheduled to be launched in April 2022.



National Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) Implementation Plan Phase one (1) 2022-2026

Second edition Vanuatu Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) Policy 2022-2030 & New National Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) Implementation Plan Phase one (1) 2022-2026. will be launched in June 2022



Vanuatu Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) Policy 2022-2030

UNFCCC Capacity Building Project

The British High Commission has supported the Ministry of Climate change in a VT3,400,000 capacity building project called 'Strengthening Vanuatu's Engagement with the International Climate Change Negotiations and its Obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)'. The overall objective of this proposal is to strengthen the Republic of Vanuatu's capacity to engage with and derive increased direct benefit from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Despite of the COVID Pandemic, Vanuatu is keen to maintain the Climate action momentum. The project was implemented over a period of 8 months from end of April to End of December, 2021. A number of UNFCCC Negotiations Training were convened throughout the year leading up to the actual Conference of the Parties Meeting (COP26) in November. The negotiations trainings were tailored to support in particular the COP26. Delegates and others also supporting the work of climate change. Here is a few of the highlight negotiations trainings, **March Negotiations Training, August UNFCCC Preparatory Trainings towards COP 26, October Negotiations Training on Country Positions Writing, PreCop High Level Ministerial Segment, Conference of the Parties 26 (COP26), Other virtual Regional & International Climate Change trainings & Meetings.**

The **March Negotiations Training** is series of four days negotiations training was accomplished with the aim of strengthening the Vanuatu delegation's understanding of the mechanics of the negotiating process within the UNFCCC, to practically prepare for upcoming Virtual dialogues and negotiations. The sessions were convened for a 3-hour session each day and facilitated by Dr. Christopher Bartlett who was an experienced COP participant and at the same time a climate change Expert. The Training objectives were to understand the complexity of COP 26 negotiations in COVID19 contexts, including a status update on key thematic issues and positions, collectively determine how the Vanuatu delegation can make the most impact at negotiations in 2021; and develop concrete steps to take for effective preparation for the upcoming events, submissions and virtual SB 52 negotiations.

The **August UNFCCC Preparatory Trainings towards COP 26 on the 19th of August another negotiations Training** was convened, this time with the objective to; understand the Way forward to participating virtually at this COP 26 negotiations in COVID19 contexts, Status update on key thematic positions, Capacity building on UNFCCC & COP, Capacity building on negotiations, statements and more.

The **October Negotiations Training on Country Positions Writing** was another negotiations Writing focused on developing country positions was convened on 4th October. The training began with an introduction to the NAB's UNFCCC Taskforce, COP26 Overview, importance of national and group positions and including some practical exercise on finding and developing country positions.

The capacity building projects also includes, The **Pre-Cop High Level Ministerial Segment** For the first time, Vanuatu organized a High Level Segment for our High Level political leaders for their support on this climate change fight. The Pre-COP event is a platform for Vanuatu's technical experts who will be participating at COP26 virtually, to refine and confirm Vanuatu's negotiation positions on our main thematic areas.

The **Conference of the Parties 26 (COP)** The COP acts as the supreme decision-making body of the UNFCCC. Every year usually towards the end of the year, the COP meets. Parties to the Convention including Vanuatu meet at COP to review the implementation of the Convention and other legal instruments that the COP adopts as well as take the necessary actions to promote the effective implementation of the Convention. Around 30 delegates participated virtually from Vanuatu at the Grand Hotel and including Ambassador Sumbue Antas and Charge d'Affaires Dreli Solomon who participated in person at the COP site in Glasgow, United Kingdom. The COP was held from 31st October to 12 November. The main thematic groups who participated virtually at this COP included Climate Finance, Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), Gender & Climate, Adaptation – Loss & Damage and Research & Systematic Observation (RSO).

As a whole, there were also **other virtual Regional & International Climate Change trainings & Meetings** a number of other local, regional and international CC meetings and workshops that the NAB Sec was part of and /or assisted facilitated our participation to.



Picture: British High Commissioner, Mrs Karen Bell and MoCC DG, Mrs Esline Garaebiti



Picture: British High Commissioner, with the High level Ministerial segment at the Pre-COP



Picture: Participants of the Negotiations trainings



Picture: Vanuatu Virtual Participants at the COP26

Strengthen the Republic of Vanuatu's capacity to engage with and derive increased direct benefit from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

NAB Working Group Roles & Functions

The National Advisory Board has a total of four (4) NAB Working Groups. This includes the **climate finance working group (CFWG)**, The **united nation framework convention on climate change Taskforce (NAB-UNFCCC)**, The **Project screening Committee (PSC)**, The lastly the **climate policy working group (CPWG)**. These working groups has support and has enhanced the NAB Secretariat in the coordination of the CCDRR towards its activities and roles as a whole.

1. NAB UNFCCC TASKFORCE - UNITED NATION FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE ROLES & FUNCTIONS

The UNFCCC role is to develop annual and multi-year UNFCCC engagement strategies, plans and budget. The Taskforce oversee selection of delegates and representatives to all UNFCCC meetings, negotiations and events as well as the preparation of Vanuatu delegates and representatives to all UNFCCC meetings and negotiations and ensure that all delegates and representatives understand and fulfill reporting and debriefing processes upon return from UNFCCC meetings and negotiations.

In addition the UNFCCC, one of the main role is to develop and finalize, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, national position papers and negotiating positions, as well as consultations with topical submissions and statements.

Further to that, The UNFCCC Taskforce in regularly basis, brief the NAB and other high-level government bodies on the status and progress of UNFCCC engagement and implementation. The Taskforce seek and administer finance for the implementation of UNFCCC-related activities and act as liaison among Vanuatu's UNFCCC focal points and the National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction. Furthermore, the taskforce ensure that Vanuatu meets and follows through on its obligation under the UNFCCC, in reviewing and making recommendations to the NAB on all reports to and communications with the UNFCCC. Overall This UNFCCC Taskforce always ensure that the UNFCCC activities must always align with the government of Vanuatu's policies and strategic priorities and making sure that effective and transparent communication relating to matters pertaining to the UNFCCC to all stakeholders, particularly through the use of the NAB Portal.

The Taskforce consists of seven (7) members that are from government sectors and private sectors, the members are, **Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade The UN Desk (CHAIR), NAB Secretariat (Secretariat), Civil society representative (VCAN), Department of Women's Affairs, Ministry of Finance: Treasury Division, Expenditure Analyst, Department of Climate Change, Department of Strategic Policy Planning and Aid Coordination (DESPPAC)**. However other persons may be invited to attend the meetings of the UNFCCC Taskforce by the Chair. These persons may take part in the business of and discussions at the meeting but have no voting or decision-making rights.



Mr Sanlan William
Chair of the UNFCCC
Taskforce



Mr Nelson Kalo
Deputy Chair of the
UNFCCC Taskforce

2. NAB, Climate Policy and Compliance Working Group (CPCWG)

The NAB CPCWG establishment was endorsed by NAB on the 8th of December 2021 in its 6th Meeting. The NAB CPCWG will be providing and oversee CCDRR policy affairs in Vanuatu. These are the roles and functions of the CPCWG, As a consolidated arm of the NAB for CCDRR Policy related matters, the CPCWG equally plays an equal role in providing strategic advice to NAB, coordinated monitoring and compliance for CCDRR Policy in-country, promoting, documenting and building a robust CCDRR policy environment amidst the severe impacts of disaster and climate change. With the NAB coordination role, CPCWG will also have influential contributions to regional and international policy frameworks in their alignment with Vanuatu CCDRR priority and obligations.

Earlier this year, the NAB Secretariat began the process of CPCWG member nominations with a total of nine (9) organizations as follows; State Law Office (SLO), Vanuatu Climate Action Network (VCAN), Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, National Disaster Management Office, Department of Climate Change, Department of Local Authorities, Department of Strategic Policy, Planning, and Aid Coordination, Vanuatu Business Resilience Council, Department of Woman Affairs.

The CPCWG Inaugural Meeting:

The CPCWG held its inaugural meeting this year on Thursday 3rd March 2022. The first meeting sets to formally initiate the functioning of this national policy working group for CCDRR. NAB secretariat Strategic Manager, resumes the role of the Chair while the NAB Policy and Planning Officer is the Secretary. A representative for the Vanuatu Climate Action Network (VCAN) Mr. Peter Onil who is the Policy Officer for Oxfam was elected to the Vice Chair position during the meeting.

The chairlady congratulates and welcomes CPCWG members on their appointment. The Chair introduces the CPCWG roles and functions, meeting formalities while also projecting an annual work plan for the working group. Primarily, Important agendas and updates were presented by the NAB Secretariat which includes; the development and launching of the CCDRR Policy 2nd Edition (2022-2023) and the CCDRR Policy Implementation Plan (2022-2026); CCDRR Policy Implementation Plan Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework; Presentation also reveals priority activity which is to develop CCDRR Mainstreaming guidelines.



Picture: CPCWG at the Inaugural Meeting

Representative from the Vanuatu Climate Action Network (VCAN) Mr. Peter Onil who is the Policy Officer for Oxfam was elected to the Vice Chair of CPCWG position during the meeting.

3. Project Screening Committee (PSC)



Picture: Project Screen Committee Working group (CFWG)

Tasks of the Project Screening Committee

- **Consider, review, and evaluate** project proposals submitted to the NAB Secretariat for NAB endorsement, ensuring that projects:

1. Are **in line with the CCDRR policy** and other national policies, plans, strategies and priorities;
2. Are **climate, environmentally and socially relevant**, and do not adversely affect the environment, communities and the economy;
3. **Do not duplicate** of other on-going projects and programs but rather, **add value** to existing ones or **address needs/gaps**;
4. Hold a strong focus on **sustainability, local participation and ownership**;
5. Contain all required **documentation and project information**

- **Support the development of a robust project appraisal processes** (including standard operating procedures and guidelines) and utilize them to appraise project submissions;

- **Present findings** of project appraisals, and make **substantiated recommendations** to the NAB for a final decision:

1. Endorsement;
2. Rejection;
3. Opportunity for a review (e.g. further studies needed (CBAs, Economic Analysis, Environmental Impact Assessment), more formalities needed...etc.).

Any other business brought before the NAB Project Screening Committee by one of its members.

The NAB Project Screening Committee is purposely established to expedite project appraisal processes, by reviewing and making recommendations to the NAB, based on Vanuatu's priorities and needs, on projects seeking Government endorsement. The Project Screening Committee is mandated by, and will operate under the direction of the National Advisory Board.

The Project Screening Committee Objective

The role of the NAB Screening Committee is to expedite the project appraisal processes by screening and making recommendations to the NAB proposed climate change and disaster risk reduction projects submitted to the NAB Secretariat.

The Membership consists of members from government sectors and private sectors, are as follows:

- Department of Strategic Policy Planning and Aid Coordination (DSSPAC) (Chair of the NAB PSC)
- Department of Climate Change (DoCC) (Deputy Chair of the NAB PSC)
- National Disaster Management Office (NDMO)
- Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Vanuatu Climate Action Network (VCAN)
- Department of Climate Change (DoCC),
- Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD)
- Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC),
- Department of Woman's Affairs (DWA)
- Department of Finance and Treasury (DoFT)
- Ministry of Climate Change, Corporate Service Unit (MoCC, CSU).

4. Climate Finance Working Group (CFWG)



Picture: Climate Finance Working Group (CFWG)

v. Support NAB as required to dialogue with partners on Vanuatu Climate finance issues.

vi. Support the coordination, steering and implementation upcoming Vanuatu climate finance programs and projects.

The Climate Finance Working Group Members

The CFWG will be chaired by the Strategic Manager, NAB Secretariat (reporting to the NAB). The Chair will secure membership of the CFWG as follows:

The CFWG consists of:

1. NAB Secretariat Strategic Manager
2. Ministry of Finance and Economic Management MoCC Expenditure Analyst
3. DSPPAC Sector Analyst for CC & DRM
4. Finance Manager DoCC
5. CSO Forum [VCAN]
6. Donor/Development Partner Representative
7. VCCI/VBRC Representative
8. Ministry Of Climate Change, Corporate Services (MoCC, CSU) and Other persons may attend meetings or become members of the CFWG, by invitation of the Chair.

The Climate Finance Working Group (CFWG) will assist the NAB Secretariat to progress issues related to climate finance. The CFWG's purpose is to serve as a consultative arm of the National Advisory Board (NAB) to provide strategic direction specifically on climate finance related matters for the Ministry of Climate Change and progress the National Implementing Entity (NIE) Accreditation agenda. The following sections detail the role and responsibilities of the CFWG, and its membership,

Role and Responsibilities

i. The CFWG to serve as a consultative arm of the National Advisory Board to provide strategic direction specifically on climate finance related matters for the Ministry of Climate Change and the Government of Vanuatu;

ii. The CFWG shall assist the NAB Secretariat to resolve compliance issues raised in leading to National Implementation Entity status.

The order of the items reflects no importance or priority:

iii. These are as follows but not limited to:

- *fiduciary governance & compliance*
- *transparency*
- *policy development,*
- *reporting & monitoring*
- *legislative framework*
- *capacity building & training*
- *social safeguards*

iv. The CFWG shall work on and oversee the development of the Climate Finance Roadmap and Action Plan aligned with the National Sustainable Development Plan, the Vanuatu Aid Management Policy and Aid Management Policy Implementation Strategy, the National Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy, Nationally Determined Contributions Roadmap and, the National Adaptation Plan;

UNFCCC Obligations Submissions of National Reports

These are the following UNFCCC obligations submissions of National Reports

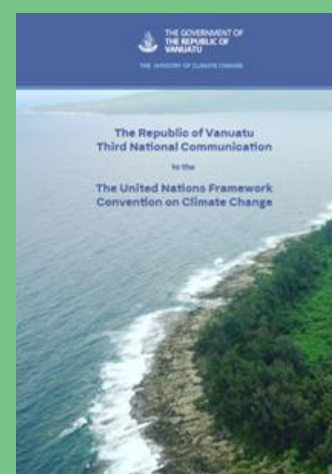
1. Enhanced National Determined Contributions. (NDC)

In March 2021, Vanuatu submitted its Enhanced National Determined Contributions (NDC) to the UNFCCC. This shows Vanuatu Government's commitment to address climate change under the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as well as the Paris Agreement (PA). Our commitment is as part of the global response to the threat of climate change by holding the increase in the global average temperature this century to well below 2 degree Celsius above pre industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degree Celsius as well as deal with the impacts of climate change as envisaged by the PA. Vanuatu's enhanced NDC for the period 2020-2030 sets out some key strategic interventions aiming at reducing its emissions comprising of sectors including energy (including renewable energy, transport, energy efficiency and cooking), AFOLU (excluding forestry), and Waste sector.



2. Third National Communication (TNC)

The Third National Communication (TNC) was also submitted in March, 2021 to the UNFCCC. This report provides a comprehensive look at the different Adaptation, Vulnerabilities and risks that Vanuatu has been facing over the years from 2007 to 2015. Vanuatu will be submitting its next national communications (i.e. Fourth National Communications) in the next five years as part of its reporting cycle.



3. First Biennial Update Report (FBUR)

In December 2021, Vanuatu also submitted for the first time its First Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC. Vanuatu's first BUR focus on GHG inventory for 2016 & 2017 covering mitigation actions/ measures; constraints and gaps related to financial, technical and capacity and support needs and BUR support received and needed. The reporting of BUR's will be superseded by another report namely the Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) and which will be submitted by 2024.



Vanuatu Successfully Submitted three (3) National Reports to UNFCCC

- Enhanced National Determined Contributions (NDC)
- Third National Communication (TNC)
- First Biennial Update Report (FBUR)

NAB - Project Development Officer



Ms Winy Marango,
was once the PDO Officer now she
is
the Senior M&E officer at MoCCA

The project development officers (PDO) - Ms Winy Marango was once the NAB Project Development Officer. While being the NAB PDO Officers she has achieved some of these achievements from year 2020 to 2021. Mrs Marango was then resigned and left the NAB Secretariat Team, she is now the Senior M&E Officer for the Ministry of Climate Change. Therefore, the position for the Project Development officer is currently still vacant.

During her working period with the NAB Secretariat, the PDO Officer achievements are as follows; There were Development of documents such as, DRAFT NAB Project Procedures Manual, DRAFT NAB presentation template, DRAFT NAB Project Updates presentation template, Master project Database CCDRR Vanuatu project, Project google map: Support NAB sec to developed a project google map with projects endorse by NAB from 2020-2021.

Mrs Marango the PDO officer, has also done some Reporting on;- Monitoring and Evaluation support the review of M&E templates and discuss gaps and improvement, 10 consultation meetings with CCDRR stakeholders, 10 projects were supported for screening and endorsement, two from INGO and eight from other AE supporting government departments projects. Project outcome letter issued for the project developers. In addition to her work she has initially form a MoCC MEL network and develop a draft network ToR that is currently reviewed by DG and colleagues. The PDO Officer supported the NAB Sec to develop the National Adaptation Plan readiness proposal. The proposal is not yet reviewed by the team and AE to be identified and the KoBo Training Report.

The PDO has also attended several important Meetings and Trainings and this includes, Support DoCC to developed the strategic plan MEL framework, Attend the climate finance working group meeting and workshop, Monitoring, Reporting and verification tool training at Grand Hotel, Trusted official statistics for good governance and evidence-based decision making in Vanuatu workshop with statistics Global Green Growth Institute energy project consultation meeting, attending regular CSU staff meeting to update on the operational activities and She as also attend the Plan and concept submit to acting NAB Sec manager for approval and the Activity completes in October 2021.

In addition the PDO Officer Attend the DSPPAC and PSC workshop focus on guideline of the new corporate plan, she also attended the Vanuatu COP position writing, the pre-COP high level segment and the negotiation exercise with Climate Finance. further to that she was registered and has completed the CBCRP-PCCC training course and involved mostly in the the NAB Capacity Building Training.

Profile: Interview with PDO Officer

What is your home island/country?

I am originated from the Island of Tongoa, in the Efate Islands In Port Vila, Vanuatu

What was Your educational background?

I am still Continuing Education (4x Cert IV TAFE)

What made you work in the area of Project development in Climate Change ?

I have volunteered work for almost 3 years with an INGO that implements CCDRR projects. This has started to build my interest, especially with the CCDRR project. I have been given a lot of opportunities to attend training and build on my experience from 5 years of supporting development projects and Humanitarian Response.

NAB Project Development Officer (PDO) is Still Vacant And under the Process of Recruitment

COP26 Events - Vanuatu's Positions to COP26

The Government of Vanuatu through the Ministry of Climate Change has organized and hosted the participation of Vanuatu delegation to the COP26 meeting held virtually from 1st to 12th November 2021 at the Grand Hotel in Port Vila. The purpose of hosting such national event is to engage delegates and raise their understanding about this global event at a national level. Vanuatu's participation at this COP26 is important to support outcomes of Vanuatu's obligation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Key issues discussed in this COP26 are; Climate Finance, Mitigation, Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF), Adaptation, Loss and Damage, Gender, Research and Systematic Observation (RSO). Therefore any decision made by this COP will eventually become an obligation for the Government of Vanuatu to meet. In addition, below are the detailed outline of each Vanuatu Position's during this COP26 Event:



Picture: COP26 Virtual Meeting at Grand Hotel



Picture: NAB Strategic Manager - Mrs Florence Iautu, makes briefing before each virtual meeting started.

Climate Finance

The Vanuatu Position's for Climate Finance is that, the Climate Developed countries must immediately scale up climate finance, and meet or exceed their pledge to mobilize USD 100 billion annually through 2025, making up the difference for each year mobilization targets are not met. The Donor countries must deliver a credible Delivery Plan for the annual US\$100 billion (US\$ 600 billion total) in climate finance for developing countries from 2020-2025. In addition the new global goal based on, Science, actual needs of developing countries (to have confidence in an estimate of need, Parties must agree on sources which will inform the assessment). Furthermore the Concrete definition of climate finance, so that it is clearly reported by developing countries in a way that enhances transparency does not double count ODA or double count contributions made via multilateral instruments, there is no ambiguity in the language used to describe the goal and what can be counted towards it and also there is clarity about what counts as "new and additional" climate finance - no agreed baseline against which any claim of additionality could be made, which allows donor countries to take different views of what counts as 'additional' resource. The climate finance must be made less fragmented, easier to access, predictable and long-term, At least 50% must be from grant-based public sources, NOT loans, private sector or concessional finance (currently only 21%) at least 50% must be allocated to Adaptation as agreed in the Paris Agreement (currently only 25%)

Mitigation

The Vanuatu Position's for Mitigation, is that we want, Application of mandatory 5% SoP for all Article 6 activities (including 6.2 and 6.4 transfers), An automatic and mandatory cancellation at issuance of ERs on all Article 6 transactions specifically for the purpose of OMGE and no other. Also In Mitigation Vanuatu would like to see the establish an ambitious floor of at least 20% cancellation, reviewable for increase at any time by the CMA and No carryover of CERs or Kyoto Units into Article 6 mechanisms and All Article 6 activities limited to within the scope of a Parties' NDC. The Corresponding adjustments must be made for all Article 6 transactions, No grace-period timeframe for activities outside NDCs. And lastly the outside, exception for SIDS with Long term Low emissions development strategies, but must apply corresponding adjustments.



Picture: COP26 Virtual Meetings

Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF)

The Vanuatu Position's for Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) in detail is to Ensure flexibility and capacity building for SIDS, Develop robust Common Reporting Tables (CRTs) for greenhouse gas inventories, Develop robust Common Tabular Formats (CTFs) for NDC progress, Develop robust Common Tabular Formats (CTFs) for finance. Furthermore the Vanuatu positions ETF would like to see all proposed tables and formats must yield maximum clarity and avoidance of double counting, particularly in the CTFs for support provided and mobilized. Also the Developed countries must provide support such as capacity building to developing countries towards their effective implementation of the ETF and Supporting the Glasgow Ambition Mechanism Cycle including 3 prerequisites for maximizing ambition and simultaneous end years for all NDCs, a sufficient advance notification of NDCs and lastly a timetable for regular consideration of enhancing the level of ambition of previously communicated NDCs.

Adaptation

The Vanuatu Position's for Adaptation is that it wanted to see a welcome and adoption of the Reports of the Adaptation Committee from 2019, 2020 and 2021, establishes an agenda item on the GGA, establish a robust process and timeline for defining a Global Goal on adaptation which includes principles and criteria to review overall progress on adaptation and also considers feasible and implementable approaches (short and long term) to adaptation planning, investment action and support. Furthermore the adequately feeds adaptation into the 2023 Global stock-take by identifying what indicators, analyses, assessments, information and processes can be prioritized in the short term and long term. Request to the IPCC to provide a special report on adaptation and Recognize the importance of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and Adaptation Communications as tools to understand the experiences of countries, guide and demonstrate adaptation action, as well as to set out local and national priorities and need.

Loss and Damage

The Vanuatu Position's for Loss and Damage would wanted to see an urgent and immediate operationalization of the Santiago Network at COP26 and to have Fully staffed secretariat and financial resources to immediately begin responding to country requests (a website is insufficient)

Gender

The Vanuatu Position's for Gender in detail outline, is there is no single solution to integrating gender-responsive principles and approaches into climate planning, processes, policies, and practice. A broad, holistic, and collaborative approach, across institutions and (global, national, and community) governance levels, with meaningful engagement from all stakeholders, and these are very essential. Also action on women's rights and gender equality should be ramped up and spread out to minimize business-as-usual practices, and avoid piecemeal, ineffective action with. Political leaders and policy-makers from the highest level onwards should sign on and signal their commitment to gender-responsive climate action, while identifying feasible and strategic entry points. In addition to that Gender would need Securing, channeling, and tracking the effectiveness of dedicated finance for mainstreaming gender into climate change responses is essential, including by: ensuring that national and local budgets are gender-responsive; accessing finance available for this purpose from international and national sources; and promoting small grants and local climate projects especially aimed at achieving gender equality and mainstreaming. and finally a commitment to human rights, a just transition, and environmental integrity can also serve as entry points for sector-wide implementation of gender climate action.

Research and Systematic Observation (RSO)

The Vanuatu Position's for Research and Systematic Observation (RSO) in detailed is to Develop local downscaling of climate models, Institutionalize capacity building in both human and technical, increase data coverage – reduce uncertainty and lastly Research Ownership – Lead Authors in Climate Change Research.



Picture: COP26 Virtual Meetings
(From Left: Mr Allan Rarai (VMGD), Mr John Ruben (VMGD), Mr George Koran (VCAN) and Mr Mathew Tasale (DOE))

Adaptation & Loss and Damage Thematic Group



Research and Systematic Observation (RSO) Thematic Group



Enhanced Transparency Framework Thematic Group



Mitigation Thematic Group



Climate Finance Thematic Group



Gender Thematic Group



NAB Members and Stakeholders Outreach Program



Picture:
NAB Secretariat
Team with all the
NAB
Members and their
Alternates, for each
government
departments and
One Private
sector.

On The 24th May to 8th June 2021, The NAB Secretariat team has conducted an outreach programmed to all its NAB members and its alternates. This is to develop a mutual understanding of the NAB and its work in climate change and disaster risk reduction (CCDRR) with its NAB members and to explore opportunities for partnership and collaboration and to provide information to them about the NAB secretariat's role towards the obligation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Climate Finance working Group (CFWG) roles. This NAB outreach programmed has enhanced us a lot to successfully achieve the objectives we have set out for that awareness program. During this outreach programmed we were able to increase understanding of NAB members on the background and rational for the establishment of the NAB and its NAB Secretariat. To bring in more clarity on the functions played by NAB Secretariat and the functions to be played by the Chair and to provide members with relevant information on the NAB endorsement processes and its importance. Also to provide members with the secretariat's role in the coordination of Vanuatu's obligation to the UNFCCC. Furthermore, this outreach is to inform NAB members of their roles as members and how best they can participate in making decisions for the NAB and as well as what benefit they get as board members. In addition, we have visited every single NAB members at their respective departments and including the NAB Observer. There were about a total of 17 NAB members altogether and one (1) NAB Observer.

"Climate Change is an entry point for women's affair in gender".by Director Rotina Ilo (DWA)

"NAB Secretariat or the Climate Finance working group team should always give updates of Climate Finance to the government. This will enhance the finance Transparency based on Project and activities based within the NAB Secretariat, with the MoCC and the government as a whole." By Director Dorothy Ericksen (DOFT)

"This NAB visit to this department has made it very clear to me now, about the Project Process through the NAB Secretariat. I will include Forestry department to work together with the NAB Secretariat to capture emerging project in the future." By Director Rexona Vira (Forestry)

"NAB Secretariat could have a look into that process to make it possible for projects funds to be accessible in just a short period of time instead of taking years." By Director Erickson Sammy (DoWR)

"The effect of one-to-one approach is very effective and I really appreciated the NAB Team for doing this outreach." By Director Montine Romone (VMGD)

"It is time for NAB Secretariat, Ministry of Climate Change and Ministry of Foreign Affairs started to work together, to achieve the goals work and the projects that are already set out to do. It is a very big work for both Ministry to work together and carry out those important duties and roles, which many people are not aware about and never know about the process especially the process in getting funds from UNFCCC Task Force and other NAB Processes." BY Director Yvon Basil (Foreign Affairs)

"I support the NAB-information material endorsement (IEC), it is a good idea to check for consistency of terms used refer to climate change, before put to media or printed etc." By Director Jerry Lapi (DSSPAC)

"Kink to participate to that level where I can drive anything I wanted to do in regards to Climate Change and preparing next generations to take these positions for DLA." By Director Leith Veremaito (DLA)

"NAB Secretariat, must include the department of Fisheries and Livestock also to be NAB Members, since they are related with climate change activities." By Director Antoine Ravo (Agriculture)

"I am very happy with the outcomes and the feedbacks from all NAB members. This was the first ever NAB outreach done, since NAB has been established in year 2013, and the outcomes and feedbacks were very good and useful information was given to all NAB members" By Director General, Esline Garaebiti (MoCC)

"It has been an ongoing thing but never the department of Health get funds. How do health department benefit from GCF funds? Is more like – "You can have your cake but you cannot eat it." By Director Len Tarivonda.

NAB Secretariat Stakeholders Outreach Program

On the month of October to September 2021, The NAB Sec through the PDO has conducted a consultation with its CCDRR stakeholders and that include, **Further arts, CARE International, Vanuatu Society for People with Disability, Vanuatu Skills for Partnership, Oxfam International, Wan Smol Bag, Action Aid, Live & learn and Save the Children, Action Aid, Live & Learn and Save the Children Vanuatu.**

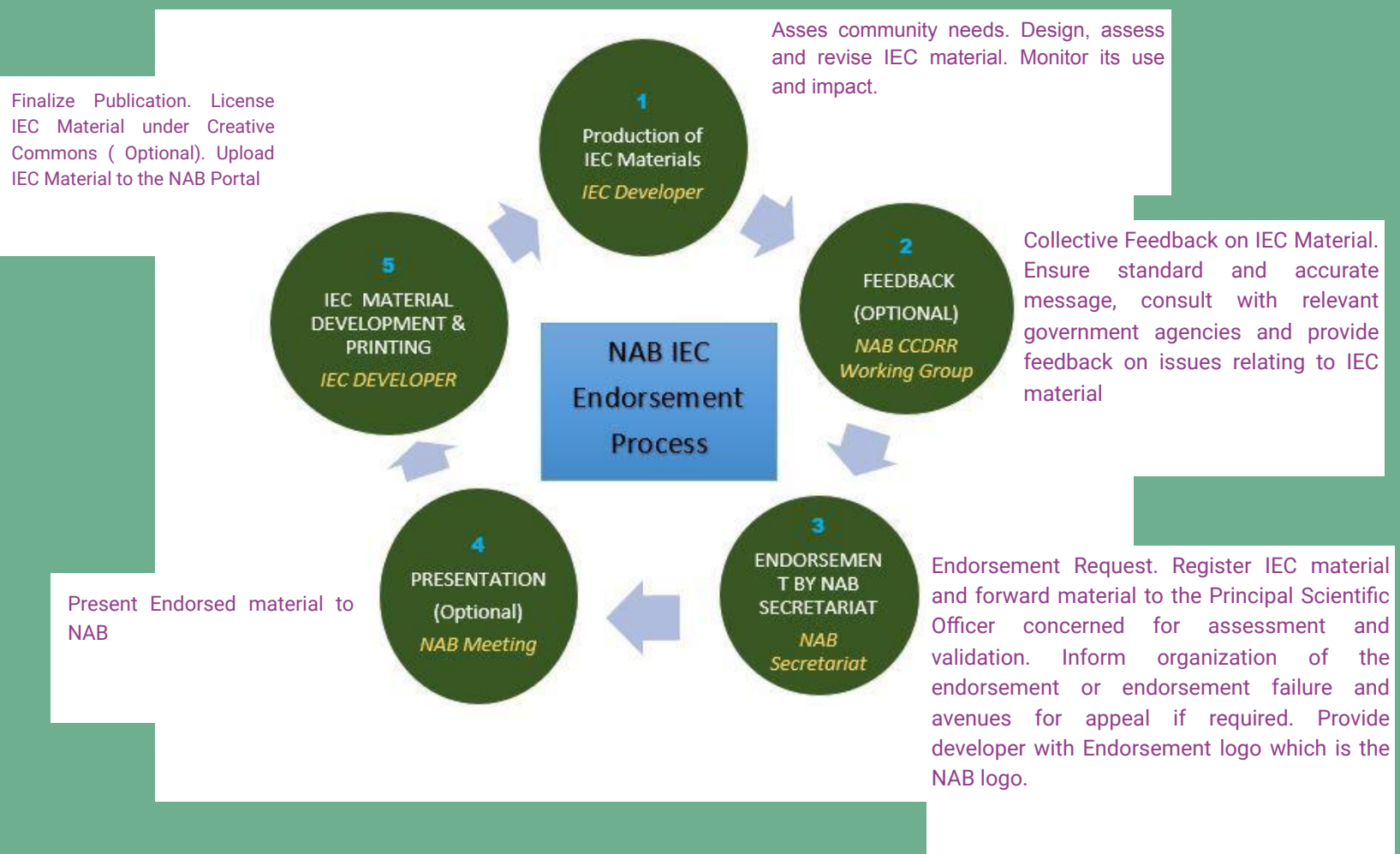
The purpose of the consultation is to enhanced MoCC stakeholders to increase understanding on the purpose of the National Advisory board (NAB) of Climate Change with its functions specifically the project screening stages. As a result, the three stakeholders (Oxfam International, CARE International and Vanuatu Skills for Partnership) have reported their current project to the NAB.

“IT IS A CHALLENGES TO WORK WITH DEPARTMENTS WITHIN THE MoCC MINISTRY AND AS WELL IN ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS” by Stakeholders

Their feedback about the outreach was that they acknowledged the consultation and mention that it reminds them about the National Advisory Board and it’s working groups. They have mentioned that, it is a Challenges to work with the government departments. In addition, the Stakeholders also mentioned their challenges to work with departments in the MoCC Ministry but with support from the NAB secretariat through the MoCC reaching out in this activity have given them confidence to strengthen the relationship with its stakeholders especially the government.

“THIS CONSULTATION HAS GIVEN US CONFIDENCE AND STRENGTHEN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS”

NAB Information Education Communication (IEC) Endorsement Process



NAB Portal Updates/ User Needs Assessments Survey Information

The Vanuatu NAB Portal was initially funded by GIZ in 2013 and was later upgraded through funds from the Regional Technical Support Mechanism (RTSM) administered by SPREP in partnership with the Pacific iCLIM Project implemented by the Griffith University in Australia.

The NAB portal is managed by the Secretariat of the NAB that sits within the Corporate Services Unit in the Ministry of Climate Change (MoCC). The NAB Secretariat, with its collaborating Partners, continue to ensure the validity of the NAB Portal contents over the years.

The NAB portal – <https://www.nab.vu> is a website that provides access to a wealth of almost all of Vanuatu's CCDRR information including policies, events, current news, jobs opportunities, a directory of useful contacts, the projects profile of each project endorsed by NAB and insights into the developments and priorities of the CCDRR sector on a national scale. The NAB portal is akin to a library that stores information about Climate Change, not just about Vanuatu but also regional and international. It has information about projects, policy documents, adverts.

The NAB portal, Is a Resource Database that will be useful for any researcher, community, or interested individual seeking Vanuatu Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR) information's. It is a Content on the portal that includes, news items, planned events, past and current project information, contact lists and educational resources, UNFCCC elements and CCDRR Policies and strategy and Also a Coordination tools that allow organizations in Vanuatu to contribute to climate change and DRR information to this central information portal.

The portal is a user-friendly knowledge management tool, means anyone who have access with a given password or username by the NAB Secretariat, he/she can login to the portal to upload documents, projects and other resourceful things to the portal that are related to CCDRR information's. At the moment there are about two hundred and thirty-four, (234) users that has been created, most are active and some user has been blocked due to certain reasons. Most Members are being members of the NAB portal for about 9 years and 7 months while others a below this. All these users only 8% out of 100% of the user has been accessing the NAB portal, otherwise others have done no attempt to do anything, or they might have forgotten their login credentials or they might have other reasons.

Therefore, a **User Needs Assessment survey** will be conducted (this month – July) to all NAB Members and all MoCC departments and external stakeholders, to get their feedbacks about the NAB portal, so that we can analyzed these feedbacks and see where do we need to improve and which part of the portal need to be upgraded and why the users are not accessing the portal. The IMS officer will create a Monkey survey (in a form of questionnaire online) for the NAB Portal and will carried out (or send via email) this with all NAB members and other stakeholders.

To Sum up, so far the regular updating of the NAB portal is an ongoing activity, if you would like to make a tour to the NAB portal, here is the NAB portal address <https://www.nab.vu> Or if you would like us to share your story or any information that are related to CCDRR on the NAB Portal, feel free to contact:



Name: Ms Cynthia Sandrina Hosea (IMS Officer)
Email: cshosea@vanuatu.gov.vu

and

Name: Mrs. Florence lautu (Strategic Manager)
Email: fiatu@vanuatu.gov.vu

Total of Two Hundred and Thirty-Four (234)
Users in the NAB Portal

One Hundred and Fourty - three (143) Active
User

Ninety - one (91) - User that are being blocked

Negotiations Trainings - Climate Change Media Training

The NAB Secretariat under the Ministry of Climate Change has organized this training in regards preparing our Vanuatu Media Officers and communications officer for that COP26 Session that was held virtually at the Grand hotel from 1st -12th November 2021. The Facilitator of this training is Dr. Christopher Bartlett. The Training was done for them to understand and grab the right information, that they will be able to channel or pass that information to our people.

In other words, making it simple for Vanuatu people do understand about the climate change impact in Vanuatu and other pacific countries that the developed countries are held responsible for. This COP26 Session was hosted by Scotland in Glasgow, partner with Italy.

The Training involved media officers and communication officers from, VBTC, Daily post, BuzzFm96, FM107 and others. It was a successful training, and media officers has also shared the challenges and difficulties on what they have always faced when trying to get information about climate change.

The NAB Secretariat has taken note on that and together with the media and communication officers they have put together an understanding, that they need to work together as a team in the future to share, collect and give out information about Climate Change and especially about the COP26 Session. Therefore, the NAB Secretariat team was pleased with the attendance and the outcome of the training and hoping to see more media officers and communication officer in any next climate change media training this year 2022.



Picture:
Media Training Facilitator -
Dr. Christopher Bartlett

"INFORMATION IS POWER"

Vanuatu Representing SIDS as A Member in the UNFCCC Compliance Committee



Vanuatu is represented by Mr. Christopher Tavoia the Director of the General Counsel's Unit at the Office of the Attorney General, State Law Office in Vanuatu

Vanuatu become a member to the body that serve the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol Compliance Committee Facilitative Branch. The Facilitative Branch aims to provide advice and assistance to Parties to the UNFCCC in order to promote compliance under the Kyoto Protocol, whereas the enforcement branch has the responsibility to determine consequences for Parties not meeting their commitments under the Kyoto Protocol.

Vanuatu is represented by Mr. Christopher Tavoia the Director of the General Counsel's Unit at the Office of the Attorney General, State Law Office in Vanuatu. The term in office is two years and will end in December 2023.

Mr. Tavoia is nominated into the Compliance Committee Facilitative Branch to the Kyoto Protocol as a member for the Small Islands Development States (SIDS).

The Committee is represented by a member and an alternate member for each group represented under the UNFCCC – Africa, Asia-Pacific, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Western Europe and others, SIDS Annex 1 Parties and Non-Annex 1 Parties.

Mr. Tavoia's nomination was facilitated through the National Advisory Boards on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (NAB) Secretariat upon formal nomination was sent to the AOSIS Chair by Vanuatu's UNFCCC Focal Point the Director General of the Ministry of Climate Change Mrs. Esline Garaebiti Bule.

Prior to his new role as a Member to the Compliance Committee Facilitative Branch, Mr. Tavoia has been an active delegate for Vanuatu in the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings in the past years. He is currently the thematic lead for Transparency theme, which is one of the five key areas negotiated and followed by the Vanuatu delegates at the COP meetings every year.

The Director General Mrs. Bule as Chair of the NAB congratulated Mr. Tavoia in his nomination and wish him all the best in his role in the Committee not only representing Vanuatu but the whole SIDS family under the UNFCCC matters.



Picture: General council, Mr Christopher Tavoia from left, at the COP26 Virtual Meeting 2021



Picture: General Council, Mr Christopher Tavoia with the team at Spain for the COP25 in 2019 (from left side - front row)

What is NAB?

The National Advisory Board

Vanuatu's National Advisory Board on Climate Change & Disaster Risk reduction (NAB) is the supreme policy making and advisory body for all disaster risk reduction and climate change programs, projects, initiatives and activities.

The NAB develops DRR and CC policies, guidelines and positions, advises on international and regional DRR and CC obligations, facilitates and endorses the development of new DRR & CC programs, projects, initiatives and activities, acts as a focal point for information - sharing and coordination on CC/DRR, as well as guides and coordinates the development of national climate finance processes.

Its aim is to integrate the governance of CC&DRR in an integrated and holistic way to reduce duplication. This increases collaboration of work, and provides a consistent approach, which in turn addresses Vanuatu's priorities.

Vanuatu's society, environment and economy are highly vulnerable to climate change and disaster risks. The NAB seeks strong collaboration with our partners to plan and prepare for, and respond to, these challenges.



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Visit: <https://www.nab.vu> for more information
about the NAB