#### REPUBLIC OF VANUATU



# NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

C/O Corporate Services Unit Ministry of Climate Change and Natural Disasters

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# **CC/DRR Project Brief Form**

Project Title: Localising Global Climate Change Policies in Vanuatu: reception of knowledge and cultural transformations	
Implementing Organisation/s: Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München	Project Contact Details: Dr. Arno Pascht Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München Oettingenstr. 67 80538 München Phone: +498921809248
<b>Duration:</b> 05/07/2016 to 04/07/2019	Status: Current
<b>Total Funding:</b> 326.298 Euro	Funding Source/s: German Research Foundation (DFG)
Mode of financing: [eg: Through GoV system] Third-party-funding	Location & site/s:  Efate, Malekula (projected)
Scope: [Regional, National, Provincial, Community] Community	Project Type: [Educational, Training, Infrastructure, Research, Pilots] Research
Sectors & Themes: [CCA, DRR, Governance, Water, Agriculture, CDC]	Other Government & Partner Agencies:
CCA, Agriculture	
Lead Government Department:  Vanuatu Cultural Centre  Validation Letter(s) attached: Y/N	<ul> <li>NAB Approval sought: [Please tick]</li> <li>Concept stage</li> <li>Site selection</li> <li>Final endorsement</li> <li>To seek project funding</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Partnership/implementation</li> </ul>

If Yes, specify which Department	<ul> <li>Continuation/extension of existing project</li> </ul>
Vanuatu Cultural Centre	project

#### **Objective/s:** [100 words max]

- What is the rationale for the project? What is the primary need, and how was it identified?
- Is this program building on any previous activities or policy?

A large number of measures and projects are conducted in Vanuatu recently with the aim of climate change adaptation and mitigation. The research project investigates ni-Vanuatu's reception of knowledge disseminated in connection with those measures with a focus on effects and changes which are unexpected and not intended. The results will show how ideas and practices introduced to Vanuatu from other cultural contexts influence life in Vanuatu and thus in what way the actual effects correspond with the intended effects of this introduction.

Additionally it will contribute to an advancement of the theoretical debate in social and cultural anthropology in the field of change and persistence of human-environment relations and in relation to ongoing ontological transformations.

### **Description:** [1-2 paragraphs per topic max]

- Outline key project components
- How will it be implemented?
- Will the project fund local positions? Where?
- How does the project link to GoV priorities (PAA)?
- What related projects are being undertaken in the area?
- Potential overlaps/duplication to be resolved
- Risk Management Strategies

The research project will explore two main processes: First, it will investigate how local actors receive knowledge with which they are confronted in connection with climate change, and how they (re)interpret and transform it during the reception process. Second, it focuses on the subsequent cultural changes and particularly on the potential transformations of fundamental ontological concepts.

In order to obtain data about these topics, ethnographic fieldwork will be undertaken in two places in Vanuatu, during which a number of different qualitative methods are employed. It will be conducted by Dr. Arno Pascht and the doctoral researcher Desirée Hetzel as combination of team and individual research in order to give consideration to the domains of men and women and additionally of other cultural differences in Vanuatu, for instance those between rural and urban regions.

According to requirements the project will engage local research assistants and language teachers.

There is no other similar project at the moment in Vanuatu.

How does the project link to GoV priorities: (NAB agenda, NAPA, New CC/DRR Policy....)

The NAPA identifies awareness raising as one of the core issues for all adaptation options. The research project investigates how ni-Vanuatu receive, (re-)interpret, and appropriate knowledge given to them with a focus on environment, climate, climate change, and adaptation. It will show whether this knowledge is accepted or refused, and whether/how it is modified in order to correspond with local knowledge.

## **Progress to date and current activities:** [100 words max]

Currently preparations for fieldwork are going on. They will be completed by end of November 2016.

**Outputs:** [IEC Materials, guidelines & handbooks, certified trainings, resources....]
Research results will be published in two books and several articles in journals and edited volumes. The researchers are participating in an informal working group of the Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania (ASAO) which has the aim of publishing a handbook reporting the ways in which people are experiencing and dealing with the effects of climate change in the Pacific, including reflections on the actual or expected results of these actions. The primary audience of the handbook is local managers, aid workers, and policy makers.

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