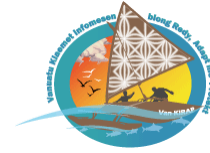


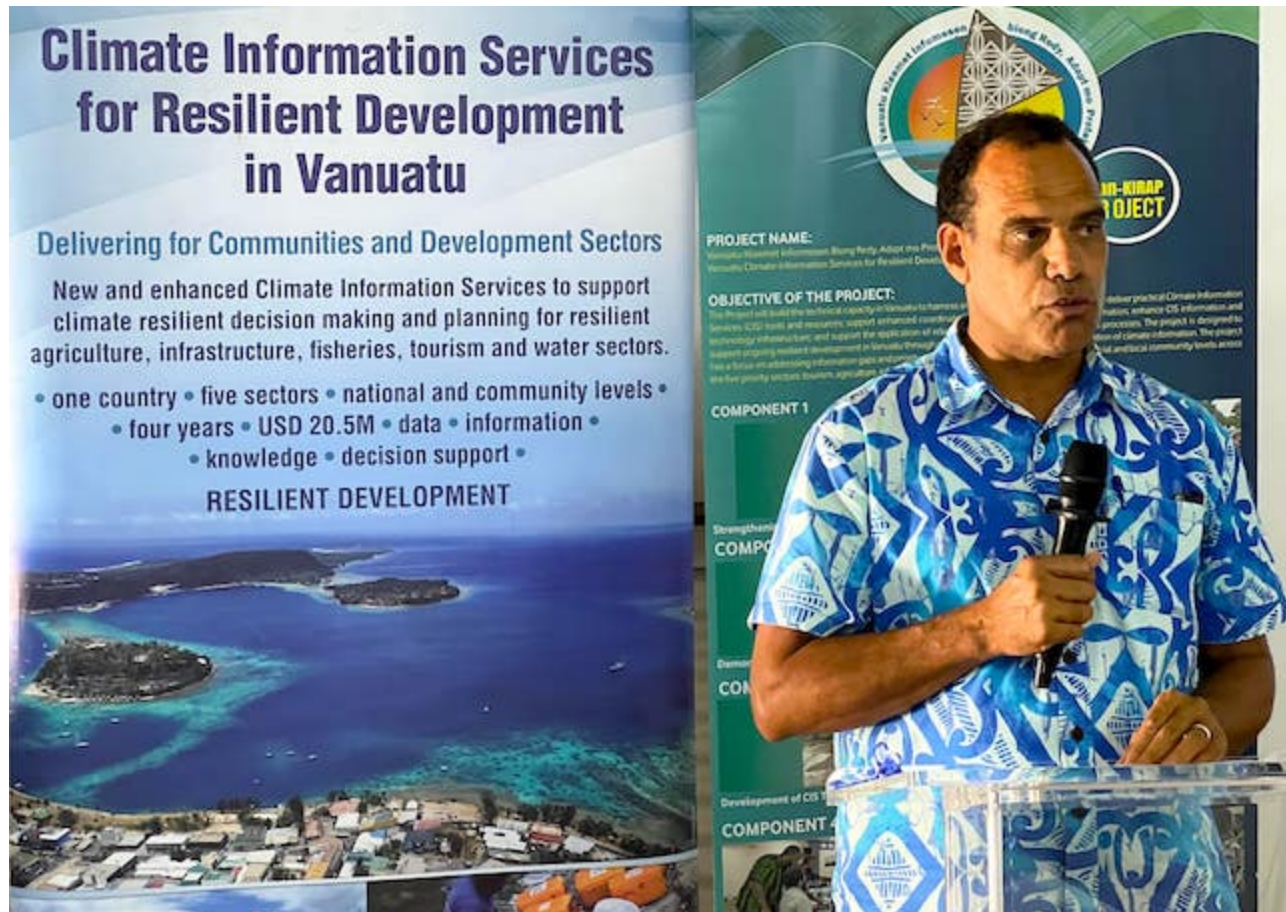
VanKIRAP

Vanuatu Klaemet Infomesen blong Redi, Adapt & Protekt | Climate Information Services for Resilient Development in Vanuatu



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Vanuatu Ocean Monitoring Network officially launches



The nation has made a significant step forward today with the commissioning of Vanuatu's first ocean climate monitoring and observation buoy network, deployed by the VanKIRAP project.

The Vanuatu Ocean Monitoring Network is a chain of six ocean climate monitoring buoys deployed across the Vanuatu archipelago to monitor how climate change is affecting the ocean around the country, and to provide early warning to communities and key agencies of impending climate-related events.

The buoys are deployed at Port Vila, Efate; Million Dollar Point, Santo; Lonnoc Beach, Santo; Port Resolution, Tanna; Inyeug Island, Aneityum and Tomman Island, Malekula.

The buoys measure sea surface temperature, wave direction, wave height, wave period and spread as well as wind speed at each location.

The data that they gather allows VMGD and Dept of Fisheries to issue early warnings to communities for coastal inundation and erosion. The buoys can also provide near real-time data about the impacts of climate-related events like cyclones and marine heatwaves.

In this regard, the buoys are already producing valuable data: during the recent twin severe cyclones Judy and Kevin, the ocean monitoring network recorded wave heights of 5 metres at Port Resolution, Tanna, and 4.5 metres at Aneityum.

"I cannot emphasise enough the importance of this climate and ocean monitoring system is for allowing Vanuatu to develop and enhance our multi-

hazard early warning systems", said Vanuatu's Minister for Climate Change Adaptation, Hon. Ralph Regenvanu.

The Minister officially launched the buoy network at the Melanesian Hotel in Port Vila, Wednesday 19 April 2023.

"Today's launch is very timely following the aftermath of the twin cyclones that have impacted our nation, unprecedented not only in their occurrence just a day apart, but also in their intensity", he further remarked.

"Climate science predicts that extreme events like tropical cyclones, flooding, sea level rise, ocean acidification, and marine heatwaves will become more severe and more destructive in Vanuatu in the near future".

"To respond to these changes, we need good observations and scientific data to underpin our planning and policymaking, and to support Vanuatu's resilient development and adaptation to climate change", Minister Regenvanu concluded.

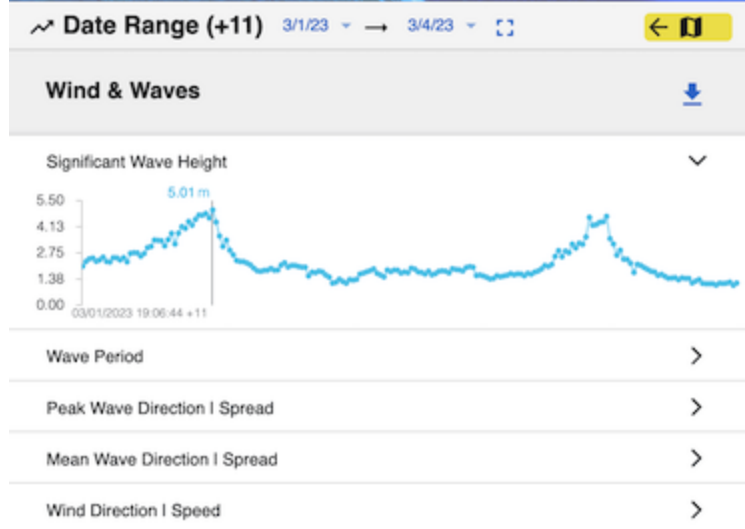
The Vanuatu Ocean Monitoring Network is a key activity of the VanKIRAP Project that helps mainstream science-based climate information to better prepare Vanuatu's key sectors, policy-makers and public to face the challenges that the changing climate bring.

The ocean climate monitoring network is a partnership between the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD) in collaboration with Vanuatu Fisheries Department, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and Australia's Commonwealth Scientific Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). Funding support provided by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) through the Vanuatu Klaemet Infomesen blong Redy, Adapt mo Protekt (VanKIRAP) project.

ENDS

Document links:

- [Official Program – Launch of the Vanuatu Ocean Monitoring Observation System \(PDF, 134Kb\)](#)
 - [Keynote Address – Official Launch Vanuatu Ocean Monitoring Network](#)
 - [High-resolution images](#)
 - [Promotional video for first buoy launch at Pango, Efate \(Youtube version below\)](#)
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For more information or interview requests, contact Ellian Bangtor, VanKIRAP Communications Officer on ebangtor@gmail.com on [\(+678\) 7363184](tel:+6787363184).

About VanKIRAP

VanKIRAP (Vanuatu Klaemet Infomesen blong Redy, Adapt mo Protekt) is a project based at the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geohazards Department (VMGD) that is making climate information better, more relevant, and more accessible for people across Vanuatu.

VanKIRAP's goal is to support Vanuatu's resilient development by increasing the ability of decision-makers, communities and individuals to plan for and respond to the impacts of climate variability and change, using climate information services (CIS).

VanKIRAP is the Bislama name for the Vanuatu Climate Information Services for Resilient Development Project (CISRDP) project, which is funded by the

Green Climate Fund (GCF) and jointly implemented by VMGD and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

Find out more [here](#) or [follow us on Facebook](#)



Vanuatu Klaemet blong Redy, Adapt mo Protekt (Van-KIRAP) Project

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