

Summary of Actions

Note: This is a quick reference summary of the proposed actions under the Vanuatu National Policy on Climate Change and Disaster-Induced Displacement (VNPCDDID). Please refer to the full policy and gaps analysis summary for a more comprehensive discussion. The policy also contains a list of relevant abbreviations and acronyms.

Systems-level interventions

 Actions (Strategic area 1): Institutions and governance	Timeframe
Action 1.1: Establish Interim arrangements for a “first point of contact” to respond to requests from people affected by displacement, including internal migrants and host populations, as well as other institutions and organisations working on displacement issues, while the policy is being finalised.	Immediately
Action 1.2: Identify a lead Ministry to implement this policy and act as focal point for all matters relating to displacement, internal migration and relocation. ¹ While the policy is underpinned by an inter-ministerial approach, a Lead Ministry must be designated to ensure implementation and coordination, with clear procedures for involvement of other key agencies.	1 year
Action 1.3: Establish institutional “hub”. Establish a Department, Office, or similar institutional hub under the lead Ministry, with associated staff, expertise and resources to support policy implementation. This could take the form of an “Office for internal migration and displacement safeguards”, or similar institutional title.	1-2 years
Action 1.4: Define Terms of Reference (ToR) for institutional hub. Undertake a consultation process to inform development of the ToR for the institutional hub. A draft TOR is included in Annex E.	1-2 years
Action 1.5: Strengthen coordination mechanisms and linkages to service delivery for the lead Ministry to implement the policy in coordination with government and non-government partners, not only in relation to emergency responses (i.e. National Cluster System), but also to coordinate with Line Ministries for long-term recovery (land, infrastructure, health, education, agriculture, livelihoods etc.), through establishment of an “inter-ministerial displacement protection and planning committee” or similar group. ²	1-2 years
Action 1.6: Ensure participation and roles for local communities, Chiefs, women’s representatives and other vulnerable and minority groups in new institutional arrangements and decision making processes.	1-2 years

¹ Currently MoCCA is responsible for developing this policy through an inter-ministerial approach (Action under 7.6.6 of the VCCDRRP), however further consultation is needed to identify the most appropriate institutional arrangements going forward.

² Relevant existing inter-agency mechanisms and structures at the national level are included in Annex C of the VNPCDDID.

Action 1.7: Strengthen Provincial and Area level coordination for implementation, in line with the Decentralisation Plan. PDCCCs and CDCCCs should take a lead role in responding to displacement concerns at the local level. Additional sub-national structures relevant to displacement planning are included in Annex C.	2-3 years
Action 1.8: Establish a “neutral broker” to reduce potential for community conflict in negotiating durable solutions for displaced populations. A neutral broker would ensure adherence to common standards and sharing of information. This is particularly relevant where relocation is required and there is a need to negotiate land, access to services, education and health equitably. The neutral broker should work closely with the institutional hub to assist in policy implementation and in determining eligibility for assistance.	1-2 years
Action 1.9 Ensure emerging institutional arrangements are legislated, either through preparation of a new Act or amendments to existing legislation, to strengthen the authority and sustainability of the policy framework.	2-3 years
Additional linkages (Strategic Area 1) • The National Disaster Act 2006, which establishes the NDMO and National Disaster Committee, is currently under review (Disaster Risk Management Bill 2016). • Provincial Disaster Risk Management Plans are currently being prepared and could align with this policy framework.	
Key government implementing agencies (Strategic Area 1): MoCCA+NDMO+NAB, MoIA+DLA, MLNR, PMO+DSPPAC, MIPU. Additional partners: HCM/National Cluster system, VSNO, DoH, MoJCS, DWA, MoET, DEPC, MoYSD, Malvatumauri. Technical assistance: DFAT, WB,ADB,IOM, UN, GIZ	

 Actions (Strategic area 2): Evidence, information and monitoring	Timeframe
Action 2.1 Prioritise existing multi-hazard mapping initiatives and integrated vulnerability assessments in all Area Councils, in line with the VCCDRRP.	1-3 years
Action 2.2 Ensure multi-hazards mapping underpins planning for displacement and internal migration , including the locations of evacuation centres, temporary housing and new permanent settlements.	1-3 years
Action 2.3 Promote gender-inclusive participatory methodologies , which involve communities in hazards-mapping and capture local knowledge about hazards.	Immediately
Action 2.4: Establish a displacement tracking mechanism to mainstream displacement tracking into national information systems. The mechanism should monitor data on population mobility in all Area Councils, including the evolving needs and circumstances of people affected by displacement whether they are en route or on site. Data should also be maintained on internal migrants and host communities. The mechanism would produce summary reports on the status of displacement and migration, relating to: • Number and location of people displaced at a given time • Location of evacuation centres and number of people being accommodated at a given time • Site conditions at evacuation centres or in other places of temporary housing • Host communities and number of people being accommodated • Disaggregated data on number of affected men, women, children, older people, people with disability or other health and protection needs • If possible, primary cause of displacement or perceived displacement risks (this would assist to record broad trends in displacement, whether from natural hazards or other processes, such as eviction) • Number, location and transportation routes of internal migrants • Progress towards achieving durable solutions for affected communities. Displacement tracking could be established through a partnership between the NDMO, VNSO and MoIA.	1 year
Action 2.5 Confirm institutional arrangements to manage displacement and internal migration data , including procedures to procure the necessary equipment for data collection, storage and analysis.	1 year

Action 2.6 Train local displacement tracking specialist surveyors in the operation of the displacement tracking and SoPs for coordination of data collection.	1-2 years
Action 2.7 Train focal points in PDCCCs and CDCCCs on displacement and internal migration tracking to undertake rapid assessments and surveys at key locations, such as evacuation centres and in communities year-round.	1-2 years
Action 2.8 Ensure communication with communities (CwC) principles underpin displacement tracking , to increase accountability to affected populations and so that communities participate in and benefit from the data being collected.	Immediately
Additional linkages (Strategic Area 2) • Under the Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction Project (MDRR) of the VMGD, a hazards and risk mapping process is underway across Vanuatu to identify areas where communities may be affected by different types of disasters. • Under the Vanuatu-GIZ GCF Readiness Program of the Ministry of Climate Change and the National Advisory Board on Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction, a National Integrated Vulnerability Assessment Framework is being developed. • Following Cyclone Pam and Cyclone Donna, rapid assessments of displacement were carried out using a displacement tracking model. Lessons from these displacement tracking experiences should inform the establishment of a permanent tracking mechanism.	
Key government implementing agencies (Strategic Area 2): VSNO, MoIA, MoCCA (NAB, NDMO + VMGD), DWA Additional partners: National Cluster System, Information Management Working Group led by NDMO, PDCCCs, CDCCCs, USP, IOM, Red Cross, Care International, Information Management Working Group led by NDMO, PDCCCs, MCDCC, CDCCCs, GIZ	



Actions (Strategic area 3): Safeguards and protections

Timeframe

Action 3.1 Ensure community-led and participatory approaches, are used to develop all safeguards, guidelines and SoPs, so that responses reflect the needs of affected communities.

Immediately

Action 3.2 Strengthen safeguards and SoPs for evacuations and temporary displacement scenarios to ensure the application of humanitarian principles during an emergency response, building on existing initiatives, including National Cluster System, National Guidelines for the Selection and Assessment of Evacuation Centres and Operational Guidelines for Mass Evacuations.

Immediately

Action 3.3 Develop protection-centred guidelines to assist communities and other stakeholders identify appropriate durable solutions options (i.e. return and reintegration at place of origin, local integration or sustainable reintegration in another location/planned relocation). Decision-making should be underpinned by the guiding principles of this policy, relating to voluntary and informed choice, community participation and more (see Section 5 above).

Immediately

Action 3.4 Develop safeguards and SoPs for return and reintegration to places of origin, to coordinate assistance and provide guidance in supporting communities to return and recover following disaster.

Immediately

Action 3.5 Develop safeguards and SoPs to support local integration. This relates both to people who have been evacuated and are not able to return home or people living in informal settlements, where it has been agreed through a consultative, voluntary and informed process that the community will integrate locally.

Immediately

Action 3.6 Develop safeguards and SoPs on evictions, to prevent evictions taking place without protections, including adequate notice and carefully planned relocation arrangements for communities moving to new locations. Protection-focused safeguards and SoPs on evictions need to reflect international law and include key protections, including due process, such as:

Immediately

- Affected people must have a means of challenging the decision or the process of eviction, through a complaints mechanism, including an appeal mechanism to an independent authority or before a court. (Cross-reference with Strategic area 12).
- Evictions need to involve meaningful consultation, provision of information, adequate notice, with a plan for adequate and suitable compensation, relocation and housing (aligning with the VNLUPZP, Section 8);
- Movement of people should not be carried out at night or in bad weather, with no protection for people's belongings, or with the threat of violence and harassment (aligning with SOC 4.2 of the People's Plan). Use of force should be a measure of last resort following prolonged negotiations;

- Evictions should not disrupt the education of children, interrupt access to health and medical treatment, or basic services such as water and electricity (SOC 2.1 and 3.1). Nor should they impact voting rights, result in homelessness or the destruction of property papers and other documentation;³
- Evictions must be carried out in a manner which respects the dignity of the people concerned;
- Special attention should be paid to families with children or other vulnerable persons.⁴

Action 3.7 Develop safeguards and SoPs on planned relocation, where communities are seeking to relocate away from hazards or relocation is required by Government as a last resort. The relocation safeguards must include the following guidelines:

- Relocation should be avoided, unless all other alternatives have been explored and it is considered absolutely necessary;
- Where relocation is necessary, all communities should be able to make an informed voluntary choice about the location of relocation without coercion;
- Good practice relocation safeguards also aim to address all direct economic and social losses resulting from land taking and restriction of access to land, including relocation or loss of shelter, loss of assets or access to assets, loss of cultural and traditional knowledge and networks, or loss of income or means of livelihoods, irrespective of land tenure status (consistent with the VNLUPZP, Section 8);⁵
- A relocation plan should be developed based a comprehensive assessment of the different needs of men, women, children, vulnerable and minority groups, including social-cultural dimensions. It should also include plans for the provision of basic utilities (water, sanitation, electricity) and services (health, education and transportation) and livelihood restoration (Also see Strategic Areas 6-10);
- Careful consideration should be given to the location of new relocation sites to minimize disruption to livelihoods and social networks of all relocated and host communities (See Strategic area 10). New locations should also be selected taking into account multi-hazards information and environmental and ecological sustainability considerations (see Strategic area 2 and 6);
- Relocation planning should adopt the “relocation as development” approach, in which relocation is seen as an opportunity to improve the lives of all affected people, including host communities, and advance gender equality.⁶

Immediately

³ See United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and UN Habitat (2009), *Forced Evictions Fact Sheet 25*: <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/FS25.Rev.1.pdf>.

⁴ See the Basic Principles and Guidelines on Development-Based Evictions and Displacement, http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/housing/docs/guidelines_en.pdf.

⁵ Bennett and McDowell (2012); World Bank (2004).

⁶ World Bank (2004: 339); Cernea (2003), Scudder (1993), also see: Georgetown University, UNHCR, IOM and United Nations University (2015) and (2017).

Action 3.8 Ensure future urban and rural planning incorporates displacement safeguards. The Greater Port Vila Plan and Strategic Plan for Port Vila are currently being developed, led by a “zoning team” comprised of representatives from MoIA through the DLA, in partnership with the Port Vila Municipality, MLNR and Shefa Province. As rezoning may involve displacement of communities living in areas that will be no longer be residential, this policy framework and proposed SoPs above provides a safeguards framework for affected people.	6 months-3 years
Action 3.9 Prepare community-specific Durable Solutions plans for people living in informal settlements to ensure affected communities are included in national development planning and have access to health care, education, WASH, evacuation centres and other DRR measures and more. Durable solutions plans must be based on protection-centred principles and the guiding principles of this policy, as well as broad consultation and participation of affected communities, Line Ministries and other partners.	
Action 3.10 Prepare guidelines and SoPs in the event that there is mass displacement from another Pacific island country and the Government of Vanuatu decides to receive a mass influx of people.	2-5 years
Additional relevant linkages (Strategic Area 3) • The VNLUPZP requires the establishment of mechanisms to assess, prevent and minimize damage, risk or loss that occurs as a result of land development or changes to land use (Section 8). Operationalising this protection is a key component of this policy. Also see Strategic area 6 relating to Land, Housing, Planning and Environment. • Implementing the safeguards proposed above will assist in gaining access to finance under the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The GCF is an international fund for climate change mitigation and adaptation, under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). National institutions can access the GCF once they are accredited, through demonstrating that certain fiduciary standards and social and environmental safeguards are in place. The GCF specifically requires safeguards to be established for land acquisition and involuntary relocation (PS5). • Through the Vanuatu-GIZ GCF Readiness Program, Environmental and Social Safeguard requirements for GCF Accreditation are also being compiled.	
Considerations (Strategic Area 3) • Establishing adequate safeguards will require effective institutional coordination and support from different government and non-government agencies. Implementation of Strategic Area 1 (Institutions and Governance) above will be critical to support this process.	
Key government agencies (Strategic Area 3): MoIA+DLA, MLNR, PMO+DSPPAC, MoCCA+NDMO+NAB, VSNO, DoH, MoJCS, DWA, MoET, DEPC, MoYSD Additional partners: HCM/National Cluster system, Malvatumauri, PHT, UN, IOM, GIZ, NGOs, faith-based organisations, VCC, CSOs.	



Actions (Strategic area 4):
Capacity-building, training and resources

Timeframe

Action 4.1 Develop trainings on durable solutions, return, local integration and relocation planning and land law. Training for implementers would focus on:

- community engagement to ensure communities are respectfully and appropriately involved in planning durable solutions;
- needs and risk assessments in displacement contexts, including undertaking intentions surveys and displacement tracking and data collection;
- relocation planning, including staging of movement, community participation in developing relocation plans, identifying suitable locations, ensuring access to basic utilities and services in new locations, restoration of livelihoods, compensation for lost land and assets, where appropriate, conflict-minimization in relocation contexts;
- migration management, relating to safe, well-managed internal migration
- Land law in Vanuatu as relevant to establishing durable solutions, and including training for communities about how to register and gazette new land agreements, so they are transparent and available for future generations to see.

1-5 years

Action 4.2 Compile useful resources and case studies for chiefs, mediators, women representatives, pastors, and other community members. Case studies and stories of communities experiencing displacement and relocation challenges in Vanuatu and the Pacific could be shared, and lessons learned.

1-5 years

Action 4.3 Create voluntary mentoring arrangements between chiefs and between communities to enhance the flow of knowledge about addressing displacement challenges. Special attention should be given to providing assistance to peri-urban communities and informal settlements. Women representatives also need to be included in mentoring arrangements.

1-5 years

Action 4.4 Training and capacity-building for community-based organisations on displacement issues, such as Churches, Women's Collectives, Organisations of people with Disability or HIV/AIDs and other community groups representing vulnerable people.

1-5 years

Additional relevant linkages (Strategic Area 4)

The MoCCA and MoE with support from SPC/GIZ and EU-PacTVET recently launched a CCDRR Course, Certificate Level I, 6-months in duration, which includes displacement and climate-related migration, as accredited by the Vanuatu Qualifications Authority and delivered by the Vanuatu Institute of Technology.

Key government implementing agencies (Strategic Area 4): MoCCA+NDMO+NAB, MoIA,+DLA, MLNR, PMO+DSPPAC, MoET, VSNO, DoH, MoJCS, DWA, MoET, DEPC, MoYSD

Additional partners: HCM/National Cluster system, IOM, GIZ, SPC, Malvatumauri, VCC and faith-based groups

Sectoral- level interventions to mainstream displacement in national policies for long-term recovery planning

 Actions (Strategic area 5): Safety and security	Timeframe
Action 5.1 Ensure emergency services for people affected by displacement. Ensure all people, including displaced populations, at-risk populations, populations returning to places of origin, populations that are integrating locally, relocated populations, internal migrants and host communities, have access to emergency services of the standard available to the general population.	Immediately
Action 5.2 Ensure people affected by displacement have equitable access to police, security assistance and justice, without discrimination (also see Strategic Area 12).	Immediately
Action 5.3 Incorporate gender and protection concerns into physical planning and social services planning in existing settlements and new locations where displaced populations are moving.	1-2 years
Action 5.4 Ensure tenure security for all people in order to prevent forced evictions , especially evictions which occur at night and with force (also see also Strategic areas 3 and 6).	Immediately
Action 5.5 Access to CCDRR assistance for all people affected by displacement. Ensure affected communities, including people living in informal settlements, are included in all CCDRR activities and planning.	1 year
Action 5.6 Ensure Provincial Disaster and Climate Risk Management Plans include planning for people living in informal settlements , and other populations affected by displacement.	1-2 years
Action 5.7 Access to evacuation centres for people affected by displacement, including people living in informal settlements. Ensure displaced people, internal migrants, people living in informal settlements and host communities are included in the evacuation centre baseline and evacuation centre upgrading activities planned under the VCCDRRP. In particular, populations living in informal settlements should receive equal prioritisation as the general population in evacuation centre access and upgrading.	1-2 years
Action 5.8 Ensure inclusion of Women’s organisations and other community-led groups in processes to improve DRR and safety and security measures.	Immediately
Additional linkages (Strategic Area 5) National Gender Equality Policy 2015-2019	

- Justice and Community Services Sector Strategy (JCSSS)
- Vanuatu Police Force Strategic Plan
- National Child Protection Policy 2016-2026

Key government implementing agencies (Strategic Area 5):

MoJCS, DWA, MoCCA+NDMO+NAB, MoIA,+DLA, MLNR, PMO+DSPPAC, MIPU, VSNO, DoH, MoET, DEPC, MoYSD

Additional partners:

HCM/National Cluster system, Malvatumauri, IOM, faith-based organisations.

 Actions (Strategic area 6): Land, housing, planning and environment	Timeframe
Action 6.1 Map safe, suitable and available land and housing. Mapping should be undertaken by the lead Ministry for this policy with MLNR, and in conjunction with multi-hazards national risk map and broader infrastructure and environmental planning controls. Considerations for suitable land for displaced populations need to include community preferences, proximity to previous locations, customary boundaries, access to natural resources, sources of traditional livelihoods, markets and urban centres, suitability of land for gardening, accessibility of water, electricity, transportation, education and health services (see Strategic area 3). Protection of environmentally-sensitive land should also be ensured in this process to limit degradation of sensitive ecosystems.	1-3 years
Action 6.2 Map and survey private homes with capacity/willingness to assist with temporary accommodation. Identifying households that can accommodate displaced people for a finite amount of time would also assist to prepare for displacement. This could be carried out using a community survey (also see Strategic area 2)	1-3 years
Action 6.3 Promote innovative, community-led processes for negotiating new land arrangements, supported by local government. Exploration of new community-led processes should draw on lessons learned from past relocations in Vanuatu and elsewhere in the Pacific. ⁷	1-10 years
Action 6.4 Explore land acquisition options in consultation with custom landholders and Malvatumauri. Every effort should be made to sensitively and peacefully explore land acquisition options with custom landholders, with an emphasis on voluntary agreements rather than compulsory acquisition.	1-10 years
Action 6.6 Develop a land allocation program for displaced populations in need. The Land Sector Framework recommends the introduction of land acquisition schemes to reduce urbanisation pressures. ⁸ This could be extended to a land allocation program for displaced people, which would include provision of basic infrastructure and services. Voluntary “community-led” movement should be emphasised, with the idea that housing could be made available for communities and individuals under certain conditions, should they choose to relocate.	1-3 years
Action 6.6 Increase annual budget for acquisition of land in the “public interest”. The annual budget for land acquisition by the MLNR could be extended through accessing “climate finance” or other disaster and climate-related funds of government and development partners, including UNFCCC funds, such as the GCF. The definition of “public interest” in the Land Acquisition Act 1992 could be interpreted to include provision of land to displaced people. Protections need to be in place to ensure land acquisition is	2-5 years

⁷ For example, the relocation of Namuka-i-Lau settlement in Fiji, relocation of Vunidogolo village in Fiji, see Lesi (2017) and McNamara and Des Combes (2015).

⁸ Vanuatu Land Sector Framework 2009-2018, p. 39.

only carried out where absolutely necessary and in compliance with the requirements in the VNLUPZP.	
Action 6.7 Ensure clear processes are in place for all new land agreements to be registered and gazetted , so that new agreements are properly recorded, transparent and available for future generations to see.	Immediately
Action 6.8 Develop affordable, climate/disaster-resilient housing designs (for temporary and long-term accommodation). Affordable and culturally appropriate housing options need to be designed for development on newly acquired land, in partnership with the communities involved, private investors and development partners. Community control over building and design of housing is critical and traditional climate/disaster-resilient architecture should be supported where appropriate, whilst improving the technical aspects of buildings to promote disaster-resilience. Investment in disaster-resilient housing needs to be made not only in urban centres, but also in outer and remote islands to reduce the push factors motivating people to move to Vanuatu's cities.	1-2 years
Action 6.9 Ensure all shelter options are gender responsive , so that all shelter and housing stock, including evacuation centres, takes into account the needs of women and children, especially in relation to safety and dignity.	1-2 years
Action 6.10 Revisit rural and urban building codes and implementation practices to ensure they promote and support disaster-risk reduction efforts.	1-2 years
Action 6.11 Ensure people returning to places of origin after a disaster are assisted to restore housing and "build-back-safer". These initiatives are partly underway, but need to be increased. See the the VCCDRP, Section 7.6.6 relating to recovery.	1-2 years
Action 6.12 Ensure the development of new and existing settlements for displaced populations comply with existing environmental and ecosystem protection legislation and policy , to ensure sustainable ecosystem and resource management in line with the Environmental Protection and Conservation Act 2002 and the Vanuatu Environment Policy and Implementation Plan of 2017.	1-2 years
Action 6.13 Establish city-level and provincial-level focal points dedicated to the shelter needs of displaced people and new migrants. Focal points could be established within municipal governments in the urban centres of Luganville and Port Vila, and within Provincial Governments, to work with new migrants and displaced people, to connect them to the resources and planning processes coordinated by the Lead Ministry at the national level.	1-2 years
Additional relevant linkages (Strategic Area 6) Relevant tools and resources to assist governments incorporate shelter, migration and displacement issues into the design of key services, infrastructure, housing and urban plans are available, e.g. IOM has developed a tool-box of migration-related initiatives for cities.⁹	

⁹ IOM, undated, https://www.uclg.org/sites/default/files/consultation_document_migration_governance_framework.pdf.

- There are precedents of land allocation schemes in other countries, such as Bangladesh, which provide useful lessons.¹⁰
- Innovative initiatives to mainstream migration issues into national planning, could also be explored through programs, such as the 100 Resilient Cities exchange. The initiative links planners and municipal governments from cities around the world to share ideas about how to integrate and meet the needs of migrants and host populations in a range of settings, including the disaster context.¹¹

Key government implementing agencies (Strategic Area 6):

MoIA+DLA, MLNR, PMO+DSPPAC, MoCCA+NDMO+NAB+VMGD, MIPU, VSNO, DoH, MoJCS, DWA, MoET, DEPC, MoYSD

Additional partners:

Malvatumauri, HCM/National Cluster system, PHT, UN, IOM, NGOs, faith-based organizations, CSOs, VCC

¹⁰ Displacement Solutions and Young Power in Social Action (2015).

¹¹ 100 Resilient Cities, <http://www.100resilientcities.org>.

 Actions (Strategic area 7): Health, nutrition and psycho-social well-being	Timeframe
Action 7.1 Ensure awareness of and access to basic health and medical services for all people affected by displacement. Ensure displaced people, people at-risk of displacement, internal migrants, people living in informal settlements, communities relocating to new locations and host communities, have continuity of access to basic health and medical services, including post-sexual assault treatment and care relating to sexual and reproductive health and chronic illness, as well as nutrition advice and information. This builds on the commitments made under the National Health Plan for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management, 2016 – 2020 and the People’s Plan 2030.	0-5 years
Action 7.2 Incorporate health and medical considerations into return and relocation planning. Continuity of access to health treatment and care needs to be incorporated into all community return, local integration and relocation plans. Access to adequate WASH services for displaced populations is also required to prevent disease and other health risks (see also Strategic area 9 relating to infrastructure).	1-2 years
Action 7.3 Build new health facilities or explore mobile health services. In circumstances where communities are moving to new locations where health services are not available, new health facilities should be considered, and regular mobile health services should be provided in the interim.	0-5 years
Action 7.4 Ensure adequate medical stocks are available and stored in a disaster-resilient manner, to ensure continuity of supply in the event of disaster.	0-5 years
Action 7.5 Strengthen health and medical services in rural and remote areas to reduce the push-factors of rural-urban migration, in line with Vanuatu Health Strategy 2010-2016 and People’s Plan (SOC 3).	0-5 years
Action 7.6 Mainstream displacement and migration considerations into National Health Strategies. The existing national the Vanuatu Health strategy ran until 2016. The National Health Plan for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management, 2016 – 2020 is in place.	1 year
Additional linkages (Strategic Area 7) • Vanuatu Health Strategy 2010-2016 (or new policy when available) • National Health Plan for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management, 2016-2020 • National Water Strategy 2008-2018 • National Child Protection Policy 2016-2026 • National Gender Equality Policy 2015-2019 • National Disability Policy and Plan of Action 2008-2015 (or new policy when available)	

Key government implementing agencies (Strategic Area 7):

MoH, MoJCS, MoCCA+NDMO+NAB, MoIA,+DLA, MLNR, PMO+DSPPAC, MIPU, DWA, MIPU

Additional partners:

HCM/National Cluster system, faith-based organisations, IOM.



Actions (Strategic area 8): Education

Timeframe

Action 8.1 Minimise disruption to education during disasters. Schools are only appropriate as evacuation centres for short periods of time. If schools are used as evacuation centres, plans to minimise disruption to education services need to be incorporated in CCDRR planning, in line with the National Guidelines for the Selection and Assessment of Evacuation Centres.

1 year

Action 8.2 Ensure continuity of access to education for children affected by displacement. Disruption to education must be minimised for children who are evacuated, children of households returning to previous locations or moving to new areas through planned relocation and children of internal migrants, including those in informal settlements. Relocation should not begin before access to education in new locations has been established. This may involve securing places for children in new schools. Where existing schools are at capacity or not situated in the locality, the building and establishment of new schools is required, built in accordance with DRR standards and building codes.

1 year

Action 8.3 Strengthen educational opportunities in rural and remote areas to reduce push-factors of rural-urban migration, in line with the Vanuatu Education Sector Strategy 2007-2016 and People's Plan (SOC 2).

1-10 years

Action 8.4 Develop secondary and tertiary education courses on displacement and migration to promote country-wide understandings of displacement and safe, well-managed migration.

1-10 years

Additional linkages (Strategic Area 8)

- Vanuatu Education Sector Strategy 2007-2016
- National Child Protection Policy 2016-2026
- National Gender Equality Policy 2015-2019
- National Disability Policy and Plan of Action 2008-2015
- Vanuatu Infrastructure Strategic Investment Plan 2015-2024
- National Guidelines for the Selection and Assessment of Evacuation Centres

Key implementing agencies (Strategic Area 8): MoET, DWA, MoCCA+NDMO+NAB, MoIA,+DLA, MLNR, PMO+DSPPAC, MIPU

Additional partners: HCM/National Cluster system, MIPU, MoYS, National Training Council, USP, IOM.

 Actions (Strategic area 9): Infrastructure and connectivity	Timeframe
Action 9.1 Integrate displacement and internal migration considerations into existing national infrastructure planning. The Lead Ministry responsible for implementing this policy should work closely with the Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities to promote an inclusive and innovative approach to infrastructure planning to meet the needs of people affected by displacement in a range of scenarios, including people living in informal settlements.	1-5 years
Action 9.2 Improve disaster-resilience of existing infrastructure in vulnerable communities as a displacement-prevention measure, in line with existing initiatives, such as the VCCDRRP and VISIP. Priority areas are: WASH, affordable and renewable energy, adherence to disaster-resilient building codes, roads, drainage, telecommunications and ICT.	1-5 years
Action 9.3 Provide assistance to communities returning to places of origin to restore basic infrastructure following disaster (WASH, affordable and renewable energy, roads, drainage, adherence to disaster-resilient building codes, telecommunications, ICT).	Immediately
Action 9.4 Ensure transportation considerations are built into relocation plans. Transportation is often left out of relocation plans. Providing transportation options can assist people to recover following relocation. Efforts should be made to provide free or subsidised bus or boat transport to take people back to their previous locations, hospitals, nearest markets/urban centres, during the initial periods (1-2 years) after a community moves. If these services are put in place and are only temporary, then a transition plan is needed for when services cease, based on community consultation.	1-5 years
Action 9.5 Invest in affordable transportation options for inter-island and intra-island travel. In line with the VISIP, investment should continue to focus on improving a range of transportation modes, including air, maritime and road transport for all citizens. Specific consideration should also be given to finding affordable and accessible options for migrants in a range of scenarios, including migrants moving to urban centres and relocated communities.	1-10+ years
Action 9.6 Explore partnerships with the private sector and non-governmental organisations to improve access to quality infrastructure for communities affected by displacement	1-2 years
Relevant linkages (Strategic Area 9) • Vanuatu Infrastructure Strategic Investment Plan 2015-2024 (VISIP) • Vanuatu Transport Sector Support Program • National Water Strategy 2008-2018 • The People's Plan, ECO 2.6, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9 relating to improvements to infrastructure, transportation and ICT in remote and rural areas.	

Considerations (Strategic Area 9)

- Improving transportation in Vanuatu is a known challenge, particularly as the population is spread sparsely across more than 80 islands, many of which are very remote.
- There are relevant case studies from other countries about how to improve services in remote areas through ICT and infrastructure upgrades, such as the “Digital Island Project”, financed by Korea Telecom in Bangladesh which aims to address out-migration pressures.¹²
- Innovative partnerships should be explored, for example, initiatives such as the Google Impact Challenge may provide opportunities for creative ICT solutions in remote areas.

Key agencies and partners (Strategic Area 9):

MoIA, MIPU, DOE, Vanuatu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, private sector, (telecommunications, ICT, aviation, maritime and roads transport), IOM.

¹² Bangladesh’s ‘Digital Island’, <https://www.iom.int/news/bangladeshs-digital-island-bridges-services-gap>.

 Actions (Strategic area 10): Agriculture, food security and livelihoods	Timeframe
Action 10.1 Strengthen existing efforts to provide timely and appropriate support to restore livelihoods, agricultural, fisheries and livestock activities during recovery, in partnership with humanitarian agencies, development partners, faith-based organisations and the private sector.	Immediately
Action 10.2 Explore small-grant and soft loan options for people affected by displacement to restore livelihood activities. Careful consideration should be given to capacity to repay loans and financial literacy of people committing to loans. Partnerships should be explored with the private sector, international organisations, development partners and non-government organisations.	1-2 years
Action 10.3 Connect people affected by displacement to employment services support where available and appropriate, such as the Employment Services Vanuatu pilot which is currently underway in Shefa Province. ¹³	Immediately
Action 10.4 Connect people affected by displacement to technical and vocational education centres, where available and appropriate. TVET centres have been established in Sanma, Malampa, Torba and Tafea provinces, with non-formal agricultural training opportunities available in other locations.	1-2 years
Action 10.5 Include people affected by displacement in “Farms to markets” networks, to assist recovery following return, local integration or relocation. ¹⁴	1-2 years
Action 10.6 Engage youth in education, training and employment opportunities, as part of return, local integration and relocation planning, where possible and appropriate. (Cross-reference with Strategic Area 8).	1-2 years
Action 10.7 Explore options to facilitate safe, well-managed international labour migration as a livelihood and adaptation option to assist some families, where appropriate, to diversify their incomes through international remittances.	1-3 years
Action 10.8 Explore affordable micro-insurance and “climate insurance” models to provide additional safety nets to remedy loss of income, damage to housing, infrastructure, crops and other assets from disasters. Insurance models need to be suitable for people with limited means to pay insurance premiums or negotiate claims. ¹⁵ Insurance-related protections could be developed in partnership with the private sector, development partners, international financial institutions and non-governmental sector.	1-3 years

¹³ International Labour Organization (ILO) (2015).

¹⁴ For examples, see Food and Agriculture Organization (2014).

¹⁵ A number of climate insurance pilots are underway globally which provide potential models, <https://unu.edu/projects/climate-insurance-projectmunich-climate-insurance-initiative.html#outline>.

Action 10.9 Strengthen efforts to support climate resilient and sustainable agriculture, in close consultation with affected communities about their needs and existing practices.

1-3 years

Additional linkages (Strategic Area 10)

- Vanuatu Overarching Production Sector Policy
- Vanuatu Agriculture Sector Policy
- Vanuatu National Plan of Action on Food and Nutrition Security 2013-2015
- National Livestock Policy 2015-2030
- Vanuatu National Forest Policy
- Vanuatu National Fisheries Policy
- National Youth Development Policy
- Employment Services Pilot
- Farms-to-Markets initiatives
- The Munich Climate Insurance Initiative is compiling case studies of success stories in relation to climate insurance and could provide useful models.
- The Ministry of Agriculture has established a Risk and Resilience Unit (with support from GIZ, UNDP and FAO) which is implementing a range of CCDRR programs for vulnerable communities and displaced people throughout Vanuatu, for example the GIZ-DEZA food security project.
- The Food Security and Agriculture Cluster is implementing a range of food security mapping, capacity building and training activities that are on-going and involve GoV, CSO and private sector stakeholders.
- Vanuatu's Work Ready Program, managed by the Department of Labour.

Key government implementing agencies (Strategic Area 10):

MALFFB, MoCCA+NDMO+NAB, MoIA,+DLA, MLNR, PMO+DSPPAC, MIPU, DoL, MOET, MoYS, National Training Council, DWA

Additional partners:

HCM/National Cluster system, Private sector, RurAPP, IOM, ILO, GIZ, UNDP, FAO



**Actions (Strategic area 11):
Traditional knowledge, culture and documentation**

Timeframe

Action 11.1 Map family histories, birth records, connections to land, and property and assets ownership to provide records in the event of displacement. Personal documentation and access to documentation regarding ownership of land and assets can be critical during recovery.

1-5 years

Action 11.2 Facilitate community-led plans to ensure connections to ancestors and relatives buried in original locations are sustained. This is an important cultural aspect of relocation planning where this is identified as a priority by affected communities.

1-5 years

Action 11.3 Improve birth registration to ensure personal identification documentation is protected in the event of displacement, in line with existing efforts by the Department of Civil Registry and the Ministry of Health. (Also see Strategic Area 7 relating to health).

1-5 years

Action 11.4 Map traditional knowledge of communities at risk of displacement and investigate ways for traditional knowledge to be used in adaptation efforts. A process for mapping traditional knowledge should be undertaken as an early step in preparing for displacement, whether communities return or relocate in new locations. Existing initiatives underway to map traditional knowledge could be more explicitly linked to displacement and adaptation planning, in partnership with the Vanuatu Cultural Center and Provincial level cultural officers.

1-5 years

Action 11.5 Showcase traditional knowledge, including stories of migration Stories of displacement and migration are of significant interest, locally, regionally and globally. Stories of survival, return and relocation are extraordinary in their demonstration of community-level resilience, mobility, problem-solving and innovation in the face of adversity. Providing a place to share experiences of displacement would increase the profile of adaptation strategies at a community level in Vanuatu. Potential partnerships with the Vanuatu Cultural Center and USP using multi-media would assist to collect, display and share these stories.

1-5 years+

Action 11.6 Increase financial and technical resources to support traditional knowledge mapping. The Cultural Center and Museum has existing technical and financial resources which could be strengthened.

1-5 years

Action 11.7 Create safe spaces for women's participation in traditional knowledge mapping and other documentation processes relating to family histories, land and more.

1-3 years

Relevant linkages (Strategic Area 11)

- The VMGD has a Traditional Knowledge project, which began in 2013 in partnership with the Vanuatu Cultural Center, Vanuatu Red Cross Society, SPC and GIZ. The project aims to record and store climate traditional knowledge and integrate this knowledge with other

climate observations, to develop accessible, culturally-appropriate meteorological products to increase community resilience to extreme climate events.¹⁶

- There are cultural officers in each Province which work with the Vanuatu Cultural Center.

Key agencies and partners (Strategic Area 11):

Vanuatu Cultural Center, VMGD, MYS, DEPC, MLNR, DOCR, MoH

Potential additional partners:

GIZ, Red Cross, Ocean Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac), Bureau of Meteorology Melbourne, WIPO, Pacific Islanders Forum, Festival of Pacific Arts, IOM, UNESCAP

¹⁶ Vanuatu Traditional Knowledge Project, <https://www.pacificclimatechange.net/news/vanuatu-traditional-knowledge-project>.



Actions (Strategic area 12):
Access to justice and public participation

Timeframe

Action 12.1 Establish complaint mechanisms, which include a right of appeal to a court or independent tribunal, for people affected by displacement, especially in the context of evictions and relocation. This action is supported by multiple policy frameworks already in place in Vanuatu (including the People's Plan SOC 5 and VNLUPZP, Section 8, bullet point 5). Further consultation is needed regarding the most appropriate mechanisms.

1-2 years

Action 12.2: Strengthen accessible and affordable legal support for people to make use of complaints mechanisms.

1 year

Action 12.3 Provide legal assistance or “case management” support for people making insurance claims relating to displacement and disasters.

Action 12.4 Legislate changes to protections available in displacement scenarios, especially to ensure protections in the context of evictions and relocations are embodied in law.

Linkages (Strategic Area 12)

- The Customary Land Management Act 2013 reaffirms the importance of custom in land dealings.
- Access to justice - aligning with SOC 5 of the People's Plan
- VNLUPZP, Section 8, bullet point 5

Key implementing agencies (Strategic Area 12): MoH, MoCCA+NDMO+NAB, MoIA+DLA, MLNR, PMO+DSPPAC, MIPU, DWA.

Additional partners: HCM/National Cluster system, IOM.