



REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

**NATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD
ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

**C/- VANUATU METEOROLOGY AND GEO-HAZARDS
DEPARTMENT**



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CC/DRR Project Brief Form

Project Title: Climate change impacts on food and nutrition security and diet-related non-communicable diseases in Vanuatu (PhD project)	
Implementing Organisation/s: University of Queensland	Project Contact Details: Amy Savage +678 739 5469 (Vanuatu) / +61 451 826 181 (Australia) Amy.Savage@uqconnect.edu.au
Duration: Field work: October 2017 – October 2019	Status: Design
Total Funding: N/A	Funding Source/s: Living costs during the term of this project are funded through an Australian Postgraduate Award (APA) scholarship from the Australian Government. Funding for field-work costs associated with this project will also be funded from the APA scholarship or other grant funds where possible.
Mode of financing: [eg: Through GoV system] N/A	Location & site/s: TBC – 4 - 6 enumeration areas/communities – 3 x Shefa Province and 3 x Sanma – in consultation with VNSO; Likely to be: West Santo – EA 434-02 (Elia, Pakaoro, Tasmate and Wunaere); EA 433-00 (Kerepua, Linduri and Wusi) East Santo – EA 428-01 (Bene, Lorevulko, Thelarav) Pele – EA 780-01 (Lauamoa, Piliura, Worasifiu, Worearu) Pango – EAs 721, 719-03, 719-04, 719-05

	Ohlen – EAs TBC
Scope: National, Provincial, Community	Project Type: Research only
Sectors & Themes: [CCA, DRR, Governance, Water, Agriculture, CDC....] Climate Change Adaptation, Food and nutrition security, Agriculture, Health	Other Government & Partner Agencies: Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture
Lead Government Department: N/A	NAB Approval sought: [Please tick] • Concept stage • Site selection • Final endorsement • To seek project funding • Partnership/implementation • Continuation/extension of existing project
Objective/s: [100 words max] Climate change and NCDs have both been identified by the Government of Vanuatu as key challenges faced by the country. The climate change and vulnerability assessment conducted by the WHO in 2015 found that malnutrition and NCDs are a priority in Vanuatu and are ranked among the high-risk climate-sensitive health concerns for the country. This project aims to investigate the nexus between climate change, food and nutrition security and NCDs and identify strategies for improved integration of sectors to collaboratively address these issues at national, provincial and community levels.	
Description: [1-2 paragraphs per topic max] • Outline key project components The study will investigate the following research questions: 1. How is food and nutrition security experienced in Vanuatu and how are Ni-Vanuatu communities vulnerable to food and nutrition insecurity? What is the role of climate change in food and nutrition insecurity? Does this differ between rural and urban communities? 2. What are the risk factors/drivers for diet-related non-communicable diseases that can be observed in Ni-Vanuatu communities and how does climate change influence these risk factors/drivers? Does this differ between rural and urban communities? 3. What are some Community Based Adaptation (CBA) strategies for reducing the risk factors of diet-related NCDs and FNS vulnerabilities in the face of climate change? • How will it be implemented? A mix of qualitative and quantitative research methods will be used to obtain a wide range of data in reducing bias and to capture the complexity of the topic under investigation. Participants will be recruited from an urban area, Port Vila, and rural communities on the island of Espiritu Santo, to allow comparison between two different cultural, economic and social settings in one country. The methods used to gather data will include semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders (Government, community leaders, bilateral donors, multilateral organisations and NGOs), focus groups of 5-10 people, a quantitative household survey and semi-structured interviews with a small number of households.	

The researcher is consulting and collaborating with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture (particularly the Risk and Resilience Unit), GIZ and other relevant agencies.

- **Will the project fund local positions? Where?**

The project is still in design phase, however, it is likely that local facilitators for focus groups, data collectors for the household survey and translators will be required – the extent of paid positions are subject to available funding.

- **How does the project link to GoV priorities (PAA)?**

The project objectives are in line with the strategic priorities in the *PAA*, particularly Primary Sector Development and Environmental Management and Provision of Better Basic Services and Strengthening Social Development.

The project also aligns strongly with the recently released *Vanuatu 2030 – The peoples plan* which identifies many relevant climate change, food security and health priorities. Food security, nutrition and health are key issue areas outlined in the *NAPA*.

Consultations with Ministry of Health and Ministry of Agriculture have also confirmed that the project supports the priorities of these agencies (see attached support letter from the Ministry of Health).

- **What related projects are being undertaken in the area?**

There are no projects that we are aware of that address all three components of climate change, food and nutrition security and NCDs.

- *Potential overlaps/duplication to be resolved*

The researcher has consulted with (and will continue to consult with) relevant ministries, NGOs, bilateral donors and multilateral organizations to ensure maximum collaboration.

- *Risk Management Strategies*

An ethics application will be prepared and submitted to the University of Queensland Human Research Ethics Committee. A copy of the ethics approval obtained from the University of Queensland will be provided to the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Agriculture for reference.

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

As above.

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

The project is in the design stage with ongoing consultation, finalisation of research questions, design of data collection tools and selection of study sites.

Outputs: [IEC Materials, guidelines & handbooks, certified trainings, resources....]

Journal publications (with ni-Vanuatu author collaboration) and PhD thesis.