



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: <i>When Disaster Strikes: the New Zealand Defence Force's Civil-Military Coordination in Pacific Disaster Relief Operations</i>	
Implementing Organisation/s: Principal Researcher: Mrs. Kendra Leah Roddis Organisation: The Centre for Defence and Security Studies, Massey University (New Zealand)	Project Contact Details: Name: Kendra Leah Roddis Phone: +64 27 383 1243 (mobile) +64 3 926 3803 (home) Email: kendra.roddis@gmail.com
Duration: The researcher will arrive in Port Vila on August 27 and depart on September 08. Interviews are being arranged in Port Vila (28-29 Aug), Epi Island (30 Aug-02 Sept) and Port Vila (02-07 Sept).	Status: Research in progress. Field research will commence in Fiji 14 August.
Total Funding: The total expenditure for this trip (field research and interviews in both Vanuatu and Fiji) is \$4,635.70 which includes pre-booked airfares, accommodation and basic travel needs such as local communications and transport.	Funding Source/s: Personal fundraising to the total of \$3,500.00 NZD. Donated by Community organisations, the researcher's Church, friends and family. An additional \$1,000.00 NZD Massey University grant, with further applications awaiting final decision.
Mode of financing: Privately and through University research grants	Location & site/s: Port Vila and Epi Island (predominantly Lamen Bay where the New Zealand Defence Force provided assistance).
Scope: [Regional, National, Provincial, Community] The benefits of this research are likely to be realised at the Regional, National, Provincial, Community level.	Project Type: [Educational, Training, Infrastructure, Research, Pilots....] Research This research aims to identify how New Zealand's military assistance and coordination with other relief actors could be improved in future disaster relief efforts. This research is being supported by the New Zealand High Commission within Vanuatu and is likely to be of benefit to the Vanuatu Government and population, through improving our country's future assistance, cooperation with other relief actors and disaster responses in the Pacific.
Sectors & Themes: [CCA, DRR, Governance, Water, Agriculture, CDC....] Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) DRR Civil-Military Coordination	Other Government & Partner Agencies: The New Zealand Defence Force and Ministry of Defence. The High Commissions within both Vanuatu and Fiji are providing assistance and guidance within country.

Meeting humanitarian needs Inter-agency Coordination Improving foreign assistance in the Pacific Climate change and increasing natural disasters	Local contacts in each country have assisted in setting up interviews. The researcher has been in contact with Director Shadrack Welegtabit (National Disaster management Office), the Shefa Provincial Council and local humanitarian actors who have offered to set up interviews in country.
Lead Government Department: N/A Validation Letter(s) attached:-Y/N If Yes, specify which Department	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] This research explores the New Zealand Defence Force's (NZDF's) disaster relief assistance in Vanuatu (Cyclone Pam: 2015) and Fiji (Cyclone Winston: 2016) and aims to identify how New Zealand's assistance and coordination could be improved in future disaster relief efforts. In disaster responses relief actors must coordinate and cooperate effectively to ensure the needs (shelter, food, water and security) of affected communities are met. This research aims to ensure these needs are appropriately met by providing the New Zealand Government and Defence Force with feedback and recommendations from key individuals who were involved in past disaster relief efforts. This is the first independent assessment of New Zealand's HADR, but is based on preliminary research which suggests the NZDF needs to improve its coordination with civilian actors.	
Description: [1-2 paragraphs per topic max] • Outline key project components This research will involve interviews with key individuals that were involved in the Cyclone Pam response (such as those within the National Disaster Management Office, New Zealand High Commission, international and local humanitarian staff as well as representatives from affected communities) to hear about their experiences with the New Zealand Defence Force and how they think coordination or assistance in future relief efforts could be improved. • How will it be implemented? Thirteen days of field research will be undertaken in Vanuatu by the researcher, both in Port Vila (27-29 August and 02-07 Sept) and Epi Island (30 Aug-01 Sept) where the New Zealand Defence Force operated. The researcher will receive guidance and support from both the New Zealand High Commission and local contacts based in Port Vila. Interviews will be audio recorded and transcribed verbatim for analysis, with the informed consent of participants. Interviews will take about 45 minutes with all identities and information kept confidential within the research. Local translators will be employed where necessary and on Epi Island, as the community representatives may prefer to speak in their local dialects. • Will the project fund local positions? Where? Local translators will be reimbursed for their time, which is expected in Epi Island. The researcher also hopes to provide the villages and communities where interviews are conducted with culturally appropriate gifts. • <i>How does the project link to GoV priorities (PAA)?</i> The research project links with two GoV priorities: 1) Education and Human Resource Development & 2) Economic Infrastructure and Support Services. This project will produce valuable research which is expected to encourage discussion and collaboration among the key stakeholders in the Pacific and New Zealand, surrounding how to improve future disaster relief efforts. It is also likely to result in positive policy change within New Zealand, which will improve the assistance provided to affected communities in the event of future disasters. As the New Zealand Defence Force is often tasked with repairing infrastructure and repairing schools, medical centers and other buildings vital to	

Vanuatu's recovery, enhancing these capabilities is likely to benefit Vanuatu in the long term.

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

No other independent assessments of the New Zealand Defence Force have taken place in the Pacific.

- *Potential overlaps/duplication to be resolved*

N/A

- *Risk Management Strategies*

Consent forms will be completed prior to all interviews to ensure informed consent is gained, with participant information and identities being kept confidential. Interviews will be undertaken in public locations or officials offices to ensure the safety of participants.

This researcher is appropriately qualified to undertake this study. She served in the New Zealand Defence Force as a navigation Officer for four years, during which time she gained humanitarian assistance and disaster relief experience on a three month deployment to Haiti, following the 2010 earthquake. This has provided her with experience in this field which will assist with conducting field research and interviews in post-disaster environments.

Due to growing up in the Cook Islands and conducting development projects in the Asia-Pacific and Eastern Europe, she has the cultural awareness and experience to complete field research in Vanuatu and Fiji. Her understanding of both the Pacific and the Defence and humanitarian sectors is a unique asset which will likely enhance the analysis of this research.

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

It is believed this research aligns with GoV priorities (NAB agenda, NAPA, New CC/DRR Policy) as it will raise awareness about the impacts of climate change and the importance of effective disaster relief. It is further likely to enhance collaboration between Vanuatu and New Zealand on disaster relief responses and related activities and improve the country's resilience following natural disasters. This is valuable to Government Ministries and humanitarian actors, which will benefit from increased understanding and coordination with the New Zealand Defence Force. Local communities (within Vanuatu and the wider Pacific) will further benefit from improved assistance and having their voices heard, in the event of another natural disaster.

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

The Thesis draft is currently underway with flights booked to Fiji (14-27 Aug) and Vanuatu (27-07 Sept). Many interviews are pre-arranged and are continuing to be scheduled.

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

Interview findings and recommendations will be published within a Master of Philosophy thesis, in connection with the Centre for Defence and Security Studies, Massey University. The thesis is expected to be submitted 25 February 2018 and will be publicly available following examination and review, which is likely to be completed by 25 March 2018.

Due to interest already being raised in this thesis, findings have either been requested or will be viewed by the Secretary of Defence, Ministry of Defence, Chief of Defence Force and Deputy Chief of Army, along with Fijian and Vanuatu Government Ministries.

Interdepartmental seminars will also be conducted by the researcher with the Centre for Defence and Security Studies (Massey University), along with briefings to Defence Force parties and humanitarian agencies. A Massey University working paper and academic articles will also be produced from the data gathered and are likely to be published in 2018.

Following publication the researcher is also likely to present findings at a number of New Zealand and Pacific Conferences. An invitation to speak at a Conference in October 2018 has already been provided by Lieutenant Colonel Syd Dewes (Headquarters New Zealand Defence Force), which focuses on Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief in the Pacific.

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