

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE COORDINATION

A. Aid Coordination and External Assistance

1. The government requested emergency assistance to support its post-cyclone recovery and reconstruction efforts following the devastating category 5 cyclone that struck the country in March 2015. Based on the findings of the government’s post-disaster needs assessment, the Government of Vanuatu prepared the Strengthening Ni-Vanuatu Resilience for the National Recovery and Economic Strengthening Program Plan.¹ The 2-year plan outlines a criteria-based approach to selecting priorities within an indicative budget. Restoration of infrastructure, social services, and Ni-Vanuatu livelihoods are the guiding principles in prioritizing projects. The government estimates that recovery and reconstruction costs will total as much as \$450 million. Bilateral and other development partners had pledged up to \$180 million of financing in August 2015.

2. Before the cyclone, Asian Development Bank (ADB) assistance was focused on (i) energy, (ii) transport, and (iii) water and other urban infrastructure and services, with two ongoing ADB projects in sectors (ii) and (iii). However, the energy project was deferred to 2016. ADB approved emergency assistance of \$1 million on 20 March 2015, and approved the school reconstruction project, and the road reconstruction project in November 2016. The list of major development partner assistance is in Table 1.

Table 1: Major Development Partner Assistance

Development Partner	Project Name	Duration	Amount (\$ million)
Agriculture and Natural Resources			
EU	Rural Development (EDF 11)	2014–2020	34.7
EU	Global Climate Change Alliances+	2012–2014	3.6
JICA	Grace of the Sea in Coastal Village Phase II	2016	
	Grace of the Sea in Coastal Village Phase III	2012–2015	
	Improvement of Equipment for Disaster Risk Management	2014–2018	
	Reinforcing Meteorological Training Function of Fiji Meteorological Service	2016–2018	
World Bank	Seismic Network Project		
	Pacific Resilience Program	2015–2020	1.7
Education			
ADB	TCP—School Reconstruction Project	2015–2017	5.0
Australia	Technical and Vocational Education and Training Phase III	2012–2016	7.9
Australia	Vanuatu Education Support Program	2012–2016	27.8
Australia	Australia Awards	2015–2016	4.2
France	TCP—Repairs of Schools	2015	0.8
(New Caledonia)	TCP—Repairs of Schools	2015–2017	3.0
New Zealand,			
Australia			
Health and Social Protection			
ADB	TCP—Disaster Response	2015	1.0
Australia	Vanuatu Health Sector	2010–2016	17.6
Australia	TCP—Relief Response	2015	7.0
Germany	TCP—Emergency Assistance	2015	0.2
Indonesia	TCP—Disaster Relief	2015	2.4
Japan	Redevelopment of Port Vila Central Hospital	2012–2015	1.2
Japan	TCP—Disaster Relief	2015	1.4
PRC	TCP—Food and Emergency Relief	2015	0.4
UK	TCP—Emergency Assistance	2015	4.6
US	TCP—Emergency Assistance	2015	1.3

¹ Ni-Vanuatu are nationals of Vanuatu.

Development Partner	Project Name	Duration	Amount (\$ million)
World Bank	TCP—Insurance Payout (PCRAFI)	2015	1.9
Multisector			
Australia	Vanuatu Women's Centre	2012–2016	3.8
Australia	Vanuatu Policing and Justice Program	2014–2017	13.1
Australia	Vanuatu Land Program	2009–2015	8.2
New Zealand	Vanuatu Land Program		3.8
Public Sector Management			
Australia	Governance for Growth Phase II	2012–2016	16.5
	TCP—Global Partnership on Output-Based Aid Recovery Program	2015–2017	24.6
EU	TCP—General Budget Support (EDF10)		14.6
	TCP—Recovery and Reconstruction (pledged)		28.0
World Bank	TCP—Budget Support	2016	15.0
IMF	TCP—Rapid Credit Facility and Instrument	2015–2018	23.5
Economic Growth			
New Zealand	TCP—Tourism Recovery Project		1.0
World Bank	Rural Electrification Project	2014–2019	4.9
	GPOBA Improved Electricity	2013–2018	4.0
	Energy Sector Development Project	2013–2016	2.2
Transport, Information and Communication Technology			
ADB	TCP—Road Reconstruction Project	2015–2017	16.3
ADB, New Zealand	Interisland Shipping Support Project	2011–2017	51.6
Australia	Roads for Development Program	2013–2016	25.7
JICA	Lepatasi International Multi-Purpose Wharf Development	2013–2017	85.0
	TCP—Heavy Duty Machinery		2.0
New Zealand	TCP—Rehabilitation of Tourism Infrastructure	2015–2019	16.6
	Vanuatu Tourism Infrastructure Project	2012–2017	12.7
World Bank	Vanuatu Aviation Investment Project	2015–2019	59.5
	TCP—Rehabilitation and/or Reconstruction	2015–2017	50.0
Water Supply, Sanitation and Waste Management			
ADB	Port Vila Urban Development Project	2013–2016	5.0
Australia	Port Vila Urban Development Project	2013–2016	21.8
JICA	Japanese Technical Cooperation Project of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries	2011–2015	2.3
	Japanese Technical Cooperation Project of Regional Initiative on Solid Waste Management in Pacific Island Countries Phase II (tentative name)	2016	2.5
New Zealand	TCP—Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Systems	2015–2017	1.6
World Bank	Developing a Multi-sector Utilities Regulatory Body	2007–2016	0.5

ADB = Asian Development Bank, PRC = People's Republic of China, EDF = European Development Fund, EU = European Union, GPOBA = Global Partnership on Output-Based Aid, JICA = Japan International Cooperation Agency, PCRAFI = Pacific Catastrophe Risk Assessment and Financing Initiative, TCP = Tropical Cyclone Pam, UK = United Kingdom, US = United States.

Sources: Asian Development Bank; Development Partners Round Table Conference, 5 August 2015. New Zealand: www.aid.govt.nz; Australia: <http://dfat.gov.au/geo/vanuatu/development-assistance/Pages/development-assistance-in-vanuatu.aspx>; JICA Country Office information; EU: http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/solomon/eu_vanuatu/index_en.htm.

B. Institutional Arrangements and Processes for Development Coordination

3. The government held a roundtable conference with its development partners on 5 August 2015. Government ministries and representatives from the private sector, nongovernment organizations, and 15 bilateral and seven regional and international development partners attended the conference. The conference (i) provided an update on the completion of the humanitarian aid phase that ended on 31 July 2015; (ii) informed development partners of the government's priorities for the rebuilding and construction phase in each sector; (iii) harmonized pledges and commitments from development partners, in alignment with the government's

national development priorities; and (iv) endorsed a strategic partnership with the development partners for the next 24 months. The government has established a program recovery committee to approve and provide overall management oversight of the projects following the release of its Strengthening Ni-Vanuatu Resilience recovery plan (para. 1). Development partners have indicated their support for working within the government's recovery plan. All externally funded projects will be implemented by line ministries, supported by design and supervision consultants funded from the projects. For the project, an infrastructure working group has been established in the Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities to coordinate and prepare projects for approval by the program recovery committee. The design and supervision consultants will report directly to the infrastructure working group.

C. Expanded Scope

4. The design and supervision consultants of the project carried out detailed technical investigations comprising geotechnical investigation, topography, and bathymetric survey; and determined the actual extent of the damage to the road. The detailed assessment of the damage required expansion of the project scope to bring the road back to its pre-cyclone state, including climate- and disaster-resilient requirements. The expanded scope includes four additional sites on the road and revision to the scope of two sites already included in the project. The government requested additional financing from ADB to scale up the original project.

D. Summary and Recommendations

5. ADB has applied simplified processing procedures for the preparation of the proposed loan and grant project financed through the Disaster Response Facility, Asian Development Fund resources, and the Global Environment Facility. During project implementation, ADB has continued to identify additional sources of financing to assist with the rehabilitation and recovery efforts, and additional financing was proposed to restore the Efate ring road to its pre-cyclone state, including climate- and disaster-resilient components. ADB has extended the same simplified procedures for the additional financing loan and grant financing from the Asian Development Fund as the original project. Effective coordination will be in place to ensure no duplication of activities occurs among development partners in the transport sector.