



Vanuatu: Towards Disaster Related Statistics?

National Disaster Management Office

Prepared for:

9th TWG Meeting on Disaster Related Statistics

30 June 2021

1. Legislation and Institutional Arrangements

- **DRM Act No. 23 of 2019**

- **Objective 1:** To facilitate the development and implementation of integrated disaster risk management in Vanuatu including disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation
- **Objective 2:** To coordinate disaster preparedness, emergency and disaster response, including facilitation of international humanitarian assistance
- Under Part 3, 10 (1) (g) 'NDMO is to act as a repository for hazard and other disaster related information

- **The Vanuatu Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2016 – 2030**

- Strategic priority 7.3.5
 1. Central database to collect, store and enable access to relevant data
 2. Coordinate data collection analysis amongst stakeholders
 3. Create partnerships
 4. Data analysis for decision making processes
 5. Producing disaggregated data

- **Statistics Act No.6 of 2013**

- **Section 6** '[...] the Statistician may collect, compile and publish or otherwise disseminate statistics relating to all or any matters set out in *Schedule 1* with or without observation thereon.'
- ✓ Vanuatu national Strategy for the Development of Statistics 2021 – 2025
 - Under **Part 6**, 'Statistics production activities and improvements' – *Environmental statistics (6.18 "Improve coverage and access to climate change and disaster risk reduction statistics")*
- Act currently under review for tabling in Parliament in November 2021

2. Draft Statistical development plan for Vanuatu (SDPV)

Statistics are needed to support , monitor and evaluate DM & DRR

- The CCDRR Policy 2016–2030 which is aligned with the Government’s 15-year (NSDP).
- A proposed National Disaster Recovery Framework for a more effective recovery and to enhance the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) process , in terms of: reduce assessment time, more accurate statistic on a timely manner, have a central hub for all disaster-related statistics, and support critical decision making process in times of response

Proposed VNSO core functions

- Identify-related statistical needs
- Provide baseline data needed to produce statistics
- VNSO data portal (VNSO disaster-related statistics)
- Quality national standards and classification
- Data on losses (human toll and infrastructure related)
- Develop MoU for data access and sharing arrangements
- Post disaster surveys
- Information for decision making purposes
- Etc.

Resources Implications

- VNSO has no dedicated personal dedicated in coordinating disaster related statistics
- Anticipating that a contingency fund should be put in place jointly within NDMO and VNSO to support the facilitation of data collection at short notice
- Factored additional VNSO officers with specific ToR/JDs to coordinate the disaster-related statistics within VNSO:
 - **Two additional permanent staff**
 - **Staff training and international travel**
 - **Develop database/web portal**
 - **IT licences, e.g. ArcGIS Pro**
 - **Survey**

3. Onward to DRSF?

GRANTED THAT IT IS AGREED THAT IMPROVED DISASTER STATISTICS IS GOOD AND NEEDED FOR VANUATU, WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO ESTABLISH IT , IN TERMS OF:

- **Enabling environment:** is there sufficient, or the need to develop anew, policy and regulations to pull together VNSO and DMOs, particularly under Part 3, 10 (1) (g) of the DRM Act No. 23 of 2019, as well as other agencies?
- **Standards:** What need to be done to leverage the draft National Disaster Recovery Framework and any related PDNA process , for the harmonisation and standardisation of disaster-related data? including how to monetise damage and losses?
- **Coordination:** What need to be done to leverage the so-called integrated disaster risk management to specifically address disaster statistics in terms of institutional arrangements and business process
- **Resources:** What are the scope in the national programme and budget to embark on disaster statistics, and other windows for regional and international cooperation?
- **Momentum:** Is there an envisioned or planned major national, regional or global events which can be leveraged to highlight the crucial needs for disaster statistics?



Disaster is everybody's business