



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

Vanuatu

Strengthening Emergency Preparedness and Response through optimised Supply Chains

COUNTRY CONTEXT

The Republic of Vanuatu, located in the Southwest Pacific region, has a population of approximately 334,000, with 75 percent living in rural areas. The economy is predominantly service-based, with agriculture, forestry, and fisheries also playing significant roles. Vanuatu is highly vulnerable to supply chain disruptions caused by global and economic shocks.

Vanuatu is exposed to various natural disasters and hazards, including tropical cyclones, storm surges, flooding, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic activities, and heavy swells. Climate

shocks exacerbate human and economic losses leading to significant damage to livelihoods and infrastructure, hindering development efforts, and impacting food security.

SUPPLY CHAIN CAPACITY STRENGTHENING

WFP collaborates with Pacific governments and partners to enhance systems and capacities to mitigate, prepare for, and respond to various shocks. Through its Supply Chain Country Capacity Strengthening (SC CCS) initiative, WFP aims to strengthen preparedness systems and processes, and enhance the coordination,

optimization, and resilience of humanitarian supply chains and logistics, at both national and sub-national levels, enabling governments to **manage and respond to shocks effectively and efficiently**.

In 2022, WFP expanded its **SC CCS** initiative to Vanuatu and partnered with the Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) to further strengthen national systems and capacities for coordinating and optimising national and sub-national humanitarian supply chains and logistics.

Through a Capacity Needs Mapping (CNM) exercise, the NDMO and WFP **mapped the humanitarian supply chain and logistics capacities** through a preparedness lens as a multi-stakeholder, multidisciplinary participatory process.

Some key recommendations from the CNM included enhancing **multi-sectoral coordination** by integrating real-time data sharing and communication between national and provincial offices, and **digitising logistics management** to improve visibility and tracking of inventory, transportation, and procurement processes, ensuring more efficient responses during emergencies.

In 2023, during the Government of Vanuatu-led **response to tropical cyclones Judy, Kevin, and Lola**, the NDMO assumed its coordinating role in emergency preparedness and response (EPR). Supporting the NDMO in this established role, WFP augmented NDMO's capacities, particularly in emergency coordination, logistics management, transport services, and information management. Additionally, WFP co-led the Vanuatu National Logistics Cluster, which played a vital role in ensuring the efficient coordination of the response.

Subsequently, the NDMO and WFP developed a **SC CCS engagement strategy** drawing on insights gathered from the CNM exercise, and lessons learned from the emergency response. The SC CCS strategy outlines key actions and steps aimed at further strengthening national

preparedness and response capacities through a systemic approach, addressing the interconnected elements of humanitarian supply chains (e.g. sourcing, upstream and downstream logistics, storage, delivery etc.).

In February 2024, WFP and the NDMO conducted a **Business Process Mapping (BPM)** exercise, building on the earlier CNM exercise. While the CNM identified gaps and outlined broad areas for capacity strengthening, the BPM exercise provided an in-depth analysis of the NDMO's **business processes, workflow, and key actors**, focusing on optimising the operational aspects of Vanuatu's humanitarian supply chain and logistics coordination for emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

The BPM allowed for more precise adjustments to processes and the practical implementation of solutions that **enhance real-time decision-making**, coordination and response efficiency. It laid the groundwork for developing a digital Logistics Management Information System (LMIS), which will mark NDMO's shift from **paper-based systems to digital processes**. This transition aims to enhance the coherence, operational efficiency, and accountability within humanitarian supply chains

WHAT'S NEXT

WFP will continue to partner with Vanuatu NDMO by supporting its LMIS implementation that will contribute to optimising and building resilience of Vanuatu's humanitarian supply chains and logistics. This support will encompass the LMIS tendering process, solution selection, development and customisation, training, and phased rollout.

WFP activities are supported by:



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