

VSA Assignment Description

Assignment Title	Country Coordinator - Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme
Country	Vanuatu
Location of Partner Organisation	Port Vila
Partner Organisation	United Nations Capital Development Fund
Duration	24 months
Sustainable Development Goals	

41559

1. Partner organisation overview

The UN Capital Development Fund makes public and private finance work for the poor in the world’s 46 least developed countries (LDCs). UNCDF offers “last mile” finance models that unlock public and private resources, especially at the domestic level, to reduce poverty and support local economic development.

UNCDF’s financing models work through three channels: (1) inclusive digital economies, which connects individuals, households, and small businesses with financial eco-systems that catalyse participation in the local economy, and provide tools to climb out of poverty and manage financial lives; (2) local development finance, which capacitates localities through fiscal decentralization, innovative municipal finance, and structured project finance to drive local economic expansion and sustainable development; and (3) investment finance, which provides catalytic financial structuring, de-risking, and capital deployment to drive SDG impact and domestic resource mobilization.

2. Assignment overview

The work under the Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme will be pioneering for Vanuatu as at present, there no climate disaster risk financing (CDRF) instruments offered in Vanuatu or the Pacific by insurers or service providers that targets individuals, households, MSMEs, cooperatives at the micro to meso level.

The Programme aims to improve the financial preparedness of Pacific households, communities, small businesses, organizations, cooperatives and Government by developing and deploying market-based climate disaster risk financing instruments like parametric insurance that will provide immediate post-disaster payment to affected beneficiaries.

A country coordinator to be based in Port Vila, Vanuatu to support the Programme implementation is required (to be based in Vanuatu) as there is a need for developing and building partnerships with key Government departments, private sector, community groups, NGOs as well as international partners. In Vanuatu, there is limited technical capacity and resources with a knowledge of insurance, financial services and how these improve resilience of households. The placement of a VSA volunteer resource for a period of 24 months to be the Country Coordinator for the Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme will assist in establishing a strong foundation for the initiative, build capacity



and networks as well as identify suitable local resources for capacity building. He/she will be required to work closely with Government partners, Reserve bank of Vanuatu as well as the private sector and as such local capacity can be developed.

3. Goal/outcomes/outputs

Goal

Success will be defined as the execution of the prescribed activities under the Vanuatu work plan under the Programme. The main success factor will be the deployment of market-based Climate Disaster risk financing instruments in the Vanuatu market and improved understanding amongst the national stakeholders on climate disaster risk and financing instruments such as parametric insurance.

Outcome 1

Improved preparedness to disasters by the Vanuatu stakeholders and the Government.

- Assist in development and awareness creation of enabling policies and regulations to facilitate access and usage of CDRF instruments.

Outcome 2

Individuals, communities, and MSMEs can respond and recover quicker with access to and usage of market based CDRF instruments.

- Assist in Inclusive and innovative market-based CDRF instruments to be piloted and tested amongst ni- Vanuatu individuals, communities and MSMEs.

Outcome 3

Improved awareness using digital tools and e-learning interfaces.

- Capabilities and capacities of partners for delivery of risk awareness,
- Knowledge of insurance and other CDRF instruments to customers are enhanced, including the use of digital tools.

4. Reporting and working relationships and capacity building

The VSA volunteer will work with local stakeholders including key Government agencies, insurance service providers, the Reserve Bank of Vanuatu, community groups and agri-agencies across the 4 workstreams of the Programme, i.e. Enabling Policy and Regulation 2) Open Digital Payments System 3) Inclusive Innovation and 4) Empowered Customers to implement CDRF related projects, including awareness and capacity building across the various sectors in Vanuatu.

The volunteer will report directly to Praneel Pritesh (Associate Project Manager) and will be accountable to Krishnan Narasimhan (Programme Manager). On a day-to-day basis, the volunteer will predominately work with Reserve Bank of Vanuatu and Insurance Service Providers in Vanuatu.

The volunteer and UNCDF will have an ongoing relationship with the VSA programme manager in terms of assignment monitoring, reporting, professional advice and personal support.



As needs on the ground may change over time, the volunteer is encouraged to review and update the Assignment Description on arrival in consultation with the partner organisation and VSA Programme Manager. By their very nature, development situations can involve significant change, so it is advisable that the volunteer periodically review and reflect on the Assignment Description throughout the Assignment to ensure the best development outcomes are being achieved.

5. Selection criteria/position requirements

Person specifications (professional)

Essential

- Knowledge and understanding of financial services especially insurance
- Knowledge of climate disaster risk financing instruments and the linkage between climate change and increasing vulnerabilities of Pacific Islanders
- Insurance/finance qualification plus extensive experience

Desirable

- Work experience in development finance,
- Capacity building of Government partners
- Developing and enhancing partnerships with private sector

Personal specification (personal)

Essential

- Efficiency, ability to multi-task
- Agility and ability to meet tight deadlines
- Team player and working in multi-cultural cross functional teams

Desirable

- Being multi-lingual, especially French and Bislama besides English

6. VSA Essential Attributes

- Commitment to volunteering, to VSA and to the partner organisation
- Cross cultural awareness
- Adaptability and a willingness to approach change or newness positively
- Able to form good relationships, both personally and professionally, with work colleagues and in the community
- Resilience and an ability to manage setbacks
- Initiative and resourcefulness
- An ability to facilitate learning through skills exchange

7. Country Context

For more information about Vanuatu, see <https://vsa.org.nz/about-vsa/countryregion/vanuatu/>



Additional information

Residency status

VSA volunteers must be New Zealand citizens or have New Zealand permanent residency status, and currently living in NZ.

Pre-departure briefing

As part of the volunteer's contract, successful candidates will be required to take part in a pre-departure briefing course run by VSA in Wellington and complete all required pre-reading.

Final appointment

Final appointment will be subject to satisfactory medical and immigration clearances (costs covered by VSA), partner organisation acceptance, and successful completion of the pre-departure briefing course.

Family status

VSA supports partners to accompany volunteers on assignments of six months or longer. However, volunteers with accompanying dependents will not be considered for this assignment.

Fundraising

Volunteers are encouraged to fundraise at least \$1000 with the support of VSA's fundraising team. Accompanying partners are encouraged to raise the same amount. All funds raised will help VSA keep its programmes in action and support future volunteers.

Vaccination requirements

Potential volunteers are advised that VSA's insurers require volunteers to be inoculated, prior to departure, in accordance with the instructions of VSA's medical adviser. VSA covers the cost of any required vaccinations.

Children's Act

While on assignment, VSA volunteers may be required to work with children and/or may choose to participate in informal activities in their own time that involve interactions with children (such as coaching teams or teaching English). VSA is committed to the protection of vulnerable children and adults, which also includes meeting our commitment under the Children's Act 2014.

The information requested during the application process is necessary to assist VSA to determine applicant suitability to work and/or interact regularly with children and is part of a series of pre-selection checks undertaken on all applicants for VSA assignments.

Volunteer package

The volunteer's package includes the following:

Reimbursements and grants

1. Volunteers will receive an establishment grant of NZ\$750 to help them set up in their country of assignment. For volunteers with an accompanying partner (whether or not that partner is also a VSA volunteer), VSA will pay an establishment grant of NZ\$1100 per couple.
2. For two-year assignments, the volunteer will receive a rest and respite grant of NZ\$1000 on completion of the first year.
3. A resettlement grant of NZ\$200 will be paid for each month the volunteer is on assignment. This is payable on completion of the assignment.
4. The volunteer will receive a monthly living allowance of VUV107,580.



Accommodation

Basic, comfortable furnished accommodation will be sourced by VSA. In some circumstances, volunteers may be asked to share accommodation.

Airfares and baggage allowance

VSA will provide the volunteer with economy airfares to and from New Zealand for their assignment plus a baggage allowance.

Insurance

VSA will provide travel insurance to cover baggage and personal property, and non-routine medical expenses for the duration of the assignment. Further details of the insurance cover will be provided during the volunteer pre-departure briefing.

Utilities

VSA will reimburse volunteers reasonable expenses for household utilities while on assignment.

Final terms and conditions relating to the specific volunteer assignment will be confirmed in a personalised volunteer contract.

