

Contributing to Food Security during Climate Change Duress

EU Devfish offers support to Vanuatu Food Security Plan & Climate Change Measure in Fisheries



SPC EU-DevFish project has contributed its support to the Cyclone PAM recovery program in procuring and shipping materials for the construction of fish aggregating devices (FADs). These materials for 20 units of nearshore FADs are shipped in a 20 foot container from Kaohsiung, Taiwan and handed over to Vanuatu Fisheries.

In April this year, Cyclone Pam left a swathe of destruction across the Pacific with Vanuatu hit hardest. It was estimated by the Government that half the country's population - some 166,000 people - were affected by Cyclone Pam. Across the country, 50-90% of homes were damaged, leaving 65,000 people in need of shelter, food, water and health are ongoing needs.

Following the devastation, SPC Division of Fisheries Aquaculture & Marine Ecosystem (FAME) dispatched a team who collaborated with the Vanuatu Fisheries Department to undertake a post-cyclone needs assessment for fisheries sector. Through that assessment a recovery strategy for Vanuatu was developed identifying priority areas for intervention support and potential sources for assistance. The Vanuatu fisheries FAD program is part of the cyclone PAM food security measure and recovery program of rural community livelihood.

The landing of the FAD materials in October 2015 was timely in light of the current severe draught weather in the country and the Government's plan to embark on National Food Security plan. These FAD materials though limited in number are important resort for land food resources and also practical management measure of climate change effects.

The EU-funded DevFish2 project focuses on assisting small scale fisheries development and acknowledges this sector plays a significant role for local rural community livelihood and sustenance.

This specific support will help enable the capacities and services in the fisheries sector to rebuild and bring back to normalcy what was destroyed by Cyclone Pam.

The outright purchase of the 20 foot container in which the materials were shipped in also immediately serve as a temporary storage facility for Vanuatu Fisheries Department due to the destruction of their storage sheds too during the cyclone.

EU DEVFISH INFOSHEET

Results

20 units of FAD materials delivered.

One shipping container for storage shed

20 coastal communities directly served

Success Factors

2,000 or so local fishers fishing operations enhanced

100 tonnes of fish caught around FADs in a year

100 tonnes of fish for food security and livelihood

Total Project Cost

EU DevFish: €18,500 (Vatu 2.2 million)

Project Collaborators

Vanuatu Fisheries Department

SPC FAME



