

Terms of Reference

Job Title	National Coordinator - Vanuatu (GIZ Pacific Blue Economy Project)
Job Category	B4

Project Background

The GIZ Pacific Blue Economy Project strengthens integrated ocean management and resilience in South Pacific countries, including Vanuatu, from November 2025 to September 2028. It improves legal, organizational, and financial frameworks for sustainable ocean-based development, balancing economic growth in sectors like fisheries, aquaculture, and marine tourism with environmental protection, biodiversity conservation, and climate adaptation. Aligned with Vanuatu's National Sustainable Development Plan 2016–2030 and relevant maritime legislation, the project integrates into the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.

Position Summary

The National Coordinator for Vanuatu provides technical leadership and local coordination for project activities across Vanuatu's islands, advising on blue economy policies, project design, and implementation. Based in Port Vila, the role emphasizes sustainable ocean-based livelihoods, climate resilience, inclusive growth, business development, and value chains for ocean resources like fisheries and marine products. The position reports to the GIZ Pacific Blue Economy Project Director based in Suva, Fiji, and supports partner institutions in line with national priorities.

Key Responsibilities

- Advise Vanuatu government institutions on blue economy policy integration into national plans, including the National Sustainable Development Plan and relevant maritime legislation, while incorporating regional frameworks like the 2050 Blue Pacific Strategy.
- Lead capacity building for local governments, communities, private sector, and traditional authorities in sustainable fisheries, marine tourism, business development, and value chain enhancement for ocean resources such as seafood processing and ecotourism products.
- Ensure quality assurance, mainstreaming cross-cutting issues like gender equality, climate resilience, and customary marine tenure in all activities.

Specific Tasks

Coordination and Implementation

- Coordinate project activities at national and island levels, including feasibility studies, pilot interventions in private sector development, business incubation for blue economy enterprises, and value chain mapping for ocean resources.
- Organize planning workshops, monitoring, evaluation, and documentation, ensuring compliance with GIZ standards and results-based management.
- Write Terms of Reference for contracts for local and regional implementation and ensure compliance with GIZ's rules and regulations.

Business Development and Value Chains

- Facilitate business development initiatives, such as identifying market opportunities, supporting entrepreneur training in coastal communities for added-value products (e.g., processed fish, seaweed farming), and fostering partnerships for scalable blue economy ventures.
- Develop and strengthen value chains for ocean resources, including sustainable harvesting, processing, logistics, and marketing of fisheries, marine tourism services, and emerging sectors, while promoting innovation and resilience.

Networking and Communication

- Build partnerships with Vanuatu stakeholders, including policymakers, communities, private sector, and regional platforms, to communicate local interests and promote idea-sharing.
- Facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogues, incorporating Vanuatuan cultural contexts and traditional authorities.

Knowledge Management

- Prepare reports, track indicators, document lessons learned, best practices, and project stories, with a focus on business models and value chain successes in blue economy.
- Develop Vanuatu-specific guidelines on sustainable ocean resource management, business development, and value chains.

Required Qualifications

- Advanced degree in Marine Science, Environmental Economics, Natural Resource Management, Climate/Environmental Policy, Development Studies, Business Administration (with ocean focus), or related field.
- At least 5 years of professional experience in blue economy, coastal/marine management, climate programs, business development, or value chain analysis, preferably in Pacific donor-funded projects and advising Vanuatu or regional bodies.

Competences and Experience

- Proven expertise in results-based management, M&E, multi-stakeholder coordination, policy advisory, blue/climate finance, and customary marine tenure in Vanuatu contexts.
- Strong skills in business development, value chain facilitation for ocean resources (e.g., fisheries supply chains), and private sector engagement.
- Excellent communication abilities to engage diverse audiences; proficiency in English and Bislama preferred; familiarity with Pacific institutions.
- Proficient in MS Office, ICT tools, and data management; based in Port Vila with readiness for regional travel.

Terms of Employment

Full-time based (location of Ministry to be decided) in Port Vila, Vanuatu. Position available for Vanuatu nationals or those with local work rights; reporting to the GIZ Project Director, based in Suva, Fiji.