CARE is an international humanitarian aid organisation fighting global poverty, with a special focus on working with women and girls to bring lasting change to their communities. As a non-religious and non-political organisation, CARE works with communities to help overcome poverty by supporting development projects and providing emergency relief. We believe supporting women and girls is one of the most effective ways to create sustainable change in communities.

How CARE is building resilience to disasters and climate change in Vanuatu

For several years running, Vanuatu has ranked as the country most at risk to natural disasters in the world. Disasters are common in Vanuatu, which sits at the centre of the Pacific’s cyclone belt and on the “ring of fire” - cyclones, flooding, volcanic eruptions and earthquakes, as well as climate change related weather events and sea level rise, are all frequent occurrences. But as well as being exposed to regular disasters, Vanuatu is very vulnerable to their effects. More than 75 percent of the population is spread across its 83 remote islands, so providing basic services and infrastructure is challenging, and the capacity of the government and the community to prepare for and respond to disasters and climate change is limited.

CARE is working at the national, provincial and community levels to build Vanuatu’s resilience to disasters. CARE’s Resilience Program is helping to increase food security by introducing more resilient crop varieties and training communities on nutrition and food preservation techniques, and equipping communities to prepare and respond to disasters and climate change by helping to establish and train local Community Disaster and Climate Change Committees (CDCCCs) where women are equally represented and trained.

CARE is also on the ground to respond to emergencies when they happen in Vanuatu. CARE is the co-lead of Vanuatu’s Gender and Protection Cluster and played a key role in the response to Category 5 Tropical Cyclone Pam in 2015, subsequent cyclones and the Ambae Volcano emergency. CARE is committed to working in partnership with government and other stakeholders to strengthen the national emergency response infrastructure.
Community Disaster Preparedness

Working with communities throughout Tafea province, CARE is teaching men and women the skills and knowledge they need to prepare and respond to disasters.

Community planning
Helping communities establish gender-balanced committees to get ready for and respond to disasters and climate shocks.

Climate change awareness
Providing communities with information about the likely impacts of climate change and training on effective action.

Disaster training and simulations
Teaching men and women how to respond to disasters, then practice putting those skills into action through simulations.

National Disaster Preparedness

Building skills and connections among humanitarian responders at the national, provincial and area levels, CARE aims to improve coordination and effectiveness of disaster preparedness and response across Vanuatu.

Strengthening coordination
Working closely with government and civil society partners to support coordination between within the emergency infrastructure.

Building capacity
Providing technical advice and support as co-leads of Vanuatu’s Gender and Protection Cluster.

Influencing policy
Advocating for gender transformative approaches in disaster preparedness and response.

Responding to Emergencies

CARE Vanuatu is on the ground to provide immediate assistance to disaster affected communities, in partnership with national responders.

Immediate aid
Working alongside the National Disaster Management Office and with support from our international network, CARE mobilises emergency aid to the people who need it most.

Technical advice
Supporting local partners, CARE provides specialist emergency advice, particularly on gender, in crises.

Partner support
CARE support government and civil society responders in Vanuatu to lead local disaster responses.

Building Food Security

Through long term programming, CARE is helping communities to build their resilience to disasters and climate change by increasing food security.

Climate smart agriculture
Introducing drought-resistant crops and new agricultural and pest-management methods.

Nutrition training
Giving communities information about nutrition and demonstrating new ways of cooking available locally food.

Food preservation training
Teaching new techniques for food preservation, including solar dryers built from local materials.