# 2022-23 Vanuatu Development Program Progress ReportING

## Progress against COVID-19 development Response plan results indicators

### Health Security

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Key Results Indicators** | **Progress/Result** |
| Strengthened health systems including preparedness for health emergencies | Australia provided technical support to the Ministry of Health (MoH) to strengthen provincial health service delivery. Key outcomes included the brokering of relationships between the Ministry and the Sanma Provincial Government to pilot a primary health care model at Tasmalum Health Centre. The pilot will drive provincial reform, address bottlenecks and influence decentralisation of health services more broadly. |
| Evidence that Vanuatu has improved its response to health security threats | Australia supported Vanuatu to avoid severe COVID-19 impacts by providing accelerated funding for vaccine coverage, supporting the MoH for outbreak preparedness and response activities, and policymakers to receive evidence-based recommendations. This support also enabled MoH address emerging health threats via a catch-up measles campaign, preventing an outbreak and deploying malaria surge teams to control outbreaks. |
| Examples of new or improved therapeutics, diagnostics, vaccines, and additional equipment to which Australia has contributed that are accessible in Vanuatu | The Vanuatu Australia Health Partnership, supported the MoH purchase five bio-hazard incinerators used to safely dispose of hospital waste. |
| Number of vulnerable women, men, girls and boys provided with emergency assistance in a crisis | In response to Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin, Australia deployed the HMAS Canberra, a Rapid Assessment Team, aerial assessment flights, and $12.8 million in response and early recovery funding. Australia transported over 139 tonnes of humanitarian supplies for impacted communities assisting an estimated 27,690 people. |

### Stability

| **Key Results Indicators** | **Progress/Result** |
| --- | --- |
| Strengthened governance systems, including assistance provided and significant policy change achieved) | Australia's Governance for Growth (GfG) program supported reforms at the Vanuatu Broadcasting and Television Cooperation (VBTC), Vanuatu's National Broadcaster and a prominent State-Owned Enterprise. These reforms strengthened VBTC's editorial autonomy, performance, and financial sustainability. Vanuatu has requested ongoing support to embed and further extend this reform agenda.  Australia trained 713 justice and policing officials (33 per cent women) focused on improving access to justice and policing services for women, children, youth, and vulnerable groups. |
| Examples of increased participation of women in decision-making and leadership in key sectors with Australian support | Australia funded the Femme Pawa (Women’s Power) FM radio station a platform to elevate ni-Vanuatu women’s voices, especially in rural areas. The station provided valuable information on health, education, nutrition, and disaster preparedness.  In the reporting period, 46 young women (two with disabilities and two LGBTIQ identifying) graduated from the Australian-funded Young Women’s Leadership Program (YWLP). This enabled YWLP alumni (128 total - four LGBTIQ, five with disabilities) transition into new employment, start small businesses and challenge stereotypical gender roles. |
| Number of women and child survivors of violence receiving services such as counselling | Australia supported the Vanuatu Women’s Centre (VWC) provide counselling for 7,548 women and children affected by gender-based violence (GBV). VWC also supported 643 women obtain family protection orders, responded to 6,178 information requests, and reached 12,824 people (230 with a disability) with its anti-GBV community awareness activities. |
| Strengthened security capability and resilience (with examples) | Australia supported the training of 47 new police recruits (34 per cent women, up from 25 per cent in 2021), improving the reach and capacity of the Vanuatu Police Force. Since 2018, Australia has supported the training of 387 new police recruits, over 40 per cent of the VPF.  Following Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin, Australian Defence Force personnel supported repairs to health and education facilities, including the Port Vila Central Hospital, and 19 school classrooms at six schools, enabling over 700 children to return to school. Australian Humanitarian Partnership NGOs also assisted with impact assessments, distributed humanitarian supplies, and supported impacted communities. |
| Number of additional girls and boys enrolled in school (men/ women) | Australian support to the Ministry of Education resulted in the enrolment of an additional 9,222 children at primary school (48 per cent girls), and secondary school (51 per cent girls). |
| Number of new or repaired buildings that meet universal access standards, and disaster and climate resilient standards | Australia supported the construction of 30 buildings across Vanuatu that meet universal access standards, and disaster and climate-resilient standards. These include health centres, market houses, school buildings, court houses, and police posts. |
| Number of people reached with new or improved social protection programs, including remote communities) | Australia provided social protection in the form of school fee subsidies to 8,060 secondary school students (51 per cent girls) and fee subsidies to 1,813 students in post-secondary education and training programs. This supported students to continue learning uninterrupted and employment relevant studies. |
| Improved food security[[1]](#footnote-2) | The Vanuatu Skills Partnership (VSP), through its Farm to School and Farm to Hospital program, provided training and mentoring to farmers, including linkages to local hospitals and schools to provide healthy, locally produced food for students and patients to replace unhealthy imported alternatives. The program trained three staff at the Northern Provincial Hospital and 44 farmers (14 women) at Ambaebulu School in Penama.  Australia is supporting agricultural research to improve food security and productivity. The GfG program supported the Vanuatu Agricultural Research and Technical Centre’s (VARTC) first 10-year Strategic Research Plan. The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research is partnering with VARTC to research more climate resilient and productive livestock husbandry, alongside business skills, to support smallholder farmers. |

### Economic Recovery

| **Key Results Indicators** | **Progress/Result** |
| --- | --- |
| Policy and technical advice on sustainable stimulus measures and longer-term economic recovery (with examples) | In 2022-23, Australia provided Vanuatu with a $25 million economic support package which is supporting economic growth and addressing priority sectors (infrastructure, trade, and agriculture). This package includes direct budget funding to support the Government of Vanuatu (GoV) implement economic and financial reforms under a Joint Policy Action Matrix, the first of its kind in Vanuatu.  The GfG program provides technical support to the GoV to strengthen public financial management and procurement. In 2022-23, GfG supported the overdue national financial statements (2017-21) and ensure that the GoV 2022 statement were submitted on time. This is driving increased transparency and accountability. |
| Number of women entrepreneurs provided with financial and/or business development services | Since 2019, Australia has supported the Vanuatu Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) to provide business and financial skills training and capacity-building to women entrepreneurs. In the reporting period, the VCCI trained 1,887 women.  Through VSP, Australia facilitated 423 women, including 13 with a disability, with skills training, coaching and professional development activities to build businesses, increase their livelihoods and income generating opportunities. |
| Training provided to increase livelihood and income generating opportunities | Australia upskilled 1,057 people (423 women and 634 men; including 50 people with disabilities) in agriculture, construction, plumbing, handicrafts, and tourism sectors, to support livelihoods and grow businesses. |
| Examples of partnering with the private sector and other partners to ensure supply lines are open | Australia is supporting the ongoing expansion of Vanuatu’s online trade facilitation portal, with Vanuatu now a regional leader in the Pacific. The portal makes trade faster, easier, cheaper, and more reliable by digitising paper-based processes. Supporting the agenda to keep supply chains open, the GoV allocated funding in its own 2023 budget, demonstrating buy-in and ownership.  Australia is strengthening kava value chains, including a pilot which is opening a new export market, with 38 tonnes exported to Australia since December 2021. PHAMA Plus is assisting smallholder producers increase quality and value; and is working with wholesalers to improve packaging and labelling to increase sales. |
| Australian budget support in response to COVID-19 as a percentage of estimated domestic revenue | In the 2022-23, Australia provided $40.48 million in direct and sectoral budget support to Vanuatu, representing an estimated 10.16 per cent of total domestic revenue. |
| Length (km) of national road network maintained or repaired | Australia supported the Vanuatu Public Works Department (PWD) investment in climate resilient, all-weather accessible roads with over 1,026km (target 1,201km) of roads improved and maintained in Vanuatu linking communities to markets and services.  From 2009-2023, Australia has invested over $98 million on physical road works, training small-scale contractors and site inspectors, trialling new technologies and strengthening the PWD. |
| Examples of improved policies and regulations in the infrastructure sector\*[[2]](#footnote-3) | Australia’s support to develop climate-resilient and cost-effective fibre reinforced concrete roads in Vanuatu has now become standardised and is being followed by other donors, including the World Bank.  Australia supported Vanuatu’s PWD to strengthen its gender equality, disability, social inclusion (GEDSI) and safeguards policies. In 2022, 100 per cent of roadwork contracts included GEDSI and safeguards provisions, up from 86 per cent in 2021 and 11 per cent in 2020. |

### Investment Performance ratings

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Investment Details** | **Year** | **Effectiveness** | **Efficiency** | **Gender Equality** |
| **Vanuatu Skills for Economic Growth Phase 4** | 2023 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Investment duration: 20016-27; Budget: $57.3m | 2022 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| **Governance for Growth Phase 3** | 2023 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| Investment duration: 2017-24; Budget: $33.7m | 2022 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| **Vanuatu Health Program** | 2023 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| Investment duration: 2019-24; Budget: $29.2m | 2022 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| **Vanuatu Education Support Program Phase 2** | 2023 | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| Investment duration: 2018-26; Budget: $75.9m | 2022 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| **Vanuatu Australia Policing and Justice Program** | 2023 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| Investment duration: 2016-25; Budget: $56.2m | 2022 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| **Roads for Development Program Phase 2** | 2023 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Investment duration: 2018-24; Budget: $44.1m | 2022 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| **Tropical Cyclone Harold Recovery Program** | 2023 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| Investment duration: 2021-26; Budget: $24.0m | 2022 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| **Volcano Recovery Program 2019-2022** | 2023 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| Investment duration: 2019-23; Budget: $4.7m | 2022 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| **Vanuatu Gender Equality Program** | 2023 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| Investment duration: 2021-26; Budget: $10.3m | 2022 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| **Wan Smolbag Theatre Community Partnership** | 2023 | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| Investment duration: 2010-27; Budget: $24.5m | 2022 | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| **Vanuatu Supreme Court Hall of Justice Building** (HoJ) | 2023 IMR | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| Investment duration: 2021-26; Budget: $3.0m | 2022 IMR | N/A | N/A | N/A |

### Final Investment Performance ratings

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Investment Details** | **Year** | **Effectiveness** | **Efficiency** | **Gender Equality** |
| **Pacific Women (Vanuatu)** | 2023 FIMR | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| Investment duration: 2016-22; Budget: $10.5m | 2022 IMR | 4 | 4 | 5 |

### Definitions of rating scale:

Satisfactory (4, 5 and 6)

6 = Very good; satisfies criteria in all areas.   
5 = Good; satisfies criteria in almost all areas.  
4 = Adequate; on balance, satisfies criteria; does not fail in any major area.

Less than satisfactory (1, 2 and 3)

3 = Less than adequate; on balance does not satisfy criteria and/or fails in at least one major area.  
2 = Poor; does not satisfy criteria in major areas.  
1 = Very poor; does not satisfy criteria in many major areas.

1. New indicator in 2022-23 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. New indicator in 2022-23 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)