

VANUATU CHURCH PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
UnitingWorld – Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu Partnership
Annual Report 2009-2010

1.1 CONTACT INFORMATION

Australian NGO		Implementing Partner	
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1.2 BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Summary	<i>AusAID - AUD</i>	<i>ANGO - AUD</i>	<i>Total - AUD</i>
Output 1 – Strengthening VCC	Not applicable		
Output 2 – Institutional Strengthening for Churches	\$112,300		\$112,300
Output 3 – Development Initiatives of Churches	\$ 87,700		\$ 87,700
Output 4 – Joint Church Activities	No proposal		
ANGO Management Costs	\$ 14,000		\$ 14,000
Total	\$214,000		\$214,000

2.0 PRIORITY AREAS

In this first year of the CPP the Presbyterian Church in Vanuatu (PCV) chose to focus primarily on strengthening its capacity to undertake development activity and provide services to local communities. In particular, systems and people resources were strengthened at the National Assembly Office which coordinates activities in education, health, HIV&AIDS, women's services, and youth services. At the same time the Church began specific activity in service delivery designed to meet needs identified in the VCPP baseline research. Thus a health workers' course was reviewed and anew curriculum developed, while programs were initiated for women and young people.

3.0 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES & OBJECTIVES

Objective	Priority Area Objectives	Indicators: <i>How will you know if this objective has been achieved?</i>	Targets Achieved	Reason for Variation
Output 1 – Strengthening VCC	Not applicable			
Output 2- Institutional Strengthening for Churches	To strengthen the capacity of the Presbyterian Church in Vanuatu (PCV) to expand, and improve the quality, of community development activities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A Community Development Officer appointed. 2. A Community Development Office established. 3. A training program completed for new Development Officer in development planning, monitoring and evaluation including exposure visit to PNG CPP and development projects in PNG. 4. A program to expand and improve the quality of PCV community development activities implemented and evaluated. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Development Officer appointed as of March 2009. 2. An office has been established within the PCV. 3. As part of training in development practice the Development Officer undertook an exposure visit to PNG in mid-January and participated in annual planning for the PNG United Church CPP. 4. The office is now actively implementing, coordinating and monitoring Church development programs. Priorities for development have been identified – see next section. 	
	To increase the awareness of the Presbyterian Church in Vanuatu to the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and challenges the Church faces with specific reference to national social and governance issues and lay the ground for planning in these areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A 5 day conference is held attended by a minimum of 50 leaders from all regions and sections of the PCV which considers issues including HIV/AIDS, education, domestic violence, unemployment, rural poverty, drugs, health and interaction with the government. 2. A report prepared and circulated for discussion at all levels of the PCV. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A 3 day conference was held in early December at Onesua Presbyterian College. 50 leaders of the Church participated and there were contributions from relevant govt departments. The conference explored development needs of PCV communities and set priorities for development planning over the next three years. 2. A report was prepared and distributed to all six Presbyteries and all levels of Church organisations. 	On advice from the head of the church it was decided those 3 days would achieve the desired outcomes for the conference.

		3. A policy statement developed of key issues for the PCV as a basis for a Development Strategic Plan.	3. The Church Assembly Executive Committee has confirmed key issues and priorities and further work on a policy statement is being done in preparation for the Church's National Assembly in August.	
	To provide the Church with the demographic information it needs in order to plan effectively in governance, administration, human resources, and service delivery areas.	A national survey of Church members designed and conducted.	With assistance from a census expert, a survey instrument has been designed and a data base established to record demographic information from the surveys. Presbyteries are currently being made aware of the coming survey and training workshops for enumerators have been held in four Presbyteries. There will be pilot projects before a nationwide exercise.	Late release of CPP funding and some technical issues have slowed down roll out of the survey.
	To strengthen the governance of Church boards of management at national and regional levels	Good Governance training program conducted within the national Standing Committees and 6 regional boards (called Church Presbyteries)	Good Governance trainings have been conducted in five Presbyteries and are planned for national Standing Committees. A Good Governance manual is being developed.	Again delays in funding delayed initiation of this program.
	To strengthen the financial oversight and reporting of PCV Assembly Office especially in development and service delivery areas.	A financial assistant appointed and trained for one year with a view to the Church funding the position after that.	This position was advertised in May 2010 and an appointee took up the position at beginning of June.	Proper renovation for an office space was needed before the position could begin.
	To provide the PCV Assembly Office with essential technology to undertake it's administrative and management functions.	Nine computers and printers are purchased to replace outdated and non-functioning equipment.	Eight computers were purchased and installed with the assistance of an Australian volunteer.	

Output 3 – Development Initiatives of Churches	To provide students in the current two year PCV Mission Worker Health Training Program with skills to provide effective health services related to HIV/AIDS, Breast Cancer and Cervical Cancer.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An additional teaching module added to the current PCV Mission Worker Health Program covering HIV/AIDS, Breast Cancer and Cervical Cancer. 2. Upon graduation Mission Workers demonstrate the use of this skills training within the rural health context. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In a partnership with the School of Nursing of the Australian Catholic University, the curriculum of the Health Worker Training Program was revised and upgraded. The additional teaching module has been included. 2. A six month training for 13 bush mission health workers was also supported in first half of 2010. 3. The revised course will begin in August 2010. 	For operational and funding reasons the two year health training program was suspended. Rather than no activity take place at the health school, CPP funds assisted a 6 month course for bush mission workers.
	To provide effective HIV/AIDS services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An HIV/AIDS worker appointed 2. A training program completed for the HIV worker in HIV service planning, monitoring and evaluation including exposure visit to PNG HIV and CPP projects. 2. HIV/AIDS policy developed by PCV 3. HIV/AIDS awareness program developed and implemented. 	This position was advertised in 2009 but no suitable applicant could be found. It was re-advertised in May 2010 and an appointment made in June. The appointee is now undergoing training and has also commenced presentations on health and HIV issues.	Delay in appointment due to difficulty in finding suitable applicant.
	To undertake research on the feasibility of a dentistry program similar to the current PCV Eye Care Program.	Research conducted and a report with recommendations produced.	Research was conducted by an Australian dentist with long experience in developing countries. A report with recommendations has been made to the Church Health Committee. As a result a new dental methodology is being used in village visits in conjunction with the Eye Care program and two health graduates have begun training in the methodology.	

	To raise the leadership and small enterprise skills of women from rural areas.	An additional course provided to rural women as part of existing program run by Presbyterian Women Missionary Union in leadership skills, bookkeeping, computer skills, and sewing.	The week long workshop was held in February 2010.	The PWMU could not implement this program earlier because of the late release of funding.
	To provide young people with small enterprise skills	A pilot trainer the trainer course completed for rural youth leaders in the Step by Step Business Management program	This program was not delivered in this financial year. A three weeks course was scheduled for June 2010 but delivered in July due to logistical difficulties. Expenditures were made in June as part of set up.	There are issues in the overall management of youth programs that are being addressed. Logistical difficulties also led to delay.
	To raise awareness of the issue of land registration and resources to assist with addressing the question of registering currently unregistered land.	1. Appropriate resources developed and provided. 2. Awareness campaign developed and implemented 3. Unregistered land registered	Resources have been developed and an awareness campaign conducted in all Presbyteries except Malekula. A number of sensitive issues regarding land domain are being engaged carefully prior to registration.	
Output 4 – Joint Church Activities	No proposal this year			

4.0 CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

Cross-cutting Issues			
	STRATEGIES FOR MAINSTREAMING	ASSESSMENT	ACHIEVEMENTS
Gender	Projects for women and young people and intentional involvement of women and youth in national conference, as well as HIV/AIDS awareness program.	Reports by PCV staff and Church leaders. Including lists of participants by gender.	Women and youth were intentionally included in the national conference in December with 20 women and 6 young people attending.
HIV/AIDS	Appointment and training of a staff person to implement HIV/AIDS awareness program, inclusion of HIV/AIDS	Reports by PCV staff and Church leaders indicate PCV HIV/AIDS Policy in place and communicated widely	As reported above, difficulties in recruitment mean that this work has only just begun.

	awareness training as part of medical training for village workers and development of a PCV HIV/AIDS Policy		
Environment	To be considered at national leaders conference	Reports by PCV staff and Church leaders	Environment issues were considered at the leaders' conference. A presentation on climate change by government reps significantly raised awareness.
Sustainability	Integral to considerations at national leaders conference	Reports by PCV staff and Church leaders	Issues of sustainability received significant attention by the Church leaders at the national conference.
Family Planning	One of the issues covered in the 2 year health training program for Village Workers	Reports by PCV staff and Church leaders	This has been incorporated into the curriculum.

5.0 SUCCESSES/DIFFICULTIES

Success	Effect on Project	Actions taken
The national conference was the first time leaders from around the Church came together to consider development issues.	Plans for CPP come from the collective wisdom of Church leadership and thus quality and ownership will be improved.	
Forming a partnership with the Australian Catholic University to work on health school curriculum.	This brought expertise to the project that was not available within the Church.	
Personnel from the PCV-UnitingWorld Eye Care project assisted in assessing the dental program	This brought relevant experience and expertise to the research at no cost.	
The Good Governance trainings have enabled people in positions of responsibility to see areas that need greater attention for accountability and transparency and given them skills for their roles.	Participants have greater sense of confidence in carrying out their roles. There feedback on this first set of trainings is leading to course improvements.	

Difficulty	Effect on Project	Actions taken
Some of the language of development (like capacity building) is difficult for church leaders to grasp.	At the national conference there were times of uncertainty about what was intended by some CPP projects and how they would help the Church.	Key development actors took time to go through concepts and explain nature of CPP. More attention will be given to communication issues for the Church.
Even when women are present at meetings it is difficult for them to have the confidence to speak.	Lack of women's views in plenary sessions. Not such an issue in small groups.	Small group work increased. Needs to be gender strategy for long term cultural change.
Land registration issues have proved to be very sensitive.	More time has been needed for engagement with landholders and church congregations to address issues of concern.	Extra visits to Presbyteries have been built in to the program.

6.0 LESSONS LEARNT

Outcome area/ activity	Lessons Learnt	Actions taken / needed
Church institutional strengthening	The Church is familiar with provision of basic services and with overseas funds coming in for infrastructure projects, but not familiar with the aims or processes of community development.	The objectives and processes of the CPP need to be incorporated as an introductory session in working with project stakeholders and there needs to be on ongoing communication strategy for engaging Church leaders in the program.
Cross-cutting - Gender	Even when invited and encouraged, women are reluctant to step outside the traditional role of deference to men.	A gender strategy is needed which has male leaders affirming women's voice and women leaders modelling and mentoring leadership beyond traditional roles.

APPENDIX
Financial Acquittal 2009-10

Objective	Program Activity	Details	Budget AUD	Actual AUD	Variation
Output 1 – Strengthening VCC	Not applicable				
Output 2 – Institutional Strengthening for Churches	Establish Community Development Office	Recruitment, salary, training, purchase office equipment, administrative costs	35,000	29,445	
	PCV Church Leaders Conference	Conference venue hire, accommodation, meals, resources	33,000	23,600	Cost saving measures effective
	Demographic survey	Census consultant, travel, accommodation, computer software	9,000	3,355	Funding delays and technical difficulties
	Good governance training of Church boards of management at national and regional levels	Training program conducted with 3 national Standing Committees and 4 regional boards (called Church Sessions), consultant, transport, accommodation, venue and resources	15,000	6,343	Funding delays
	Employment financial assistant	Recruitment, salary, training, purchase office equipment, administrative costs	6,800	313	Office renovation needed
	Technology upgrade and training.	Nine computers and printers purchased and IT training conducted.	13,500	13,761	

Output 3 – Development Initiatives of Churches	Health School curriculum review and additional health modules incorporated. Health program training and resources	Travel and accommodation for university reviewers; course costs for bush mission workers	10,000	12,583	Assistance with course costs – see narrative above
	HIV and Health program development	Recruitment, salary and program resources	30,200	1,176	Difficulty finding suitable applicant
	Research on feasibility of a PCV dentistry program	Research conducted at no charge by consultant dentist	1,000	0	Pro bono work
	Courses for rural women in leadership skills, bookkeeping, computer skills, and sewing.	Travel, teacher stipend, accommodation, meals and course materials	9,500	9,500	
	Pilot train the trainer course for rural youth leaders in the Step by Step Business Management program	Travel, trainer fees, accommodation, meals and course materials	9,500	4,498	
	Land registration awareness program and resourcing to register currently unregistered land.	Awareness program resources, travel, accommodation, meals	20,000	3,505	Registrations yet to occur – see report above
Direct ANGO development costs	Program planning and monitoring and program wide meetings		7,500	8,958	
Output 4 – Joint Church Activities	No proposal at this time				
ANGO Management Costs			14,000	14,000	
Total expenditure				131,037	
Interest				-1,393	
Less final tranche June 2010				32,000	
Balance at UnitingWorld carried forward 2010-11				52,356	

Declaration:

I declare:

- this report is complete and accurate;
- the acquittal attached is a correct record of income and expenditure for this Annual Activity Plan Proposal;
- interest earned on AusAID funds has been calculated accurately and applied to the Annual Activity Plan or refunded to AusAID;
- the expenditure detailed in the acquittal has been extracted from the NGO's (or the delivery organisation's) financial accounting records;
- a detailed record of income and expenditure at an individual item level is available;
- the funds allocated to the Annual Activity Plan were used in accordance with Agreement No 37879/9, Service Order No. 37933/9 and the Annual Activity Plan Proposal, including any variations to the proposal approved by AusAID in writing.

Full Name: Rob Floyd

Signature:



Position in NGO: Associate Director

Date: 30 July 2010