



VANUATU 2030

THE PEOPLE'S PLAN

DRAFT FOR VALIDATION

National Sustainable Development Plan 2016 to 2030

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Government of the Republic of Vanuatu extends its deepest appreciation to the many individuals, community leaders, organisations and institutions who provided valuable perspectives, ideas and support throughout the process that has given rise to this plan. The deliberations and analysis of the technical officers and officials was greatly informed by the extensive national consultations.

The Government further extends its sincere gratitude for the dedication and technical rigour of those who took part in the working groups, led by the Department of Strategic Policy, Planning and Aid Coordination.

The Final Technical Report on the National Sustainable Development Plan 2016 to 2030, details the background, process, and strategic context, and complements the *Implementation and Monitoring Framework for the National Sustainable Development Plan* that will guide the execution of this plan.

The drafting of this plan and the supporting background reports were undertaken by multiple authors from across government and coordinated by the Department of Strategic Policy, Planning and Aid Coordination. All of the contributions and support are gratefully acknowledged and warmly appreciated.

Produced by the Department of Strategic Policy,
Planning and Aid Coordination

Republic of Vanuatu
Port Vila, November 2016

Front cover image by Dan McGarry

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Foreword

On behalf of the people and government of Vanuatu, I am delighted to present to you *Vanuatu 2030 | The People's Plan* as our National Sustainable Development Plan for the period 2016 to 2030.

This plan builds on the progress made and lessons learned under the *Priorities and Action Agenda*, which guided our national development efforts between 2006 and 2015, and the *Millennium Development Goals*, which also expired in 2015.

Vanuatu 2030 charts the country's vision and overarching policy framework for achieving a Stable, Sustainable and Prosperous Vanuatu within the next fifteen years, and in doing so sets out the national priorities and context for the implementation of the new global Sustainable Development Goals over the same period.

The national vision and the framework for action outlined in this plan have been informed by the priorities voiced by our people, their community and elected representatives, the private sector and civil society over the course of a three-year consultation programme undertaken across the whole country. Our united voices articulate what we want for ourselves, our children, future generations and our country.

This is an ambitious plan. The government is committed to its implementation and monitoring and reporting on its progress. Its success, however, is dependent on collective ownership and collaborative partnerships between the people, government, community leaders, businesses and civil society. Our development partners will also need to ensure their programmes are aligned to the vision and goals in this plan.

Together we have the capability to fulfill our potential and achieve the Vanuatu we want.

I would like to sincerely thank all the people of Vanuatu who have contributed to producing Vanuatu 2030. This truly is The People's Plan.

Hon. Charlot Salwai Tabimasmās
Prime Minister

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WE, the people of Vanuatu,
PROUD of our struggle for freedom,
DETERMINED to safeguard the achievements of this struggle,
CHERISHING our ethnic, linguistic and cultural diversity,
MINDFUL at the same time of our common destiny,
HEREBY proclaim the establishment of the united and free
Republic of Vanuatu
founded on traditional Melanesian values, faith in God, and
Christian principles,
AND for this purpose give ourselves this Constitution.

--

Preamble to the Constitution of the Republic of Vanuatu

DRAFT FOR VALIDATION

A vision for the Vanuatu we want

Building a stable, sustainable and prosperous nation

Our people and place are at the very heart of our development aspirations. Together we strive for a nation that is stable, sustainable and prosperous, so that all people have a just and equal opportunity to be well educated, healthy and wealthy. As we strive to progress in a way that protects and preserves our natural resources for our children, and theirs.

Vanuatu 2030 is our National Sustainable Development Plan for the period 2016 to 2030, and serves as the country's highest level policy framework. It is founded on our culture, traditional knowledge and Christian principles, and builds on our development journey since Independence in 1980. We have already achieved a great deal as we have encountered many difficulties and setbacks, some from natural disasters. Our most recent national plan, the *Priorities and Action Agenda 2006-2015* sought to deliver a just, educated, healthy and wealthy Vanuatu. It was the first concerted attempt to link policy and planning to the limited resources of government. As we look ahead to the next 15 years, we now seek to further extend the linkages between resources, policy and planning to the people and place they exist to serve. In effect our development journey remains on the same course, but we are upgrading the vehicle to get us there in a more holistic and inclusive way.

Throughout the extensive public consultations that informed this plan, Ni-Vanuatu resoundingly called for a balance between the social, environmental and economic pillars of sustainable development, with our cultural heritage as the foundation of an inclusive society. In the consultations we discussed our biggest development challenges and their solutions. We did not come up with all the answers, but the national vision and policy framework described in these pages charts a pathway towards improved wellbeing and greater shared prosperity.

NATIONAL VISION

A stable, sustainable and prosperous Vanuatu

stable · *not likely to change or fail; firmly established*
[just, secure, safe, steady, strong]

Covers political, policy, programme and economic instability that have been viewed as major constraints that need to be addressed in order to deliver the aspirations articulated by the people of Vanuatu.

sustainable · *able to be maintained at a certain rate or level*
[not adversely impact on future generations or our environment]

Refers especially to ensuring resilience and the effective long term management of our natural, financial and human resources.

prosperous · *bringing wealth and success*
[thriving, flourishing, strong, affluent, expanding, wealthy, well off]

We want improve the general wellbeing of our people, and ensure everyone has the opportunity to be well educated, healthy and wealthy.

The National Vision reflects the aspirations of the people expressed through extensive public consultations across the country.

In setting our national vision for a stable, sustainable, and prosperous Vanuatu by 2030, people have asked for new ways of thinking about and implementing development strategies. This calls on our elected and community leaders to focus on stability in politics, policy and the economy so that development serves the wider population and national interest, and not just a select few. It requires safeguarding the remarkable natural assets we have been blessed to inherit, and which serve as the bedrock of our identity. With steady political guidance and deep respect for our environment we can positively transform our country, solve current problems, and come up with new ways of working to improve the lives and livelihoods of our people. The indivisible connections between culture and the social, environmental and economic pillars of development are reflected in our aspirations, and how we will deliver our national vision.

A vibrant cultural identity underpinning a peaceful, just and inclusive society

For Vanuatu, development is much more than just acquiring material wealth. The country was founded on Melanesian values of respect, harmony, unity and forgiveness. These values shape our cultural heritage, which is the country's strength. They are expressed through our oral traditions, languages, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, traditional knowledge, and our deep connections with our ancestors, land and place, as well as the skills to be productive with our natural resources. Our development must be firmly anchored to these values that holds our society together.

Community, family and kinship ties serve as the primary social safety net, especially for the young, the elderly, people with disabilities and other vulnerable people. We must ensure no one is disenfranchised from these traditional safety nets, while also enabling the state to fulfil its core responsibility to protect and deliver essential services to its population. With limited resources available, the state will continue to foster ever stronger partnerships with civil society, churches, community based groups, NGOs, and the private sector to underpin traditional safety nets and support basic service delivery.

There can be no development without peace, just as peace is threatened in the absence of sustainable and equitable development. Vanuatu has an enviable record of building and maintaining a peaceful society with strong traditions of justice and respect for the rule of law. We live in an increasingly globalised context, requiring more than ever the need to balance the interface between formal and traditional governance systems, and traditional peace-building and reconciliation practices and our judicial and security institutions. We also need to ensure everyone can live in peace and harmony at home and in their communities by ending all forms of violence against women and children.

OUR DEVELOPMENT ASPIRATIONS

A vibrant cultural identity underpinning a peaceful, just and inclusive society

Supported by responsive and capable state institutions delivering quality public services, including health and education, to all citizens

Maintaining a pristine natural environment on land and at sea that serves our food, cultural, economic and ecological needs

With enhanced resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change and natural disasters

And a stable economy based on equitable, blue-green growth that creates jobs and income earning opportunities accessible to all people in rural and urban areas.

Our collective aspirations will be delivered through the 15 National Sustainable Development Goals, reflecting the priorities expressed by the people

Responsive and capable state institutions delivering quality public services to all citizens

Striving for better governance and public administration is an aspiration that featured prominently during our public consultations and outreach. Parents expect better quality education for their children, not just formal learning but life skills and vocational training to prepare them for work. Across the board there were calls to improve the quality and distribution of healthcare facilities, and for better access to essential services and utilities such as modern energy sources, safe drinking water and sanitation. People need these services to empower their families and communities to fulfill their contributions to society and realise their ambitions. Building and strengthening institutional capacity is essential if we are to take control of our own destiny, and ensure an inclusive, representative and responsive state. People need to have confidence that their voices shape government action, and that action is working to improve general wellbeing and living conditions for all. The people of Vanuatu have made it clear that means focusing on stability and accountability across our public institutions. It also requires adequately resourcing and supporting our public officials so they are equipped to serve the needs of our citizens in both our rural areas and rapidly growing urban centres.

A pristine natural environment on land and at sea serving our food, cultural, economic and ecological needs

As custodians of a unique chain of islands and expansive ocean we have an inherent responsibility to protect and preserve our natural resources. The Constitution explicitly obligates everyone to protect and safeguard national resources and the environment for the present and future generations. This is not only the right thing to do, it is fundamental to our wellbeing and prosperity. We need to realise the true cultural, economic and social value of our natural capital, biodiversity and ecosystems. Together with our ancestors we have lived in harmony with our natural surroundings for many millennia. Today we face increasing development pressures exacerbated by globalisation and the decline of traditional resource governance. These pressures threaten the very environment that secures the basics of life - food, water and energy systems. Our rich natural beauty also presents a key to our shared prosperity, including through a wealth of natural tourism assets.

Integrating sound environmental and waste management into our social and economic progress is crucial

to meeting our national vision. With environmental degradation a common global challenge, Vanuatu has the potential to be a world leader in blue-green growth and sustainable development. In return we will seek to capitalise on the rapid advances in technology and innovation that can complement traditional knowledge to better utilise our natural assets on land and at sea to ensure our food security, maintain our cultural identity, and enhance our economic prospects. We can and must do this without destroying our ecosystems and biodiversity.

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Enhanced resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change and natural disasters

We now live amidst the harsh reality of climate change, which not only threatens to erode the development gains we have achieved, it makes progress all the more difficult and will increasingly do so. We further recognise that we are not responsible for the causes of climate change, and cannot manage its effects on our own. We will continue to work on the international stage to bolster global mitigation measures, especially by those who contribute most to the problem. We will marshal support to enhance our resilience and adaptive capacity to the impacts of natural and man-made disasters, including increasingly more intense, more frequent, and more prolonged extreme weather events. We will also continue to draw on our rich history of resilience and risk reduction that stems from our traditional knowledge and practices, particularly in relation to food production and preservation.

An economy based on equitable, blue-green growth that creates jobs and income earning opportunities accessible to all people in rural and urban areas

Sustained, inclusive and equitable growth requires policies that help create decent jobs, which recognise and respect the rights of workers, and enable other income earning opportunities, especially for our young people. That means ensuring that everyone has access to the social and physical infrastructure they need to grow and prosper, including access to quality education and skills training, healthcare, water and sanitation, and affordable electricity, transport and telecommunications. Businesses also need reliable, adequate infrastructure, together with an enabling policy and regulatory environment that is conducive to

invest, start-up a business, trade, innovate and respond to emerging opportunities. Ni-Vanuatu entrepreneurs need access to credit and financial services at affordable rates. We also need to ensure that we receive fair and sustainable returns from our land and ocean based resources. We must value and grow both the formal and informal sectors of the economy so that no one is left behind. There are no quick and easy ways to create jobs and income earning opportunities for everyone. It takes prolonged and deliberate action. Our limited resources requires greater prioritisation of spending, while keeping expenditure pressures to manageable levels. Put simply, our people expect limited government resources to be put to better use. Attention particularly needs to be given to our rural areas, which have for too long suffered from an infrastructure and services deficit. At the same time we can do more to take advantage of the rapid growth of our urban centres, which with good management can be the engines for business and innovation; providing jobs, inspiration and growth.

From vision to action

Together we have articulated an ambitious but achievable vision for a stable, sustainable, and prosperous Vanuatu by 2030. With the right policies, investments and collective commitment we can translate our development aspirations into reality. The following pages outline a series of national sustainable development goals and policy objectives to translate the vision into specific priorities that can be actioned. They provide a framework in which we can track and report on our progress.

This is a national plan for all people, and we all must take responsibility for its implementation.

National Sustainable Development Goals

SOCIETY PILLAR		ENVIRONMENT PILLAR		ECONOMY PILLAR	
SOC 1	Vibrant cultural identity	ENV 1	Food and Nutrition Security	ECO 1	Stable and Equitable Growth
SOC 2	Quality Education	ENV 2	Blue-Green Economic Growth	ECO 2	Improve Infrastructure
SOC 3	Quality Health Care	ENV 3	Climate and Disaster Resilience	ECO 3	Strengthen Rural Communities
SOC 4	Social Inclusion	ENV 4	Natural Resource Management	ECO 4	Create jobs and business opportunities
SOC 5	Peace and Justice	ENV 5	Ecosystems and Biodiversity		
SOC 6	Strong and Effective Institutions				

The 15 National Sustainable Development Goals provide a prioritised policy framework across the three pillars of sustainable development. The goals and policy objectives outlined above and detailed in the following pages will guide the actions that will be required to achieve our National Vision and realise our aspirations.

SOCIETY GOALS & POLICY OBJECTIVES

The society pillar seeks to ensure we continue to have a vibrant cultural identity underpinning a peaceful, just and inclusive society that is supported by responsive and capable state institutions delivering quality public services to all citizens.

SOC

1

**Vibrant
cultural
identity**

A nation based on traditional governance and Christian principles, which underpin our culture and continue to bestow life skills and knowledge to future generations

Policy objectives:

- SOC 1.1** Protect indigenous languages
- SOC 1.2** Preserve and enhance cultural and traditional knowledge, including medicines and natural remedies
- SOC 1.3** Conserve sites of cultural significance (*tabu ples*)
- SOC 1.4** Strengthen links between traditional and formal governance systems
- SOC 1.5** Strengthen the role of churches in the provision of community services
- SOC 1.6** Integrate culture and heritage into the national curriculum
- SOC 1.7** Safeguard the traditional economy as a valued means of contributing to the wellbeing of the population and complementing the formal economy

SOC

2

**Quality
Education**

An inclusive, equitable and quality education system with life-long learning for all

Policy objectives:

- SOC 2.1** Ensure every child, regardless of gender, location, educational needs or circumstances has access to the education system
- SOC 2.2** Build trust in the education system through improved performance management systems, teacher training, and the reliable delivery of quality services
- SOC 2.3** Formalise early childhood education and life-long learning opportunities within the education system
- SOC 2.4** Increase higher education opportunities, including technical and vocational training and skills

**SOC
3**

**Quality
Health
Care**

A healthy population that enjoys a high quality of physical, mental, spiritual and social well-being

Policy objectives:

- SOC 3.1** Ensure that the population of Vanuatu has equitable access to affordable, quality health care through the fair distribution of facilities that are suitably resourced and equipped
- SOC 3.2** Reduce the incidence of communicable and non-communicable diseases
- SOC 3.3** Increase the scope and reach of public health awareness and education to inform the population on lifestyle choices and measures that can be taken to improve health and well-being
- SOC 3.4** Build health sector management capacity and systems to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of quality services that are aligned with national directives

**SOC
4**

**Social
Inclusion**

An inclusive society which upholds human dignity and where the rights of all Ni-Vanuatu including women, youth, vulnerable groups and the elderly are supported, protected and promoted in our legislation and institutions

Policy objectives:

- SOC 4.1** Implement gender responsive planning and budgeting processes
- SOC 4.2** Prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against women, children and vulnerable groups
- SOC 4.3** Empower and support people with disabilities
- SOC 4.4** Define the roles, responsibilities and relationships between the state, churches, traditional leaders and communities in safeguarding human rights and protecting traditional values and Christian principles
- SOC 4.5** Ensure all people, including people with disabilities, have access to government services, buildings and public spaces
- SOC 4.6** Provide opportunities, support and protection services for youth and children as valued members of society
- SOC 4.7** Encourage participation in physical activities and develop a safe and inclusive sports system that serves as a vehicle for community cohesion, education, health, leadership and fair play

**SOC
5**

**Peace and
Justice**

**A society where the rule of law is consistently upheld,
and access to timely justice is available to everyone**

Policy objectives:

- SOC 5.1** Reduce the backlog of court cases and ensure all people have timely and equitable access to independent, well-resourced justice institutions
- SOC 5.2** Establish and implement a National Anti-Corruption Framework
- SOC 5.3** Build the institutional capacity of the national security forces and ensure they are adequately resourced to meet performance targets
- SOC 5.4** Protect our Exclusive Economic Zone through effective maritime security and monitoring
- SOC 5.5** Strengthen links between traditional and formal justice systems and the role of chiefs in maintaining peace and stability

**SOC
6**

**Strong and
Effective
Institutions**

**A dynamic public sector with good governance principles
and strong institutions delivering the support and
services expected by all citizens of Vanuatu**

Policy objectives:

- SOC 6.1** Enhance the capacity and accountability of public officials, and ensure the impartiality and effectiveness of performance management systems and the Public Service Commission
- SOC 6.2** Reform state owned enterprises and statutory bodies to improve performance that is aligned to government priorities
- SOC 6.3** Enact political reforms that promote stability, constituency representation and civic engagement
- SOC 6.4** Strengthen national institutions to ensure they are cost-effective and well-resourced to deliver quality public services
- SOC 6.5** Strengthen provincial and municipal institutions to enable decentralised service delivery
- SOC 6.6** Strengthen urban planning and management to meet the service delivery needs of a growing urban population
- SOC 6.7** Guarantee the public's right to information
- SOC 6.8** Coordinate donor resources to align with national objectives
- SOC 6.9** Strengthen data and statistics for accountability and decision-making

ENVIRONMENT GOALS & POLICY OBJECTIVES

The environment pillar seeks to ensure we maintain a pristine natural environment on land and at sea that continues to serve our food, cultural, economic and ecological needs, and ensure enhanced resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change and natural disasters.

ENV
1

Food and
Nutrition
Security

A nation that ensures our food and nutrition security needs are adequately met for all people through increasing sustainable food production systems and improving household production

Policy objectives:

- ENV 1.1 Increase agricultural and fisheries food production using sustainable practices
- ENV 1.2 Promote *aelan kaikai* as a key part of a sustainable and nutritionally balanced diet
- ENV 1.3 Reduce reliance on food imports through import substitution production
- ENV 1.4 Improve access to appropriate technology, knowledge and skills in food production, preservation and storage
- ENV 1.5 Enhance traditional agricultural practices, focusing on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation

ENV
2

Blue-Green
Economic
Growth

An economy which fosters sustainable growth and development through low impact industries and modern technologies to ensure the well-being of future generations

Policy objectives:

- ENV 2.1 Promote blue-green growth strategies
- ENV 2.2 Ensure new infrastructure and development activities cause minimal disturbance to the natural land and marine environment
- ENV 2.3 Prioritise renewable sources of energy and promote efficient energy use

- ENV 2.4 Reduce waste and pollution
- ENV 2.5 Strengthen environmental institutions and governance to meet national and international obligations
- ENV 2.6 Increase access to knowledge, expertise and technology
- ENV 2.7 Ensure adequate financial resources to support our sustainable development aspirations

**ENV
3**

**Climate and
Disaster
Resilience**

A strong and resilient nation in the face of climate change and disaster risks posed by natural and man-made hazards

Policy objectives:

- ENV 3.1 Improve risk reduction, monitoring and early warning systems
- ENV 3.2 Strengthen post-disaster response systems, including assessments, data collection and distribution
- ENV 3.3 Promote and ensure strengthened resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters
- ENV 3.4 Improve education, awareness and institutional capacity on climate change and disaster mitigation
- ENV 3.5 Strengthen community resilience
- ENV 3.6 Access available financing for climate change adaption and disaster risk reduction

**ENV
4**

**Natural
Resource
Management**

A nation which utilises and sustainably manages our land, water and natural resources

Policy objectives:

- ENV 4.1 Strengthen provincial and municipal planning authorities to enact and enforce land use planning laws and regulations
- ENV 4.2 Protect vulnerable forests, watersheds, catchments and freshwater resources, including community water sources
- ENV 4.3 Prevent land degradation and downstream environmental damage from mineral resource extraction
- ENV 4.4 Promote the sustainable development of the fisheries sector that values the protection and conservation of marine and freshwater resources

- ENV 4.5 Reduce and prevent the degradation and erosion of foreshore and coastal areas
- ENV 4.6 Reduce deforestation and ensure rehabilitation and reforestation is commonplace
- ENV 4.7 Build the capacity and support local communities to manage natural resources
- ENV 4.8 Increase access to scientific expertise and appropriate technology

**ENV
5**

**Ecosystems
and
Biodiversity**

A nation committed to ensuring the conservation and sustainable management of our biodiversity and ecosystems

Policy objectives:

- ENV 5.1 Protect biodiversity and ecosystems and their significant role in our culture, society and environment
- ENV 5.2 Create and maintain conservation and protected areas
- ENV 5.3 Support local conservation and protection of endangered, threatened or endemic species and ecosystems including through traditional knowledge and practices
- ENV 5.4 Protect our borders and environment through effective customs, biosecurity and quarantine services
- ENV 5.5 Increase awareness on biodiversity conservation and environmental protection issues across government and publicly
- ENV 5.6 Enhance environmental monitoring, evaluation and research with relevant, open and transparent data sharing among relevant agencies

ECONOMY GOALS & POLICY OBJECTIVES

The economy pillar seeks to ensure we continue to have a stable economy based on equitable, blue-green growth that creates jobs and income earning opportunities accessible to all people in rural and urban areas.

ECO

1

**Stable and
Equitable
Growth**

A stable and prosperous economy, encouraging trade, investment and providing economic opportunities for all members of society throughout Vanuatu

Policy objectives:

- ECO 1.1** Promote stable growth through responsible fiscal, and a counter-cyclical monetary policy targeting stability in inflation
- ECO 1.2** Increase revenue generation
- ECO 1.3** Ensure public debt is sustainably managed and finances are directed towards projects with positive economic returns
- ECO 1.4** Increase trade and investment opportunities and reduce barriers, including through the use of Aid-for-Trade
- ECO 1.5** Increase access to export markets for Ni-Vanuatu exporters
- ECO 1.6** Require all new trade agreements to demonstrate tangible benefits in the national interest
- ECO 1.7** Stimulate economic diversification to spread the benefits of growth increase economic stability
- ECO 1.8** Ensure financial sector stability, and make financial services affordable and accessible for all
- ECO 1.9** Promote financial literacy and consumer empowerment

ECO

2

**Improve
Infrastructure**

Sustainable and well-maintained infrastructure and services for all through inclusive and effective partnerships

Policy objectives:

- ECO 2.1** Increase access to safe, reliable and affordable modern energy services for all that are increasingly generated from renewable sources and reduce reliance on imported fossil fuels
- ECO 2.2** Ensure all people have reliable access to safe drinking water and sanitation infrastructure

- ECO 2.3** Ensure that all public infrastructure, including health, education and sports facilities are safe, accessible, secure and maintained in compliance with building codes and standards
- ECO 2.4** Enact clear infrastructure governance, legislative frameworks and standards for resilient infrastructure and maintenance
- ECO 2.5** Improve partnerships and the cost effective use of resources to ensure sustainable asset management and maintenance
- ECO 2.6** Provide equitable, affordable and effective access to transport in rural and urban areas
- ECO 2.7** Ensure compliance with international conventions and standards for safe and secure transport
- ECO 2.8** Establish effective partnerships that facilitate the development of the private sector and rural communities as service suppliers in the provision of transport and the infrastructure sector
- ECO 2.9** Increase the use of and access to information and communications technologies, including on-line government services

**ECO
3**

**Strengthen
Rural
Communities**

A strong rural economy which creates opportunities, enables the development of rural communities and increasingly contributes to national prosperity

Policy objectives:

- ECO 3.1** Promote broad-based growth by strengthening linkages between tourism, infrastructure, agriculture and industry in rural areas and diversify the rural economy
- ECO 3.2** Deepen the integration of the tourism sector into the rural economy to spread opportunities to rural communities
- ECO 3.3** Improve access to markets through quality infrastructure, utilities, storage and processing facilities in rural areas
- ECO 3.4** Increase primary sector production, including through extension services and cooperatives
- ECO 3.5** Improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of market data on the rural economy and communities
- ECO 3.6** Improve the provision of government services in rural areas

ECO

4

**Create jobs
and business
opportunities**

An enabling business environment, creating opportunities and employment for indigenous and foreign entrepreneurs throughout Vanuatu

Policy objectives:

- ECO 4.1** Create an improved business environment with a stable regulatory framework, which promotes competition, protects consumers, attracts investment, and reduces the costs of doing business
- ECO 4.2** Strengthen linkages between urban and rural business and trade between islands
- ECO 4.3** Increase production and processing of niche commodities, and value addition to commodities in which Vanuatu enjoys a comparative advantage
- ECO 4.4** Improve and expand the range of sustainable tourism products and services throughout Vanuatu and strengthen links to local production
- ECO 4.5** Increase the number of decent, productive employment opportunities, particularly for young women and men and people with disabilities
- ECO 4.6** Ensure the health and safety, employment rights and skills development of the workforce
- ECO 4.7** Increase labour mobility nationally and internationally, including through the collection and analysis of comprehensive labour market data
- ECO 4.8** Ensure processes for acquiring and using land for economic activity provides a stable platform for investment and business growth
- ECO 4.9** Strengthen dialogue between government and the private sector, and enact a robust governance framework for effective partnerships

How we will implement, monitor and report

The National Sustainable Development Plan is much more than just this document. It includes the extensive consultation processes that informed it, together with background analysis and strategic context documented in the *Final Technical Report on the National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030*, and complemented by the *Implementation and Monitoring Framework for the National Sustainable Development Plan*. Together, these components will serve to improve service delivery and the functions of government.

The national sustainable development goals and policy objectives are the overarching guide for government planning over the next 15 years. Together they articulate a path for Vanuatu to emerge as a much stronger nation, renewing our traditions and values, and creating economic opportunities for all. The implementation of the goals will depend on a strengthened social contract between government and the people they serve. It requires the active participation of civil society, the private sector and our international development partners.

The national vision is bold, yet achievable. We are not starting from scratch. Implementation will be informed by the lessons of what was and was not achieved under the *Priorities and Action Agenda*. This learning is an integral part of *Vanuatu 2030*, and should continue to inform the design of new policy responses and actions to address to our development priorities.

The goals and policy objectives will be delivered through coordinated and interlinked government planning and service delivery. Line ministries, provincial and municipal annual plans and work programmes will elaborate on the policy objectives for which they are responsible. Sector plans will need to be updated to align with the priorities and development aspirations of *Vanuatu 2030*. This transition will likely highlight structural changes to the 'machinery of government' so that it is best equipped to plan, resource and deliver the necessary services and activities. The ministerial planning cycle is well established linking the three-year corporate plans and annual business to medium-term strategies. This plan will further

strengthen the link between these and the long-term national vision, which in turn should guide annual budget allocations.

Ongoing monitoring and evaluation forms an integral part of the implementation of this plan. All of the policy objectives are backed up by specific targets and measurable indicators, which are detailed in the *Implementation and Monitoring Framework for the National Sustainable Development Plan*. The targets and indicators are action oriented and, while maintaining a high level of ambition, take into account capacity realities and other resource constraints. Regular follow up and review against the targets and indicators will further help to identify specific means to address constraints, and advance realistic progress against our objectives. This approach is focused both on ensuring timely and reliable information is available to inform ongoing planning, resourcing and delivery of activities, as well as informing annual progress reports on outcomes and impacts.

The *Annual Development Report* will be the principal means of communicating progress against this plan, as it has been for previous plans. The process of data collection and analysis to populate the annual report will need to be further embedded into the regular activities of line ministries and agencies. Responsible agencies will be supported to establish the baseline data, and to establish reporting templates to best track progressing against the targets and indicators. This will not only inform the annual report, but will also provide essential feedback to the people responsible for making decisions, programming activities and delivering services.

In this way, *Vanuatu 2030* will be a functional 'living process' allowing implementation plans to respond to changing circumstances and new opportunities that emerge over the life of the plan.

Putting this plan into effect will necessitate a transformative shift from business as usual. Working through a whole of government approach across the three pillars of sustainable development will necessitate a renewed focus on building and strengthening institutional capacity. It also requires strong coordination of the partnerships with business, civil society, development agencies and donors, aligning their contributions to national priorities and ensuring programme delivery takes place through national systems.

This is the people's plan. The words on these pages must translate into action on the ground in villages and urban centres across the country.

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