

newsletter

APRIL 1ST, 2025 | Ministry of Internal Affairs

Strengthening Civil Society Collaboration for Vanuatu's Development

The Minister of Internal Affairs, Hon. Andrew Solomon Napuap, has reaffirmed the Government's commitment to strengthening collaboration with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Vanuatu. Speaking at the first National CSO Stakeholders Meeting of 2025, the Minister highlighted the vital role CSOs play in national development and called for greater alignment with the National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) – Vanuatu 2030: The People's Plan.

Strengthening Partnerships with VANGO: As the national coordination body for CSOs, VANGO (Vanuatu Association of Non-Governmental Organisations) plays a crucial role in unifying CSO efforts. The Minister acknowledged VANGO's reinvigoration and encouraged all CSOs to become members to enhance coordination and integration into government reporting systems.



The Minister urged all CSOs and NGOs to work closely with the Government, DSPPAC, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs to enhance development efforts. "Where the Government cannot reach, CSOs and NGOs fill those gaps. By working together, we can achieve real, measurable improvements in the lives of Ni-Vanuatu citizens," he stated.


The meeting also served as a platform for discussions on improving CSO reporting structures, coordination mechanisms, and future partnerships that will further drive national development.

The Government remains committed to supporting CSOs by providing training, resources, and tools to strengthen their capacities in planning, implementation, and reporting. A more unified approach will ensure that development efforts are effective, accountable, and aligned with national goals.


The Ministry of Internal Affairs looks forward to continued engagement with all CSO stakeholders to turn The People's Plan into a shared reality.

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April 14th, 2025, | Ministry of Internal Affairs

1ST AREA ADMINISTRATOR FORUM - 2025

The role of Area Administrator was established in 2018 through a reform program under the Department of Local Authorities to support the enforcement of Decentralization Act.

Today, all 64 active AAs from across 6 provinces gathered in this forum to share experience and discuss ways to improve the delivery of government services at the community level.

The opening remarks were delivered by the Director General of the Ministry, Mr. Leith Veremaito, who acknowledged the dedication and commitment of AAs to their communities and the nation as whole and also look forward to their productive discussions and recommendations.



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During the event, Mr. Abduvakkos Abdurahmanov - Deputy Residence Representative from UNDP officially handed over 68 tablets to support the work of AAs by enhancing their capacity to deliver services using digital tools.

This forum also provides a valuable opportunity for AAs to share their success stories and challenges with representatives from other government agencies and stakeholders, helping to identify practical ways forward to address those challenges.

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APRIL 3TH , 2025 | Ministry of Internal Affairs

CRIM TAKES A MAJOR STEP TOWARDS DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Department of Civil Registry under the Ministry of Internal Affairs, is advancing towards a more efficient and modern digital system with the recent handover of the Scoping Assessment Report conducted by Pacific Development Consulting under the United Nations Capital Development Funding (UNCDF) Program. This report provides a comprehensive review of Vanuatu's Civil Registry and Identity Management (CRIM) systems, focusing on the potential integration of digital service applications and a streamlined online payment system.

CRIM Director, Mr. Jeffrey Trief highlighted the importance of this initiative, stating, "This assessment lays the foundation for a seamless digital transformation that will not only improve efficiency but also enhance accessibility for all Ni-Vanuatu. By enhancing digital payments solutions, we are taking a significant step towards modernizing our public services."



The transition to digital payments is a crucial component of Vanuatu's broader e-Government initiative, which seeks to leverage technology to improve governance and public service delivery. The findings and recommendations from the Scoping Assessment Report will guide the next steps in developing a secure and efficient digital payment system.

As Vanuatu continues to move towards a digital future, the government through the Department of Civil Registry and Identity Management (CRIM) under the Ministry of Internal Affairs remains committed to ensuring that the new systems are secure, user-friendly, and accessible to all citizens. The collaboration between government, developing partners, and the private sector will play a key role in the successful implementation of this initiative.

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April 14th, 2025, | Ministry of Internal Affairs

PROJECT MANAGEMENT TRAINING - VANUATU AREA ADMINISTRATOR

The Area Administrators from three provinces of SANMA, SHEFA, and TAFEA came together for a one-week training focused on Project Management.

The training was conducted by the University of the South Pacific (USP), following a request from the Department of Local Authorities (DLA). The goal was to equip Area Administrators with important skills to better manage and deliver projects at their community.

Since Area Administrators work closely with Government and NGO projects, it is crucial that they fully understand what a project is, how to develop one, and how to manage it effectively.



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The knowledge gained from this training will help Area Administrators to work more closely with communities, especially in the implementation of different projects happening across the country.

Representatives from other agencies under the Ministry of Internal Affairs also participated, including the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning, the Department of Local Authorities and the Corporate Service Unit Team of the Ministry.

This training is another step towards building stronger leadership and better project delivery at the community level across Vanuatu.

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April 8th, 2025, | Ministry of Internal Affairs

HANDING OVER CEREMONY OF 37 STARTLINK SETS AND 7 FIBER GLASS BOAT

The Department of Local Authorities (DLA) has proudly received 37 Starlink sets and 7 fiber glass boats to support Area Councils across Vanuatu.

This important step forward strengthens climate resilience at the community level through Vanuatu-Community-based Climate Resilience Project (VCCRP). With these new tools, Area Councils are better equipped to plan and adapt to the challenges of climate change.

The new equipment will improve communication and enhance disaster and climate change response within communities nationwide. It will also make the work of Area Administrators easier and faster, helping them build stronger collaboration with local communities.



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At a special handing-over ceremony, Hon. Andrew Napuat, Minister of Internal Affairs, officially presented the equipment. He also acknowledged the strong partnerships with the Ministry of Climate Change and expressed gratitude to development partners such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF), DFAT, the Vanuatu Community-based Climate Resilience Project (VCCRP), and support from the Australia High Commission, Vanuatu and Save the Children Vanuatu.

With this strong partnership approach, government services will continue to reach communities more effectively across the country.

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