



NEWSLETTER

PUBLIC ORDER MANAGEMENT TRAINING COMPLETED IN LUGANVILLE

After two weeks of Public Order Management (POM) training in Luganville, police and VMF officers who participated in the program received their certificates today. This marks the first time POM training has been conducted in Luganville, giving officers valuable skills and knowledge to effectively manage incidents and work closely with communities. The training also included two female officers, highlighting the importance of gender inclusion in law enforcement.



During the closing ceremony, Adviser Chris Thomas handed over equipment to the TRG unit in Luganville to support their ongoing operations. POM training will continue to roll out across other police stations in the coming weeks and months to ensure officers nationwide are well-prepared to respond professionally and safely to public order situations.





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SOUTHEAST SANTO CELEBRATES NEW AREA COUNCIL BUILDING AND LOCAL SKILLS GRADUATION

Southeast Santo today celebrated the opening of its new Area Council office building and the graduation of 25 students with Certificate I and II in Building Construction. The Sanma Provincial Government Council thanked the Australian Aid Program, Pacific Australia Skills, and the Vanuatu Skills Partnership for funding and support. The building was officially opened by Hon. President Bridley Livo, marking an important step in strengthening local services and advancing the Government's decentralization goals.



A new agreement was also signed with Solar Energy Solutions to install solar power across Sanma Area Councils, with the first training for graduates set for Wednesday, 12 November 2025. The Sanma Provincial Government Council acknowledged all partners—including the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Education and Training, Department of Local Authorities, Sanma Skills Centre, Vanuatu Skills Partnership, Pacific Australia Skills, Vanuatu Institute of Technology, NOK Constructions, and the Southeast Area Council communities—for their support in achieving these milestones.





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DUAP AND PVCC HOST CPTED COMMUNITY SAFETY WORKSHOP

The Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (DUAP), in partnership with the Port Vila City Council (PVCC), held a two-day workshop on CPTED from 12–13 November 2025 at Ramada Resort. The training introduced participants—including planners, designers, safety officers, police, and government staff—to key principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, showing how thoughtful planning can reduce crime and improve safety in community spaces.



Participants also took part in a site visit to apply CPTED concepts in a real community setting, learning how to identify issues and recommend practical design solutions. The workshop concluded with certificate presentations, recognizing participants' commitment to creating safer, more welcoming environments across their communities.

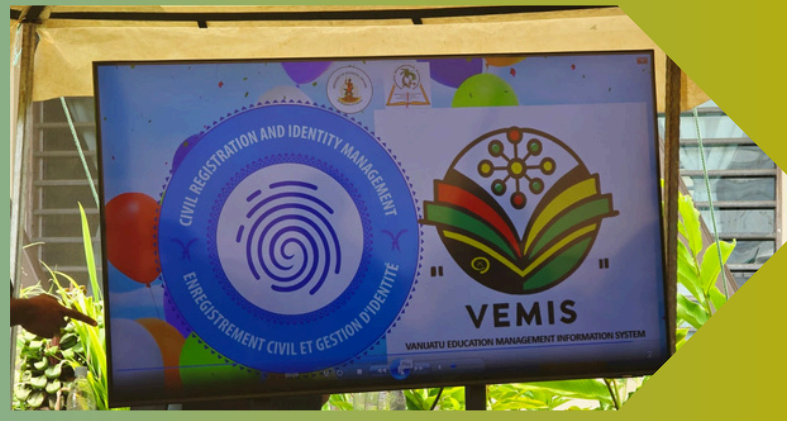




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MOET AND MOIA SIGN MOU TO STRENGTHEN EDUCATION REGISTRATION

This week marks an important step in improving public services in Vanuatu, as the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) and the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MOIA), through Civil Registry & Identity Management (CRIM), officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to connect their systems. The new integration will link VEMIS directly with the CRIM database, ensuring that student data is accurate and up to date.



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MOIA HOLDS CORPORATE PLAN STRATEGY WORKSHOP

The Ministry of Internal Affairs (MOIA) recently held a two-day Corporate Plan Strategy Workshop, bringing together all MOIA agencies to collaborate, share ideas, and finalize key elements of the Ministry's long-term direction. The workshop aimed to help each agency develop a clear understanding of strategic plans and objectives for the next five years, ensuring MOIA is prepared to achieve its priority goals leading up to 2030.



The workshop also aligned MOIA's priorities with the National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) 2030, providing agencies with a platform to discuss and plan strategic actions for the future. Over the two days, all participating agencies were dedicated to building a strong, inclusive, and people-focused strategic plan to support communities across Vanuatu and guide MOIA's work in the coming years.





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SHEFA PROVINCIAL COUNCIL AND TONGOARIKI/PUNINGA AREA COUNCIL SIGN FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

Congratulations to the Shefa Provincial Council and Tongoariki/Puninga Area Council on signing a financial agreement with the Government of France, facilitated through the French Embassy in Vanuatu. The agreement, witnessed by SPGC Hon. President Sam Kiri and Area Administrator Mr. Donald Firiam, supports water upgrade projects at existing sites. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and SPGC continue to show strong commitment to decentralization and supporting Area Councils across Shefa. Thanks are extended to donor partners, including France, New Caledonia, and the French Ambassador, as well as SPGC management and DLA. Procurement of materials and shipment arrangements to the Area Council will be completed before the end of 2025.





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FAMILI I REDI PROGRAMME LAUNCHED IN MALAMPA

The IOM, in partnership with the Department of Labour and with support from the Australian High Commission in Vanuatu, officially launched the Famili i Redi programme in Malekula on 17 November 2025. The programme helps migrant workers and their families prepare emotionally and financially before going overseas for work. Following the launch, IOM facilitators will run a five-day workshop in Litzlitz, teaching couples and families how to plan savings, manage remittances, and stay connected while apart. Additional sessions will be held in other parts of Malampa in the coming months to reach more communities.





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LAUNCH OF VANUATU'S NATIONAL HOUSING POLICY 2025–2035

The Ministry of Internal Affairs, through the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (DUAP), officially launched the Vanuatu National Housing Policy 2025–2035 today in Port Vila. This historic milestone marks a major step toward improving the quality, safety, and resilience of housing across the country, providing a roadmap for stronger, safer, and more affordable homes.



Developed through collaboration with government agencies, provincial leaders, builders, engineers, financial institutions, chiefs, and community members, the policy addresses the real needs and challenges faced by families throughout Vanuatu. With the country's ongoing exposure to cyclones, earthquakes, and climate change, the policy aims to reduce vulnerability and support sustainable housing growth aligned with national priorities.





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The Ministry acknowledged the World Bank as the key funding partner and recognized the contributions of all development partners who supported DUAP in creating this policy. As implementation begins, the Ministry looks forward to working closely with stakeholders, including government agencies, the private sector, communities, and technical experts, to strengthen housing development and ensure that resilience, safety, and community wellbeing remain at the heart of national progress.

OFFICIAL SIGNING OF DATA SHARING AGREEMENT

The Ministry of Internal Affairs, through the Department of Civil Registry and Identity Management (CRIM), and the Vanuatu Aid for Trade Management Unit under the Ministry of Trade & Commerce, today signed a Data Sharing Agreement—a key milestone in strengthening Vanuatu's digital governance. This agreement is part of the Knowledge Information Management System (KIMS) – Phase 2, a national program designed to unify government data, improve accuracy, and support evidence-based planning and decision-making across the productive sector.





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The Ministry of Internal Affairs emphasized that secure and well-managed data is essential for transparency, good governance, and effective service delivery. The agreement demonstrates both ministries' commitment to building a safe, reliable, and privacy-respecting data system for the benefit of all citizens. Partners involved, including Zest IT Limited (NZ), directors, officials, and staff, were acknowledged for their contributions, with the signing setting a clear pathway toward improved services, stronger planning, and better economic outcomes for Vanuatu.



FAREWELL TO THE OLD PORT VILA POLICE STATION: HONOURING A LEGACY

The Vanuatu Police Force gathers to honour the Old Port Vila Police Station, a building that has quietly shaped the soul of the nation for over 45 years. Since independence in 1980, this station has stood as more than walls and offices—it has been a promise that the rule of law would have a home, justice would have a heartbeat, and the vulnerable would always be heard. For decades, its corridors echoed with the footsteps, voices, laughter, and hardships of officers and citizens alike. It sheltered officers through crises, cyclones, and civil unrest, served as a second home for many, and provided the people of Vanuatu a place of safety, comfort, and justice. While the 7.4 magnitude earthquake of 17 December 2024 has compromised its structure, its legacy lives on in every officer who served there and every life touched.





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As the building prepares for demolition, gratitude and hope take centre stage. On its grounds, a modern and transformative policing complex will rise, featuring an innovation hub, command and dispatch centre, city police post, vehicle holding yard, tactical response group facilities, and a forensic laboratory. This new complex represents a transformation and a quantum leap for policing in Vanuatu. Today, the Police Force honours the countless officers, victims, and communities whose stories are woven into this station, acknowledging that while buildings may fall, the spirit, courage, and service of the Vanuatu Police Force endures, guiding generations to come.





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VANUATU LAUNCHES FIRST NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT POLICY 2025–2030

Vanuatu marks a historic milestone with the official launch of the first National Employment Policy 2025–2030 by the Government, through the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Department of Labour and Employment Services. This landmark policy establishes the country's first national framework to guide the creation of decent jobs, strengthen labour governance, and support inclusive and sustainable economic growth. The Minister of Internal Affairs highlighted that employment is central to the wellbeing of the people, providing income, dignity, stability, and opportunity, while driving business growth and a resilient economy.



The policy addresses key challenges such as youth unemployment, population growth, geographical isolation, climate change, and shifts in the global labour market. It focuses on seven priority areas, including enhancing equitable opportunities, strengthening employment services, supporting informal enterprises, promoting high-potential sectors, improving labour mobility governance, integrating climate and disaster considerations, and strengthening the Labour Market Information System.





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The Ministry acknowledged the leadership of the Department of Labour and Employment Services, the Commissioner of Labour, consultants, and the ILO for their guidance and partnership. The success of the policy depends on nationwide collaboration with government agencies, the private sector, trade unions, youth groups, and development partners. As the Minister emphasized, this policy is not just about jobs—it is about stimulating national growth and securing a stronger economic future for Vanuatu.

PORT VILA CITY COUNCIL SIGNS MOU WITH VANUATU CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

The Port Vila City Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Vanuatu Correctional Services to provide official work, training, and support for detainees in maintaining and cleaning public spaces across the city. The MOU aims to promote clean and safe communities, give detainees opportunities to learn practical skills, and encourage their contribution to society as part of rehabilitation. This partnership demonstrates a strong commitment to community engagement, effective city management, and the successful reintegration of detainees back into society.





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FORESHORE DEVELOPMENT UNIT HOLDS CONSULTATIONS ACROSS GAUA, VANUALAVA, MOTALAVA, AND AMBAE

The Foreshore Development Unit, together with the DLA Planning Unit and local Area Administrators, conducted consultations in Gaua, Vanualava, Motalava, and Ambae to raise awareness about foreshore management and development. The discussions covered the Foreshore Development Act (CAP 90), the foreshore application process, foreshore boundaries, and examples of different foreshore developments. The Act applies nationwide, including municipal and provincial areas, and requires developers to obtain a foreshore permit for works such as jetties, sea walls, excavation, or reclamation to avoid stop-work notices and fines.





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NORTH AMBRYM AREA COUNCIL LAUNCHES 40-MEMBER COMMUNITY SAFETY TEAM

The North Ambrym Area Council now has a 40-member Community Safety Team to assist police and local chiefs in maintaining safety within communities. This is one of the first large teams established in the area, and members will work closely with police and chiefs to ensure community protection and support.



Before their graduation yesterday, the team completed a nine-day training program to equip them with the skills and knowledge needed for their roles. The graduation ceremony was witnessed by the Commander of Sanma, Commander of Malampa, and a New Zealand advisor. The Vanuatu Police Force expressed gratitude to the New Zealand Police for their continued support in creating safer community environments.



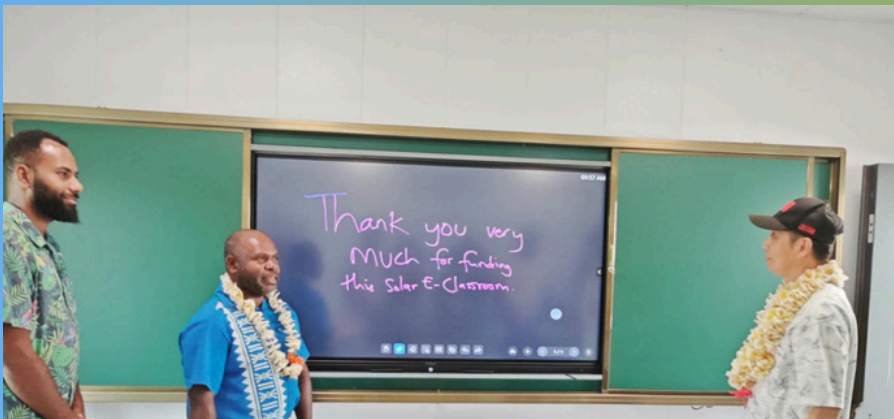


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MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS CONCLUDES YEAR-END VISITS TO TAFEA, MALAMPA, AND SANMA

Minister of Internal Affairs Hon. Andrew Napuat led a delegation, including the Chinese Ambassador, to Tanna in TAFEA to officially hand over a new solar-powered classroom at TAFEA College. During the visit, the Minister met with TAFEA Province President Hon. Andrew Iawak, Finance Committee Chairman Hon. Sam Tom Nafo, and Secretary General Mr. Joe Iautim to discuss provincial developments.

In a brief meeting, the Minister handed over Constituency Allowances to provincial councillors and was updated by the President on a key resolution regarding the Sister City Relationship recently approved by the province. These visits mark the final official engagements of the year, reinforcing the Ministry's commitment to supporting provincial development and local initiatives.





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MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS SPONSORS FIRST NATIONAL NGO DAY

The Ministry of Internal Affairs proudly sponsored the first-ever National NGO Day, celebrating the vital role of NGOs and Civil Society Organisations in Vanuatu's development. The event coincides with the global launch of the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, reminding all to stand united in protecting the rights and safety of women, children, and vulnerable community members. Director General Mr. Leith Veremaito emphasized that NGOs are partners of government, reaching communities where the state cannot always reach, and have been central to disaster response, rural development, health, youth empowerment, environmental protection, and good governance.





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The Ministry reaffirmed its commitment to supporting NGOs through improved registration processes, capacity building, accountability frameworks, and stronger collaboration. This year's theme, "Tugeta Gavman mo NGO/CSO i Bildim Vanuatu," highlights a shared vision where government and NGOs work together to ensure inclusive, people-centered development and services reach every community. The Ministry honored the dedication and leadership of all NGOs and CSOs, recognizing their courage, service, and continued contribution to building a stronger Vanuatu.



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News Update



Hope you enjoy
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November News

