



Enhancing National to Local Institutional Coordination and Monitoring Mechanisms for NSDP/SDG Implementation in Vanuatu

Organized by

The Department of Strategic Policy, Planning and Aid Coordination (DSPPAC) with assistance from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), through the Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG) and its project office -United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG), and in collaboration with the Resident Coordinators Office (RCO) in Vanuatu and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Concept Note and Agenda

20-22 July 2022

09:00 – 13:00 and 14:00– 17:00 | Vanuatu Time

07:00 – 11:00 and 12:00– 15:00 | KST

(19-21 July New York) 18:00– 22:00 and 23:00– 02:00 | EST

Port Vila and Via Zoom

I. Event Description

The Department of Strategic Policy, Planning and Aid Coordination (DSPPAC) within the Prime Minister's office of the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu, with the support of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), through its Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG) and its Project Office on Governance (UNPOG), and in collaboration with the UN Resident Coordinator's Office and UNDP, is organizing a workshop in Port Vila for key officers of Vanuatu's Provincial Offices and National Government to develop recommendations for improving national and local coordination in delivering the National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) and the Sustainable Development Goals in collaboration with national government national officials and international experts. The workshop is supported by UN DESA's Development Account Project 1819G on "Institutional arrangements for policy integration, coordination and stakeholder engagement in SDG implementation and reviews in Asia and the Pacific".

The workshop will be conducted in Port Vila for most participants with international attendance through the Zoom platform. International participation will draw on the learning and training materials developed during the UN DESA's Development Account Project 1819G¹.

The workshop will be conducted in English.

II. Objectives

The objective of this workshop is to convene Key Provincial Officials and officials in ministries in Port Vila to develop recommendations for improving national and local coordination in delivering the NSDP and SDGs in collaboration with national government officials and international experts.

III. Thematic Focus

Despite their large and increasing responsibilities, provincial and municipal administrations have relatively few manpower, trained staff, sometimes just a single planner, and a small Finance Office, and suffer from severe difficulties with both physical and electronic communications. Because of these difficulties, Provincial Officers have, as yet, had relatively little involvement in the national government's extensive and exhaustive efforts to develop and monitor the plans and policies designed to enable Vanuatu to achieve the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and overarching policy framework for achieving a 'stable, sustainable and prosperous' Vanuatu. These efforts are embodied in Vanuatu 2030 - The People's Plan which is administered by the Department of Strategic Policy, Planning and Aid Coordination (DSPPAC) within the Prime Minister's office. DSPPAC are currently drawing towards the end of a review

¹ The workshop is being organized in response to the request of the Government of Vanuatu (as recorded in the CD Repository number 3903).

of the first Five-Year of plan implementation and emerging lessons from this review will be a major input into the workshop's recommendations.

Accordingly with the Mid-term review of the Samoa Pathway², there is a need for improved data collection and statistical analysis to effectively implement the Samoa Pathway and the SDGs in the Small Islands Development States. The workshop will be an opportunity to discuss data collection and data management in Vanuatu.

Another input into the workshop's recommendations will be the "National to Local" building block of the set of tools developed by UN DESA's Development Account Project 1819G. This focuses on the following issues.

- Legal or other institutional arrangements between the central government and other jurisdictions for systematic consultation, collaboration and alignment of policies, strategies, and plans.
- Formal coordination and consultation mechanisms to integrate the priorities of sub-national government entities into national policy/strategy formulation and planning processes?
- Mechanisms to directly capture data and information from the regional and local levels?
- Mechanisms for horizontal coordination at the regional and local levels?

IV. Structure

The workshop will provide a platform for national and Provincial Administrators to develop a better understanding of the strategies and approaches to national and local coordination in promoting the progress towards the delivery of SDGs. The workshop will also provide a good opportunity for them to present their difficulties to the national authorities, particularly the DSPPAC, in engagement for consultation with them on developing effective consultation and coordination mechanisms. It will also provide an opportunity for them to learn from the innovative country practices shared during a series of training events under UNDESA's Development Account Project 1819G.

V. Target Audience

The primary audience for the workshop will be the Heads of Planning and Finance from each of the (6) provinces and (3) municipalities and one other staff nominated by the Department of Local authorities. However, key National Government officials and development partners involved with projects at the provincial level will also be invited.

² [The Mid-term Review, High Level Political Declaration of the SAMOA Pathway](#)

VI. Expected Outcomes

As a result of the workshop, it is expected that it will produce a set of suggestions for DSPPAC to take forward to Vanuatu's Council of Ministers via the Development Committee of Officials. Expected outcomes may also include:

- Uncovering common challenges and roadblocks to effective national to local coordination and monitoring, evaluation and reporting for NSDP/SDG Implementation
- Improve data collection, statistical analysis and knowledge of the building blocks needed for effective national to local coordination and monitoring, evaluation and reporting for NSDP/SDG Implementation
- Enhance understanding of the need for national to local coordination and horizontal coordination.
- Increasing awareness of the capacities needed for effective national to local coordination and monitoring, evaluation and reporting for NSDP/SDG Implementation.
- A draft provincial action plans to strengthen national-local action
- Establishing follow-up actions

VII. Agenda of the Workshop

Enhancing National to Local Institutional Coordination and Monitoring Mechanisms for NSDP/SDG Implementation Learning	
Time 9:00-16:30	Agenda Day 1 Wednesday 20 July, 2022
	<p>On Day 1, participants will gain an understanding of the NSDP and discuss the Challenges and Opportunities faced by Provincial Administrators in Coordinating Multi-level Governance for Sector Cooperation.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness and understanding of NSDP • Learn about the findings from the 5-year NSDP Review and from the VNR. • Learn about SDG localization • Learn Philippines' experience on National to Local Institutional Coordination for NSDP/SDG Implementation • Learn about progress on the Samoa Pathway • Learn about UN DESA Curriculum on Governance for the SDGs
09:00-09:15 (15 min)	<p>Arrivals, Registration, Coffee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee
09:15-09:45 (30 min)	<p>Opening Session</p> <p>Overall Moderator: Mr Bokyun Shim, Head of UNPOG/UN DESA (4 min)</p> <p>Welcoming remarks (7 min each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Gregoire Nimbtik, Director General, Prime Minister's Office • Mr Sanaka Samarasinha, UN Resident Coordinator, Pacific UN Country Team • Mr Juwang Zhu, Director Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG) UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) <p>Group Photo (5 min)</p>
09:45-10:15 (30 min)	<p>Setting the Scene</p> <p>Chair: Ms Ana Thorlund, Governance and Public Administration Expert (UNPOG/UN DESA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Bokyun Shim, Head of UNPOG: Introduction to the Workshop (5 min)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Sai S. Navoti, Chief SIDS Unit (DSDG/ UN DESA) and Ms Cristina Rodriguez-Acosta, Inter-Regional Advisor Public Administration DPIDG/UN DESA. Presentation on the Samoa Pathway and the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (15 min) • Mr Andy Kalo, Director of the National Statistics Office of Vanuatu. Presentation on main local challenges on data management (10 min)
10:15-10:25	Health/Coffee Break (10 min)
10:25-10:50 (25 min)	<p>Session 1 – Overview Presentation by DSPPAC: The NSDP & the Future role of Provincial Officers in Its Delivery</p> <p>Chair: Mr Jerry Lapi, Director, DSPPAC, Government of Vanuatu (5 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging findings from the 5-year NSDP Review <p>Ms Juliette Hakwa, Manager Monitoring and Evaluation (20 min)</p>
10:50-11:05 (15 min)	<p>Plenary discussion (15 min)</p> <p>Challenges in monitoring and reporting on the SDGs</p>
11:15-11:35 (20 min)	<p>Session 1 (Cont)</p> <p>Presentation: Mr John Ezra, Manager Sector Policy (20 minutes)</p>
11:35-11:50 (15 min)	<p>Plenary discussion (15 min)</p> <p>Challenges in monitoring and reporting on the SDGs</p>
11:50-12:25 (35 min)	<p>Session 2 – Lessons from International Experience on Enhancing National to Local Institutional Coordination for NSDP/SDG Implementation</p> <p>Chair: Ms Cristina Rodriguez-Acosta, Inter-Regional Advisor Public Administration (DPIDG/UN DESA)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms Rosemarie Edillon, Undersecretary, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), The Philippines (video) (15 min) 2. Ms Cristina Rodriguez-Acosta, Inter-Regional Advisor Public Administration (DPIDG/UN DESA) -Best practices and lessons learned on the whole of society and multi-level coordination (10 min) 3. Mr Prabin Maharjan, Programme Management Expert. Presentation on the Training Toolkit on Effective National to Local Public Governance for SDG Implementation (10 min)
12:25-12:35 (10 min)	Q&A Discussion Session – 10 min

12:35-13:00 (25 min)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms Ana Cristina Thorlund, Governance and Public Administration Expert, and Mr Samuel Danaa, Associate Capacity Development Expert UN Project Office on Governance UNPOG/DPIDG/ UN DESA Presentation on Strengthening Risk-informed Governance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in Cities and Local Communities (10 min) 2. Mr Pioni Willie, UNDP Country Office, Vanuatu. UNDP Project on SDG localization (15 min)
13:00-14:05 (60 min)	Lunch Break
14:00-14:10 (10 min)	Q&A Discussion Session (10 min)
14:10-15:25 (75 min)	<p>Session 3: Challenges and Opportunities faced by Provincial Administrators in Coordinating Multi-level Governance for Sector Cooperation</p> <p>Chair: Mr Leith Veremaito, Director of Department of Local Authorities, Vanuatu</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr Leith Veremaito, Director of Department of Local Authorities, Vanuatu. Presentation on the Sector Strategy 2022-2026 (NASARA) (15 min) 2. Summary of responses to a pre-workshop questionnaire to provincial administrators asking about the challenges they face and their knowledge of the NSDP (10min) 3. <u>Group work</u>: Breakout into 3 groups: Planners, Finance Officers, Other for discussion on challenges & suggestions about how National Government could help (50 min)
15:25-15:40 (15 min)	Health/Coffee Break
15:40-16:10 (30 min)	<p>Session 3: Challenges and Opportunities faced by Provincial Administrators in Coordinating Multi-level Governance for Sector Cooperation (continuation)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Rapporteurs report back (30 min)
16:10-16:30 (20 min)	<p>Wrap of the day 1</p> <p>Mr Jerry Lapi, Director DSPPAC (10 min)</p> <p>Individual Reflections from Participants (10 min)</p> <p>Short survey</p>
16:30	Socialization and networking

Enhancing National to Local Institutional Coordination and Monitoring Mechanisms for NSDP/SDG Implementation Learning	
Time 9:00-16:45	Day 2: Thursday 21 July, 2022
	<p>On Day 2, participants will discuss the monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs and identify the recommendations for the council of Ministers.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the challenges in monitoring and reporting on the SDGs • Formulate the recommendations for the council of Ministers • Identify the areas and actions to integrate into the Provincial Action Plans to implement the NSDP
09:00-09:15 (15 min)	<p>Arrivals, Registration, Coffee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee
09:15-09:25 (10 min)	<p>Introduction for the Day Ms Ana Thorlund, UNPOG/DPIDG/ UN DESA– (10 min)</p>
09:25-09:55 30 min	<p>Session 4 – Monitoring and Evaluation of SDGs</p> <p>Chair: Mr Keping Yao, UNPOG/DPIDG/ UN DESA</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr Rara Soro, Vanuatu National Statistics Office. Presentation on SDG/NSDP reporting framework – VNSO (10 min) 2. Mr Wai Min Kwok, Senior Governance and Public Administration Officer DPIDG UN DESA Data Governance, Interoperability, and Digital Government- (10 min) 3. Ms. Yongyi Min, Chief of Sustainable Development Goals Monitoring Section, Statistics Division (TBC) (10 min)
09:55-10:00 5 min	<p>Health break</p>
10:00-11:00 60 min	<p>Session 4 – Continuation</p> <p>Mr Matthew Powell (20 min) Statistical Capacity building with a focus on disaggregation by province.</p> <p>Group activity: (40 min)</p>
11:00-11:15 (15 min)	<p>Health/Coffee Break</p>
11:15-12:00 (45 min)	<p>Facilitator: Mr Samuel Danaa Group activity and report back: (45 min)</p>
12:00-13:30	<p>Lunch break</p>

<p>13:30-15:00 (90 min)</p>	<p>Session 5 –Building synergies and partnerships between national and subnational Levels for effective SDG implementation (cont.)</p> <p>Chair: Mr Bokyun Shim, Head of UNPOG, DPIDG/UN DESA (3 min)</p> <p>Mr Leith Veremaito, Director of Department of Local Authorities on the discussion on the Challenges and Opportunities (10 min)</p> <p>Mr Andy Kalo, Director, National Statistics Office of Vanuatu (10 min)</p> <p>Facilitators from DSPPAC, group work: Based on the challenges and opportunities discussed on day one, participants will</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formulate the recommendations for the council of Ministers 2. Identify the areas and actions to integrate into the Provincial Action Plans to implement the NSDP
<p>15:30-16:30 (60 min)</p>	<p>Report Back (30min) Q&A Discussion Session (30 min)</p>
<p>16:30-16:45</p>	<p>Wrap up of the day 2</p> <p>Mr Jerry Lapi, Director DSPPAC (10 min) Individual Reflections from Participants (5 min) Short survey</p>

<p>Enhancing National to Local Institutional Coordination and Monitoring Mechanisms for NSDP/SDG Implementation Learning</p>	
<p>Time (Vanuatu Time)</p>	<p>Day 3: Friday 22 July, 2022</p>
	<p>Day 3, participants will discuss the final recommendations for the council of Ministers.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed on a set of recommendations to the council of Ministers • Reflect on practical actions for national to local coordination and monitoring mechanisms.
<p>09:00-09:15 (15 min)</p>	<p>Arrivals, Registration, Coffee</p> <p>Coffee</p>
<p>09:15-09:25 (10 min)</p>	<p>Introduction for the Day</p> <p>Mr Jerry Lapi (DSPPAC) (10 min)</p> <p>Mr Albert Ruddley, Secretary-General for Sanma Province. Presentation on the main recommendations for the provincial action plans.</p>

<p>9:25-10:40 (75 min)</p>	<p>Session 6: Proposed Recommendations to Council of Ministers on Enhancing National to Local Institutional Coordination and Monitoring Mechanisms</p> <p>Chair: Mr Bokyun Shim, Head of UNPOG, DPIDG/UN DESA</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Gregoire Nimbtik, Director General, Prime Minister’s Office. Presentation Recommendations from the Meeting (15 min) 2. Ms Cherol Ala, Director General of Internal Affairs: Open Discussion with Ministers and MPs for their views on the recommendations (DG) (55 min) <p>Group photo (5min)</p>
<p>10:40-11:00 (20 min)</p>	<p>Health/Coffee Break</p>
<p>11:00-11:30 (30 min)</p>	<p>Way Forward Ms Cherol Ala, Director General of Internal Affairs: The Way Forward (30 min)</p>
<p>11:30-11:50 (20 min)</p>	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>Dr Gregoire Nimbtik, Director General, Prime Minister’s Office (10 min)</p> <p>Mr Bokyun Shim, Head of UNPOG, DPIDG/UN DESA (10 min)</p>
<p>11:50-12:00 (10 min)</p>	<p>Workshop Evaluation (10 min)</p>
<p>12:00-13:00</p>	<p>Lunch</p>

VIII. Contact Information

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