PRESS RELEASE

UPCOMING WORKS UNDER PORT VILA URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Government of Vanuatu in partnership with the Australian Government and Asian Development Bank (ADB) are proud to fund the Vt3.35 billion (USD31.1 million) Port Vila Urban Development Project (PVUDP) as one of the major investments in the nation’s capital. The project is designed to implement the drainage and sanitation master plan for 2011-2025, as well to upgrade roads and pedestrian facilities.

The project is well underway with the recent contract signing for the upgrade of George Kalsakau Drive. This roadway fronts the Seafront Park, which will be completely reconstructed under the Vanuatu Tourism Infrastructure Project. The Government has also released for tender the new Septage Treatment Plant and the Community Sanitation Facilities. Both tenders are currently under evaluation. The Vanuatu Project Management Unit, which manages major infrastructure projects in Vanuatu such as PVUDP and VTIP, will also shortly issue the new Public Sanitation Facilities contract for tender.

However, the activity that is generating the most interest is the Phase 1 of the Urban Roads and Drainage works. These works were issued for tender on October 2015 and it is expected that a number of local contractors and suppliers will benefit. These works will include the improvement of about 13km of roads and about 7km of drains around Port Vila, consisting of mainly the arterial roads of Kumul Highway (formerly Walter Lini Highway) and the Lini Highway (formerly the bypass road of Teouma, Colardeau and D’Artois ), plus Freswota Road, Winston Churchill Avenue and roads within the Central Business District. The main arterial roads will be completely upgraded with kerbs, footpaths and associated drainage. The Freswota Road, Winston Churchill and Central Business District will be resealed in this initial tender package.

The Government is seeking additional funds to further upgrade Freswota Road, Winston Churchill Avenue and the Central Business District. Upon sourcing these funds, it is intended to immediately implement the associated works, as currently designed.

The Government is extremely grateful for the considerable support for the project shown by the community, business houses and utility providers. This highlights everyone’s recognition to this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that PVUDP represents and that people want to ensure its success.

If you have any questions in regards to the scope of works for any project, please contact VPMU Director Johnson Wabaiat (jwabaiat@vanuatu.gov.vu) or Project Management Advisor Mr Tony Telford (ttelford@vanuatu.gov.vu) at the Vanuatu Project Management Unit.