

Port Vila Urban Development Project (PVUDP)

PROGRESS UPDATE

SEPT 2016

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| <i>Septage Treatment</i> | 2 |
| <i>Landowner Support</i> | 2 |
| <i>Women's Employment</i> | 3 |

The Government of Vanuatu in Partnership with the Australian Government and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) are funding the Port Vila Urban Development Project (PVUDP) as one of the major investments in the nation's capital. PVUDP will contribute to sustainable urban development in Port Vila through improved roads, drainage and sanitation infrastructure and services. The Project duration is from 13 February 2013 to 31st December 2018.



GEORGE KALSAKAU DRIVE (GKD) NEARING COMPLETION



Construction works at George Kalsakau Drive after drains and kerbs were installed



Southern section of George Kalsakau Drive after installation of concrete and before completion

GKD is constructed with 180mm of reinforced concrete, designed for a life span of 40 years. Improved drainage now carries storm water off

the road to resolve flooding. The next phase of works will involve the footpath area between the road and buildings and construction of the

northern section of GKD behind Paris Shopping and Jungle Café. The southern road section is expected to open in early September 2016.

FIRST AND SECOND LAGOONS PREPARED FOR SEPTAGE TREATMENT FACILITY



First lagoon under construction



Second Lagoon with hard coral base

Downer New Zealand Limited is making excellent progress on construction of the Septage Treatment Facility (STF) at Bouffa. STF works involve construction of two primary parallel lagoons with useable volumes of 10,000m³. The lagoons will be over-excavated by at least 1m, and built back to design levels by applying earth compacted into 300mm layers. These will be single septage lagoons,

connected by a continuous valve-controlled outlet pipes, leading to a percolation pond. The percolation pond downstream of the lagoons receives the liquid runoff from the septic sludge, which then infiltrates into the ground.

Truck washing facilities will be available after disposal to improve hygiene and sanitation.

The water table at the STF site is known to be over 40m below ground level.

Downer commenced work in late April 2016. Majority (60%) of the STF work force are Ni Vanuatu with key operators being long-term Downer employees who have received training in New Zealand or on the job while working with Downer in Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Tonga. Key Ni-Vanuatu

personnel on the STF works include operators for the 30 ton excavator and 20 ton digger and the 2 dump truck operators.

The STF is designed to improve treatment and disposal of septage (septic sludge), improve handling and associated facilities, resulting in positive impacts to the environment and to residents of Port Vila.

LANDOWNER SUPPORT FOR IMPROVED DRAINAGE SYSTEM

The PVUDP road and drainage design seeks to improve around 7 km of drainage to significantly reduce flooding during heavy rains. In some cases this involves installing pipes or connecting with existing drainage systems on leased or custom land. The Seventh Day Adventist (SDA) Church in Port Vila has granted an easement for 157 metres of drainage system, which will carry storm water from as far away as Saralana Park, through SDA land and

out to the ocean.

In some locations PVUDP design and supervision team are struggling to secure permission for drainage works from title and custom landowners.

Lack of permission from title holders and custom landowners will negatively affect the overall outcomes of the project, resulting in less effective drainage.



PVUDP PROMOTING WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING

Port Vila Urban Development Project operates under the social safeguards of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Australian Aid Program, which means that design and implementation of the project must consider carefully the impact on both women and men. All contractors must develop gender action plans, which set targets for women's employment and training.

David's Construction, contractor for Community Sanitation Facilities, has been proactive in employing women on construction works at the Seaside Communities, where 4 of 19 labourers are women. Serah Kalow and Leikave Tom work alongside the men laying bricks and smoothing concrete. They say "what the men do - we also do the same".

Women comprise 35% of the road crew of RMS, contractor for Urban Roads & Drainage Phase 1. RMS provides on the job training to women, increasing their skills and employability.



Serah Kalow (L) and Leikave Tom (R) pictured at the Seaside Tonga construction site

In order for women to advance economically women need the skills and resources to earn income and sustain a livelihood. PVUDP contractors are helping women to realise their employment potential.

Gender: Gender refers to the socially constructed roles, behaviours, activities and attributes that a given society considers appropriate for men and women.

Gender Equality: Gender equality means that women and men have equal conditions for realising their full human rights and for contributing to and benefiting from economic, social, cultural and political development. Gender equality is the equal valuing by society of the similarities and the differences of men and women and the roles they play.

PORT VILA URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OUTPUTS:

Output 1: The Government has improved the road network and drainage system in greater Port Vila

Output 2: The Government has improved the sanitation system in greater Port Vila.

Output 3: Central area and settlement communities use improved hygiene facilities

Output 4: Government agencies and community and user organizations have the capacity to effectively and efficiently manage sanitation, roads and drainage systems.

All enquiries related to George Kalsakau Drive, Phase 1 Roads and Drainage, Septage Treatment Facility and construction of Community and Public Toilets please contact the project

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