

Q: Tourism is important to Vanuatu. What does this Policy say about opportunities for linking farmers to tourism?

This Policy talks about encouraging collaboration among stakeholder to increase the marketing of agriculture products to specific markets including the tourism industry; and to promote the farming of high value food crops demanded by the growing tourism industry.

Q: Young people are important to Vanuatu. What does this Policy say about opportunities for young people to engage with agriculture?

This Policy talks about 'mainstreaming' the inclusion of young people in agriculture initiatives, including encouragement; recognition of their contributions; providing equal opportunities in the agriculture workforce; and allocating sufficient funds for agriculture activities undertaken by youths.

Q: Beef cattle are also important to Vanuatu. How does the Government plan to contribute to development of the livestock industry?

The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries and Biosecurity, through the Department of Livestock, plans to increase the number of cattle in the country to 500,000 head by 2025. A Livestock Sector Policy is currently being developed, and once finalised will be available on the Policy Bank website - goo.gl/GLDC3C.

Q: Where can I find support or more information?

The Department of Agriculture & Rural Development can provide you with support and direct you to other agencies that can also assist – Phone 22525.

Contact details for other useful departments and organisations are available on the Vanuatu Agriculture Policy Bank website - goo.gl/GLDC3C.



Vanuatu Agriculture Sector Policy Outline 2015 – 2030

Laef Mo Mane I Stap Long Agrikalja













VISION

Agricultural food and cash crops of Vanuatu are sustainably and profitably managed, contributing to sustainable development for the wellbeing of all people in Vanuatu by 2030

GOAL

The nation's agricultural resources are managed in an integrated and sustainable manner to provide food and improved incomes as well as contribute to environmental and social services to enhance wellbeing of all people in Vanuatu.



Q: What is the purpose of the Agriculture Sector Policy?

This policy outlines how the Government of Vanuatu will help bring about sustainable development in the agriculture sector over the next 15 years.

Q: Why is this Policy important for me to know about?

Private Sector/Industries/Farmers: This Policy explains how the Government will provide support for the development of your farming business. More details on specific crops will be outlined in Subsector Plans.

NGOs & Civil Society: This Policy outlines the importance of inclusive development and collaboration and roles of NGOs, CSOs.

Government & Policy Makers: This Policy provides a comprehensive outline of the Government's position on Agriculture sector development; policy objectives; clear directives; and implementation processes.

Development Partners: This Policy gives an overview of the Vanuatu Government's plans for developing the Agriculture sector, and gives guidance on how you might best contribute.

Researchers: This Policy outlines clear plans for Research and Development to contribute towards the objective of quality and productive agriculture produce.

Q: How is the Government making people aware of this Policy?

The Vanuatu Agriculture Policy Bank has been launched in September 2015 - goo.gl/GLDC3C. You can access the Sector Policy, other policies related to Agriculture, and details of where to find Technical and Financial support for Agriculture, all on the Policy Bank. You can also contact the DARD head office on 22525 for assistance.

DARD has also conducted extensive consultations during development of this policy, and will continue to conduct awareness workshops and follow up consultations for the duration of the Policy.

Q: What is in the Agriculture Sector Policy?

The focus of the Policy is on pillars for inclusive sustainable Social, Economic and Ecological development and well-being for the people of Vanuatu. Themes identified include Research & Extension, Production & Market Access, Capacity Building, Finance, Land Use and Climate Adaptation; and some of the key subsectors identified for action are Coconut, Cocoa, Kava, Coffee, Vegetables, Root Crops and Agroforestry.

These crops, issues and founding pillars are similar to those in other Pacific countries, where research has shown that regional priorities span Food Security, Economic Development, Sustainability and resilience, and Effective Institutions.

Q: Why is agriculture so important to Vanuatu?

54% of Vanuatu's total household income is from agriculture and forestry activities and 58% of Vanuatu's labour force is primarily engaged in the sector.

42% of Vanuatu's exports are agricultural and forestry products, and in 2013 the sector represented 24% of Vanuatu's economic output. 75% of the Primary Sector contribution to Gross Domestic Product comes from Agriculture.

Just 2 per cent of Vanuatu's national budget was allocated to the agriculture and forestry sector in 2015.

Q: How will this Policy be implemented?

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) is responsible for coordinating implementation of this policy.

Other departments under MALFFB and other Ministries, including Trade & Industry, will also be involved.

This will be done through the development of key subsector strategies; restructuring of DARD; regular monitoring and reviews; strengthening of Farmer Organisations in the provinces; and ensuring ongoing dialogue among stakeholders.



