



Partnership Progress Report

January – June 2022



CONTENTS

Contents	i
Annexes	i
Acronyms and Abbreviations	ii
1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. OPERATING CONTEXT	2
3. SUMMARY OF PROGRESS: January-June 2022	3
Sphere of Change 1 – Skills Systems and Delivery	4
Sphere of Change 2 – Leadership and Governance	6
Sphere of Change 3 – Sustainable Prosperity	7
Cross-cutting – Inclusion	10
Cross-cutting – Climate Resilience	11
4. FORWARD PLANNING: PRIORITIES FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2022	12

ANNEXES

1. WORKSTREAM PROGRESS REPORTS	1
Workstream Progress Report 1 – Skills for Agribusiness	3
Workstream Progress Report 2 – Skills for Creative Industries	18
Workstream Progress Report 3 – Skills for Tourism	30
Workstream Progress Report 4 – Training Provider Support & Skills for Construction	43
Workstream Progress Report 5 – Disability Inclusion and Better Balance	54
Workstream Progress Report 6 – Ambae Response & Recovery Project	67
Workstream Progress Report 7 – Skills for Health	73

2. 6-MONTHS PROGRESS REPORT SNAPSHOT (PARTNERSHIP WIDE)

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Anglican Church of Melanesia Vocational Education Technical School	ACOMVETS
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development	DARD
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	DFAT
Department of Industry	DoI
Department of Local Authorities	DLA
Department of Strategic Policy Planning and Aid Coordination	DSPPAC
Department of Tourism	DoT
Department of Water Resources	DoWR
Government of Australia	GoA
Government of Vanuatu	GoV
Farm to Hospital	F2H
Farm to School	F2S
Malampa Handicraft Centre	MHC
Management Information System	MIS
Ministry of Education and Training	MoET
Ministry of Justice and Community Services	MJCS
Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning	MEL
National Human Resource Development Plan	NHRDP
Northern Provincial Hospital	NPH
Partnership Implementation Framework	PIF
Provincial Emergency Operations Centre	PEOC
Post School Education and Training	PSET
Prime Minister's Office	PMO
Provincial Government Training Board	PGTB
Sanma Creative Industries Community Company	SCICC
Skills Development Fund	SDF
Skills for Agribusiness	SfA

Skills for Construction	SfC
Skills for Creative Industries	SfCI
Skills for Health	SfH
Skills for Tourism	SfT
Tropical Cyclone	TC
Tertiary Education Division	TED
Technical Vocational Education and Training	TVET
Thinking and Working Politically	TWP
Torba Handicraft Cooperative	THC
Training Provider Support	TPS
Vanuatu Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association	VDPA
Vanuatu Education Management Information System	VEMIS
Vanuatu Institute of Technology	VIT
Vanuatu Intellectual Property Office	VanIPO
Vanuatu Qualifications Authority	VQA
Vanuatu Skills Partnership	The Partnership
Vanuatu Society for People with Disabilities	VSPD
Vanuatu Tourism Office	VTO
Vocational Skills Centre	VSC
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	WASH

1. INTRODUCTION

This 6-month Progress Report (partnership-wide) provides an overview of the Vanuatu Skills Partnership (the Partnership) from January-June 2022. A detailed update for each of the Partnership's workstreams over the past six months is provided. All progress monitoring and reporting within this document has been undertaken under the leadership of the Partnership's local management and technical teams at national and provincial levels.

The Progress Report provides an update on progress made towards the expected results and strategic priority areas outlined in the Partnership's Annual Plan 2022, together with the annual plans of the Skills Centres. Highlights of results achieved over the past 6 months are clustered under the Partnership's three Spheres of Change for the Phase IV Extension (January 2022 to January 2026), which include:

- Skills Systems and Delivery
- Leadership and Governance
- Sustainable Prosperity

Progress on cross-cutting issues (inclusion and climate resilience) is also considered. The results achieved collectively reflect the different ways that the Partnership is contributing towards the goal of *"an accessible and high-quality skills system that contributes to a stable, prosperous, and sustainable Vanuatu"*.

The results and reflections included in this report have been informed by the Partnership's Management Information System (MIS) and staff reflection meetings undertaken with both the provincial Skills Centres and national technical teams. These reflection sessions have provided an opportunity for Partnership staff to discuss key results, challenges and to identify key priorities for the second half of 2022.

Detailed information on progress made to date in 2022 within each of the Partnership's individual workstreams is captured in the Annexes to this report, including:

- Ambae Recovery
- Inclusion
- Skills for Agribusiness
- Skills for Creative Industries
- Skills for Health
- Skills for Tourism
- Training Provider Support and Skills for Construction

Each workstream includes two complementary reports:

- 1) A narrative report detailing partnership co-investments, key results achieved so far in 2022, challenges/lessons learned and priorities for the second half of 2022
- 2) A summary infographic

2. OPERATING CONTEXT

The Partnership remains directly relevant to the goals of Vanuatu's *National Sustainable Development Plan 2030*, as well as its growing decentralisation agenda, with a focus on inclusive skills development and improved service delivery at the sub-national level. The Partnership is also highly relevant to key Government of Australian (GoA) priorities, including the *Pacific Step-up*, Australia's *COVID-19 Development Response Plan* for Vanuatu, and the development policy platform of the newly elected Labour government.

In the first half of 2022, disruptions caused by the outbreak of COVID-19 in Vanuatu and country-wide lockdown including international and domestic travel restrictions, closure of schools and training institutes, and aggravated by the post-disaster events of ash fall and flash flooding impacts on food security and livelihoods in Tafea, necessitated adaptations to Partnership plans. In order to respond to the evolving demand and direct requests from Provincial Emergency Operation Centres across the country, much of the Partnership's coordinated support and priorities pivoted towards COVID-19 sectoral emergency response and recovery efforts through established working groups on food security, water sanitation and hygiene, education, and protection of vulnerable groups.

Building on its function as a 'leadership incubator' and convenor of collective action during the pandemic, the Partnership collaborated and strengthened relationships with a range of old and new government, non-government, and community stakeholders. Partnerships with long term sector partners were further consolidated, including those in agriculture, industry, tourism, water resources, gender equality and disability inclusion, local authorities and provincial governments, albeit with a shift in priorities to match evolving government and community needs.

With the increased interest from Government of Vanuatu (GoV) partners in agriculture farming for food security, cyclone resilient infrastructure, information and communication technology (ICT) virtual conferencing platforms and Vanuatu's preparedness for re-opening its borders to tourists, the provincial Skills Centres boosted their support for innovative supply chain models to increase quality production and strengthen economic opportunities for Skills Centre clients and communities alike, including a focus on provincial schools and hospitals as core markets for local farmers. Creative industries and manufacturing focused on quality production and ethical business practices, while in tourism, priorities were focused on the preparation of local businesses for COVID-19 safe operations. For the tourism sector, this also included maximising gains from the domestic market as well as directly consolidating its multi-sectoral efforts towards preparing for international border re-opening on 1st of July 2022.

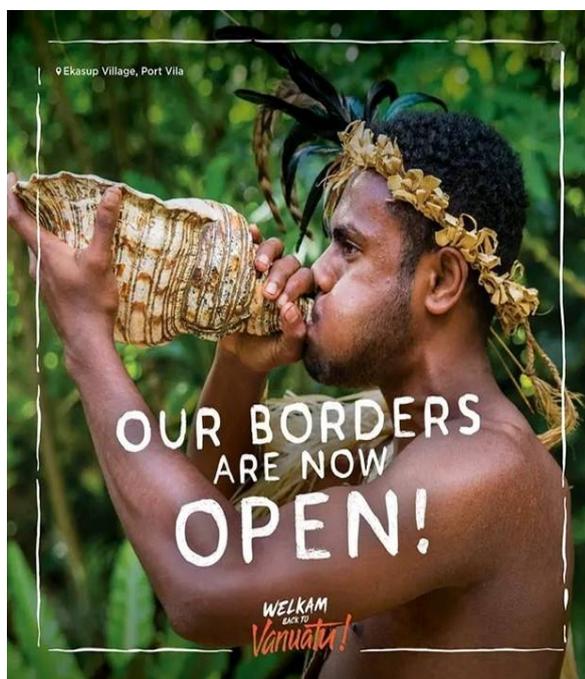


Figure 1 Source: Vanuatu Tourism Office Facebook

3. SUMMARY OF PROGRESS: JANUARY-JUNE 2022

Overview

During the first half of 2022, the Partnership has been true to its design as an adaptive, flexible and responsive locally-led initiative. Detailed plans for the year developed by the Partnership in late January/early February were set aside in early March following the first reported cases of community transmission of COVID-19 in Vanuatu which led to a nation-wide lockdown, including restrictions on meetings and gatherings and on domestic and international travel.

Drawing on its network of staff within the provincial Skills Centres and its trusted relationships with national and provincial government partners, the Partnership instead made critical contributions to the emergency response over the March-May period. Following the announcement of the lockdown, the Partnership quickly pivoted to online methods of communication such as Zoom and MS Teams, and it provided training to several government partners in the use of these online communication tools. This ensured that work could continue remotely during the lockdown period, while also facilitating coordination of the emergency response from the national to the provincial, and from the provincial to the community level. The Partnership was also an active participant in Provincial Emergency Operations Centre (PEOC) meetings and emergency response planning in all provinces and made important contributions to the provincial sector working groups managing the emergency response, including working groups for Food Security and Agriculture, Gender Protection and Education.

“I think this [the Partnership] model can be applied as a best-practice development program model to be shared across the region... it is really, in practice, an innovative, adaptive and flexible program... decentralised skilled services delivery is a fundamental aspect to the social and economic development of this country.”

Australian High Commissioner, HE Heidi Bootle

Since the easing of restrictions, the Partnership has gradually been able to refocus efforts on its planned activities for 2022. While individual workstream reports show that progress to date has, generally, been less than expected, the Partnership has still been able to progress some of its planned activities and it has made excellent contributions in several other unanticipated areas. Despite the challenges experienced during the first half of 2022, the Partnership’s workstreams are still considered to be on-track to deliver their planned activities and strategic priorities by the end of the year.

Highlights of the results achieved by the Partnership in the first half of 2022 are captured below and clustered according to the Partnership’s three Spheres of Change and objectives relating to cross-cutting issues (inclusion and climate resilience). Further details are available in the workstream reports included as Annexes to this summary report.

Sphere of Change 1 – Skills systems and delivery

Highlights of results achieved to date in 2022

The Partnership has supported training providers to develop new and innovative ways of delivering training to meet the needs of local businesses and communities. Collectively, this is supporting the development of a more responsive and increasingly decentralised skills system in Vanuatu. For example:

- The Partnership has continued to support the Anglican Church of Melanesia Vocational Education Technical School (ACOMVETS) in Torba, and the Vanuatu Institute of Technology (VIT) in Tafea, to deliver Certificate II in Building Construction ‘onsite’ through the construction of the accessible Gaua Market House and the Tafea Handicraft Hub respectively.
- Another innovation has been introduced to the Certificate II in Building Construction in Tafea, with trainees involved in building a new sanitation facility at the Lenakel vegetable market as well as the construction of the Tafea Handicraft Hub. This is the first-time trainees have developed skills on two different training sites within the same course.

“On behalf of ACOMVETS I would like to... sincerely acknowledge you [Torba Skills Centre Manager, Jimmy Kelvin] and everyone on the successful implementation of this project... This was the first time ever for ACOMVETS to deliver Certificate II in Building Construction, and it will always be remembered in future deliveries...”

Fr. Willie Ben Tabi, CEO, ACOMVETS

There have been other examples of the Partnership supporting training providers to adapt skills training to meet the needs of stakeholders during the first half of 2022. For example:

- Ituani Vocational Skills Centre (VSC) delivered IT workshops to provincial government staff in Sanma at the request of SG Albert Ruddley, following the successful IT training initially provided to provincial public health managers and health surveillance officers at the beginning of the lockdown period. This demonstrates a capacity on behalf of Ituani VSC to be flexible and adapt the training it provides to support stakeholders across different sectors.



Figure 2: Participants in the IT communications upskilling program delivered by Ituani VSC in Sanma

Another impressive development of relevance to reform of the skills system is recent advice from the Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) that they are willing to fund the Centre Manager positions of the existing Skills Centres. This provides tangible evidence of the GOV's co-investment commitment for decentralised service delivery and paves the way for the Partnership to proceed with the formal establishment of the Penama Skills Centre.

Other examples of significant co-contributions from the GOV relating to skills delivery include:

- Formalisation of an agreement with the Department of Water Resources (DoWR), with the Partnership's Skills Centres and provincial DoWR offices to support rebuilding and maintenance of essential WASH infrastructure.
- A co-funding agreement between the Partnership and the Sanma Provincial Government to support the readiness of 41 local tourism businesses in preparation for the reopening of the international border.
- Significant co-investment from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) to develop new areas of production including seeds, vanilla, and pepper.

Sphere of Change 2 – Leadership and Governance

Highlights of results achieved to date in 2022

The Partnership played a critical role in supporting the Government of Vanuatu to coordinate and lead the COVID-19 emergency response, particularly over the March-May period. These contributions helped support the delivery of services to local communities during what was a very challenging period. For example:

- **The Partnership actively participated in PEOC meetings and emergency response planning in all provinces** and made a particularly strong contribution in Sanma where the Partnership’s Quality Systems Manager was seconded to assist with planning and coordination, ensuring that government support reached the community level.
- **The Partnership made important contributions to the provincial sector emergency working groups managing the emergency response.** This includes the Food Security and Agriculture working group (such as through the distribution of vegetable seedlings and facilitating access to markets for farmers), Education sector working group (including printing and distribution of home school materials) and Shelter and Health sector working group (identification of COVID-19 isolation centres in local communities and construction of new handwashing stations).
- **The Partnership were advocates for an inclusive emergency response that benefited women, people in remote locations and people with a disability.** For example:
 - In Sanma, the Partnership supported several new market access initiatives developed by the Provincial Government, such as a new ‘mobile market’, that connected farmers in rural areas to consumers in urban areas, thereby allowing farmers based in rural locations to earn an income during the lockdown.
 - The Partnership supported Vanuatu Society for People with Disabilities (VSPD) and Vanuatu Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association (VDPA) to improve service delivery for people with disabilities resulting in the development of a COVID-19 Response Plan. The Partnership also organised for the delivery of hygiene kits and food baskets to people with a disability (including in Sanma and on Ambae).



Figure 3: Distribution of seeds to farms on Ambae

The Partnership also assisted its partners to adopt remote working and communications arrangements during the lockdown, thereby ensuring coordination could continue. For example:

- The Partnership organised IT workshops for Ministry of Health provincial public health managers and surveillance officers in six provinces, which included basic skills in how to use Zoom, Teams, and other software to support communications with head office in Port Vila.
- IT training and equipment was organised for the provincial government in Sanma, which led to the convening of the first ever Provincial Council sitting through the use of online virtual conferencing. This subsequently led to the set-up of Area Council taskforces which used virtual meetings to communicate and coordinate their efforts.

- Communication between national Department of Industry (DoI) officers and provincial industry officers has reportedly improved following the introduction of Zoom meetings.

“I understand the weekly surveillance meetings (over Zoom) are having real benefits in establishing professional peer support for the surveillance officers and working to create a team approach to disease identification and response. It’s such a successful activity that we are seeing interest from other health programs to establish similar arrangements...”

Chris Hagarty, Business Planning Adviser, Vanuatu Health Program

In addition to the COVID-19 emergency response, the Partnership has been instrumental in facilitating coordination and collaboration between national and provincial government stakeholders relating to the delivery of social and community infrastructure projects. For example:

- The construction of the Tafea Handicraft Centre has involved coordination and collaboration between the Tafea Provincial Government, Lenakel Town Municipality, Tanna Nikoletan Council of Chiefs, DoI and VIT, with each partner contributing to the delivery of the initiative.
- Implementation of the Farm-to-Hospital initiative (F2H) in Sanma has involved collaboration between Northern Provincial Hospital (NPH), Sanma Provincial Government Council, Department of Fisheries, Department of Livestock, DARD, and DoI, along with the Sanma Skills Centre and the Partnership’s technical workstreams (Agribusiness and Health).

There have been other important examples of coordination for improved leadership and governance that have been supported by the Partnership during the first half of 2022, several of which have directly promoted the interests of women and people with a disability and/or were led by ni-Vanuatu women. This includes:

- **consultations for the revised handicraft sector policy**, which is critical for further development of the handicraft sector in Vanuatu. With support from the Partnership, consultations were held across six provinces with representatives from the handicraft producers (mostly women), government departments, NGOs, and other relevant agencies.
- **collaboration amongst local tourism operators and other partners at the national and provincial level ahead of the reopening of the international border, particularly between Department of Tourism (DoT) and the Vanuatu Tourism Office (VTO) through the leadership of two strong ni-Vanuatu women.** The Partnership has actively promoted the leadership competency of these women to positively influence perceptions around the legitimacy of women’s leadership in Vanuatu.

“I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you in Sanma province, stakeholders, and partners for the strong collaboration since the announcement of border reopening. Through this partnership we were able achieve some great results and one is what we are witnessing today where each of you will be receiving support to help with your business operations.”

Acting Director DoT, Mrs. Geraldine Tari

Sphere of Change 3 – Sustainable Prosperity

Highlights of results achieved to date in 2022

The support provided by the Partnership for different market access initiatives across the provinces has been a feature of the Partnership’s work in recent times, particularly in the creative industries and agribusiness sectors.

During the first half of 2022, the Partnership supported the construction and operation of new handicraft hubs in Torba and Tafea, creating new opportunities for producers to sell their handicrafts and increase their incomes.

- At the Torba Handicraft Cooperative, producers recently received dividends for the first time, a total of VUV 178,190 since March 2022, with the highest earning shareholder being a woman with a disability.

“This is the first-time producers have received their dividends since the establishment of the Torba Handicraft Cooperative. As the THC Coordinator, it is indeed a major achievement to celebrate, and I am happy to be part of this. Of the 53 members, there are two producers with a disability, and they have both received their shares, with one being the highest earner of all shareholders.”

Linrose Bisiwei, THC Coordinator

The construction of the new handicraft hubs was accompanied by the delivery of the Certificate II in Building Construction courses (delivered by ACOMVETS and VIT). **Following the conclusion of this training in both Torba and Tafea, graduates have established their own construction companies with the support of the Partnership**, and they have been registered with the Vanuatu Financial Services Commission. These are important developments for the local construction sector in both Torba and Tafea provinces.

Skills development and training facilitated by the Partnership for handicraft producers relating to copyright and design laws has been an important contribution to protecting the creativity and innovation of local producers. For example:

- The Partnership supported Vanuatu Intellectual Property Office (VanIPO) officers to travel to Ambae and raise awareness amongst local producers of copyright and the need to safeguard their traditional products, which ultimately led to the registration of ‘Hanneth’s String Basket’. This is a unique product that is highly sought after, which has now been legally registered and recognised under copyright and design law.
- Additional support from the Partnership for VanIPO officers to travel to Sanma and Torba has also seen traditional products registered under copyright law from those provinces, such as headwear.

Despite the challenges of COVID-19, which precluded face-to-face training for much of the first half of 2022, the Partnership has still been able to facilitate the delivery of a suite of formal and informal skills training courses. Examples include:

- In Tafea, VIT delivered the nationally accredited Certificate II in Building Construction to 24 local builders while constructing the first-ever handicraft centre for Tafea Province.
- On Ambae, the Partnership supported the delivery of a five-day Forestry Saw Milling course for 28 participants (25 men, 3 women) with the Penama Forestry Department, giving local sawmill operators the opportunity to improve their skills and produce timber locally.

- On Tanna, workshop was provided for 95 vanilla growers on vanilla farming husbandry as well as the vanilla curing process.
- On Ambae, the Partnership supported the delivery of a three-day cocoa workshop for 20 cocoa producers (17 men, three women) delivered in partnership with DARD, with a view to strengthening the skills of cocoa producers across different aspects of the value chain (production, bean fermentation, drying and chocolate processing).

Implementation of the Farm-to-Hospital (F2H) initiative at NPH is gathering pace, with the NPH farm increasing its production of chicken, eggs, fish, fruit and vegetables in recent months. This is leading to savings for the NPH as it reduces its expenditure on food, while also ensuring a supply of healthy, nutritious food to NPH patients. Feedback from the NPH Chief Cook suggests that the NPH’s monthly food bill is lessening each month as the hospital supplies more of its own food.



Figure 4: NPH kitchen staff preparing meals using produce from the farm

The Partnership has also made important gains in supporting the agricultural sector in line with GoV objectives, thereby strengthening food security in Vanuatu. In recent months, monitoring visits have identified there has been increase in the area cultivated for pepper (Malekula) and vanilla (Tafea), while the development of a seedbank and increased production of seeds on Malekula are also important contributions to strengthening food security in Vanuatu.

“I have been a vegetable farmer for over 10 years. Two years ago, I was invited to join Malekula Seeds. Producing seeds is not totally new to me, however with this initiative I have learnt a lot and am now producing more varieties of seeds and better-quality seeds too. In addition, I can confirm that producing seeds is easier than growing food for the local market and we make more money.”

Ketlen Atta, seed producer from Central Malekula

Cross-cutting – Inclusion

Highlights of results achieved to date in 2022

The Partnership continues to encourage the participation of women and people with disabilities in formal skills training and coaching activities. There have been some successes so far in 2022:

- Both women and people with disabilities were included in the Certificate II in Building Construction courses (typically a non-traditional course for women).
- the local building contractor for the Tafea Handicraft Centre employed a person with a disability as part of the construction team, which enabled them to be part of the training.

The Partnership has also ensured consideration of gender equality and disability inclusion within policy development and reform processes, and during the COVID-19 emergency response, such as:

- ensuring the participation of women in the development and completion of the Sanma Creative Industries Community Company (SCICC) financial policy.
- promoting the voice of people with a disability and their interests during the consultation process for the review of the Vanuatu Handicraft Sector Policy.
- facilitating the development of a COVID-19 response plan, which was used by VSPD and VPDA to support people with disability during the lockdown, and providing food baskets and hygiene kits to people with a disability.

The Partnership also continues to support and empower women in positions of leadership in Vanuatu. For example, the three provincial handicraft hubs are all managed by women who have successfully navigated a challenging period during the COVID-19 lockdown, while the Partnership has provided strong support to DoT and VTO in preparation for the reopening of the international border, with both organisations overseen by two strong ni-Vanuatu women. The Partnership recently recruited two male Better Balance officers, male champions for gender equality and inclusion.

“When women are on the frontline during an emergency or disaster response they go to places or areas that others are not able to go to. They see beyond to areas that are usually overlooked by other leaders”

Secretary General, Albert Ruddle, Sanma Provincial Government

Cross-cutting – Climate Resilience

Highlights of results achieved to date in 2022

Climate resilience has recently been reinvigorated as a priority issue for the Partnership and further work is needed over the next 6 months to determine how climate resilience can best be integrated across the Partnership's workstreams building on foundational work undertaken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

That said, climate resilience has been considered in several activities already. For example:

- Building designs (such as for the new handicraft hubs) must meet the principles of Build Back Better and be able to withstand extreme weather events.
- Climate resilience has been considered as part of refresh of the National Handicraft Policy, including future access to raw materials such as pandanus.
- The recent drilling of a borehole at NPH in Sanma as part of the F2H initiative is aimed at securing a water supply to support the operations of the farm, including during drought.

4. FORWARD PLANNING: PRIORITIES FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2022

It is expected that the Partnership's engagement with partners and stakeholders will be less disrupted in the second half of 2022 now that we have experienced the "new normal" ways of collaboratively implementing activities. The Partnership will continue to facilitate activities that directly and indirectly contribute to community resilience against the pandemic. Based on progress to date in 2022, the following activities will be prioritised for the second half of 2022:

Skills systems and delivery

- Formalise new and extended Partnership agreements with sector partners and stakeholders
- Support to MoET with the National PSET Policy (National Skills Development Policy) review and National TVET Expenditure Review
- Strengthen joint collaboration for setting up TVET in Schools for delivery in 2023 on Gaua, Malekula and Ambae Islands
- Facilitate accredited training to support the workforce readiness program with the VIT
- Coordinate the National Skills Committee Meeting
- Provide professional development and governance skills training, networking, data collection and management for Department of Industry officers, Creative Industries Hub management and board.

Leadership and governance

- Negotiate partnership arrangements for the establishment of a new Skills Centre for Penama with MOET, Department of Local Authorities (DLA) and Department of Strategic Policy Planning and Aid Coordination (DSPPAC) following increased investment by the GoV into existing Skills Centres
- Support the Vanuatu Tourism Office with governance and operations strengthening of the Travel Information Centre Networks
- Jointly facilitate adaptive leadership and governance strengthening for rural health facility staff in collaboration with the Sanma Provincial Government, Vanuatu Health Program, and Balance of Power
- Build on key strengths and lessons from new initiatives of 'Farm to School' and 'Farm to Hospital' and seek support and buy-in from GoV agencies to expand to other provinces
- Support the Department of Women's Affairs for the implementation of national and provincial priorities.

Sustainable prosperity

- Provide refresher skills workshops, coaching and 'on the job' training for target clients across Tourism, Agribusiness, Creative Industries and Construction sectors
- Support the delivery of accredited training for building construction, plumbing, joinery, furniture, and cabinet making, small engine maintenance and electrical engineering, inclusive of the Tropical Cyclone (TC) Harold recovery funding mechanism with DSPPAC and the National Recovery Committee
- Coordinate delivery of 4 construction and 2 water system upgrade project activities inclusive of the TC Harold recovery priorities in 3 provinces
- Progress kitchen facility renovation and local healthy recipe cooking improvement at NPH
- Strengthen administrative operations within NPH administration, kitchen, and farm
- Coordinate official launch events of new initiatives such as F2H at NPH, Tafea Handicraft Hub, and Torba Agriculture and Fish Market facilities

- Strengthen honey farming and business development in Sanma with a specific focus on increasing engagement of beekeepers due to continued increasing demand
- Strengthen joint collaborations with DARD to establish “seed bank models” in two provinces.

Cross-cutting: Inclusion

- Support MoET-led national sign language development efforts by collecting home signs in Torba via video
- Strengthen coalitions for skills in disability inclusion in the training sector and beyond, exploring and progressing the development of training in disability inclusion more systemically, including content and delivery modes
- Strengthen collaborations with MoET to identify mutual priorities of interest, including consideration of Partnership support for the development of an Inclusive Education and Training Policy, incorporation of disability in Vanuatu Education Management Information System (VEMIS) PSET module, and scope for supporting training providers with disability inclusion action plans
- Build capacity of government partners in ‘Better Balance’ gender equality planning and implementation
- Incorporate components of Family Life Education into non-accredited and accredited training, targeting men and young boys (MY Pacific).

Climate resilience

- Refresh the Partnership’s climate change strategy
- Assist the Partnership’s workstreams and Skills Centres to ensure a climate resilience lens is applied across the activities they are delivering.