Early Warning System

ADB-42391-033

Port Vila Urban Development Project (additional financing)

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Quick Facts

Countries	Vanuatu
Specific Location	Port Vila
Financial Institutions	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	C
Voting Date	2016-12-08
Borrower	Government of Vanuatu
Sectors	Transport
Investment Type(s)	Grant
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 2.87 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 39.10 million

Project Description

Port Vila, with approximately 44,000 residents, is the largest population center, main commercial center, and seat of government in Vanuatu. It has already expanded beyond its originally defined urban boundaries due to rapid economic development, rural-urban migration, and proliferating informal settlements. The estimated population of the resulting “Greater Port Vila” area in 2009 was 58,000 residents. By 2025, this figure may reach 109,000. This does not take into account the growing number of tourists that visit Port Vila and/or transit through the city to different tourism destinations in the country. It is estimated that at a given time about 3,000-4,000 tourists are in the city and beyond. The tourism sector is the lifeline of the national economy. Hence, urban development and the quality of urban services in Port Vila have significant implications for the tourism-led economic growth and overall development of Vanuatu. Despite noticeable improvement in telecommunication and water supply, significant inadequacies continue to exist, particularly in drainage, roads, sanitation, and hygiene services.
The poor conditions of these services are adversely affecting public health, economic activities, and the overall quality of life of Port Vila residents and visitors.

The proposed project is designed to implement the investment plan to improve drainage and associated road network as part of the drainage and sanitation master plan for 2011-2025.
For improving sanitation it will construct a sludge treatment plant that will eventually be the site for a fully piped sanitation system for greater Port Vila. An integrated approach will be used for hygiene and health education and awareness activities to ensure active involvement of the youth and women in the periurban, informal, and rural settlements. Explicit methodology will be developed for public-private partnerships, and community and civil society participation as wellas labor-based approaches in the construction and operation and maintenance (O&M) of roads, drainage, and sanitation and hygiene facilities. Mitigation of adverse environmental impacts and appropriate investment in climate proofing will also be included in the project.

The project impact will be urban development of Port Vila is sustainable. The expected outcome is the Government reduces flooding in Port Vila, operates a safer and less congested road network, and improves health and hygiene of Port Vila residents.

Output 1: Improved road and drainage network in Port Vila.
Output 2: Improved sanitation system in greater Port Vila.
Output 3: Central area and settlement communities use improved hygiene facilities.

Investment Description

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Co-financing:
Government of Australia US$ 31 million

Contact Information

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Vanuatu

Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Utilities

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF ADB

The Accountability Mechanism is an independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by an Asian Development Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Accountability Mechanism, they may investigate to assess whether the Asian Development Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can learn more about the Accountability Mechanism and how to file a complaint at: http://www.adb.org/site/accountability-mechanism/main

Bank Documents

- Port Vila Urban Development Project: Major Change in Project
- Port Vila Urban Development Project: Procurement Plan
- Port Vila Urban Development Project: Project Administration Manual
- Project Disclosure PDF