MPM NEWSLETTER

Public Service Day - Torba Province

Ministry of the Prime Minister at Public Service Day 2026 – Motalava, Torba Province, Vanuatu

The Ministry of the Prime Minister (MPM) was pleased to participate in Public Service Day 2026 in Motalava, Torba Province, from 6 - 9 October, under the theme "Strengthen Government Decentralized Services through Innovative Approach."

Throughout the event, the MPM booth welcomed community members and students, providing valuable information about the Ministry's departments, including Language Services, Citizenship, the Government Remuneration Tribunal (GRT), DSPPAC, and the Department of Communications and Digital Transformation (DCDT).

Students had the opportunity to explore government services, learn about public service career pathways, and participate in interactive quizzes. Free goodies and prizes were awarded to students, making learning engaging, enjoyable, and rewarding.

As part of its community support, the Government Remuneration Tribunal and Department of Language Services also donated a printer and stationery supplies to Delhei Junior Secondary School, helping support the school's daily activities and learning environment. Tables and chairs were also included in the school-support initiative.

The Ministry remains committed to promoting public awareness, encouraging future generations, and strengthening partnerships with local communities through accessible government services and practical educational support.

Bringing government closer to the people, one community at a time.

MPM NEWSLETTER

Government of Vanuatu Commences ADB Certified PPP Professional Training

Port Vila, 12 October 2026 - Government of Vanuatu, in partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), this morning officially opened the APMG Certified Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Professional Training Program in Port Vila.

Delivering the opening statement on behalf of the Government, the Director-General of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management, Mr. Roan Lester, welcomed participants and acknowledged ADB for its continued partnership and support for the capacity-building initiative.

Mr. Lester also recognized Mr. Amandeep Singh Virk from ADB, who is leading the five-day training. He noted Mr. Virk's extensive experience across the Pacific and other regions will be invaluable as Vanuatu strengthens its PPP capabilities.

In his address, DG Lester emphasized the growing importance of public-private partnerships as a tool for delivering infrastructure and essential services in small island economies like Vanuatu.

"PPPs allow us to bring in private sector expertise, innovation, and financing to complement our national resources. But PPPs are complex – they require strong technical skills, clear processes, and a shared understanding across government. That is why this training is so important," Mr. Lester said.

Mr. Lester clarified that the program is not a typical conference or workshop, but a structured, intensive learning program. Over the next five days, participants will engage deeply with PPP concepts, analyze real cases, and work through practical exercises, culminating in an internationally recognized examination that certifies understanding of PPP principles and best practices.

He said the certification is used globally to strengthen PPP units and improve project preparation, and that participation in the training reflects the Government's commitment to building the skills needed to plan, structure and manage PPPs responsibly – ensuring value for money and protecting public interests.

"I encourage each of you to participate actively, ask questions, challenge assumptions, and make full use of the expertise that ADB, and Mr. Virk, have brought to Vanuatu. The knowledge you gain this week will directly support our national development priorities," Mr. Lester told participants.

The training is being attended by officials from across government agencies involved in infrastructure planning, procurement, and project management.

MPM NEWSLETTER

PM Farewells Japan Ambassador Okuda

Port Vila – 15 October 2026 - On behalf of the Government and people of Vanuatu, Prime Minister Hon. Jotham Napat yesterday bade farewell to His Excellency Naoisha Okuda, outgoing Ambassador of Japan to Vanuatu, at a special function hosted by the Head of Government in Port Vila.

Ambassador Okuda concludes almost three years of distinguished service in our capital – three years marked by dedication, quiet diplomacy, and genuine friendship for Vanuatu.

During his tenure, Ambassador Okuda worked tirelessly to strengthen the enduring partnership between our two nations – a partnership that spans 45 years of friendship since 1981. Japan has been a steadfast partner to Vanuatu across many sectors of our economy and our social life, notably in health, education, renewable energy human resource development.

As a nation prone to natural disasters, Vanuatu has found in Japan a partner who truly understands resilience. Japan's assistance in building climate-resilient infrastructure has been evident and enduring. We will long remember the landmark opening of the Lapetasi Wharf, a gateway for our economy, and more recently, Japan's swift and generous support in reconstructing the Tagabe Bridge following the devastating damage caused by the earthquake of 17 December 2024.

Ambassador Okuda did not just represent his Government; he represented the spirit of Japan – respectful, reliable, and deeply committed to people-to-people ties. He travelled beyond Port Vila, he listened, and he delivered.

To Your Excellency, thank you. Vanuatu thanks you for your service, your friendship, and your belief in our nation.

You came as an Ambassador of Japan, you leave as a friend and family of Vanuatu.

The Government and people of Vanuatu wish you and your family every success and happiness in your next assignment.

MPM NEWSLETTER

PMO Staffs attend New IFMIS & HRMIS Project Stakeholder Showcase

Staff from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) attended the New Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS) and Human Resource Management Information System (HRMIS) Project Stakeholder Showcase at the National University of Vanuatu.

The showcase provided an opportunity for PMO staff and other key stakeholders to learn about the new systems, understand their key features and functionalities, and explore how they will improve government operations.

The new IFMIS and HRMIS platforms are expected to strengthen financial management, improve human resource administration, enhance transparency and accountability, and support more efficient service delivery across government institutions.

The engagement also allowed stakeholders to gain insights into the project's implementation process, share perspectives, and better understand the importance of collaboration in ensuring the successful adoption of the new systems.

PMO's participation reflects its commitment to supporting government digital transformation initiatives and embracing innovative solutions that promote efficiency, accountability, and better public service delivery.