



THE EPULE PROJECT

STAGE 1 PROJECT PROPOSAL

The establishment of Epule Education Centre is a combined community development initiative of YWAM Pacific Waves, Australian Mercy & The Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu.



EPULE EDUCATION CENTRE



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Epule Education Centre is located on the northeast coast of Efate island and is approximately a 1-hour drive from the capitol of Port Vila. The centre is within walking distance from Onesua Presbyterian College, a 500-student secondary boarding school and aims to provide discipleship, recreation and training services to the school

Vision and Mission of Epule Education Centre.

To Empower Youth, Strengthen Families, Build Resilient and Sustainable Communities

"Education is a transformative force that not only empowers individuals but also contributes significantly to sustainable community development."

Our mission is to equip youth with discipleship training and essential skills, strengthen livelihoods, and contribute to the creation of resilient, sustainable communities. We are committed to providing comprehensive, quality skills training that fosters personal development, enhances employability, and cultivates community growth.



History.

The Epule property, formerly known as Onesua Presbyterian Technical College, was a vocational training center providing courses in hospitality, tourism, joinery, electrical, mechanics, theology, computing, and building construction. The property comprised classrooms, workshops, dormitories, and staff houses. Unfortunately, Cyclone Pam in 2015 caused substantial damage, contributing to the closure of the training college. Whilst its foundations remain strong, the buildings are in need of repair and renovation. There is hope to breathe new life and restoration into the property to combine its original vision as both a discipleship and vocational skills training centre. This endeavor seeks to benefit the youth in the region, fostering their personal development, enhancing employability, and cultivating community growth.



Overview and Purpose of the Project.

The nation of Vanuatu, classified as a "developing nation" by the United Nations, is situated in the Pacific Ocean between Australia and Fiji, comprising 83 islands. Its geographical location makes it susceptible to natural disasters like earthquakes, cyclones, and volcanic eruptions, exacerbated by the compounding effects of climate change. These challenges threaten access to essential services such as health and education, along with vital resources like safe housing, food crops, and clean water. Despite its strong family and Christian values, Vanuatu faces high rates of family violence and unemployment, particularly affecting women and children. These issues have been further affected by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and a growing trend of migration for short-term seasonal work, which has limited education opportunities, especially for marginalised groups like youth and women.

Following the devastation caused by Cyclone Pam, the Onesua Presbyterian Technical College, which served as a vocational training hub for the northern district of Efate Island (the main island of Vanuatu), was damaged and eventually closed. **Epule Education Centre** aims to open its doors in 2024, offering a comprehensive range of programs, including Discipleship training, youth activities, family and community seminars/workshops, and vocational/skills education. The facility will operate as a holistic education centre, guided by the wisdom found in 2 Peter 1:5: "First, take heed to your faith, add to your faith character, and add to character, knowledge." Epule's mission is to nurture purpose, unity, and transformational change within the community.



Project Partners.

The Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu Education Authority (PCVEA)

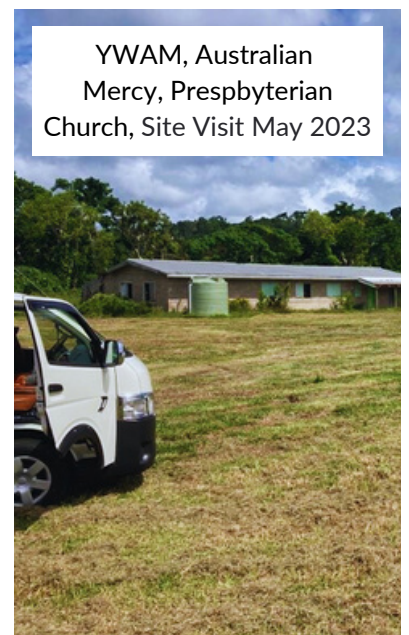
The PCVEA is a legal body established under the Education Act to oversee the registration of schools and to manage all educational institutions set up by the education system of the The Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu.

Youth with a Mission (YWAM). Pacific Waves, Vanuatu is as a legal body registered as a charitable association in Vanuatu. YWAM is an interdenominational Christian training organisation.

Australian Mercy

Australian Mercy, is a registered Australian Government Aid and Development Agency. It's Pacific Village Projects are focused on sustainable community development in Vanuatu Villages involving itself in Health & Education, Water & Sanitation, Building & Repair, Skills Training, and Community Care.

ACN 008 643 258



Project Description.

The project team, composed of representatives from the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu, YWAM Pacific Waves, Australian Mercy, architects, building professionals, volunteers, and donors, will work towards the repair of existing buildings and the construction of new facilities on the property. The development plan for the training centre includes culturally inspired building designs, sustainable practices, and safe housing that can be replicated in other areas. The infrastructure will include classrooms, staff and student housing, offices, health facilities, sports facilities, cyclone shelters, tourism facilities, market gardens, community markets, and agriculture practices. Sustainable power, water supply, sanitation, amenities, and transport facilities will be integrated into the new infrastructure.

Direct & Indirect Beneficiaries

- Ni-Vanuatu students and families
- Ni-Vanuatu villages
- Onesua College, PCVEA and Government Education Authorities
- Chiefs councils and Provincial Governments

Gender Analysis

Gender inequality in skills training is a cultural issue that needs to be addressed at various levels. The project aims to provide equal opportunities, workloads, education, and skills training for all. Additionally, it will conduct marriage courses, retreats, and parenting classes to address gender-related issues and encourage staff and students to model mutual respect and trust.



Project Description.

Sustainability of Development Activities

The project aims to achieve sustainability through:

- The establishment of tourism ventures (e.g., Retreat, Convention Centre, Sports Centre, Cultural Shop, Cafe)
- Market Gardens
- Tuition Fees
- Ongoing fundraising from Project Partners
- Business Development Projects (e.g., Coconut Oils, Honey, etc.)

Cross-Cutting Issues

The project addresses crucial areas such as education, health, safe housing and clean water, with a focus on modelling sustainable practices for the broader Vanuatu community.

Environmental Assessment

The project will seek advice from appropriate governmental departments and chiefs' councils to determine potential environmental impacts and implement recommended actions if required.

Child Protection

When working alongside minors, all participants of the Epule Education Centre Project will be required to provide evidence of a relevant working with children card or a police clearance. The project and its staff adhere to the Australian Mercy Child Protection policy.

Monitoring and Reporting

Standardised progress reports and financial records will be provided to the project partners every six months.

Reports

Performance indicators will be verified by reports, photos, social media updates, and community participation. Identified risks and strategies for reducing risks include obtaining ongoing funding for the Education Centre, securing skilled teachers and trainers, and obtaining skilled Architect and Builders.

Stage 1.

Infrastructure, Transport, Power, Water, Repair and Renovation of 2 x Duplex Buildings, 1 x Classroom and the Building of a Meeting Nakamal, Student Sponsorship

Completion of Stage 1 will allow Training Schools, Outreach and Team hosting to commence operating from the property.



Proposed Timeline.

**STAGE 1
POWER, WATER
HOUSING
CLASSROOM
REPAIR**

[0-6 Months]
Transport, Power, Water.
Duplex Repaired
DTS starts
Outreach Starts

**STAGE 2
REPAIR, COMMUNITY
SAFE HOUSE**

Workshop/Classroom/Dormitories
Repaired. Construction of Prayer
Chapel, Community Cyclone
Shelter /Meeting House
Skills Training DTS Begins

**STAGE 3
COMMUNITY
SUPPORT
SUSTAINABLE
BUSINESS**

Training/Convention
Centre, Sports Centre,
Tourist Bungalows, Survivor
Campsite
Continued Training

**STAGE 4
COMMUNITY
SUPPORT
SUSTAINABLE
BUSINESS**

Cafe, Store,
Marketplace
Health Clinic
Continued Training

Stage 1 - Short Term [0 - 6 months]

- Completion of architectural design plan
- Acquisition of funding for transport, power & water.
- Acquisition of furnishings and building/grounds equipment
- Acquisition of funding for Stage 1 repair of existing buildings.
- Building of a culturally appropriate nakamal (meeting hall)
- Funding for Student Sponsorship Program

Performance indicators will be verified by reports, photos, social media updates, and community participation. Identified risks and strategies for reducing risks include obtaining ongoing funding for the Education Centre, securing skilled teachers and trainers, and engaging skilled builders.

Stage 1 – High Priority needs, Transport, Power & Water



Stage 1 Budget.

STAGE 1

[0-6 Months]

Stage 1 Cost Summary	Vatu	AUD approx
Transport Purchase of Truck	3,600,000	\$45,000
Repair Purchase of Water Pump, Generator, Solar Power System	780,000	\$10,000
Repair of 2 Duplex Houses housing up to 30 people	1,546,000	\$19,600
Duplex Furnishings and Building/Grounds Equipment	500,000	\$7,000
Building and furnishings of Classroom and Meeting Nakamal	500,000	\$7,000
Local Labour Costs	500,000	\$7,000
Student Seed Fund / Sponsorship	200,000	\$2,500
Total	7,626,000	\$98,100

***Australian Mercy has tax deductibility status through the Australian Tax Office for all its projects within Australia and overseas. Tax deductibility for donations to the project are Tax deductible*. *Excludes donations to student sponsorship seed fund**



STAGE 1 | BUDGET WORKSHEET

ITEM	COST	NOTES
Kia 2700 4WD Dual Cab Dual Purpose Vehicle, to transport people and supplies	3.6 Million	Purchase of Truck to transport Building Materials and Work Teams
Solar Power System for Duplexs and Classroom. Solar Power Water Pump, Back Up Generator	780,000	Repair Purchase of Water Pump, Generator, Solar Power
Local Labour Costs As required by Vanuatu Labour Laws	500,000	Local Labour Costs Caretaker/Handyman, Builders, Groundsman
Sand, Cement for outside render of Duplex's	20,000	Duplex 1 & 2 Cement Render
Paint for Interior and Exterior Duplex's	60,000	Duplex 1 & 2 Paint
Floor Tiles for Duplex's	160,000	Duplex 1 & 2 Floor Tiles
Exterior Doors for Duplex's	160,000	Duplex 1 & 2 Doors
Taps for Showers, Kitchen and Hand Basins. Toilets, Benchtop Renovation for Duplex's	120,000	Duplex 1 & 2 Kitchens & Bathrooms
Full Length 3m wide Verandah for weather protection and outside living	800,000	Duplex 1 & 2 Verandah

STAGE 1 | BUDGET WORKSHEET

ITEM	COST	NOTES
Plywood, Hinges, Latches for Duplex's	60,000	Window Fittings for Duplex
Duplex/Classroom 16 x Ceiling Fans	176,000	Duplex/Classroom 16 x Ceiling Fans
12 x 6 Wood Frame Nalamal Natangura Leaf Roof, Chairs	500,000	Building and furnishings of Class room and Meeting Nakamal Wood, Thatch, Chairs,
4 x Fridge, Stove, Beds, Toilets, Garden Tools and Mower	500,000	Duplex Furnishings and Building/Grounds Equipment - 4 x Fridge, Stove, Beds, Toilets, - Garden Tools and Mower
Seed Funding for 10 Students - for Training Schools	200,000	Seed Funding for Students, Staff - for Training Schools



EPULE EDUCATION CENTRE

For Mission Builders, Volunteer Teams & Donations, contact us.

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ywampacificwaves.org - Vanuatu Registered Charitable Association No 501153
Tax Deductable Donations @AustralianMercy - [Pasifik Village Projects](#)

