



# The National University of Vanuatu strengthens its digital services and invests in ICT technology to support students' education

At the National University of Vanuatu (NUV), the year 2024 brings forth a new era for students with enhanced classrooms, improved internet connectivity, and expanded access to computers and laptops, ensuring success of on-site and off-site education.

The university proudly inaugurated its "Foundation" building, which now houses the first university auditorium in Vanuatu.

The building includes a new classroom and an auditorium that can accommodate up to 150 students. The auditorium is equipped with a video/audio system, conference system, and an interactive whiteboard, making it an ideal space for conferences, workshops, and classes.

The grand opening of the building took place on 8 December 2023, with dignitaries from various nations and government departments in attendance. Notable guests included H.E. Louis Mapou, President of New Caledonia; Hon. Charlot Salwai Tabimasmas, Prime Minister of Vanuatu; H.E. Jean-Baptiste Jeangène Vilmer, French Ambassador to Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands; and officials from both Governments, including representatives from the Vanuatu Ministry of Education and Training.

In addition to the new building, the university will launch in 2024 new e-learning classrooms, a laptops library, and a strengthened ICT network.

NUV is also leading the DIgital REsponse Connecting CiTizens (DIRECCT) program in Vanuatu, supported by the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OEACP) and funded by the European Union managed by the AFD - Agence Française de Développement.

### What is DIRECCT Education in Vanuatu?

- 5 fully equipped eLearning classrooms scheduled to extend or open in February 2024 with video conference system & photocopier so a total of 175 new computers for the main campus of NUV, its School of Education (SoE), the Vanuatu Institute of Technology (VIT), and the Vanuatu Agricultural College in Santo (VAC).
- A training for lecturers on the eLearning platform Moodle was organised in August 2023. During health or environmental crises, physical attendance to classes can become perilous or just impossible. To provide continuity of learning, NUV's strategy is to develop a robust open-source learning platform for remote learning using Moodle. During the training, lecturers gained a better understanding of Moodle functionalities enabling teachers to deliver lessons, share resources, and communicate with students through various means. This accessibility ensures that students, regardless of their location, can access educational materials and maintain their learning trajectory on and off-line.
- 3 new satellites connexions were installed in September 2023 to strengthen the university and its partners' connectivity.
- A new information system is rolled out in February 2024 to ease student registration and management, connected to the Moodle e-learning platform.
- A secured network and new datacenter are set to be launched in February 2024 to support the current ICT services of the university and its partners and support their growth.
- 2 connected farés\* with Wi-Fi on the main campus are to be constructed by May 2024 so students can work onsite comfortably on sunny and rainy days.
- A library of 15 laptops and 30 tablets for students to borrow from May 2024 when conducting research and field surveys is to be opened. This initiative aims to make information and research tools more accessible to students, allowing them to gather data and conduct academic work more efficiently.
- A Gender awareness training for students & lecturers is also planned to be organised this year.

\*farés: refers to traditional Melanesian hut or house built of timber and with a natangura (local palm leaves) thatch roof.

These initiatives further demonstrate the institution's commitment to providing a modern and technologically advanced learning environment for its students.



Moodle training participants at the closing ceremony



Unveiling the plaque of the Foundation Building (left to right): H.E. Jean-Baptiste Jeangène Vilmer, French Ambassador to Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands; Hon. Charlot Salwai Tabimasmas, Prime Minister of Vanuatu; H.E. Louis Mapou, President of New Caledonia; and Hon. Bruno Lengkon, Vanuatu Minister of Education and Training



The new Foundation Building of the National University of Vanuatu

#### NUV main campus Diplomas available in 2024

- · Bachelor in Economics and Social Administration (ESA)
- Bachelor in Tourism and Hospitality (TH)
- · Bachelor in Environmental Sciences
- · Master in Economics and Social Sciences (ESS)
- Climate Resilience and Humanitarian Action Program

#### School of Education (SOE)

- · Bachelor in Education
- Certificate of Education

# **Universities & Partner Institutes**

- University Toulouse 1 Capitole
- University of New Caledonia
- · Victoria University of Wellington
- · Toulouse-Jean Jaurès University
- Taylor's University
- University Agency of La Francophonie Vanuatu Antenna

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