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**NASONAL YUNIVESITI
BLONG VANUATU**
**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
OF VANUATU**
**UNIVERSITÉ NATIONALE
DE VANUATU**

Annual Report – 2024




Ripis ni Pagan di Vanuatu
Ripablik ni Vanuatu
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Acronyms

AAB	Academic and Assessment Board
AFD	Agence Française de Développement
COVID-19	Coronavirus disease of 2019
CRHA	Climate Resilience & Humanitarian Action
DIRECCT	Digital REsponse Connecting CiTizens
ES	Environmental Sciences
ESA	Economic & Social Administration
ESS	Economics & Social Sciences
FALAH	Family Farming, Lifestyle and Health
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FSPI	Fonds de Solidarité pour les Projets Innovants
HR	Human Resources
ICT	Information & Communication Technology
IELTS	International English Language Testing System
IT	Information Technology
MoET	Ministry of Education and Training
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NUV	National University of Vanuatu
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
PIURN	Pacific Islands Universities Research Network
PPM	Program & Project Management
RERIPA	Research and Innovation Ecosystems to tackle climate change in the Pacific
SASS	Student Academic and Support Services
SoE	School of Education
UNC	University of New Caledonia
USP	University of the South Pacific
VAC	Vanuatu Agriculture College
VQA	Vanuatu Qualifications Authority



Picture 1: NUV's Vice-Chancellor, Mr Jean-Pierre Nirua

Foreword from the Vice-Chancellor

As Vice-Chancellor, I am proud to introduce the 2024 Annual Report of the National University of Vanuatu (NUV), which not only marks our fourth anniversary since the official launch in February 2020 but also heralds a new era of Innovation and Resilience. This year, we transition from a foundational institution to a more proactive higher education leader, redefining the role of a national university in a rapidly evolving, climate-challenged, and technology-driven world.

I am deeply humbled by the overwhelming and strategic support from the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu, key national institutions, and our growing network of global development and university partners. Their commitment is now focused on the effective

implementation of our Strategic Plan 2021-2030, which we consider reviewing and updating in line with our vision for a fast-growing and more dynamic University.

In 2024, NUV served 714 enrolled students across its academic programs, supported by a dedicated workforce of 77 personnel, including academic and professional staff. This represents an average ratio of one staff member per 9.3 students, reflecting NUV's alignment with favourable international benchmarks for quality-focused universities, reflecting a strong emphasis on student support, inclusive pedagogy, and institutional resilience during its consolidation phase.

Vanuatu's profound cultural and linguistic diversity, with over 130 vernacular languages complementing the three official languages, is no longer merely a challenge to preserve, but an opportunity to lead. We are pioneering the use of the language centre. This work transforms our linguistic heritage into a dynamic, accessible asset, promoting Bislama standardisation while simultaneously safeguarding our unique cultural identity through its practice at the university and soon with the use of technology.

This past year, the NUV community demonstrated extraordinary fortitude, navigating the persistent threats of climate change, regular tropical cyclones, and the dramatic seismic events of December 2024. These challenges have been the catalyst for innovation and strengthened resilience. We have leveraged these crises to continue building a digitally advanced and disaster-proof academic infrastructure, migrating core learning systems to a resilient cloud environment. This strategic pivot has attracted significant international attention and funding, positioning the NUV as a global case study in climate-resilient higher education and training institutions.

We acknowledge that fully scaling our Schools and academic programs requires sustained investment. However, we are confident that every step we take is directly relevant to building the human capital required for a resilient and prosperous Republic of Vanuatu.

We take immense pride in educating and training Vanuatu's young talents. Our partnerships with renowned international universities now focus on co-developing curricula that integrate global best practices with local knowledge. Our graduates emerge not only with internationally recognised qualifications and multilingual fluency, but also as AI-literate, digitally empowered leaders ready to drive the nation's future.

My deepest gratitude goes to the Government for their increasing financial support, which has enabled the strategic recruitment of academic staff specialising in an increasing number of academic and technical fields. I also thank our development partners, partner universities, research institutions and other stakeholders for their belief in Vanuatu's mission to grow its own university. Your investment is a direct contribution to nation-building efforts, using the National University of Vanuatu as your privileged partner to advance our common goals.



To conclude, our commitment to transparency and good governance is paramount. Beyond sound financial management, we have adopted an integrated Environmental, Social, and Governance reporting framework. As appendices to this Report, we display in full transparency the audited Statements of NUV, demonstrating our strong sense of accountability to our national institutions and the people of the Republic of Vanuatu.

I commend this report to you as a testament of service, accountability and transparency.

Yours faithfully,



Jean-Pierre NIRUA
Vice-Chancellor and Président



1 Overview

1.1 Introduction

Established under Parliament Act No. 34 of 2019, NUV was conceived as a strategic and historical pillar of development to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the country's accession to Independence to support the development of its human capital.

The purpose of NUV, as stated in Article 3 of its own Act No. 34 of 2019, is *“to provide higher education advancement and lifelong learning through academic and professional excellence by way of training, teaching, and learning, in both the English and French official languages, research and international cooperation”*.

The enactment of the Law establishing and governing NUV (Act N° 34 of 2019) also paves the way for combining Post-School Education and Training institutions such as the Vanuatu Institute of Teacher Education, the Vanuatu Institute of Technology, the Vanuatu Agriculture College (VAC), the Vanuatu Maritime College, the Vanuatu College of Nursing Education, and the Vanuatu Police Training College under one single umbrella organisation – NUV – with different schools.

NUV has developed and implemented agreements with several universities around the world to offer internationally recognised qualifications in Vanuatu. NUV has established partnerships with national and international research institutions to support its own research and academic functions.

The vision of NUV is to be known as *“the premier multilingual institution of Higher Education and Training in Vanuatu and the Pacific region.”*

Officially launched in February 2020, NUV has a long-term objective to grow and nurture Vanuatu Youth for employability in priority areas identified in the Vanuatu National Sustainable Plan – the People's Plan 2030 – and the country's National Human Resource Development Plan.

Additionally, the creation of NUV aligns with the first pillar of the Vanuatu National Sustainable Plan – Society. More specifically, it targets the second goal, Quality Education, and its policy objective four *“Increase higher education opportunities, including technical and vocational training and skills”*.

Picture 2: The Main Campus of the National University of Vanuatu





1.2 Higher Education Needs & Challenges

NUV aims to deliver accredited certificates, diplomas, and/or degree-level courses according to the Vanuatu Qualifications Framework and international standards. The full integration of all institutions into NUV requires meeting high-quality tertiary education and training standards and registration with the Vanuatu Qualifications Authority (VQA). Accreditation requirements have to comply with Vanuatu law and NUV internal governing and academic bodies, namely the NUV Senate and the NUV Council.

NUV was created to address several higher-education needs and challenges in Vanuatu:



Education abroad: NUV aims at providing a Vanuatu-based, cost-efficient approach to higher education, which is fully aligned with Vanuatu education and development needs and integrated with Vanuatu and Pacific culture and traditions.



Multilingual education: NUV was created for the explicit purpose of providing “higher education advancement and lifelong learning through academic and professional excellence by way of training, teaching, and learning, in both the English and French official languages, research, and international cooperation.” NUV aims at producing graduates who can effectively perform using both English and French, along with Bislama and other international languages to be introduced over time (e.g. Chinese Mandarin, Japanese, Spanish). NUV’s Language Centre will evolve to be the national pillar for linguistic excellence, and at the same time, the laboratory for research and documenting native vernacular languages that can also be studied and taught at the School of Education (SoE), with close collaboration with the Curriculum Development Unit.



Education for development: NUV will offer effective, high-quality, dual-sector tertiary education for students in Vanuatu and the region, designed to meet national development objectives and skill demands in both the private and public sectors.



Fragmented post-school education and training sector: the mid to long-term goal for NUV is to integrate the main Post-School Education and Training national institutions in Vanuatu, effectively combining all public Post-School Education and Training providers into one comprehensive educational institution, using a robust dual-sector (academic-professional) approach to higher education, and providing clear and connected educational and professional paths for students aiming at employment or entrepreneurship.



Increasing population and enrolment: through NUV, Vanuatu will be able to meet the increasing local demands for post-secondary education. It will also provide effective complementary options to re-engage students who have left the school system back into the educational system, and new opportunities for further educational advancements for them.



Education technology: NUV will develop effective ways of dealing with the geographical realities of our island nation, which will include geographically dispersed and decentralised on-the-ground establishments, along with the development of efficient and effective distance learning programs and projects.



Climate change and disasters: in developing new infrastructure and programs of learning, NUV will focus on climate change and adaptation, Information Technology (IT), administration and economics for development, and other areas that are essential for Vanuatu. NUV will also support and encourage green practices on its campus, as well as through its partnerships with key climate change institutions, networks, and actors.



Inclusive education: NUV aims to become a model for inclusive tertiary education, through gender and disability mainstreaming, through gender- and disability awareness programs for staff and students, and through targeted recruitment and scholarship support for women and people living with disabilities.



1.3 Our Programs

Based on the Act, NUV is authorised to offer existing bachelor’s degree programs offered by international universities, to develop collaboration with new partners on the implementation of other diploma, bachelor and master programs; and most importantly to develop for delivery to its students its own diploma and degree programs aligned with the needs of the country.

In 2024, NUV has offered nine programs: one master, five bachelors, two diplomas, two certificates and two professional micro-credentials.

Table 1: National University of Vanuatu programs in 2024

Level	Program name	Delivered by	Delivery mode	Language of instruction	Comments
Master	Economics & Social Sciences (ESS)	Université Toulouse Capitole (France)	Online program	Bilingual French / English (French 70% English 30%)	Offered since 2020
			Face-to-Face program		
Bachelor	Environmental Science (ES)	James Cook University (Australia), and the University of New Caledonia (UNC, France)	Blended mode (face-to-face and online)	Bilingual French / English (French 30% English 70%)	Last intake in 2024
Bachelor	Tourism Management & Hospitality	UNC (France) Université Toulouse Jean-Jaurès (France) Taylor’s University (Malaysia) and Victoria University of Wellington (New Zealand)	Face-to-face program	Bilingual French / English (French 50% English 50%)	Offered since 2018
Bachelor	Economics & Social Administration (ESA)	Université Toulouse Capitole (France)	Online program	Bilingual French / English (French 70% English 30%)	Offered since 2013
			Face-to-Face program		
Bachelor	Education - Primary Teaching	NUV – SoE	Face-to-face program	English	Offered since 2021
				French	
Bachelor	Education - Secondary Teaching	NUV – SoE	Face-to-face program	English	Offered since 2021
				French	
Diploma	Climate Resilience & Humanitarian Action (CRHA)	NUV – Main Campus	Face-to-face program	English	Offered since 2023
Professional Micro-credential	Program & Project Management (PPM)	NUV – Main Campus	Face-to-face program	English (Supports available in French)	Offered since 2023
Professional Micro-credential	Climate Resilience & Humanitarian Action (CRHA)	NUV – Main Campus	Face-to-face program	English (Supports available in French)	Offered since 2023



1.4 Our Governance

The governance of the University is safeguarded by the NUV Council and the NUV Senate. Find below the composition as of 13 December 2023:

The Council

The Council is the governing body of the university and is composed of nine members¹:

- The Director General of the Ministry of Education and Training (MoET).
Mr Iati Bergmans, Chairperson
- The Minister of Education and Training.
Hon. Leonard Joshua Pikioune (1 – 24 Jan)
Hon. Anatole Hymak (25 Jan – 5 Sep)
Hon. Samson Samsen (6 Sep – 27 Oct)
Hon. Simil Johnson (28 Oct – 31 Dec)
- The Minister of Finance and Economic Management.
Hon. John Salong (1 Jan – 5 Sep)
Hon. Johnny Koanapo (6 Sep – 31 Dec)
- The Vice-Chancellor.
Mr Jean-Pierre Nirua
- Three members nominated by the Deans of Faculties and Heads of Schools of the University.
Not appointed in 2024
- Two members representing two partner universities appointed by their heads of institutions.
Prof. Moussa Thioye, Member representing Université de Toulouse Capitole
Prof. Matthias Chauchat, Member representing the UNC, Deputy Chairperson

The Senate

The Senate is the academic and research governing body and is composed of seven members:

- The Vice-Chancellor.
Mr Jean-Pierre Nirua, Chairperson
- Three members nominated by the Deans of the Faculties and Heads of Schools.
Prof. Pascal Michon, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, representing Deans of Faculties and Heads of Schools
No other appointment
- Two members who are reputable academics from two recognised universities and appointed by the Heads of these universities to be members of the Senate.
Prof. Jito Vanualailai, University of the South Pacific (USP)
Prof. Jean-Marie Fotsing, UNC (1 Jan – 18 Nov)
Prof. Virginie de Barnier, UNC (19 Nov – 31 Dec)
- A representative of the Ministry nominated by the Minister on the advice of the Director General.
Mr John Kaltau, Director of Tertiary Education, MoET

¹ Composition as the Council and Senate members as per 13 December 2023.



The Academic and Assessment Board (AAB)

As of 2024, NUV is still a young institution (only four years of existence) and AAB is still in the process of developing the organizational structure outlined in the law of its establishment (National University of Vanuatu Act No. 34 of 2019) with the Faculties and Schools, and recruit key leadership positions in its governance structure (Deans of Faculties, School Principals, Director of Quality Assurance, etc.).

An AAB is a senior academic committee of the University, responsible for a set of responsibilities related to the organisation of learning and teaching, research, academic standards and regulations, students and programs, as well as advising the higher authorities of the University on academic matters.

In response to NUV Law No. 34 of 2019, paragraph 27 establishing the AAB of the University, its members are to be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor.

On August 16, 2024, the NUV Vice-Chancellor appointed an interim membership of the AAB to make this important entity fully operational, serve the objectives set out by law, and facilitate the consideration of academic issues before their submission to the NUV Senate.

The AAB membership is as follows:

Members:

- Prof. Pascal Michon, Deputy Vice-Chancellor – Chair of the Academic & Assessment Board
- Dr Leslie Vandeputte, Director Language Centre – Member and Deputy Chair
- Mr Ben Boulekouran, SoE, Acting Officer in Charge – representing Head of School
- Dr Gayleen Harrison-Tarosa, Academic Head of SoE – Academic Staff Representative
- Mr Robson Tigona, NUV Senior Lecturer – Academic Staff Representative
- Mrs Anne-Rose Tjibang, Senior Manager of the Student Academic and Support Services department (SASS) – Member
- Mr Benoit You, Manager IT – Member
- Mr Stephen SILAS, SASS Officer- representing SASS as Registrar's officer
- President of NUV Students' Association (main campus)
- President/Vice-President of SoE Students' Association (SoE)

Co-opted members:

- Dr Dominik Maximillian Ramik, Information & Communication Technology (ICT) Program Advisor
- Ms Diana Hinge, CRHA Program Advisor
- Mr Matthew Kensen, CRHA Program Coordinator
- Mr Cedric Kere, ICT Program Coordinator

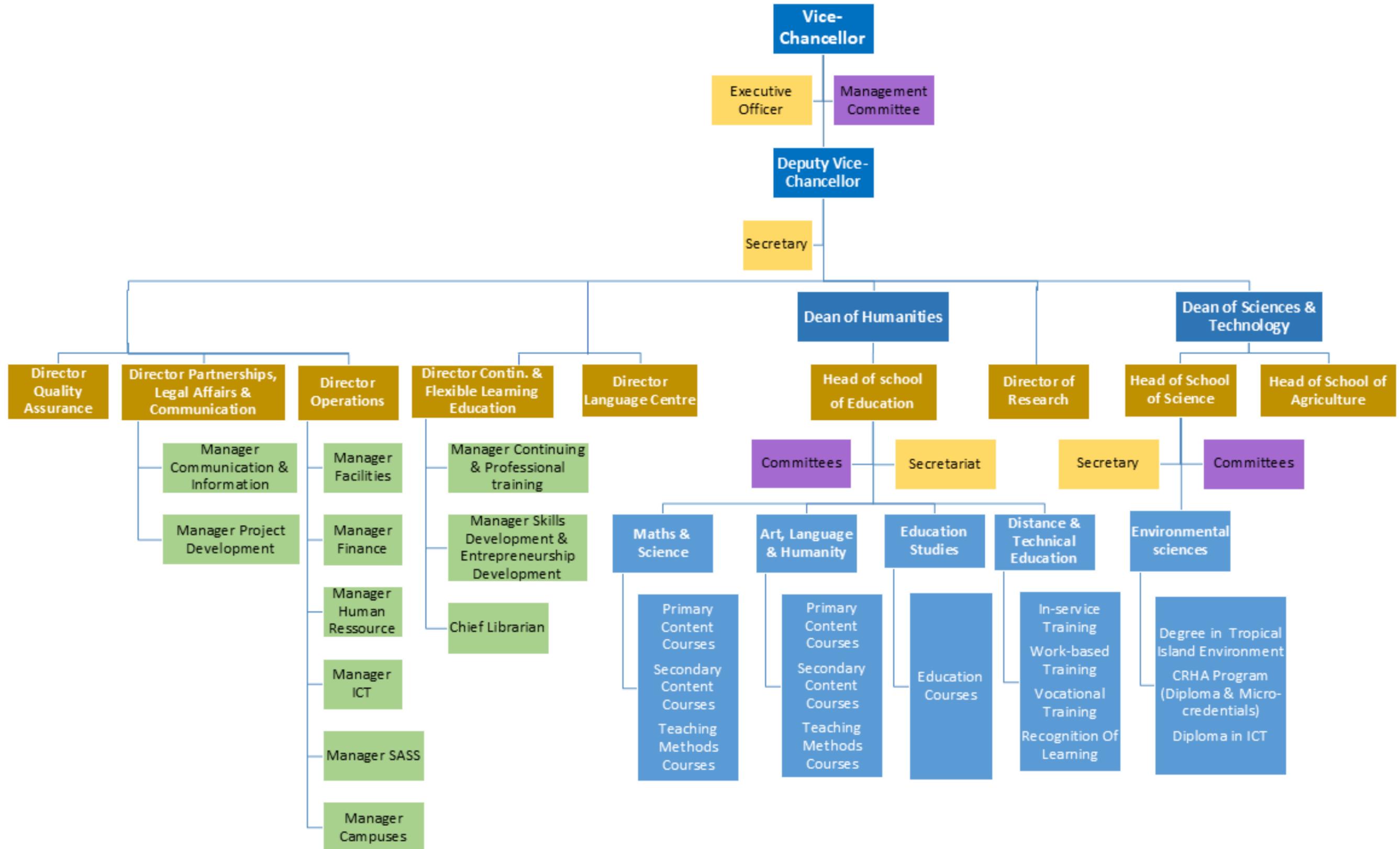
The establishment of the NUV AAB was particularly relevant for the end of this academic year, concerning the following points:

1. Review of assessment results for 2024 for NUV students enrolled in our homegrown CRHA program
2. NUV's first official graduation ceremony to be held in 2025 for students from the SoE now under the NUV banner and for students in the first two cohorts (2023 and 2024) of the CHRA program



1.5 Our Structure

Figure 1: The National University of Vanuatu – Organisational Structure





The structure of the University is based on the provisions of Vanuatu Parliament Act No 34 of 2019, which identifies the Roles and Functions of the Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and structures NUV with two Faculties and 10 Schools, namely:

Faculty of Humanities

- School of Education
- School of Arts, Languages & Cultures
- School of Tourism & Business Studies/Management
- School of Public Administration & Management
- School of Police & Security Training

Faculty of Science and Technology

- School of Science
- School of Agriculture
- School of Maritime (& Fisheries)
- School of Engineering & Technology
- School of Medicine & Nursing

The Act also facilitates the gradual integration of existing Vanuatu Post-School Education and Training institutions into NUV, under the overall supervision of MoET. This includes institutions approved to deliver accredited diploma and degree-level courses according to the Vanuatu Qualifications Framework, such as the Vanuatu Institute of Teacher Education (NUV SoE since 2021), Vanuatu College of Nursing Education, Vanuatu Institute of Technology and VAC.

In 2021, the Vanuatu Institute of Teacher Education was the first to be integrated into NUV as the SoE. The process has been initiated with VAC and Vanuatu Institute of Technology, as both institutions received technical and financial support from NUV in 2022 and 2023. This support included upgrading their digital facilities and the recruitment of a French Volunteer in VAC posted for 14 months to assist in the development of the VAC diploma program curriculum.

Between 2020 to 2023, the Management of the University was established with the recruitment of the Vice-Chancellor, Mr Jean-Pierre Nirua, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Pascal Michon and further strengthened with the appointments between 2021 and 2023 of a Manager of Finance & Administration, a Human Resources (HR) Manager, a Senior Manager of SASS, a Manager Facilities, a Director of the Language Centre and an International Team Leader for Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Projects. However, some crucial positions are still to be filled to support the good foundation and the growth of the University. Due to the lack of office space and budget availability, the recruitment of senior faculty members and academics is still pending.

The following organisational chart represents the current organisational structure of NUV, approved by the Council in November 2023.



1.6 Our People

All NUV’s staff have been instrumental in achieving the organisation’s goals and driving its ongoing growth. Their commitment and hard work are invaluable.

Figure 2: The Management Team of the National University of Vanuatu





2024 NUV FACTS & FIGURES

Programs & Students

- 9** French, English or bilingual programs
- 713** students enrolled²
 - 68%** female students
- 240** students completed their programs³
 - 23** master
 - 191** bachelor
 - 26** other programs

Research & Cooperation

- 9** research projects⁵
- 15** seminars & conferences⁶
- 10** new agreements signed⁷

Team

- 68** employees⁴
 - 41** part-time academic staff
 - 27** full-time staff



Finance

- 605** million vatu in income
 - 55%** from the Government of Vanuatu⁸
 - 12%** from other donors
 - 33%** from other income sources

34% year-on-year increase in cash reserves

² This figure shown as “students enrolled” reflects the number of final registered enrolments (student may be enrolled in several programs).
³ Number of students who completed and obtained a certificate, a certificate of attainment, a professional micro-credential, a diploma, a bachelor or a master (exclude results of the In-service Diploma in Education – to be completed in 2024).
⁴ Number of employees who were on the payroll at least once during the year working on the main campus and SoE, employed by NUV & the Government of Vanuatu (excluding part-time lecturers).
⁵ Research projects with NUV involvement.
⁶ Seminars and conferences hosted or organised by NUV.
⁷ Conventions or agreements signed with partner universities, national partners, international development partners.
⁸ Vanuatu Government funding including operational & project budgets.



1.8 2024 Key Highlights

Figure 4: NUV's key Highlights of 2024





2 University Strategy

2.1 Strategic Directions

Launched in November 2021, the *Strategic Plan of the National University of Vanuatu 2021-2030*⁹ provides a vision and roadmap for developing a high-quality higher education institution that can effectively serve the educational and development needs of Vanuatu. This long-term plan is a living document to be reviewed and adjusted as needed. It also defines the vision, the mission, and the values of NUV and sets the Goals and Priorities of the University.

- **VISION:** NUV will be known as the premier multilingual institution of higher education and training in Vanuatu and the Pacific region.
- **MISSION:** Our mission is to provide quality, dual-sector higher education advancement and lifelong learning in both French and English languages.
- **VALUES:** Integrity, Respect, and Academic Freedom; Diligence, Resilience, and Excellence; Cultural affirmation, Inclusion, and Diversity; Engagement for a Better World; and Research, Innovation, and Continuous Improvement.

Our three strategic priorities & our nine goals:

Strategic Priority 1 Provide equitable access to quality higher education and training.

GOAL 1 Build a dual-sector, tertiary education structure.

GOAL 2 Develop academic and professional excellence.

GOAL 3 Provide effective student support.

Strategic Priority 2 Strengthen the capacity of the NUV as an effective, and sustainable educational institution.

GOAL 4 Build the NUV structure and capacity.

GOAL 5 Develop NUV infrastructure and technology.

GOAL 6 Ensure financial viability and sustainability.

Strategic Priority 3 Nurture our uniqueness.

GOAL 7 Cultural affirmation, connectedness, and diversity.

GOAL 8 Embrace strong partnerships.

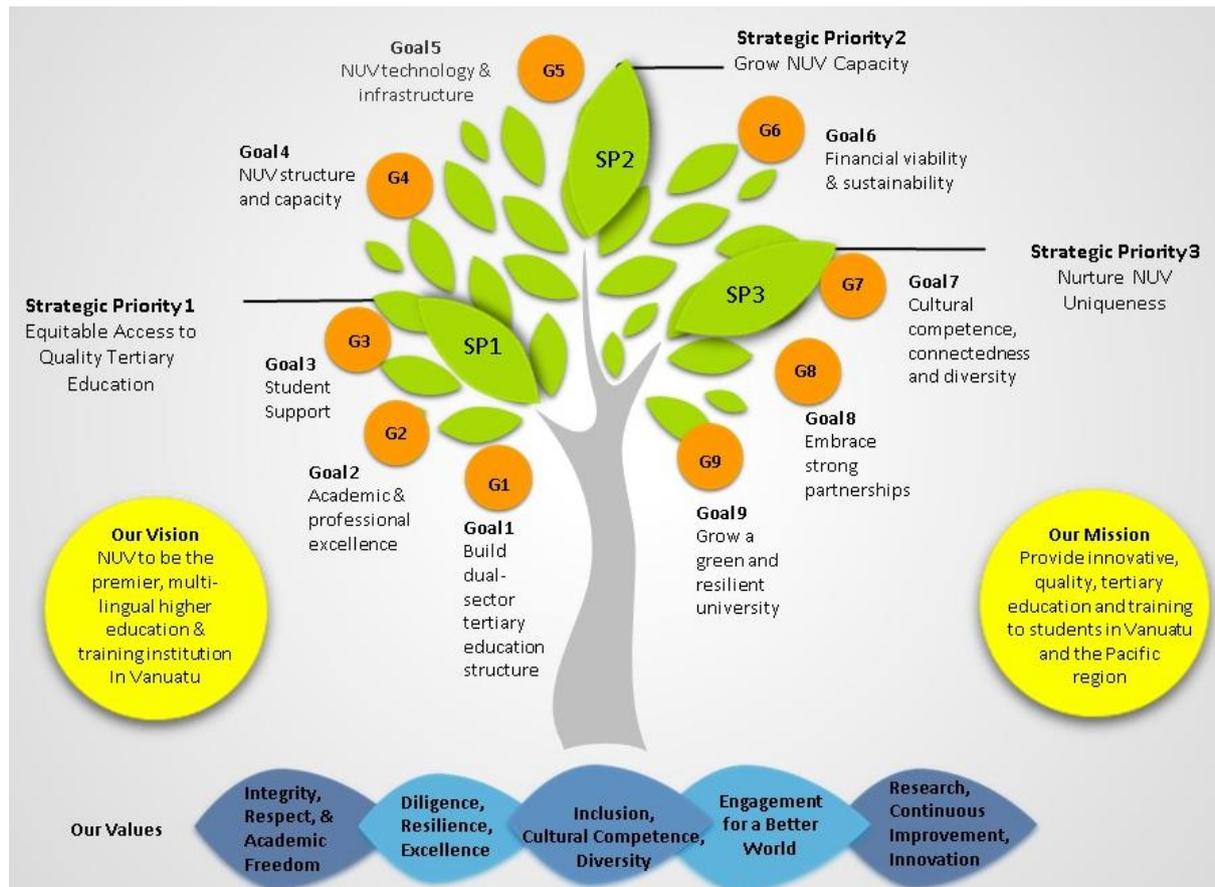
GOAL 9 Grow a resilient, green, and blue university

Each of the strategic priorities, goals and objectives is further elaborated upon in the Strategic Plan Implementation Blueprint.

⁹ Strategic plan of the National University of Vanuatu 201-2023:
www.univ.edu.vu/attachments/article/349/2021_12_Strategic-Plan-2021-2030-English.pdf



Figure 5: Visual summary of the key components of the NUV Strategic plan



2.2 Challenges

NEW CALEDONIA REPATRIATED STUDENTS

Following the social unrest that occurred in New Caledonia in May 2024, MoET decided to repatriate all Ni-Vanuatu students studying in the territory. A total of 149 students, including both scholarship holders and self-sponsored students, were flown back to Port Vila. NUV was mandated to provide academic support and ensure the continuity of their studies. In close coordination with the respective Caledonian institutions, NUV worked to facilitate academic arrangements and minimise any disruption to the students’ education.

The way forward: The repatriation of Ni-Vanuatu Students from New Caledonia has enabled NUV to have measures in place to cater for such circumstances in the future, including other types of disasters affecting Ni-Vanuatu students in various institutions. In addition, MoET should be clear on the expectations from NUV and inform NUV in due course of the plans for NUV to accommodate repatriated students during such emergencies.

NUV has the capacity to continue to support students. However, for NUV support services, part-time SASS officers should be recruited so that full-time officers are not imposed an extra load to address such situations.



NATURAL DISASTER RISKS

17 December 2024 – Earthquake

In 2024, Port Vila did not experience any damaging cyclones, and the academic year proceeded without disruption. However, on 17 December, a 7.4-magnitude earthquake struck Port Vila, causing significant panic and disruption across the city. Fortunately, no NUV staff members present on campus that day were injured, and the University's facilities sustained no major structural damage. The event occurred after the completion of all academic activities, and no students were on site at the time. The sudden event created operational challenges for the University, including the need to assess buildings for potential structural risks, manage staff anxiety, and prepare for possible aftershocks. Fortunately, no NUV staff members present on campus that day were injured, and the University's facilities sustained no major structural damage. The event occurred after all academic activities had concluded, and no students were on site at the time.

The way forward: The University will strengthen its disaster-preparedness measures by updating emergency procedures, improving communication protocols, and conducting regular safety drills. It will also continue coordinating with national authorities to ensure facilities remain safe and resilient in the event of future natural hazards.

STUDENTS ENROLMENT DECREASE

It is noticeable that there was an enrollment decrease in 2024. This is due to various factors, one of which is the non-recruitment of new intake at SoE for the two Bachelor of Education programmes and the Bachelor of Environmental Sciences offered by James Cook University and the UNC.

Another factor was the allocation of scholarships in due time, which enabled students to opt for overseas universities instead of choosing NUV. While waiting for NUV to advise on their acceptance, candidates would always opt for the opportunity that is presented to them in due time.

The way forward:

1. *For more scholarships to be allocated for NUV programmes to retain students in Vanuatu.*
2. *For NUV to promote its programmes in due course and conduct its pre-enrolment on time.*

FACILITIES FOR WORKING & STUDY CONDITIONS

Thanks to the Digital REsponse Connecting CiTizens (DIRECCT) project, both campuses benefited from the installation of covered outdoor areas with Wi-Fi coverage, providing additional study spaces for students. These structures offer much-needed shelter from the sun and rain and have contributed to improving the learning environment. However, they remain insufficient to fully meet students' needs, highlighting the continued importance of constructing the planned library and language centre to further enhance academic facilities and student welfare.

The way forward: NUV will continue improving student learning spaces by advancing the construction of the planned library and language centre. These developments will provide adequate sheltered study areas, expand access to learning resources, and better support student wellbeing across both campuses.



REGISTRATION & ACCREDITATION PROCEDURE

The registration process of NUV with the VQA was successfully finalised in 2024. As part of this process, a team of external reviewers and representatives from the VQA conducted an institutional site visit on 10 and 11 September 2024. Following this evaluation, NUV received its official evaluation report on 16 October 2024, with the status “Approved with Conditions.”

The way forward: NUV will submit its rectification report in June 2025 to address the recommendations from the VQA evaluation. To support this process and ensure full compliance, the university is on the verge of recruiting a Director of Quality Assurance to oversee quality systems and complete the registration requirements

COMPLETING THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION INTEGRATION

The integration of the SoE presented additional administrative challenges. Despite dialogues and several attempts in 2022-2023, budget resources are yet to be allocated for a comprehensive payroll integration system with full settlement of outstanding severance claims for teachers/lecturers. Efforts to address these issues included the implementation of a new Student Information System and a temporary restructuring of the SoE to manage HR shortages. The recruitment of key staff was crucial to bolstering both academic offerings and administrative functions (see section “Achievements”).

The way forward: The SoE should be fully integrated into NUV, across both academic and operational domains. This includes aligning HR, Finance, and IT environments.

OPTIMISATION OF HR CAPACITY

NUV’s team is growing, but not as fast as the workload is increasing. With the creation of a new education entity comes a large amount of strong foundation needs, such as developing policies, tools and regulations, increasing NUV’s networks through partnerships, developing marketing campaigns, planning, reporting, etc. On one hand, the management and academic teams are lacking in the workforce as the budget does not meet the structural needs. On the other hand, the pool of resources accessible in Vanuatu does not always match the skills required to build the team. As a consequence, each employee must perform several roles and cannot fully focus on his/her own job description, resulting in delivery delays and gaps. In order to mitigate the risk, NUV has asked partners to fund positions or part of positions through various grants (see sections “Achievements” and “Human Resources”).

The way forward: secure new grants from the government or potential development partners to recruit additional academic personnel, develop a recruitment plan for 2025, continue to reach out to partners to secure funding for key positions and purchase a Human Resource Information System to assist with HR management.

TIMELY BUDGET SUPPORT FOR EFFECTIVE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

A critical area needing attention in 2025 was the lack of an accurate forecasting tool to help track and manage the Master Budget to reduce manual processes involved with data entry, last-minute adjustments to the budget and market factors.

To align with the integration plan of the ten schools by 2030, it was identified during a consultation with AFD that an automated forecasting tool was needed to strengthen financial planning and maximise utilisation of assets to increase financial productivity at the operational level, particularly in light of the integration plan for all 10 schools to be integrated by 2030.

In response to the need, AFD provided SPOTLIGHT, a cloud-based forecasting tool designed to create dynamic three-way financial forecasts (profit and loss, balance sheet, cash flow), budgets, and scenarios, integrating directly with Xero for better financial planning and decision-making.

The tool combines financial data from various sources into a single budget that ensures all schools and faculties work from the same accurate and real-time data, crucial for the overall budget alignment.



GROWING THE UNIVERSITY AND ITS ENROLMENTS

Since 2020, students at the university, enhancing NUV's visibility was identified as an urgent priority to ensure continued growth in enrolment. Effective communication has become increasingly vital for NUV as it seeks to enhance its visibility and engagement within the academic community and beyond. NUV has continued to communicate effectively on social media and to conduct awareness campaigns throughout Vanuatu. However, these outreach campaigns were disrupted by the liquidation of Air Vanuatu and the teachers' strike. In the schools, due to the strike, there were sometimes not enough teachers and students. However, these visits still helped to sustain the relationship that NUV wants to maintain with secondary schools to strengthen the institution's visibility.

The way forward: NUV will reinforce its visibility by expanding digital outreach, maintaining strong links with secondary schools, and organising more flexible awareness activities to ensure continuity despite external disruptions.

2.3 Achievements

The table below summarises the key progresses and achievements against the nine goals of the University's strategic plan for the reporting period of this report (2024).

Table 2: Key Progresses and Achievements for Each NUV's Goal

Strategic Priority 1: Provide Equitable Access to Quality Higher Education and Training	
GOAL 1 Build an integrated dual-sector structure for tertiary education in Vanuatu	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nine academic programs delivered, including four programs with partner universities, five programs available either in French or English and three programs in English. Of the nine programs, two programs are available online or for face-to-face delivery. • As of December 2024, NUV offers one master; five bachelors; two diplomas; two certificates and two professional micro-credentials. • At the end of 2024, NUV is involved in more than 15 research projects, at different levels of achievement (see section "Research and Conferences"). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of 2024, two programs are being developed to start in 2025: a Bachelor of Inclusive Education and a Diploma in ICT. • As of December 2024, NUV's agreements with six universities to deliver their "franchised programs" with universities from Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, New Caledonia and France.



GOAL 2 Promote Academic and Professional Excellence

- 1 February – Recruitment of Emma Decamps bilingual lecturer in English and French as foreign or second languages.
- 16 October – VQA Registration approved with conditions.
- February - CRHA Lecturer in English and French / Number of part-timers.
- 2024 – Recruitment for an ICT diploma coordinator and adviser.
- 2024 – Recruitment of a CRHA diploma coordinator “Research & Conference”.
- 2024 – Subscription to Turnitin software to detect plagiarism and the use of artificial intelligence and ensure academic integrity.
- July to September – NUV continued its awareness campaigns in the provinces of Shefa, Tafea, Malampa and Sanma.
- 5 & 6 August – NUV organised the Science or Empire conference in collaboration with the Vanuatu Kaljoral Senta.
- NUV hosted and/or organised 10 seminars from June to December 2024.

GOAL 3 Provide effective and inclusive student support

- The recruitment of an extra SASS officer (November 2024) at the main campus has allowed for better coordination of the activities within the SASS department and has strengthened support for students.
- Coordinator of the Bachelor of Environmental Sciences produced yearly reports covering the results by course and proposing options to support students with needs.
- Since 2020, students have been able to get an internship through the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) organised between NUV and the Vanuatu Institute of Public Administration and Management to facilitate Students’ placement with Government Departments.
- 2024 – Placement test completed for first-year students to access student’s proficiency in both English and French.
- Employees have been offered French classes to enhance their proficiency in French. NUV partnered with Alliance Française to provide staff with French classes. Three staff members enrolled and completed one semester.
- Initiated discussions with the Melanesian Spearhead Group for the possible award of the first Melanesian Spearhead Group scholarships.
- Every year, at mid-year, SASS conducted awareness for students about scholarship application deadlines to encourage them to submit their applications.
- In 2024, the teams managed to visit the main islands:
 - Santo (six schools visited)
 - Malekula (nine schools visited)
 - Tanna (13 schools visited)
 - Efate
- Every year, NUV allowed identified repeaters of the Bachelors of Tourism Management & Hospitality, Economic & Social Sciences and Environmental Sciences to pass a supplementary exam, which is organised only once a year.



Strategic Priority 2: Strengthen the capacity of the NUV as an autonomous, efficient, effective, and sustainable institution of higher education

GOAL 4 Develop the internal structure and capacity of the NUV

- In 2024, three Council meetings and three Senate meetings were held.
- Monthly Leader meetings, Interim Management Committee meetings and bi-semester academic staff meetings organised at SoE.
- Management Committee meetings were held with NUV and SoE managers in 2024.
- 2022/24 The AFD’s Digital Project first component includes support for the operational implementation of NUV’s strategic plan 2021-2030, implementation of tools and operational procedures for the NUV development, and support for the finalisation of SoE’s integration.
- SoE organised a retreat with all academic and support service staff to define their 2024 action plan aligned with the NUV 2021-2030 strategic plan.

GOAL 5 Develop NUV infrastructure and technology

Infrastructure

- In March 2024, NUV inaugurated new computer laboratories at its main campus and the SoE, with seating capacities of 56 and 30 students, respectively. The initiative was funded by the European Union through the Direct Program. The project included:
 - Procurement and installation of new computers and furniture
 - Fibre-optic and satellite connectivity upgrades
 - Refurbishment of existing buildings to convert them into fully functional computer labs
 - Installation of roller shutters to enhance security and provide protection during cyclones
 - Provision of photocopy/printing /scanning machines in each lab

The same scope of work and funding support was extended to two additional institutions: Vanuatu Institute of Technology and VAC. All procurement processes and contract management were carried out by the NUV IT and Facilities Team.

Program, two traditional fares were constructed (one at the NUV main campus and another at the SoE campus). Both structures were equipped with solar-powered lighting and power outlets, providing students with sustainable, energy-efficient spaces for study and group work. This initiative supports the university’s commitment to green energy solutions and enhances accessible outdoor learning environments across the campuses.

- 2024 – Through component three of AFD’s Education Project, Kramer Asenco signed a contract on 2 December 2024 with NUV for the design and supervision of the Cultural Complex (library and language centre) to be built on the main campus.

IT

- Online teachings are made available to partner universities' lecturers and other lecturers living overseas with visio-conference since NUV's opening.
- 2024 – Support to VAC and Vanuatu Institute of Technology to strengthen their digital services and network in the provision of future



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Vanuatu Inclusive Education Resource Centre was inaugurated in November 2024, with funding support from MoET, Care International and Save the Children. The centre is well-equipped with specialised teaching and learning materials to support children and learners with disabilities. The building has been designed to meet full accessibility standards, featuring wheelchair-friendly ramps, accessible toilets, and adaptive learning spaces. The facility comprises: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Two classrooms, each with a capacity for 30 students ○ One office space ○ A storage room ○ Toilets designed specifically for people with disabilities <p>This development marks an important milestone in strengthening inclusive education infrastructure and services in Vanuatu. Under the same European Union-funded Direct</p> 	<p>integration to NUV’s IT network through the DIRECCT project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DIRECCT program was extended to May 2024 for a value of (€120,000), and the project built two connected traditional farés, one on each campus. Tablets and laptops for students’ field projects were purchased, and a gender awareness training facilitated by Sister was delivered to students and lecturers (see section “IT”). • Acquisition of a Human Resource Information System to streamline and digitalise HR processes. • Launch of a request for consultation for a two-year IT support contract aimed at strengthening the operational capacity of the IT Department.
<p>GOAL 6 Ensure financial viability and sustainability</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022 – 2025 NUV Support program funded by the AFD. This program is funded by AFD jointly with the MoET. The first component is to assist in the strengthening of NUV’s management. The second component is to fund the building of the Cultural Complex. • The Fonds de Soutien au Développement Académique allows NUV to conduct academic activities. This grant is made of French project savings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023- 2025 – Fonds de Solidarité pour les Projets Innovants (FSPI) Uni Stanap components through the French Embassy to strengthen NUV visibility in the Pacific region and develop and implement the CRHA Diploma and the ICT Diploma.



Strategic Priority 3 Nurture the uniqueness of the NUV

GOAL 7 Foster cultural affirmation, connectedness, and diversity

- Out of the 12 conferences and seminars organised or hosted in 2024, five focused on Vanuatu or Melanesian culture, and two focused on language.

GOAL 8 Embrace strong partnerships

- The establishment of new partnerships and renewal of existing partnerships fully aligns with NUV’s strategic vision of fostering strong collaborations to support institutional growth and academic excellence. These agreements will strengthen NUV’s position as a leading academic institution in the region. (see section “External Engagement”).
- NUV signed seven agreements in 2024 with partner universities, national partners and international development partners, including but not limited to agreements with the Public Service Commission, Western Sydney University and University of Wollongong, the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), and the High Commission of Canada. (see section “External Engagement”).
- On 15 April 2024, a new agreement was signed with the Public Service Commission, which aims to facilitate students’ internships in various Government Departments and provide a platform to discuss and define training needs.
- For the first time, NUV welcomed the Pacific Islands Universities Research Network (PIURN) board meeting in October 2024, reaffirming its commitment with the other Pacific universities to strengthening academic partnerships, enhancing research networks, and supporting student mobility.

GOAL 9 Grow a green and resilient university

- NUV signed a contract with Recycle-Corp to allow both campuses to offer recycle hubs for the community.
- NUV organised activities for the Environment week with partners: Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie, Municipality, Engineers without Borders, Green Wave, Clean-up, Screening documentary (Pandeminium and short film), etc...



3 Management & Performance

3.1 Academic Development

The academic philosophy of NUV is inextricably linked to the existential realities of Vanuatu, a nation defined by its rich cultural diversity and its extreme vulnerability as a Small Island Developing State. The curriculum is therefore designed to be a crucible where traditional knowledge and modern scientific inquiry meet, ensuring that the next generation of leaders is equipped not only with global competencies but also with a profound understanding of local context. Programs like the Bachelor of Environmental Sciences and the CRHA initiative directly confront the threats of climate change and natural disasters, while the multilingual and localised approach to teacher training ensures the preservation and promotion of Vanuatu's unique linguistic and cultural heritage in the face of globalising pressures.

PROGRAMS

Bachelor of Environmental Sciences – since 2021, this program has been jointly delivered by Australia's James Cook University and UNC. The Bachelor of Environmental Sciences is specially tailored to address development priority areas of Vanuatu People's Plan 2030, and the HR gaps highlighted in the National Human Resources Development Plan.

Ni-Vanuatu professionals and scientific experts contributed to the content structure of the program to ensure the relevance and employability of graduates as "competent local managers and science-conscious officials" in the particularly vulnerable context of Vanuatu. In particular, the course is identified as addressing "element 3" (Climate and Disaster Resilience), "element 4" (Natural Resource Management), and "element 5" (Ecosystems and Biodiversity) of the Environment Pillar of the Vanuatu People's Plan. Each subject is taught with a focus on building the Small Island Developing States context into the courses and program.

The program courses are taught by James Cook University in English and UNC in French. The entire material for these courses is also provided in both languages, and to assist the students with smooth learning in both languages, NUV steps in to provide necessary complementary language skills (tutoring classes offered to students).

In 2024, with the amendments to the partnership agreement with James Cook University and the UNC, the final intake of the program was registered to complete their studies in 2026, paving way to the NUV's new bachelor program in Tropical Island Environment.

CRHA Program – This national program is delivered face-to-face and in English, it includes:

- Two Professional Micro-credentials: CRHA (four courses) and PPM (three courses), specially designed for working professionals.
- A one-year Diploma in CRHA, including four core CRHA courses, and four academic skills courses (writing, numeracy, research, and language).
- To be developed: Three more Professional Micro-credentials: Climate Change & Climate Resilience, Humanitarian Action, and CRHA Policy & Administration, and three two-year Advanced Diplomas comprising the eight Diploma courses, the three Project Management courses, and a research project or internship, and offering three specialisations: Humanitarian Action, Climate Change & Disaster Risk Reduction, and Climate Resilience Policy & Administration.

Bachelor of Economic & Social Sciences – this franchised program is offered in face-to-face and remote learning (dematerialised program), allowing more flexibility to the students and offering options for people outside of Port Vila.



Bachelor of Education (primary and secondary teaching) – The program was first delivered in 2021 and is the first of its kind for a higher education institution in Vanuatu. It was developed by SoE local lecturers with the support of USP and UNC for alignment and benchmarking purposes. The Bachelor was accredited and approved for delivery by the VQA in 2020 for five years. The programs were launched in 2021 at SoE with their first intake in primary teaching, second language & history, foreign language & history, foreign language & second language, mathematics & physics, biology & chemistry, and biology & earth science.

In-service Diploma in Education (primary teaching) – The diploma was embedded into the bachelor and was designed specifically for primary teachers serving in the field as a pathway to further their education in teacher training and qualification. The Bachelor of Education (Primary & Secondary Teaching) is a four-year program comprising content in different subject areas, teaching methods, education studies, research, and practicum. With the implementation of the In-service Diploma in 2021, SoE offers its first online program, facilitating access to higher education for students in education who do not reside on Efate.

Certificate IV in Education Early Child Care Teaching – Opened in 2022, the certificate was designed and coordinated by SoE local lecturers with the support of Australia Pacific Training Coalition's training resources documentation. The program was accredited and approved for delivery in 2021 for a period of five years by the VQA.

PROGRAMS IN DEVELOPMENT

Creating new academic programs is crucial for increasing enrolments, keeping the curriculum up-to-date, and distinguishing our institution. This is why NUV is committed to being involved in various program development initiatives.

Here are some highlights of 2024

ICT Diploma – The objectives of this diploma program are twofold. The program aims to prepare graduates for direct employment in Vanuatu's IT labour market, and potentially abroad, by focusing on both professional skills and personal development, including communication skills. The program targets core professional competencies and soft skills.

The program's general nature will serve as a foundation for future specialised programs, supporting both employment-oriented training and further academic studies as part of the ongoing development of NUV's IT education portfolio.

The two-year program is structured into four semesters. The first three semesters each include seven courses, while the final semester is entirely dedicated to a compulsory internship. Additionally, an optional, shorter internship is available during the holidays between the first and second years.

Implementation is scheduled for 2025, the coordinator was recruited in 2024

Bachelor of Education (Inclusive Teaching) – is being developed by SoE with the expertise of Professor Lincoln Hlatywayo, a specialist in inclusive education. The new program was possible through the funding of the Global Partnership for Education Grant to the MoET managed by Save the Children Australia in Vanuatu. The curriculum design was crafted following the NUV Program Description, Accreditation and Approval Policy, and went through a series of consultations in 2023 and is now ready to be validated by the Senate before its delivery in 2025. The program is dual in nature, targeting both pre-service and in-service training with blended delivery modes.

Graduate Diploma in Education – Certificate IV in Education (Vocational Education Training Teaching) was designed and coordinated by SoE local lecturers and was accredited and approved for delivery by the VQA in 2018 for a period of five years. SoE ceased the delivery of the program in 2023, and it was reviewed and redesigned to suit the context with a new qualification name of NUV Graduate Diploma in Education (Adult and Vocational Training). The process of accreditation by the NUV Senate is still underway.



LANGUAGE CENTRE

Mission

NUV recognises the crucial role of language in cultural preservation and global communication in English and French, leading to the establishment of its Language Centre in 2023 with two main goals:

- Enhancing students' skills in English and French; and
- Promoting research and documentation on Vanuatu's linguistic diversity.

As a bilingual institution, the first goal is mainly fulfilled by delivering courses in French and English as well as tutoring sessions to support students in gaining proficiency in both languages. The second goal has recently been addressed in multiple ways: by supporting local researchers in obtaining funds (through the Endangered Language Documentation Program), by hosting scientific events on languages and linguistics (seminars, conferences), and by promoting linguistic diversity on campus (especially in establishing a database and organising events).

Events and Activities

- Placement Tests

Placement tests were organised on the main campus at the beginning of the year in collaboration with SASS. A total of 263 tests were conducted in both French and English, but corrections were outsourced.

- Summer university

The summer university was planned with student recruitment, programme development, and coordination along with SASS. However, it could not be implemented due to the riots in Nouméa. The initiative will be reassessed next year, 2025.

- Projet Voltaire

The Projet Voltaire was implemented in partnership with Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie, with registrations handled by the Language Centre. While the process was put in place, student participation remained limited, and the number of certifications obtained in French was limited (42 students obtained the certification).

- La Voix des Campus

The workshops for *La Voix des Campus* were successfully organised. Students and journalists from both New Caledonia and Vanuatu took part, and the activity was fully realised. Building on this achievement, future editions may involve VBTC journalists and include coaching on writing and layout, in collaboration with Fany Tore, an independent journalist based in New Caledonia.

- French course for staff

French courses for staff were externalised to the Alliance Française. Despite this effort, only one staff member completed a placement test. The very limited participation points to the need for a new approach and possible incentives to encourage greater involvement.

- Movie Club

The Movie Club was initially scheduled to screen two films per month, for a total of 24 over the year. In practice, only six films were shown, averaging one per month. Attendance was uneven, and results were mixed, underlining the importance of stronger programming and promotion to increase participation.

The seminar series achieved its objectives, with ten sessions organised between February and November. This regular activity has become a solid platform for exchange and discussion, and there is potential to broaden the scope of topics in the future.

Cultural events were an important part of the year's programme. Although the Provincial Day was not organised, several activities were successfully carried out, including Francophonie Day, Indigenous Language Day, the Hackathon on Innovation, Women's Day, the English Language and Copyright Day with Anna Naupa,



and the Day of Dialogue, Development, and Volunteering in collaboration with international partners. These events attracted strong participation and enhanced the visibility of the Centre.

Language Centre Growth & Revenue

In 2024, the Language Centre started generated incomes through the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) test. Indeed, the Language Centre signed a partnership with IELTS on 9 September 2024. Following the agreement, four IELTS test sessions were organised without NUV facilities, generating an income of 240 000 VUV.

3.2 Student Enrolment & Performance

Student enrolments and support are managed by SASS which assists NUV students in achieving their full academic and career goals by providing high-quality services, personalised support, and an engaging learning environment.

The main objectives of SASS services revolve around students' retention, success, and satisfaction. The department provides services including:

- Promoting NUV partner university courses and NUV local programs.
- Managing all components of partner university programs and local programs by liaising between partner universities and students.
- Informing and advising students about technical and administrative matters, including easily accessible online library services.
- Giving clear and up-to-date information and advice about courses to enable students to make informed choices.
- Providing academic counselling to enable students to succeed in their studies.

In 2024, the SASS department has progressed from having two officers to three and a senior Manager all contracted under NUV. The missions of SASS at SoE are supported by the administration team composed of two officers and managed by the SoE Academic Supervisor.

STUDENT ENROLMENT

The tables and figures below show the main data on enrolment of NUV's programs delivered at NUV's main campus and SoE in 2024.

Here are the main outcomes of 2024 enrolment:

In 2024, 713 students were enrolled in a program at the main campus, including SoE:

- 89 % of the students enrolled were in a bachelor program, the remaining 11% is distributed between master, diploma, certificate, and professional micro-credential.
- 54.7% of the students enrolled in a degree in Education, 19.2% in Economics & Social Administration, 4.5% in CRHA, 8.1% in Environmental Sciences, 4.3% in Economics & Social Sciences and 6.6% in Tourism Management & Hospitality.

There were 32enrolments in the newly opened programs in CRHA; 18 students enrolled in the Professional Micro-credential in PPM.

In 2024, we had 11 enrolments in Year 1 of the Bachelor of Tourism Management & Hospitality.



Figure 6: Distribution of Students Enrolled by Discipline in 2024

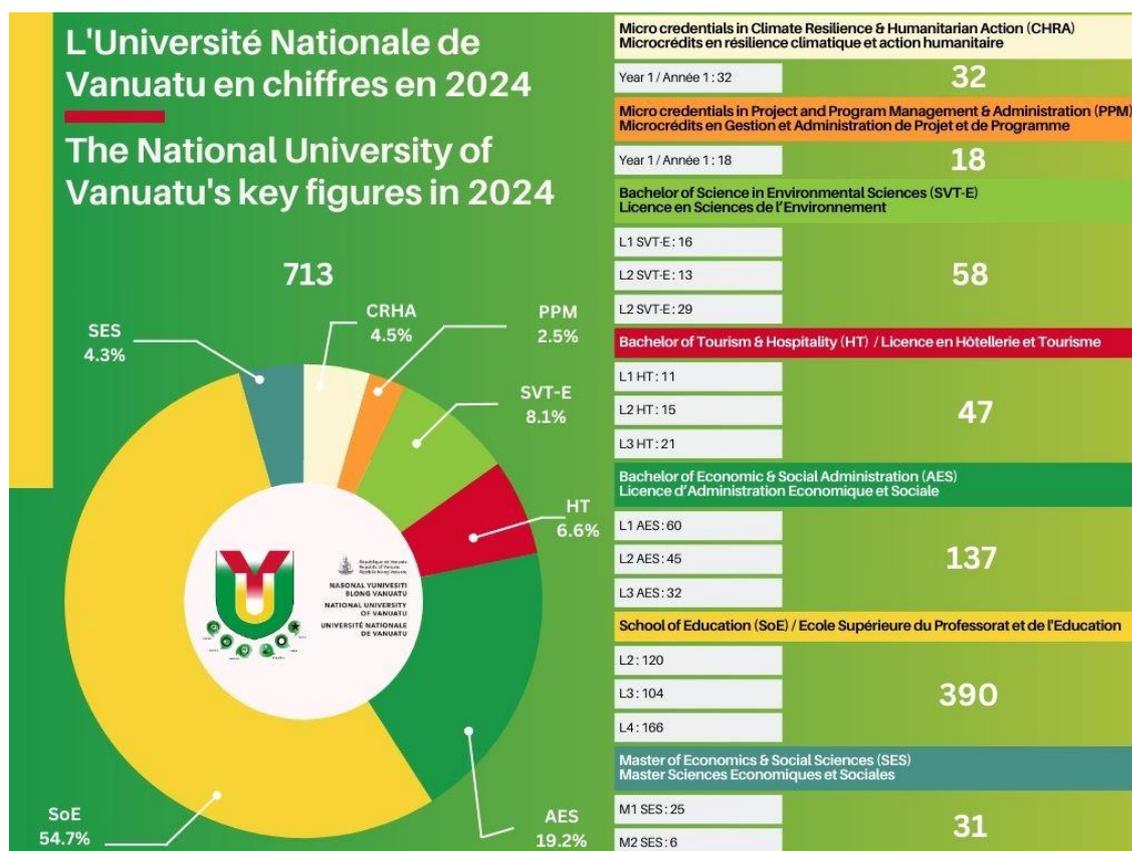


Table 3: Distribution of the Students Enrolled in 2024 per Level of Qualification

Level of Qualification	Total number of students
Master	31
Bachelor	632
Diploma	32
Certificate	0
Professional micro credential	18

Table 4: Number of Students Enrolled per Discipline – Distribution per Gender and with a Scholarship

Discipline	Total Students	Male	Female	Students with Scholarships
Climate Resilience & Humanitarian Action (CRHA)	50	21	29	6
Environmental Sciences (ES)	58	31	27	40
Tourism Management & Hospitality	47	17	30	34
Economic & Social Administration (ESA)	137	40	97	66
Economic & Social Sciences (ESS)	31	9	22	11
Education - Primary Teaching	158	42	116	223
Education- Secondary Teaching	232	67	165	
Total	713	227	486	380



STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Here are the main results of the 2024 students’ performance

In 2024, out of 713 students, 240 completed their respective programs. This includes 23 successful students in a master’s program, 191 in a bachelor’s program and 26 in a diploma and micro-credential programs.

2024 was the year during which the first-ever intake of the two NUV SOE bachelor programs (the Bachelor of Education primary and secondary) completed their four-year cycle. This explains the high success rate in a bachelor program as this data was added to that of the three Bachelors offered at the main campus.

It is also important to note that 2024 was the second offering of the CRHA programs after the pilot of 2023. As such, the 2024 intake not only was scrutinised but also had to undertake an entry test in language and maths to ensure that expected students possessed the appropriate level of entry in the program and that support could be provided in language to assist them in their studies.

Table 5: 2024 Completion Rate per Level of Qualification

Discipline	Total Students	Male	Female
Master	23	5	18
Bachelor	191	78	113
Diploma	26	10	16
Professional Micro credentials			
Total	240	93	147

3.3 Research & Conference

UNIVERSITY RESEARCH

On October 15, 2024, NUV hosted the PIURN Board Meeting, bringing together Vice-Chancellors from the 15 partner universities, including UNC and USP, the two co-chair institutions of the PIURN Network. During the meeting, several key initiatives were discussed and endorsed, including the establishment of the PIURN Summer School for Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) candidates and supervisors starting in 2025, and the creation of the PIURN Research Fund to promote and support collaborative research projects among PIURN institutions.

Picture 3: PIURN University Vice-Chancellors and Representatives





Here are some highlights of 2024

Family Farming, Lifestyle and Health (FALAH) – The FALAH project aims to support family farming as a significant factor in food security and health. FALAH was a PIURN initiative in collaboration with various international institutions (from France and Australia). FALAH was funded by the European Union (€1.3 million) under a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, Research, and Innovation Staff Exchange project.

The Solomon Islands National University hosted the third FALAH scientific seminar (14-16 May). Topics such as health issues, traditional practices, and food preservation were discussed at this event. Here is a video that gives a glimpse of the activities that took place at this seminar: FALAH Solomon Islands National University SEMINAR <https://youtu.be/tf5LIS2IlbY>.

Traditional child medicine in the Pacific Islands – This research project received funding from the Pacific Funds (€60,000) through a grant agreement between NUV and the French Embassy in Vanuatu & the Solomon Islands.

This project aims to identify beneficial and risky traditional care practices in Vanuatu, New Caledonia and French Polynesia, to propose public health measures to treat infant and child diseases.

The project led to a publication that was submitted and accepted in the journal *Ethnopharmacologia*: R. Tudal, B. Palaud, J. Charley, J-C. Metmetsam, D. Napuk, J-D.Tavoue, A. Vira, J.Yokai, A-S Vivier, P. Michon, É. Hnawia et F. Chassagne. *La médecine traditionnelle infantile au Vanuatu : Enquêtes sur les îles de Santo et d’Efaté*.

The French volunteer Rosalie Tudal had a critical role in driving the field work and writing the publication has also worked on a booklet that will serve as a tool for popularisation of the results from the study. The team was also working on organising a conference in Vanuatu (early 2025) for the restitution of the project.

SMART Subsea Cables: Implementing for Geophysics, Early Warning and Oceans, Vanuatu-New Caledonia to Global – The project funded by the Gordon & Betty Moore Foundation is developing a new ocean and capability—sensors integrated in subsea telecommunications cables—focusing first on the geophysics of a subduction zone “natural laboratory” and ocean dynamics in the Vanuatu-New Caledonia region of the southwest Pacific, as well as application of these observations to regional earthquake and tsunami early warning. This will be a model for replication at the global scale. The principal investigator is Prof. Bruce Howe, Chair, JTF SMART Cables, University of Hawai’i at Mānoa.

The NUV team has been working on identifying universities in the Pacific region where potential ni-Vanuatu students could enrol in a Master’s program with scholarships provided by the SMART subsea cable program and the Moore foundation.

SITI Project: Dynamics of informal settlements in the Pacific Islands cities – Started in 2023, the SITI project is a three-year interdisciplinary project involving history, urban planning, geography, economics, data science and social anthropology to study informal settlements in the capitals of Fiji, Vanuatu, and New Caledonia. It aims at developing knowledge and agent-based simulation tools to analyse a particular mode of urban production, characteristic of the socio-spatial transformations and urban sprawl, of the capital cities of the Pacific islands (Port Vila, Suva and Nouméa). The SITI project is a consortium of five different laboratories and two companies and is funded by the French National Research Agency (Agence Nationale pour la Recherche).

Dr Leslie Vandeputte, Director of the Language Centre at NUV, conducts research on language contacts within urban settlements as part of the fieldwork. Because the funds were delayed and were only received in October 2024, the fieldwork will be conducted in 2025.

SPAR-Pacific project: Indigenous knowledge, practices, and resilience in the Pacific Islands – The SPAR-Pacific focuses on societal and environmental issues specific to the Pacific and aims to explore the vitality and sustainability of family knowledge and practices for the purposes of resilience.



The objectives are to (1) ensure the existence and activation of indigenous knowledge and practice among young university students from New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea; (2) assess the perceptions associated with this knowledge and practices, particularly in relation to intangible aspects among young people; (3) understand dynamics of development, expression, and transmission of indigenous knowledge after the Coronavirus disease of 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic in connection with the socioeconomic and natural environment among these young people. A large survey, using a quantitative (questionnaire) and qualitative (interviews) approach, was conducted in the countries mentioned above, which led to the creation of a large database that can be later used by teams of researchers from these countries through collaborative research. A publication will also summarise the quantitative and qualitative tools that were co-constructed within the transnational and interdisciplinary research team.

Enhancing Research and Innovation Ecosystems to tackle climate change in the Pacific (RERIPA) – The RERIPA project in the Small Island Developing States is an initiative funded by the African, Caribbean, and Pacific Innovation Fund, a component of the research & innovation program of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States, with financial contribution from the European Union.

This program was intended to strengthen the research & innovation capabilities of the African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries, contributing to their sustainable development, which, through the RERIPA project, will stimulate innovation to better address the challenging climate change impacts.

- **Call 1 project: Mapping and diagnosis of research & innovation ecosystems, networking facilitation, research & innovation general vision/strategy with a focus on climate Change** – A research assistant was recruited at NUV in early 2024 to work on the local (Vanuatu) and regional mapping & diagnosis of the academic sector and on identifying stakeholders specialised in Climate Change Impact.
- **Call 3 project Climate change and the future of coastal communities Pacific– transformation of sociality, livelihoods, and lifestyle in the South Pacific** – This project consists of setting up Living Labs, fostering public/private partnerships around the research & innovation capacity already existing or to be developed, for innovative solutions helping to address climate change impacts and has two objectives: (i) understand the future of livelihoods and lifestyles of the communities in the Pacific affected by coastal vulnerabilities and sea-level rise with the help of digital technologies (apps and digital media), (ii) identify solutions with and for communities involved in living lab building that can improve livelihood and lifestyle.

A Project Coordinator was recruited and based at NUV, as well as a research assistant who conducted the field work along with two interns chosen from NUV students.

Joint research on Disaster Risk Reduction for widespread volcanic hazards in Southwest Pacific countries (Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development program) – The Southwest Pacific region and Japan have similar tectonic settings and volcanism. We face common risks from local and widespread impacts of eruptions, particularly those interacting with surface water. The giant eruption of Hunga-Tonga Hunga-Ha’apai generated tsunamis that affected not only Tonga but also Fiji, Vanuatu, and Japan. This project aims to share knowledge and information and develop an international framework for reducing disaster risk from eruptions and related phenomena.

This project will have various impacts on improving volcano assessment methods as well as risk reduction for widespread volcanic disasters, with a component of capacity development and HR support. It will also have benefits for education by fostering the interaction of young staff and researchers from three Pacific countries (Fiji, Tonga, and Vanuatu) and Japan as well as allowing the networking of activities in the region and around the globe. The project is supervised by Dr Mie Ichihara (Earthquake Research Institute, University of Tokyo) and involves partner investigators from Fiji, Tonga, and Vanuatu (Robson Tigona, lecturer in Climate Change and Environmental Sciences and Prof. Pascal Michon, Deputy Vice-Chancellor). The project officially started in 2024 with a meeting that was held in Tonga.



Agri Tour: The Agriculture–Tourism Alliance

Agri Tour is an Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education project that connects universities from the European Union and Pacific Island Countries to foster sustainable development through innovation in education, research, and regional cooperation. The project supports the implementation of the European Green Deal and Farm to Fork strategy in Pacific contexts by promoting agri-tourism as a tool for climate resilience, food sovereignty, and sustainable livelihoods. Agri Tour strengthens academic capacities through the co-design of new curricula, practical training, and international mobility, while building long-term institutional bridges between the European Union and Pacific higher education institutions. Agri Tour is a three-year project signed in 2024 that will effectively start in 2025. Dr Leslie Vandeputte is the focal point for this project.

Endangered Languages Documentation Programme – Sowa and Ske language (Pentecost)

In February 2024, the language centre collaborated with Chief Isaiah Tabi and Mr Andrew Gray to research Sowa and Ske languages in Central Pentecost. The project is supported by the Endangered Languages Documentation Programme. Sowa was traditionally spoken in the areas of Lebati, Vanmelang, Lalbung, Lalpurerep and Verenam, but like many indigenous languages of Vanuatu, it fell into disuse in the late 20th century, following the impact of European diseases and cultural disruptions. It was gradually replaced by Apma, a neighbouring language, though some words and phrases have persisted in community memory. This project is a one-year-long language documentation and revitalisation project.

CONFERENCES

Since the auditorium opened in 2023, the University has been hosting monthly seminars to promote discussions and exchanges on various themes such as Vanuatu cultural affirmation, connectedness, and diversity. Alongside these seminars, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of conferences held at the NUV campus. NUV academics are also increasingly taking part in Conferences organised overseas.

Here are some highlights of 2024

Science or Empire Conference – The conference, co-organised with the Vanuatu Kaljoral Senta, focused on the voyages of Quiros (1606), De Bougainville (1768), Cook (1774), and Golovnin (1809), all of which included landings on islands in Vanuatu and interactions with the ni-Vanuatu of the time. As Vanuatu commemorates the 250th anniversary of James Cook’s visit and his naming of the archipelago as the New Hebrides, the event provided an opportunity to reflect on the first European encounters with the islands. The conference brought together 12 presenters from various national and international institutions, including the Vanuatu Kaljoral Senta, Monash University, the Australian National University, and the University of Göttingen. The audience included students from NUV and local high schools (Lycée de Montmartre, Lycée Louis Antoine de Bougainville), as well as interested citizens.

Oceania Comparative and International Education Society – A delegation of five from NUV attended and presented at the 52nd Oceania Comparative and International Education Society Annual Conference in Melbourne in November 2024. The Oceania Comparative and International Education Society is the only comparative and international education society and network in the region. Its purpose is to increase the rigour of research in comparative and international education while internationally sharing results with policymakers. The conference regrouped researchers, practitioners, and educationists from the region and beyond who questioned the place of the custom, local knowledge in the growing global reality that universities are developing into. Through presentations, the delegation demonstrated ways NUV could support a subtle mix of modern technology intertwined with traditional skills and expertise.

Monthly NUV Seminar – In 2024, NUV hosted a total of 10 seminars (four in English and six in French).



Table 6: NUV seminars in 2024

Seminars	Speakers	Dates
Socialisme ou Kastom : Histoire des philosophies politiques à Vanuatu	Dr. Marc Tabani	22 February 2024
Adapter pour décoloniser ? Les langues de la Polynésie française à l'école de la République.	Pr. Marie Salaün	14 March 2024
Droit du patrimoine alimentaire : l'exemple du chocolat au Vanuatu	Dr. Fabienne Labelle	25 April 2024
Kava: From the Centre to the Rim	Pr. Lamont Lindstorm	27 June 2024
Rethinking urban climate resilience	Dr. Alexei Trundle	11 July 2024
Anthracologie et reconstitutions paléo-environnementales de l'époque des premiers peuplements du Vanuatu	Mr. Julien Ponchelet	1 August 2024
Cachez cette cheffe que je ne saurais voir ! L'invisibilité du haut statut des femmes océaniques et ses conséquences scientifiques et sociales	Dr. Françoise Cayrol	19 September 2024
Project for Disaster Risk Reduction of Remote-Island Volcanic Hazards	Dr. Mie Ichihara	07 October 2024
Tuan Ta Pesao: écritures de sable et de ficelle à l'île d'Ambrym	Dr. Eric Vandendriessche & Camille Etul	10 October 2024
Overlapping land tenure stories: negotiating ambiguity in Port-Vila	Sebastian Antoine	21 November 2024

3.4 External Engagement

NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Since its establishment, the development of NUV has been anchored in the desire to create institutional partnerships, whether public, private, local, or international. Its 2021-2030 strategic plan thus affirms that one of the University's objectives is to foster these connections.

NUV recognises the importance of embracing a global perspective in today's interconnected world. As such, the University is actively working towards developing its international relations through various avenues such as participating in international forums, collaborating on international research projects, and fostering partnerships with universities around the world. By engaging in these activities, the University aims to enhance the quality of education and research opportunities for its students and faculty, while also fostering a greater understanding and appreciation of different cultures and perspectives. These initiatives not only contribute to the University's academic and research excellence but also help establish Vanuatu as a respected player in the global academic community.

In 2024, NUV signed seven new agreements to ensure close collaborations with key stakeholders, benefiting the development of the University's programs and research.

Here are some agreements and partnerships of 2024:

MoU with the Public Service Commission – On 15 April 2024, an agreement was signed with the Public Service Commission to facilitate students' internships in various Government Departments through the Vanuatu Institute of Public Administration and provide a platform to discuss and define training needs.

FSPI with the French Embassy – On 13 November, amendments were made to existing agreements to i) recruit an Assistant to the International Team Leader, ii) implement Diploma in CRHA and Diploma in ICT, and iii) support NUV's communication and visibility.



France Volontaires and VAC – In April 2024, an amendment to the Mission Agreement for the placement of a French Volunteer at NUV and VAC.

FAO – On 2 July 2024, NUV signed a partnership agreement with FAO to finance the coordination, development and teaching of Diploma in CRHA and Advanced Diploma in CRHA courses in 2024 and 2025.

MoU with the Oceania National Olympic Committee Brisbane 2032 Home Games Advantage University Alliance – In March 2024, an MoU was signed to provide a framework for ongoing cooperation between the Oceania National Olympic Committee and its university partners in Queensland, the Pacific Islands and New Zealand. The MoU is not legally binding. Partners also include the Oceania National Olympic Committee, the Fiji National University, the National University of Samoa, the Solomon Islands National University, NUV, Tonga National University, and USP.

AFD – On 6 June 2024, an amendment was made to the existing Funding Agreement CVU1063 to postpone the date of the final grant transfer from 30 April 2024 to 30 April 2025.

MoU with Western Sydney University, Australia – On 15 July 2024, an MoU was signed to provide a framework to work together to explore the feasibility of collaborative activities such as i) Research, ii) Joint activities - conference, seminars, symposia and lectures – iii) Joint publications and other scholarly activities, iv) Joint academic programs and joint curricula, v) Opportunities for academic staff and student mobility and vi) Other collaborative activities mutually agreed in writing.

MoU with University of Wollongong Australia – On 14 August 2024, an MoU was signed to facilitate discussions regarding the establishment, development and management of activities which are mutually beneficial to the parties, their staff and, where applicable, their students. Such activities imply research projects, academic staff and student exchanges between the parties.

IELTS Australia Pty Ltd – On 8 October 2024, an agreement was signed with IELTS Australia for NUV to become an IELTS Test Centre in Vanuatu.

High Commissioner of Canada in Canberra representing His Majesty the King in Right of Canada – On 28 October 2024, an agreement was signed concerning the delivery of a Cybersecurity Module to equip Ni-Vanuatu students and educators with the knowledge and skills to mitigate cyber risks through i) development of Cybersecurity Module to be incorporated in Year One programs at NUV and ii) Cybersecurity Module to be used to train current secondary schools teachers at SoE and shared with MoET.

Member of the Pacific Island Regional Universities Network (PIURN) – NUV's membership occurred in 2021 and marks a significant step in establishing inter-university partnerships. In October 2024, NUV hosted the PIURN Board meeting, gathering all Vice-Chancellors from the PIURN universities. PIURN, a consortium of 15 universities in the Pacific Islands, was established in 2012 to foster meaningful collaboration among researchers to address social priorities, economic growth, and environmental challenges in the region through research, development, and innovation. Co-chaired by the USP and UNC since its inception, PIURN facilitates joint academic projects relevant to the region and attracts major research grants. It also serves as a network to connect researchers, generate research synergies, and promote the work of regional postgraduate students. The PIURN Board successfully convened with active participation from member universities, discussing key priorities for regional collaboration in higher education and research. Universities reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening academic partnerships, enhancing research networks, and supporting student mobility within the Pacific region. The meeting also addressed governance matters, future funding opportunities, and upcoming initiatives aimed at fostering sustainable development through higher education.



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

NUV recognises the importance of embracing a global perspective in today's interconnected world. As such, the University is actively working towards developing its international relations through various avenues such as participating in international forums, collaborating on international research projects, and fostering partnerships with universities around the world. By engaging in these activities, the University aims to enhance the quality of education and research opportunities for its students and faculty, while also fostering a greater understanding and appreciation of different cultures and perspectives. These initiatives not only contribute to the University's academic and research excellence but also help establish Vanuatu as a respected player in the global academic community.

BRANDING & COMMUNICATION

In 2024, the university saw a substantial increase in visibility throughout Vanuatu, leveraging media, social media, networking, and word of mouth. Furthermore, NUV strengthened its relationships with media outlets, government institutions, partners, the private sector, and civil society organisations, enhancing its overall influence and reach.

Here are some highlights of 2024

Communication plan – NUV Communication Strategy is aligned with the Strategic Plan 2021-2030. NUV Communication Strategy 2022-2030 was validated by the Council on 15 June 2023. NUV continued to apply this communication strategy with the two communication objectives defined for NUV:

- Position NUV as the premier multilingual institution of higher education and training in Vanuatu and the Pacific region.
- Promote and maintain a positive image of NUV and its development partners.

The following key messages guide NUV communications activities:

- NUV promotes academic and professional excellence through internationally recognised higher education and research in both English and French.
- NUV fosters unique cultural affirmation, connectedness, and diversity.
- NUV, through the support of the Government of Vanuatu and its development partners, demonstrates its capacity to implement projects successfully.
- NUV needs to embrace strong partnerships to keep providing equitable access to quality higher education and training.
- NUV aspires to be a role model for resilience and inclusiveness.

Website – The website has been updated regularly, especially the section Recruitment/Internship and the news section. A design for a new website has been developed, as well as the content, to have a more user-friendly platform that is easy to update.

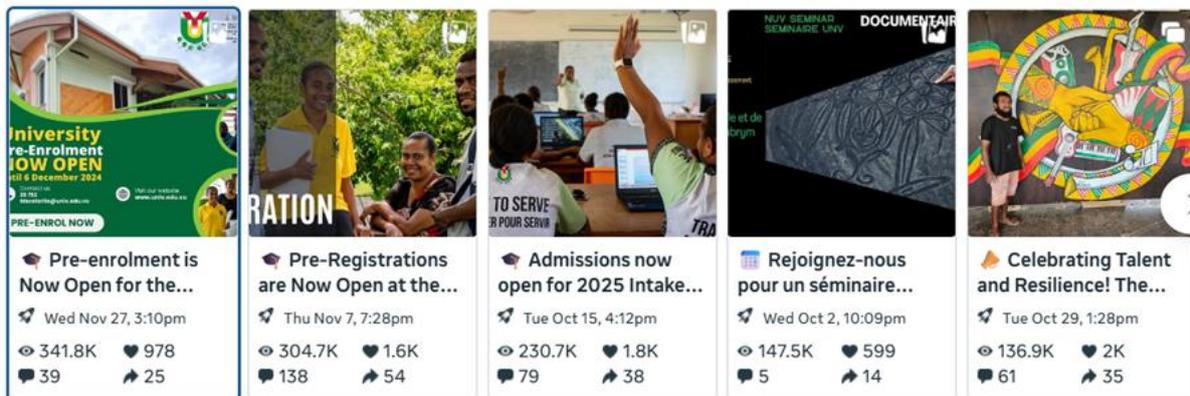
Facebook – The NUV Facebook page was created on 17 March 2020. At the end of 2024, NUV's Facebook page counted 14,200 followers, so an increase of 31% YoY in the number of followers. 64.20% of the followers are under 35 years old. NUV Facebook page followers are mainly women (57.8% of the followers). Most of the followers (88.1%) are in Vanuatu, followed by Australia with 3.4% of the followers, New Caledonia with 2.2% of the followers and Fiji with 1.7% of the followers.

In 2024, 112 posts were published on NUV's Facebook page, reaching over 274,000 users in a 478% increase compared to 2023. The Facebook posts on the page received 53,200 content interactions in 2024, a 49% increase vs 2023.

LinkedIn – NUV's LinkedIn account was created in January 2023. In 2024, the page gained 671 followers, increasing its number of followers by 79%.



Figure 7: Top Five Facebook Posts in Terms of Reach Since 2024



Press releases – In 2024, 44 press releases were shared with the media (radio, newspaper, magazine, TV, and online news website) and covered. NUV is strengthening its relationship with local and regional media.

Figure 8: Examples of Articles in Local Media



Registration Campaign – NUV launched its first NUV’s registration campaign in 2024 using radio, newspaper, social media and website. The campaign was very well received. The most successful post on social media in 2024 was about the registration campaign with 341,827 views, 949 interactions and 1,617 link clicks.

Figure 9: Examples of Ads in the Newspaper and the Most Successful Social Media Post in 2024





3.5 Human Resources

Here are some highlights of 2024

In 2024, the University employed a total of 68 personnel, comprising:

- 27 full-time staff – five academics and 22 administrative & support
- 41 part-time academic staff

This workforce supports the University across academic delivery, support services, language programs, administration, and executive leadership.

Women represent a significant share of the workforce, reflecting balanced gender representation across most units and leadership roles. Across all 27 full-time staff (excluding part-time academics), 15 are female and 12 are male. Among the University’s 27 full-time staff, women represent 56% of the workforce while men account for 44%.

The University’s full-time personnel fall into three main categories:

- Executive Leadership – These positions provide the University's strategic direction: the Vice-Chancellor and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.
- Academic Personnel (full-time): two lecturer/program coordinators, two lecturers, one tutor and one Director of the Language Centre.
- Administrative & Support Personnel – across Finance, HR, SASS, Facilities, International Team, IT and the Language Centre.

Table 7: NUV Personnel by department and unit

Vice-Chancellor’s Office	Finance Department	SASS Department	Language Centre	Human Resources Department
1 Executive (Vice-Chancellor)	1 Manager	1 Manager	1 Director	1 Manager
1 Executive (Deputy Vice-Chancellor)	3 Support staff	3 Support staff	1 Lecturer	
1 Support staff			2 Support staff	

The University engages 41 part-time lecturers/tutors to support teaching across campuses. These staff support programme delivery in key areas depending on semester needs and partnership arrangements.

Table 8: Full-Time Personnel by Department

Department	Total Staff	Female	Male
Vice-Chancellors Office	3	1	2
Finance	4	4	0
SASS	4	2	2
Language Centre	4	3	1
Human Resources	1	1	0
Facilities	3	1	2
IT	2	0	2
Academics	5	2	3
International Team	1	1	0
Total	27	15	12



HR Planning

- The University continues to rely heavily on part-time academic staff, representing 89% of all academic personnel.
- Administrative staffing is stable, with balanced gender representation and adequate coverage across departments.
- Leadership roles (Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, directors, managers) are now well established across departments, including the International Team Leader, expanding the University's capability.
- Some units (IT, HR) remain small and may require strengthening as operations scale.

Overall, the HR section of the 2024 Annual Report highlights the University's staffing profile, including the strong representation of women, the diverse range of departments and units, and the continued reliance on part-time academics for programme delivery. These trends demonstrate an adaptable workforce while also identifying areas where targeted recruitment and capacity building may be required as the University continues to grow.

3.6 | Ground & Facilities

INFRASTRUCTURE

Throughout 2024, NUV completed several major facilities upgrades aimed at improving accessibility, learning environments, and sustainability across both the main campus and the SoE. These included the opening of the Inclusive Education Resource Centre, the establishment of new computer labs funded through the European Union Direct Program, and the construction of solar-powered fares to support green energy use on campus.

All projects strengthened infrastructure through improved accessibility features, upgraded digital learning spaces, and the introduction of renewable energy solutions. In addition, the Facilities and IT Teams led procurement, contract management, and installation works for NUV and partner institutions.

Alongside these developments, regular facilities operations – such as campus security, grass cutting, and building maintenance – continued to ensure a safe, clean, and functional environment for students and staff.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Since its creation, NUV has been committed to building a robust IT network and implementing comprehensive digital solutions to enhance teaching, learning, and administration. These developments continue to provide significant benefits to students, lecturers, and staff across all campuses.

Expansion of E-Learning Classrooms

Following the installation of the five e-learning classrooms in 2023, network configuration was completed in early 2024 to allow all students to access the network using their unique NUV accounts on the main campus and the SoE.

Human Resource Challenges

At the beginning of 2024, the University faced a HR challenge following the departure of the Network and Systems Administrator, who had also served as Project Manager for the DIRECCT Programme (a support initiative funded by the European Union and managed by AFD). While advertising for several positions in the department, the IT Assistant managed the essential day-to-day support, and at the end of the year, he was promoted to officer.



Appointment of a New IT Manager

In October 2024, NUV welcomed Mr Benoit You as the new IT Manager. With more than ten years of experience in IT management, digital transformation, and project leadership, Mr You has brought a wealth of expertise and a strong passion for education. His appointment marks an important step in strengthening NUV's IT governance and future project implementation.

Selection of a Human Resource Information System

Through AFD–EDU funding, NUV launched a request for consultation for the acquisition of a Human Resource Information System. Following the evaluation process, the University selected ELMO, a comprehensive cloud-based HR solution offering a wide range of functionalities. ELMO will enable NUV to streamline its HR processes – from recruitment and onboarding to staff development and performance management. The contract was signed at the end of 2024, with implementation scheduled for 2025.

IT Support Services

Also supported through AFD funding, NUV launched a request for consultation at the end of 2024 for a two-year IT support contract aimed at strengthening the operational capacity of the IT Department.

The key objectives of this service are to:

- Support the team in all network, system, and software administration tasks;
- Assess and complete documentation relating to network schematics, procedures, and infrastructure inventories;
- Build internal capacity and ensure the IT team's autonomy in daily operations;
- Train NUV staff in the use of Microsoft 365 and other commonly used software;
- Propose technical improvements and solutions to enhance efficiency and sustainability;
- Assist in the integration and implementation of new software systems (HR, Finance, Student Information System, etc.).

Donation of IT equipment for the ICT laboratories

In March 2024, Bred Bank Vanuatu donated over VT20M worth of IT equipment to support the development of the ICT laboratory for the ICT Diploma. BRED's contribution has been a key asset to enhancing the learning experience of NUV students in the ICT diploma.

3.7 Finance

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

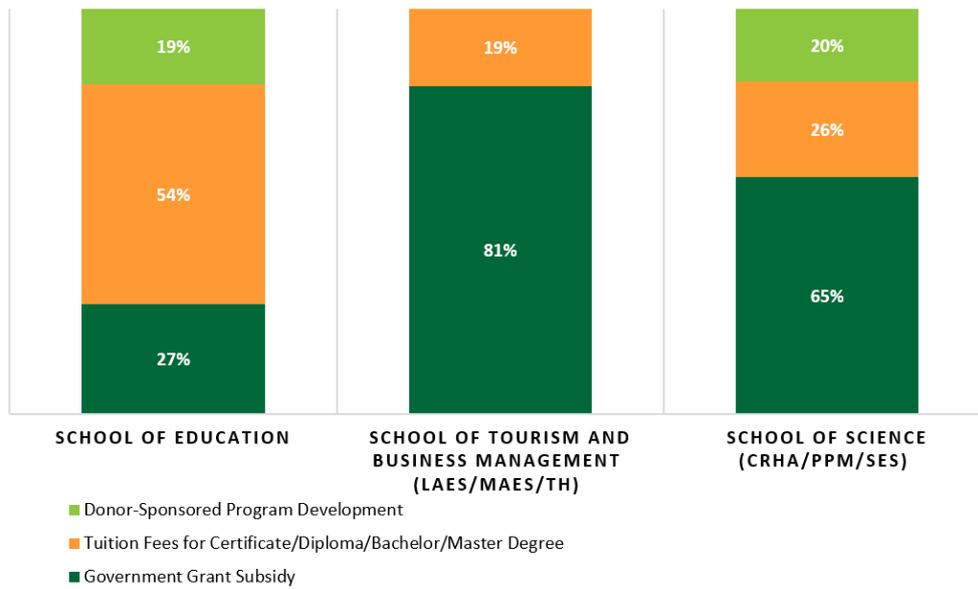
The University ended fiscal year 2024 with an operating surplus of VT32 million on an operating revenue of VT605 million, representing 5% operating margin. Within this total, unrestricted funding (Government grants) had a surplus of VT50 million compared to the previous year (2023), while restricted funding (donor grants) had a surplus of VT70 million, reflecting donor funds received but not yet spent. Overall Net assets grew to VT809 million, a 2% increase from fiscal year 2023.

OPERATING REVENUE

NUV's revenue structure is heavily reliant on Government funding due to its early stage of institutional development. However, the 2024 fiscal year has shown multiple, complementary revenue streams that include an increase in investment on the part of external Donors who have helped develop programs and teaching infrastructure to sustain NUV's academic enterprise, as depicted in the figure below.

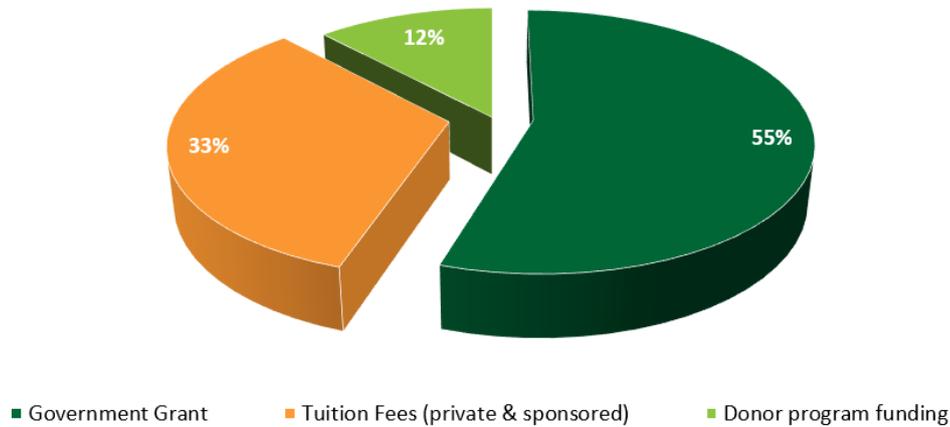


Figure 10: Source of Operating Revenues by School in 2024 Fiscal Year



NUV’s higher education activities rely on three main sources of revenue: tuition (private and sponsored), donor program funding and Government grants. Total operating revenue rose by VT110 million or 22% for fiscal year 2024.

Figure 11: Operating Revenues in 2024 Fiscal Year



TUITION

In fiscal year 2024, across three schools, NUV enrolled more than 700 undergraduate students from around the Country contributing to 33% of NUV’s revenue. Thanks to the government’s support, approximately 57% of NUV students enrolled in 2024 received much-needed scholarships from MoET and the Vanuatu National Provident Fund to pay an average of VT351 thousand for tuition and cost of services per student. Since its establishment in 2020, MoET, through the Scholarship Unit, has awarded more than VT182 million in scholarships for NUV’s undergraduate programs in the fields of Tourism, Economics and Social Administration, Environmental Science, Primary and Secondary Teaching and Climate Change.

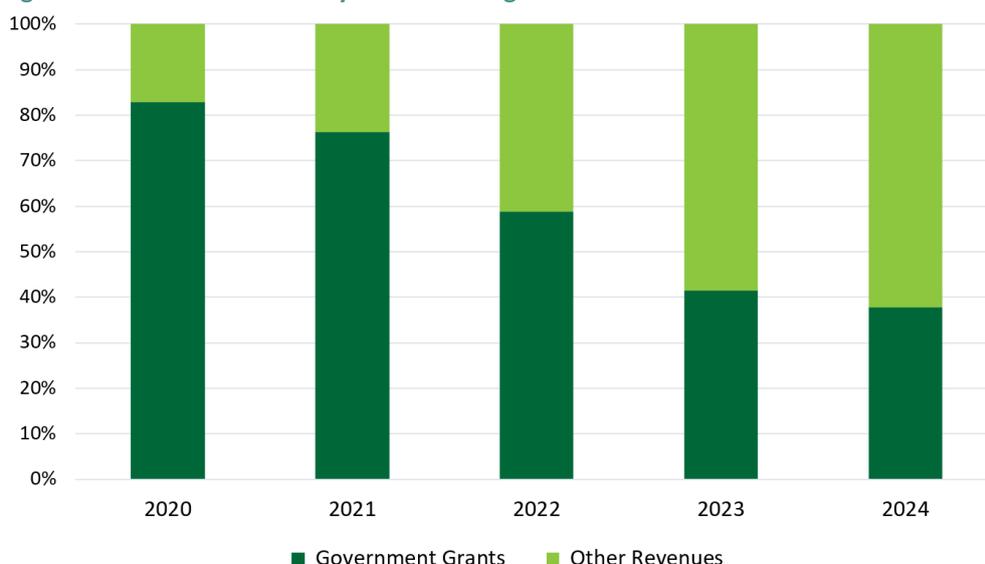


DONOR PROGRAM FUNDING

Donor program funding is an external partnership between NUV and external sponsors. This includes research. In fiscal year 2024, University expenditures toward program development and research exceeded VT57 million. out of this, 21% was funding received from external sponsors to support research. In all, the University recognised over VT12 million in external sponsored revenue for research and VT45 million in developing Diploma programs in Climate Change and IT. This increase in program investment is driven primarily by AFD funding (French Government) to assist NUV achieve its three main strategic priorities, which are to provide equitable access to quality tertiary education, grow NUV's capacity and nurture NUV's uniqueness.

GOVERNMENT GRANT

Figure 12: Government Subsidy as a Percentage of Total Revenue Over Time



In fiscal year 2024, support from the Government provided 55% of revenue through grants, reflecting their belief in the broader impact of higher education and research at NUV. Every grant helps NUV support excellence in teaching and research, recruiting and retaining qualified staff and helping students thrive in an innovative learning environment accessible to all.

NUV received in fiscal year 2024 a total government grant of VT288 million, representing 55% of operating revenues, an increase of 17% compared to 2023. However, the broader trend illustrated by the figure above shows that NUV is gradually diversifying its revenue streams to move away from state funding to sustain its operations, which aligns with Goal 6, to 'Ensure Financial Viability and Sustainability' through short- and long-term funding strategies.

OPERATING EXPENSES

NUV's expenditure encompasses four main categories: (1) People, (2) Facilities, (3) Research and (4) Supplies and Services. The University's operating expenses increased by 16% or VT80 million for the fiscal year 2024.

Staff salaries, wages and benefits accounted for 56% of the University's total operating costs in fiscal year 2024, with salaries and wages increasing by 32% or VT54 million. This growth is a result of investments in new staff with targeted expansions in key positions in the School of Science (CRHA program), School of Engineering and Technology (ICT program), the Language Centre and Student Services.

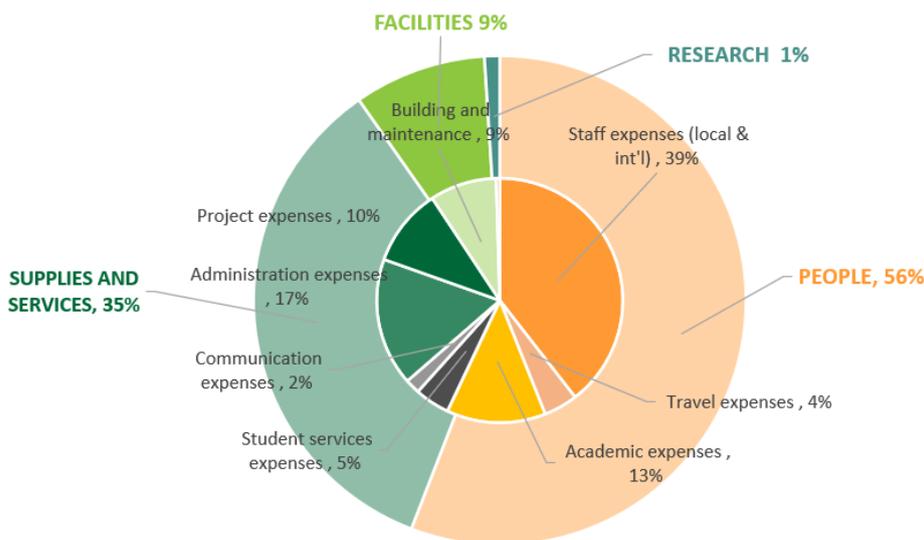
Space or facilities-related expenses grew by 6% or VT2.3 million due to deferred building and maintenance projects, attributed mainly to labour shortages and financing costs associated with capital projects currently underway.



Research-related expenses accounted for 1% of the University's total costs, or VT3.1 million in fiscal year 2024, marking the beginning of a new chapter of spending for NUV with funds invested in progressing research in traditional medicine with the assistance of additional support from international partners such as Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, the UNC, and the University of French Polynesia.

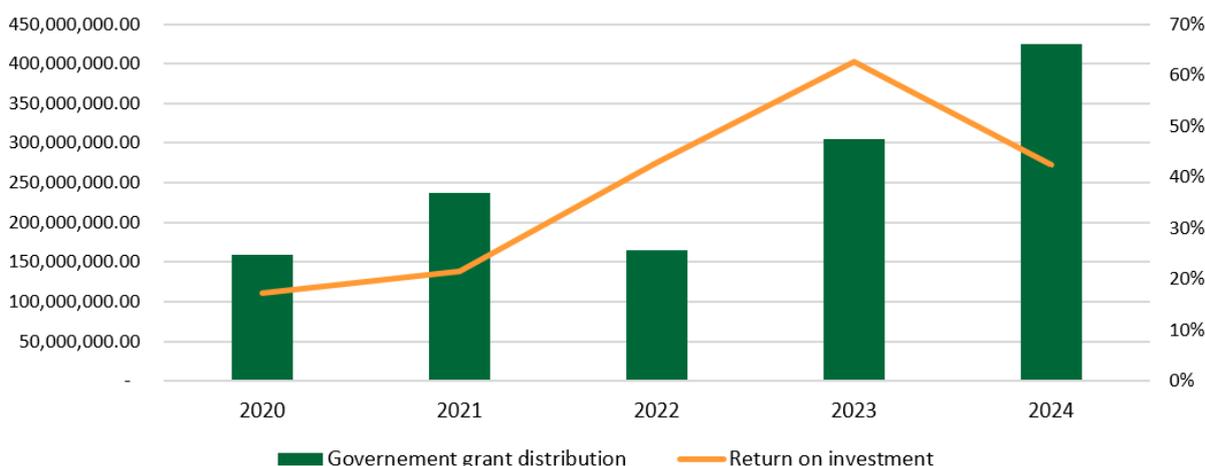
All other expenses, including the cost of supplies and services, increased by 17% or VT24 million, driven primarily by continued investment in international partnerships, communication, academic support and technology infrastructure. These increases reflect NUV's broader goal to heighten the visibility of the University's unique brand in the region and internationally.

Figure 13: Operating Expenses in 2024 Fiscal Year



BALANCE SHEET

Figure 14: Return on Revenue (Government & External) from 2020 to 2024



The return on investment in fiscal year 2024 was 6%. Its value stood at VT179 million (after the impact of grant distributions for operations and the addition of new revenue during the year), a decrease of VT10 million from VT190 million at the end of fiscal year 2024. The fall in return on investment in fiscal year 2022 - 2024 is attributed to infrastructural and HR costs associated with the expansion of the University's operations and the development of new programs in CRHA/PPM and ICT diploma.



Overall positive financial returns on investment by donors and the government mean the financial benefits for its graduates are increasing relative to the costs of their education, which can reflect higher student earnings after graduation compared to their expenses. Student costs are fully subsidised by the Government and donors and not student loans, which leads to increased enrolment, improved student outcomes and experiences and a stronger reputation for the University.



Appendix 1

Auditor Finance Statement – 2024

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF VANUATU
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**



National University of Vanuatu
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For the year ended 31 December 2024

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**National University of Vanuatu
University Council Members' Report
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

The University Council presents its report together with the audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024. These consolidated financial statements comprise the financial information of the National University of Vanuatu and the Vanuatu Institute of Teacher Education for the year ended 31 December 2024.

University Council members

The University Council members during the financial year and in office at the date of this report;

Council members		Appointed	Term end
Ms. Cherol Ala (DG MOET)	Chairperson	11.09.2025	
Prof. Mathias Chauchat (University of New Caledonia Rep)	Deputy Chairperson	08.10.2023	
Bergman Iati (DG MOET)		13.02.2020	11.09.2025
Hon. John Salong (Minister of Fin. & Econ. Management)		21.11.2022	14.01.2025
Hon. Johnny Rasou Koanapo (Minister of Fin. & Econ. Management)		11.02.2025	
Hon. Anatole Hymak (Minister of Education)		06.10.2023	14.02.2025
Hon. Leonard Joshua Pikioune (Minster of Education)		04.12.2023	
Hon. Simil Johnson Yousse (Minster of Education)		11.02.2025	
Prof. Moussa Thioye (University of Toulouse Rep)		08.10.2023	
Mr. Jean-Pierre NIRUA (Vice Chancellor)		01.09.2020	

Principal Activities

The principal and continuing activity of the University is "to provide higher education advancement and lifelong learning through academic and professional excellence by way of training, teaching and learning, in both English and French official languages, research and international corporation" Article 3 NUV Act No.34 of 2019.

The principal activities of the Vanuatu Institute of Teacher Education are to provide education and professional development for primary and secondary teachers in Vanuatu. This includes delivering teacher training programs, issuing nationally recognized qualifications, maintaining curricula and teaching resources, promoting educational research, and supporting government policies to strengthen the national education system.

Results

The net consolidated surplus for the year was VT32,117,322 (2023 – consolidated surplus of VT 1,585,705).

University Council members' benefits

During the year no university council member has received or become entitled to receive any benefits by reason of a contract made by the university or a related corporation with the council member, other than;

- a) a benefit included in the aggregate amount of council members' benefits shown in the consolidated financial statements.;
- b) of the fixed salary of a full-time employee of the University or a related corporation.

**National University of Vanuatu
University Council Members' Report
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

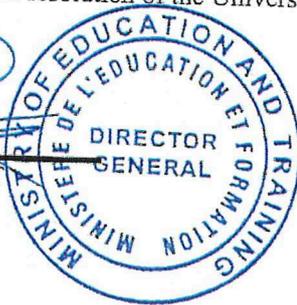
State of affairs

In the opinion of the University Council there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the University that occurred during the financial year under review not otherwise disclosed in this report or the consolidated financial statements.

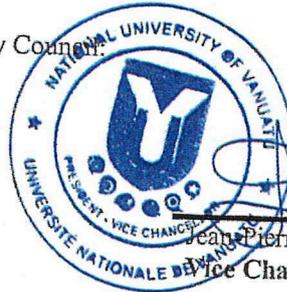
Dated this 13th day of November, 2025

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the University Council:


Cherol ALA – DG MoET
Chairperson




Jean Pierre NIRUA
Vice Chancellor

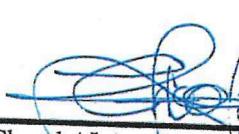


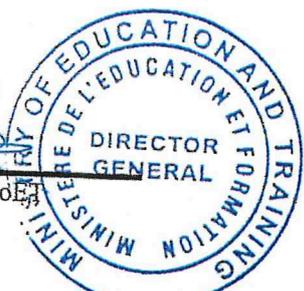
National University of Vanuatu
Statement by the University Council members
For the year ended 31 December 2024

In the opinion of the Council of the National University of Vanuatu;

- a) the accompanying Statement of Comprehensive Income is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the results of the University for the year ended 31 December 2024;
- b) the accompanying Statement of Movements in Funds and Statement of Financial Position of the University are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the University for the year ended 31 December 2024;
- c) the accompanying Statement of Cash Flows is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the cash flows of the University for the year ended 31 December 2024;
- d) at the date of these statements, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the University will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due; and
- e) all related party transactions have been adequately recorded in the books of the University.

Dated this 13th day of November, 2025


Cheryl ALA – DG M&E
Chairperson




Jean Pierre NIRUA
Vice Chancellor





National University of Vanuatu

Independent Auditors' Report To The University Council Members

Audit Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of **National University of Vanuatu** (herein referred to as the "University") for the year ended **31st December 2024** as set out on pages 9 to 21 comprising Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Movements in Funds, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows and the Notes to the consolidated financial statements.

In our opinion:

- (a) the consolidated financial statements of **National University of Vanuatu** have been properly drawn up:
 - (i) so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of **National University of Vanuatu** as at 31st December 2024 and of its results for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) to comply with regulations of the Article 3 NUV Act No.34 of 2019;
 - (iii) in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards;
- (b) we have been provided with all information and explanations required
- (c) proper accounting records have been kept by the University.

Basis for Opinion

We have conducted an independent audit of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described under *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the University in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Vanuatu. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in the University.

Other Information

The University council is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information in the University's annual report for the year ended 31st December 2024, but does not include the financial report and the auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.



Responsibility of Management and University Council for the Consolidated Financial Statements

The management and University Council are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain, in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), the requirements of the National University of Vanuatu Act No.34 of 2019, and for devising and maintaining a system of internal accounting controls to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management and University Council members are responsible for assessing the ability of the University to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the University Council members either intend to liquidate the University or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the University's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the University Council members
- conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the University's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the University to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the University to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the University audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.



We communicate with management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the University Council members with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with the management and University Council members, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

Melanie Spann
Engagement Partner

Port Vila, 17th November, 2025

Barrett & Partners
Chartered Accountants

Qualified auditors under Section 130 of the
Companies Act No.25 of 2012

National University of Vanuatu
Statement of Comprehensive Income
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 VUV	2023 VUV
Income	3	605,020,821	494,722,571
Expenses			
Administrative expenses		(243,693,665)	(174,001,444)
Academic services & supplies		(81,250,395)	(89,199,298)
Operations & maintenance		(6,548,669)	(7,729,818)
Student services		(22,390,917)	(53,977,745)
Staff expenses		(219,019,853)	(168,228,562)
		<u>(572,903,498)</u>	<u>(493,136,866)</u>
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		<u><u>32,117,322</u></u>	<u><u>1,585,705</u></u>

The statement of comprehensive income is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the consolidated financial statements set out on pages 13 to 21.

National University of Vanuatu
Statement of Financial Position
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 VUV	2023 VUV
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	440,807,083	464,781,944
Trade receivables	7	92,167,076	42,950,822
Other Assets	8	9,368,342	12,532,139
Total current assets		542,342,501	520,264,905
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	9	267,531,951	276,256,006
Total non-current assets		267,531,951	276,256,006
Total assets		809,874,452	796,520,911
Liabilities and Funds			
Current liabilities			
Trade payables		86,534,426	31,803,374
Other payables	10	6,028,990	12,040,888
Provision for employee benefits	11	9,828,668	7,350,126
Total current liabilities		102,392,084	51,194,388
Total liabilities		102,392,084	51,194,388
Funds			
Deferred Government grants	12	48,791,941	50,900,310
Deferred other donor grants	13	272,143,237	339,996,345
Deferred scholarship grants	14	5,633,526	5,633,526
		326,568,704	396,530,181
Retained surplus		380,913,664	348,796,341
Total funds		707,482,368	745,326,523
Total liabilities and funds		809,874,452	796,520,911

Cherol ALA – DG MoET
Chairperson

Date:



Jean Pierre NIRUA
Vice Chancellor

Date :

The statement of financial position is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the consolidated financial statements set out on pages 13 to 21.

National University of Vanuatu
Statement of Movements in Funds
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	Government Contribution VUV	Donor Contribution VUV	Retained Surplus VUV	Total VUV
2023					
Balance at beginning of the year		60,938,454	69,450,558	347,210,636	477,599,649
Contributions	12, 13	194,810,572	342,932,279	-	537,742,851
Transfer to income	12, 13	(204,848,716)	(66,752,966)	-	(271,601,682)
Surplus for the year		-	-	1,585,705	1,585,705
Balance at end of the year		50,900,310	345,629,871	348,796,341	745,326,523
2024					
Balance at beginning of the year		50,900,310	345,629,871	348,796,341	745,326,523
Contributions	12, 13	226,419,650	68,993,023	-	295,412,673
Transfer to income	12, 13, 14	(228,528,019)	(136,846,132)	-	(365,374,151)
Surplus for the year		-	-	32,117,322	32,117,322
Balance at end of the year		48,791,941	277,776,763	380,913,664	707,482,368

The statement of movements in funds is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the consolidated financial statements set out on pages 13 to 22.

National University of Vanuatu
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 VUV	2023 VUV
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		32,117,322	1,585,704
Operating activities			
<i>Adjustments for non-cash items</i>			
Movement in bad debts provision		1,940,734	(1,815,554)
Depreciation expense		67,889,203	19,134,637
Grant income recognized		(525,882,511)	(433,437,528)
		<u>(423,935,252)</u>	<u>(414,532,740)</u>
<i>Changes in operating assets and liabilities</i>			
Decrease (increase) in trade receivables		(51,156,988)	(31,479,867)
Decrease (increase) in other assets		1,424,014	(904,435)
Increase (decrease) in trade payables		54,731,052	29,046,346
Increase (decrease) in other payables		(6,011,898)	(13,129,440)
Increase (decrease) in provisions		2,478,542	3,299,300
Net cash from (used in) operating activities		<u>(422,470,529)</u>	<u>(427,700,836)</u>
Investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	9	(59,165,148)	(231,792,543)
Financing activities			
Grants received	12, 13	457,660,816	694,650,885
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		(23,974,861)	35,157,506
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		464,781,944	429,624,438
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	6	<u>440,807,083</u>	<u>464,781,944</u>

The statement of cash flows is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial consolidated statements set out on pages 13 to 21.

National University of Vanuatu
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024
(Expressed in Vatu)

1. General information

The National University of Vanuatu (NUV) is domiciled in Port Vila, Vanuatu, and was established by an Act of Parliament on 17th December 2019 and Gazetted on 24 January 2020 (Official Gazette No.5 of 2020).

The principal and continuing activity of the University is "to provide higher education advancement and lifelong learning through academic and professional excellence by way of training, teaching and learning, in both the English and French official languages, research and international cooperation" Article 3 NUV Act No.34 of 2019.

Vanuatu Institute of Teacher Education (VITE) is a Public Benefit Entity administered by the Director of the Tertiary Education and Training Division within the Government of Vanuatu Ministry of Education and Training. The Vanuatu Institute of Teacher Education is governed by the VITE Act 2001 which outlines the governance and operational terms of the Institute, and the Education Act 2013.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

The significant policies which are adopted in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

(a) Statement of compliance

The consolidated financial statements of the company are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS's and IFRIC interpretations) issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), interpretations issued by the Standing Interpretations Committee of the IASB, requirements of the National University of Vanuatu Act No.34 of 2019, and the requirements of the Vanuatu Companies Act No 25 of 2012.

(b) Basis of Preparation

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Vanuatu currency (VATU). They are prepared on the basis of historical costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The accounting policies are consistently applied except where there is a change in accounting policy.

(c) Property, Plant and equipment

i) Property, Plant and equipment

Items of property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost, less accumulated depreciation. The carrying amounts of all non-current assets are reviewed to determine whether they are in excess of their recoverable amount at the balance date. If the carrying amount of a non-current asset exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is written down to the lower amount.

ii) Disposal of assets

The gain or loss on disposal of assets is calculated at the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the proceeds on disposal, and is included in the results in the year of the disposal.

iii) Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis to recognise the consumption of economic benefits of an asset over its useful life. The estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment are as follows:

National University of Vanuatu
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024
(Expressed in Vatu)

2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(c) Property, Plant and equipment (continued)

Furniture's & equipment	4 years
Furniture's & equipment – Students	4 years
ICT equipment	3 years
Vehicles	10 years
Buildings improvements	4 years
Buildings	40 years

(d) Accounts receivables

Accounts receivables are recorded at their estimated realisable value after providing for doubtful and uncollectable debts.

(e) Employee benefits

i) Annual leave

Annual leave is calculated on employee leave entitlement at balance date, at the current rate of remuneration.

ii) Severance allowance

Severance allowance is calculated at the rate of one month's salary for each year of service. It is assumed that employees will remain in the University's employment for the period necessary to qualify for the respective entitlements.

iii) Vanuatu National Provident Fund (VNPF)

Contributions to the VNPF are expensed as incurred.

(f) Provisions

A provision is recognised in the statement of financial position when the University has a legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation.

(g) Accounts payables

Payables are stated at their cost.

(h) Revenue

(i) Operating revenue

Operating revenue comprises the sale of services and other items and is recognised as revenue when the services are rendered.

National University of Vanuatu
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024
(Expressed in Vatu)

2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(h) Revenue (continued)

(ii) Grant revenue

Grants relating to costs are deferred as unearned income (unspent grants) under Funds and then recognised in the income statement over the period necessary to match them with the costs that they are intended to compensate.

(i) Value Added Tax (VAT)

The University is not registered for VAT. All components of the statement of comprehensive income and statement of financial position are stated inclusive of VAT.

(j) Foreign currency

Foreign currency transactions are translated to Vatu at the rate of exchange ruling at the dates of the transactions. Amounts receivable and payable in foreign currencies as at balance date are translated at the rates of exchange ruling on that date.

Exchange differences relating to amounts payable and receivable in foreign currencies are brought to account in the profit and loss account in the financial period in which the exchange rates change.

(k) Income tax

There is no income tax levied in Vanuatu.

(l) Going concern

The financial statements of the University have been prepared on a going concern basis which assumes continuity of normal business activities and the settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of operations. The University Council consider the going concern principle to be applicable in the preparation of these financial statements given the University is able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable. However, the continuing operations of National University of Vanuatu are contingent upon the ongoing financial support of the Vanuatu Government and donors and it is assumed that this support will continue.

(m) First-Time Consolidated Financial Statements

These consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 are the first consolidated financial statements of NUV, incorporating the financial position, performance, and cash flows of its segment VITE.

Although VITE has been under the control of NUV throughout 2023 and prior years, consolidated financial statements were not previously prepared. Separate financial statements were presented for NUV and VITE in 2023, with NUV reporting under International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and VITE reporting under a cash basis of accounting.

National University of Vanuatu
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024
(Expressed in Vatu)

2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

(m) First-Time Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

i) Restatement of Comparative Information

To provide meaningful comparative information, the 2023 financial information has been restated to reflect:

- The application of IFRS to VITE for the first time (as VITE previously used a cash basis of accounting).
- The consolidation of VITE's restated financial information with NUV's IFRS financials,

This restatement has been carried out in accordance with IFRS 1 – First-time Adoption of IFRS.

ii) Application of IFRS 1 – First-time Adoption of IFRS by VITE

The conversion of VITE's financial information from a cash basis to IFRS required the retrospective application of all applicable IFRS standards as of the transition date. Adjustments were made to recognise VITE assets, liabilities, income, and expenses in accordance with IFRS, including:

- Recognition of receivables and payables.
- Accruals and provisions.
- Capitalization and depreciation of property, plant and equipment.

National University of Vanuatu
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024
(Expressed in Vatu)

3. Income	Notes	2024	2023
NUV - Government grants	12	228,528,019	204,848,716
NUV - Other donor grants	13	136,846,132	66,752,966
NUV - Scholarship grants	14	31,595,000	25,059,376
NUV - Tuition Fees		22,706,167	21,698,498
VITE - Government grants		59,836,060	32,849,380
VITE - Scholarship grants		69,077,300	103,927,090
VITE - Tuition fees		51,195,069	30,250,554
Other income		5,237,074	9,335,991
		<u>605,020,821</u>	<u>494,722,571</u>
4. Auditor's remuneration		2024	2023
Audit fees		<u>1,469,900</u>	<u>1,273,000</u>
5. Project expenses		2024	2023
CRDN – Embassy of France		-	1,626,766
FSPI - Embassy of France		5,879,285	16,590,789
Launch of the Digital for Development hub(AFD800k EUR)		3,088,636	-
MED. Traditional Infor.		60,000	5,268,407
FALAH-Seminar		-	1,417,618
France Volontaires - Fonds Pacifique.		-	1,679,000
Support for the Development of UNV (AFD 3M EUR)		18,117,765	11,630,200
MACFEST		-	2,764,570
FSPI N# 2023-2024 UNI STANAP		17,877,562	2,003,386
MOET Projet2URIFDB		-	1,152,753
MOET Projet3RF		-	1,745,255
RERIPA Project		4,330,971	-
RERIPA CHANCES CALL 3 Project		4,829,142	-
AUF_Voix Des Etudiants		321,011	-
NERE NAHAL		962,568	-
NERE NAHAL FLAIR 2		1,047,350	-
ELDP Project		280,128	-
UNDP AIS Project		280,790	-
		<u>57,075,208</u>	<u>45,878,744</u>
6. Cash and cash equivalents		2024	2023
Cash on hand		440,791,208	464,776,944
Cash at bank		15,875	5,000
		<u>440,807,083</u>	<u>464,781,944</u>

National University of Vanuatu
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024
(Expressed in Vatu)

7. Trade receivables	2024	2023
Trade receivables	95,375,756	44,218,768
Less: provision for doubtful debts	<u>(3,208,680)</u>	<u>(1,267,946)</u>
	<u>92,167,076</u>	<u>42,950,822</u>

8. Other assets	2024	2023
Prepayments	3,164,342	1,346,827
Grant income receivable	-	4,927,812
Other receivables	<u>6,204,000</u>	<u>6,257,500</u>
	<u>9,368,342</u>	<u>12,532,139</u>

9. Property, plant and equipment

2024

	Cost	Accu. Dep.	Net Book Value
Furniture & fixture	77,515,310	(26,920,761)	50,594,549
ICT equipment	126,014,539	(50,055,359)	75,959,180
Motor vehicles	8,200,000	(2,400,008)	5,799,992
Buildings & improvements	31,339,600	(13,496,281)	17,843,319
Buildings at cost	<u>124,367,066</u>	<u>(7,032,155)</u>	<u>117,334,911</u>
	<u>367,436,515</u>	<u>(99,904,564)</u>	<u>267,531,951</u>

2023

	Cost	Accu. Dep.	Net Book Value
Furniture & fixture	63,365,664	(9,752,664)	53,613,000
ICT equipment	109,437,217	(12,879,728)	96,557,489
Motor vehicles	8,200,000	(1,580,000)	6,620,000
Buildings & improvements	27,025,632	(6,090,625)	20,935,007
Buildings at cost	<u>100,242,854</u>	<u>(1,712,344)</u>	<u>98,530,510</u>
	<u>308,271,367</u>	<u>(32,015,361)</u>	<u>276,256,006</u>

Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment

	2024	2023
Opening net book value		63,598,100
Additions	276,256,006	231,792,543
Depreciation	59,165,148	(19,134,637)
Ending net book value	<u>(67,889,203)</u>	<u>276,256,006</u>
	<u>267,531,951</u>	<u>276,256,006</u>

Leasehold land and buildings

The title to the land and building on which the University is located is held by the Vanuatu Government. The land and building will be accounted for in the University books once the title is transferred by the Government.

National University of Vanuatu
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024
(Expressed in Vatu)

10. Other payables	2024	2023
Accrued charges	1,300,851	3,810,711
Accrued charges – Partner Universities	-	5,414,646
Sundry payables	-	36,000
VNPF payable	2,582,464	1,352,819
Tuition fee advances received	2,145,675	1,426,712
	<u>6,028,990</u>	<u>12,040,888</u>

11. Provisions – employee benefits	2024	2023
Annual leave provision	(973,629)	705,955
Severance provision	10,802,297	6,644,171
	<u>9,828,668</u>	<u>7,350,126</u>

12. Deferred Government grants	2024	2023
Vanuatu Govt- FICOL Proj.- Furniture, ICT equip	3,371,652	5,057,478
Vanuatu Govt- FICOL Proj.- Fibre Cable Connection	1,077,457	1,500,000
Vanuatu Govt- FICOL Proj.- Electrical Connection	1,500,000	1,500,000
Vanuatu Govt- NUV Campus-Elect. Transformer	19,684,825	19,684,825
Vanuatu Govt- Cleaning & storage Facility	4,517,000	4,517,000
Vanuatu Govt- Farea & Cafeteria Construction	9,925,000	9,925,000
Vanuatu Govt- NUV Campus Masterplan	4,758,500	4,758,500
Vanuatu Govt-Ungrade facilities -Special need	3,957,507	3,957,507
	<u>48,791,941</u>	<u>50,900,310</u>

Movement in government grants

	2024	2023
Opening balance		
Total grants received	50,900,310	60,938,454
Grant income recognized	226,419,650	194,810,572
Closing balance – unspent grant	<u>(228,528,019)</u>	<u>(204,848,716)</u>
	<u>48,791,941</u>	<u>50,900,310</u>

The University receives quarterly grants from the Vanuatu Government for operating and investment (capital) expenses. The amounts received for operations are treated as revenue for the year.

Grants that have been received to purchase plant and equipment and for investment projects for the University are treated as deferred grants. Such grants received to purchase plant and equipment are amortized and recognized as revenue over the useful lives of the depreciable assets.

National University of Vanuatu
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024
(Expressed in Vatu)

13. Deferred donor grants/contributions	2024	2023
Research Center - CCR 2018 French Embassy	-	180,586
AES License - CCR 2016 Fund Remainders.	-	173,068
Support for the implementation of the Environment License - Pacific Fund 2019.	-	1,792,973
Support for the implementation of the Environment-GNC2019 License.	-	2,543,800
Science laboratory equipment for the environmental degree	-	3,815,700
Redirected to V-LAB Entrepreneurship - CCR 2019.	-	7,719
Support for the implementation of an official bilingualism policy	-	88,575
Support for the structuring of Higher Education-CCR2019	-	1,349,313
Tourism License - Pacific Fund 2018 GNC	-	1,209,083
France Volunteers - Pacific Fund.	2,347,397	2,347,397
FSPI - French Embassy.	18,089,405	23,668,984
Launch of the Digital for Development hub (AFD 800k EUR)	83,168,113	114,961,536
Support for the Development of UNV (AFD 3M EUR)	110,033,747	129,258,831
Méd trad Inf	2,702,119	2,762,119
MACFEST	525,430	525,430
Unspent FICOL Projet GNC 23	-	26,348,402
Unspent GPE SCV Payroll	-	5,032,806
FSPI N# 2023-2024 UNI STANAP	28,717,608	23,930,023
FAO CBIT Project	3,428,280	-
EXP RERIPA CHANCES CALL 3 Project	8,534,175	-
AUF Voix Des Etudiants	286,194	-
NERE NAHAL FLAIR 2	655,103	-
Language Dynamics	1,892,850	-
ELDP Project	475,027	-
UNDP AIS Project	687,018	-
CFLI Cyber Security Education Project	1,589,761	-
New Caledonia - Plabiova	9,011,009	-
	<u>272,143,237</u>	<u>339,996,345</u>

Movement in donor grants

	2024	2023
Opening balance	339,996,345	63,817,032
Total grants received	70,732,806	338,004,467
Total grants receivable	-	4,927,812
Adjustment between grants	(1,739,783)	-
Grant income recognized	(136,846,132)	(66,752,966)
Closing balance – unspent grant	<u>272,143,237</u>	<u>339,996,345</u>

During the year, the donors approved the reallocation of VUV 1,739,783 from a previously expected grant receivable to the unspent balance of another donor grant. The reallocation represents donor approval to fund 2023 expenditures using available funds from that existing grant.

National University of Vanuatu
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024
(Expressed in Vatu)

14. Deferred Scholarship Grant		
Deferred Scholarship grant	2024	2023
	<u>5,633,526</u>	<u>5,633,526</u>

Movement in scholarship grants

	2024	2023
Opening balance		
Total grants received	5,633,526	5,633,526
Grant income recognized	-	-
Closing balance – deferred grant	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>5,633,526</u>	<u>5,633,526</u>

15. Control of the University

The University's ultimate parent agency is the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu.

16. Financial Instruments

Credit risk

The University does not require collateral in respect of financial assets. Management has a credit policy in place and the exposure to credit risk is monitored on an ongoing basis.

Credit risk on financial assets is minimised by dealing with recognised monetary institutions with accepted credit ratings.

At balance sheet date there were no significant concentrations of credit risk. The maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying amount of each financial asset in the balance sheet.

Interest rate risk

The University's exposure to interest rates and the effective interest rates of financial assets and liabilities at the balance date are as follows:-

Bank trading account and deposit attracts interest at commercial rates. All other financial assets or financial liabilities are non-interest bearing.

Foreign currency risk

The University incurs foreign currency risk on holdings of financial assets (principally cash) that are denominated in a currency other than Vatu. The currencies giving rise to this risk are primarily Euro and Australian Dollar.

The company does not hedge its exposure to exchange fluctuations in these currencies.

Fair values of financial assets and liabilities

The aggregate net fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities at the balance date approximate the carrying values.

17. Subsequent events

No events have occurred since the balance sheet date, which would require any adjustments to or disclosure in the accounts.

Detailed Income Statement - Disclaimer

National University of Vanuatu
For the year ended 31 December 2024

The additional financial data presented on the following pages is in accordance with the books and records of National University of Vanuatu, which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the University for the year ended 31st December 2024. It will be appreciated that our audit did not cover all details of the additional financial data. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on such financial data and no warranty of accuracy or reliability is given.

The additional financial data has been prepared at the request of and exclusively for the use and benefit of the University only, and neither the firm nor any employee of the firm accept any responsibility whatsoever to any other party.



Melanie Spann
Engagement Partner

Port Vila, 17, November, 2025.



Barrett & Partners
Chartered Accountants
Qualified auditors under Section 130
of the Companies Act No.25 of 2012

National University of Vanuatu
Detailed Income Statement
For the year ended 31 December 2024
(Expressed in Vatu)

Income	Note	2024	2023
NUV - Government grants	12	228,528,019	204,848,716
NUV - Other donor grants	13	136,846,132	66,752,966
NUV - Scholarship grants	14	31,595,000	25,059,376
NUV - Tuition Fees		22,706,167	21,698,498
VITE - Government Grant		59,836,060	32,849,380
VITE - Scholarship		69,077,300	103,927,090
VITE - Tuition fees		51,195,069	30,250,554
Other income		5,237,074	9,335,991
		<u>605,020,821</u>	<u>494,722,571</u>
Expenses			
Administration:			
Administration costs		2,754,178	5,943,015
Administration costs-VITE		11,276,904	12,808,168
Audit fees		1,299,202	670,000
Bad debts		2,789,234	5,365,848
Bank charges		569,640	597,332
Bookshop expenses		2,269,575	1,155,201
Building repair and maintenance		5,574,644	329,378
Building repair and maintenance-VITE		23,524,359	28,158,378
Communications		9,130,906	5,636,914
Consultancy fees		90,000	4,822,075
Depreciation expenses		67,889,203	19,134,637
Electricity expenses-NUV		7,074,669	4,322,703
Event expenses		4,673,451	2,217,728
Facilities hire		181,500	405,650
Forex loss/(gain)		(6,141)	72,655
ICT Equipment & computer expenses		2,703,913	4,310,048
Landscaping		7,200	521,306
Marketing and Advertising		1,969,682	-
Office materials & supplies		3,805,295	2,281,248
Project (Other Donors)- expenses		57,075,208	45,878,744
Security expense		2,264,600	2,040,000
Service contract & Professional fees		6,098,000	2,737,579
Travel - International Lecturers		25,459,781	17,689,466
Travel - NUV Staff		3,411,793	4,969,313
Vanuatu Government-Project expenses		1,583,075	1,847,540
Water expenses		223,794	86,518
		<u>243,693,665</u>	<u>174,001,444</u>

National University of Vanuatu
Detailed Income Statement
For the year ended 31 December 2024
(Expressed in Vatu)

Academic Services & supplies:		
Admin fees-Partner Universities	74,278,821	88,630,008
Exam facilities & supervision	798,522	293,410
VQA Registration fees	40,000	80,000
Academic Services-NUV	1,101,065	-
Academic Services-VITE	1,843,958	195,880
Research & development	3,188,029	-
	<u>81,250,395</u>	<u>89,199,298</u>
Operations & Maintenance:		
Cleaning supplies & costs	3,510,401	3,366,230
Contingency expense	1,401,997	1,214,164
Equipment-Repair & maintenance	962,155	2,231,418
Vehicle insurance	94,990	195,129
Vehicle hire	1,900	7,350
Vehicle fuel & maintenance	577,226	715,527
	<u>6,548,669</u>	<u>7,729,818</u>
Student Services:		
Bank fee & General student supplies	24,240	222,070
Insurance-students	642,243	415,527
Graduation expenses	-	299,315
Student Services-NUV	1,112,931	-
Student Services-VITE	20,611,503	53,040,833
	<u>22,390,917</u>	<u>53,977,745</u>
Staff expenses:		
Allowances	1,021,163	1,026,078
Admin wages & salaries	93,754,542	78,341,505
Academic staff - School of Science	7,640,113	8,367,481
Partner University - Lecturers & Tutors	15,828,416	14,237,010
VNPF expense-NUV	3,051,300	3,876,116
Severance expense	12,900,529	7,049,273
Staff uniform	2,134,896	71,365
Staff Professional Development	1,005,334	40,000
DP GPE-Save the Children	21,830,278	19,232,379
Academic Payroll - VITE	42,673,777	35,987,355
Administration Payroll-VITE	17,179,505	-
	<u>219,019,853</u>	<u>168,228,562</u>
Total expenses	<u><u>572,903,498</u></u>	<u><u>493,136,866</u></u>
Surplus (deficit) for the year	<u><u>32,117,322</u></u>	<u><u>1,585,705</u></u>



République de Vanuatu
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**NASONAL YUNIVESITI
BLONG VANUATU
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
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UNIVERSITÉ NATIONALE
DE VANUATU**