

II. Situation Analysis and Agriculture Sector Overview

2.1 Vanuatu's overwhelmingly rural population is dispersed across more than 80 islands, which stretch longitudinally over 650km of ocean in the southwest Pacific. Vanuatu has a relatively small, open economy with many development and structural constraints. But the nation also possesses some important advantages including a strong traditional culture which promotes social stability and family welfare; and fertile land, natural resources and pristine environment. The economy is based primarily on subsistence or small-scale agriculture, which provides a living for over 70% of the population. Fishing, offshore financial services, and tourism, are other mainstays of the economy. Development is hindered by dependence on relatively few primary commodity exports, vulnerability to natural disasters, and long distances from main markets and between constituent islands. Nevertheless, in the last few years there has been strong economic growth, positive government revenues and good debt management. GDP increased in 2007 by an estimated 6.6%, marking the fifth consecutive year of positive growth. This reflected strong expansion in tourism, real estate, and finance, as well as an improved contribution from agriculture. However, the economy remains fragile, with a growing population scattered across many, often isolated island communities. GDP per capita remains at levels similar to those of 20 years ago, with growth having failed to exceed the high population increase of 2.6 per cent per annum. To date the rural population has seen relatively few benefits of economic growth and internal migration continues to fuel the expansion of urban squatter settlements and unemployment. The HEIS 2006 estimated that 40% of household expenditures are on food and there is now a growing dependence on imported staples such as rice and wheat flour³⁶. Unlike

³⁶ The cost of rice imported into the country in 2007 is estimated to have been VT 770 million, while wheat imports cost the country a further VT 231 million (National Statistics Office data sheets).

many other Pacific nations, Vanuatu does not have easy access to migration or overseas work opportunities to reduce this population pressure, therefore rural development is an imperative³⁷.

- 2.2** A productive agriculture sector is important for the national economy, vital for food security and rural poverty alleviation, and also provides links to downstream industries such as agricultural processing. Agriculture (including forestry and fisheries) accounted for approximately 15% of GDP and almost all merchandise exports in 2006. Agriculture consists of two sub-sectors: subsistence smallholder farming, and large commercial farms and plantations. Coconut oil, copra, kava and beef contribute about 20% to total exports. The GDP share of agriculture and fishing however, understates the contribution of these sectors to living standards in Vanuatu. Around 76 percent of the population live in the rural areas and grow food for subsistence and cash needs. Many in the urban areas also supplement their cash incomes by gardening. The smallholder sector, given its constraints, is reasonably efficient and provides a relatively high subsistence living standard and a high degree of food security. Furthermore, the smallholder involvement in the agricultural cash economy has increased quite markedly in recent years. Outputs from cash enterprises and export commodities are more dominant than the purely commercial plantation agricultural sector; smallholders produce 80% of copra, 70% of cocoa, 20% of beef, and all kava. Therefore, economic, social and infrastructure development policies need to fully recognise and build on Vanuatu's dynamic customary institutions that provide food security and socio-economic stability through the traditional communal family system.
- 2.3** Vanuatu's fertile soils and generally favourable climate gives it the potential to produce a wide range of agricultural, forestry and fisheries products for both domestic and export markets. But Vanuatu's island geography and susceptibility to severe cyclones, in addition to its small size and distance from markets results in relatively few products for which it has a competitive advantage over larger neighbouring countries. Copra remains an important agricultural export commodity, returning more revenue to Vanuatu in 2005 than beef and kava combined. However, it is an industry based on outdated, labour-intensive production systems and return to labour is extremely low. In 2006 kava was the leading export, for the first time in many years exceeding the value of coconut exports (copra, coconut oil and meal). It is important that there is a move away from copra and crude coconut oil to niche coconut products geared to health and nutrition. Vanuatu's comparative advantage is seen to be in organically grown low-volume and high-value products. To further develop niche organic (and fair trade) markets will require a robust certification process, adoption of minimum quality or grading standards, reliability of supply, effective transport and marketing systems and a reasonable return on investment for all involved in the value chain. A series of targeted, commodity specific, value chain studies is required to identify priority products, niche market opportunities and sustainable supply chain systems³⁸. Improving standards for export products in line with the demands of trading partners is recognized as critical. This will mean negotiating market recognition/access agreements with guidelines for products established and adopting tropical Codex standards for products of interest.
- 2.4** Vanuatu enjoys a fortunate animal health status, with very few significant animal diseases, and a benign climate well suited to extensive low input livestock farming systems. Beef cattle production has been widely conducted by ni-Vanuatu and expatriate farmers for over a century now and production systems are generally well understood. As a result, beef-cattle farming is an important part of the economy. The livestock sub-sector contribution to GDP and exports is significant [cattle exports (beef and hides) were valued at VT365 million in 2006]. The country

³⁷ Asian Development Outlook 2008 (ADB).

³⁸ Bazeley, P. and B. Mullen (2006), Economic Opportunities Fact-Finding Mission on behalf of Ausaid and NZAID, July (Final).

has approximately 143,000 head of cattle (2006 Agricultural Census). The infrastructure (export grade abattoir, quality control and veterinary inspection system) for beef production is well established. There are five export grade meat processing facilities, 2 abattoirs and 2 canneries, with slaughter output of about 2708 tonnes in 2006. However, rural farmers still face difficulties due to high transportation costs to reach markets, lack of credit and limited government extension programmes. Most traded beef is frozen and exported to Japan, Australia and other Pacific countries (Papua New Guinea, Solomon, Fiji and New Caledonia). Plans are now being made to up-grade the abattoir in Port Vila with a view to meeting standards to export beef to the high value European markets. Whilst the demands for Vanuatu beef products on both domestic and export markets are high, supply -side constraints currently are limiting growth in the sector. Both abattoirs currently suffer from under utilization of capacity because insufficient numbers of animals are presented for slaughter. Improved farm-to-market linkages, coupled with increased production of smallholder and large commercial ranches through: improvement of pastures, animal genetics and production systems is a priority.

2.5 Vanuatu's fishery resources are limited, and would not be able to support a major fishing industry, except possibly for offshore tuna fishing. But currently the fisheries resources are not being effectively exploited. No domestic export-oriented fishing fleet exists and revenues from ocean fishing are restricted to resource-rental from fishing licenses, worth around US\$1 million (barely 2% of current exports). The reef fisheries are generally under-exploited near the outer islands, but over-fished in the vicinity of Efate. The Vanuatu Tuna Management Plan was formally released in August 2000, to provide objectives to manage the tuna resource in a sustainable way, but the Fisheries Department does not have the resources to properly monitor the tuna catch in Vanuatu waters. Emphasis also needs to be placed on the management of coastal fisheries and local artisanal fishing on which the majority of the rural population rely³⁹ and which can make a greater contribution to rural incomes, nutrition and self-reliance than the commercial fishing sector. Improvements in catching, handling, storage, processing and marketing systems and commercialisation of the domestic fishing industry are badly needed. The lack of a sector strategy and lack of stakeholder involvement in the sector is hampering development. No freshwater resources are commercially exploited in Vanuatu, although small artisanal fisheries for freshwater shrimp and eels do exist on some islands. With a relatively pristine environment and a reasonable amount of suitable coastal habitat and abundant supplies of clean freshwater and seawater, the long-term potential for aquaculture is significant. The development of aquaculture in Vanuatu is a new and promising industry. Species include trochus, green snail, giant clam, sea cucumbers, corals, marine shrimp, native freshwater prawn and tilapia. But export of freshwater prawn is limited due to high cost of production. The principle focuses for sector development are to improve efficiency so that it can supply a larger proportion of protein needs of a rapidly growing population from local fish stocks, and to sustain limited fisheries resources. Government and the private sector have drafted an Aquaculture Development Plan (2008-2013), but there is still a high priority need to develop aquaculture policy and legislation to ensure that development is environmentally sustainable.

2.6 The forests and forest industries are making a small, but important contribution to sustainable development and to the economy of Vanuatu. The value of sawn timber exports was VT326 million in 2006 (exports of round logs have been banned since the mid-90's). Small areas of cyclone resistant whitewood (*Endospermum medullosum*) have successfully been established on

³⁹ The 1999 agriculture census estimated that some 61% of rural households regularly access near-shore resources for consumption or informal trading; the preliminary results from the 2007 agriculture survey indicate that 75% households now engage in some form of fisheries activities.

the northern island of Santo, but further planting is required to establish a sustainable industry. Sandalwood is also becoming an increasingly important crop. A National forest policy was approved by the council of ministers in 1998 and formally published by the Minister for forests in 1999 to ensure the sustainable exploitation and equitable distribution of benefits from the forest resource. The forestry legislation was updated to be consistent with the Forest Policy in 2000 (FAO assisted this review). Whilst some 30% of the country is forested, a large part of this is unsuitable for commercial logging, future opportunities include expansion of community forestry and agro-forestry, increased use of non-wood forest products and downstream processing for value added. Careful planning and management of the use of the forests is important to ensure that the values supplied by forests are not jeopardised by unsustainable development.

2.7 Vanuatu has globally significant biodiversity, but biodiversity conservation - whether in formally protected areas (PAs) or the wider production landscape - is extremely weak. Very few PAs have been identified, formally recognised and managed. Although there is a quite significant water area protected around the islands, the land area covered by terrestrial PAs amounts only to 0.2%, and a number of priority ecosystems (e.g. tropical rainforests, mangroves and coastal wetlands) are under-represented or not represented in existing PA networks. Similarly, in the production landscapes around PAs, agriculture and natural resource extraction activities pay little attention to biodiversity conservation or long-term sustainability, due to a lack of education and appropriate technologies and limited income to invest in more sustainable practices. The establishment of PAs and other conservation measures are complicated by customary land ownership arrangements, which require that local communities are consulted and agree to any such changes. Furthermore, because agriculture and natural resource extraction is a crucial part of local livelihoods, communities need incentives to agree to restrictions on their activities in PAs and to change their forest and land management practices to ones that enhance biodiversity protection and are generally more sustainable. Progress in this respect also requires training and capacity building within communities and broader programmes of awareness raising and environmental education. Improvements in biodiversity conservation will require the development and implementation of community-based management techniques and the use of traditional mechanisms (such as tabu) and modern ones that are locally accepted and appropriate. There is also a need for a policy or legal framework that allows innovative, community-based management of PAs and empowers local people to participate and benefit from PA management.

III. Key issues shaping priorities for FAO assistance

- ⑤ Limited livelihood options for rural areas.
- ⑤ Growing urbanisation and unemployment, which are creating widening income inequality and mounting pressure on national and household food security.
- ⑤ Declining standards of nutrition coupled increasing reliance on inferior imported foods.
- ⑤ Incomplete overarching sector plan that provides a coherent policy and financing framework for promoting development of the productive sector.
- ⑤ Limited financial and human resource capacity for sector development in the Ministry of Agriculture especially in Research, Extension and Information.
- ⑤ Inefficient delivery of technology and support services to the farming, forestry and fishery sectors.
- ⑤ Low productivity of smallholder production systems.
- ⑤ Supply side constraints in all sub-sectors (agriculture, livestock, forestry & fisheries)
- ⑤ Small domestic markets coupled with lack of appropriate market facilities and market information systems.
- ⑤ Marketing and branding are critical to the realization of opportunities for organic agriculture and livestock production.

- ⑤ Difficulties in meeting technical requirements for market access.
- ⑤ Meeting quality and safety standards for domestic and overseas marketing.
- ⑤ Lack of competitiveness of agricultural products.
- ⑤ Need to sustainably develop and diversify fisheries and aquaculture commodities for domestic and international markets.
- ⑤ Natural forest stocks are declining due to commercial felling and clearing for agriculture and other purposes exceeding the rate of regeneration.
- ⑤ Potential loss of valuable biodiversity because of a lack of community managed Protected Areas.
- ⑤ Vulnerability to adverse impacts of natural disasters and climate change

IV. Country programme framework

4.1 The Priorities and Action Agenda (PAA) articulates the Governments high level development priorities and strategies to achieve the goal of creating “an educated, healthy and wealthy Vanuatu”. The PAA integrates and prioritises policies and initiatives outlined in the Comprehensive Reform Programme (CRP), Business Forum outcomes and the Rural Economic Development Initiatives (REDI) Plans for the period 2006 - 2015. The document was approved by the Council of Ministers in June 2006. The PAA lists its main agendas for action to be: “growing the productive sector, especially agriculture and tourism; maintaining macroeconomic balance; raising public service performance; cutting costs associated with transport and utilities; and improving access to basic services such as health and education”. With a population growth rate of around 2.6% it is estimated that the number of young people entering the labour force averages around 3,500 each year. Private sector development and employment creation, including in tourism, agriculture and fisheries is therefore the top priority. This means creating an environment in which economic opportunities can be generated is at the core of the national development strategy. The current PAA has gone some way towards a macro-level approach, and has included a range of general performance targets. The PAA provides broad guidance for development programmes, but specific time-bound strategic plans and medium-term expenditure frameworks are needed to better identify funding gaps to be addressed by cooperation partners. The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) has drafted an agriculture sector policy which highlights three priority policy options: market access and trade facilitation; processing and adding value; and production. The policy is seen as a mechanism for guiding both future interventions in the sector and the preparation of annual workplans and associated budgets. The agriculture policy is currently seen as specific to DARD, but it is the intention of the Ministry of Agriculture, Quarantine, Forestry and Fisheries (MAQFF) to develop a fully costed overarching primary sector policy.

4.2 Trade policy has not historically received a high priority, and Vanuatu has run a visible trade deficit every year since independence in 1980. Exports comprise an average of 10 per cent of GDP, lower than most Melanesian economies and very low for an island economy. There are, however, recent signs that government policy is beginning to address the issue of export development. The most recent PAA aims to ensure a conducive business environment for both internal trade and increased exports, with tourism as a major sector. Overall there is an increased awareness that trade is an important engine of economic growth and the government has committed to expanding and mainstreaming the role of trade in the economy. The objective of trade policies could be broadened beyond trade agreements, to cover growth, efficiency and equity. While trade agreements may carry important benefits, a strategy to minimize any adverse effects of preferential agreements needs to be adopted.

- 4.3** The increase in the number of regional agreements with which Vanuatu is involved has raised the profile of trade-related issues. The regional trading blocs are the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER), which Vanuatu has not yet signed; the Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA); and the Melanesian Spearhead Group Free Trade Area (MSG-FTA). Vanuatu also has duty-free access to Australia and New Zealand under the South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Co-operation Agreement (SPARTECA), and to the EU under the Everything but Arms Initiative for LDCs. Due to the limited flexibility of the fiscal regime, Vanuatu faces the challenge of replacing the revenue from import duties potentially lost under PACER with domestic revenue sources. There is no income tax, inheritance tax or capital gains tax in Vanuatu. Revenue from value-added tax, introduced in 1998, has proven somewhat volatile and there are difficulties with collection. Vanuatu faces possible membership of the proposed Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the EC and membership of the World Trade Organisation (WTO). WTO accession was suspended in 2001 after the government negotiated goods and services schedules but failed to approve the final articles of accession. The government remains officially committed to joining the WTO and has attempted to re-open negotiations with the working party.
- 4.4** UNDP is coordinating support under the Integrated Framework for trade related assistance to LDCs. Vanuatu has just entered into a full project implementation. Vanuatu's Diagnostic Trade Integration Study (DTIS) was drafted in July 2007 and the National Validation Workshop was in Nov. 2007⁴⁰. Project support under Window I of US\$ 1 M has been approved for implementation. Key activities to be supported are: review of custom legislation, drafting of new trade legal framework and Act, establish a trade development unit and capacity building for this, IT network connection for cooperatives in six provinces, linked entrepreneur development with focus on marketing, review of national trade strategy, and establishment of additional container space at Vila wharf.
- 4.5** Several major partners (EU, Australia, New Zealand and France) are planning coordinated programme support for the productive sector. The EU already has a small general budget support programme and Australia and New Zealand are committed to channeling more of their aid through the government systems to support sector wide approach programmes (SWAps). Australia's aid programme aims to improve broad-based economic growth by focusing on governance. Australia is reviewing its focus on broader goals of improving policy, strengthening growth, and reducing poverty. Growth in productive sectors, especially agriculture and tourism are important. Improving the enabling environment for private sector is targeted. Australian assistance has enabled an analysis of the existing lands administration system and the legislation and policy. ACIAR supports projects on forest pests, improved management of whitewood and enhanced plantation forests. New Zealand assistance to the agriculture sector included support for the 2006 agricultural census, a review of the extension system (just completed) and the reprinting of agricultural extension material, training for meat inspectors and quarantine support. Significant support was also provided for the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) as a means of ensuring additional assistance reaches the provinces. The detailed nature of activities in the agriculture sector will be finalized when an overarching sector policy framework is in place. The review of the extension system may lead to some support for research & extension. NZ is currently supporting a shipping study to identify needs to improve transport linkages for marketing.

⁴⁰ Vanuatu Diagnostic Trade Integration Study, 2008 Report/Daniel Gay, editor. Port Vila, Vanuatu: Dept. of Trade, Industry and Investment, 2008.

4.6 China have funded the construction of an Agriculture College building on Santo, farm tools, fish aggregating devices, biogas technical cooperation, tools for Public Works and boats. They also support a micro-finance scheme and a cooperative development fund. JICA is supporting aquaculture hatchery rehabilitation at the Department of Fisheries, re-stocking enhancement and integrated community-based fisheries resources management. Target species are: Green snail (*Turbo marmoratus*), Trochus (*Trochus niloticus*) and Giant clams (*Tridacnidae*). The World Health Organisation is providing technical assistance to initiate food borne disease surveillance and a food contamination monitoring system, and capacity building to enable food control systems to implement effective food safety education.

Overview of FAO on-going and recent assistance

4.7 FAO has focused attention on the policy, planning and regulatory framework by providing assistance to strengthen the Agricultural Census 2006/7 to ensure it is methodologically sound and in line with FAO recommendations for the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2010; and to create a cadre of persons trained in all aspects of census and survey planning, organisation and implementation; and re-establish the ‘ongoing’ food and agricultural statistics system based on an appropriate and sustainable methodology. TA support has also been provided to develop an agriculture policy, to undertake a case study assessment of the impact of climate change on agriculture and food security, and for preparation of Vanuatu’s country report on Forestry Sector Outlook Study 2020. Earlier support was provided for Forest legislation.

4.8 Under the RPFS three projects were implemented: Rural Butchery Development; Agro-Forestry for Food Security; Value Adding for Food Processing. The first project aimed to establish six rural butcheries as sustainable agribusiness ventures in isolated rural areas which could not access the domestic and export markets through the abattoirs in Vila and Luganville. The butcheries should improve food safety and food security for the local communities and help build a consistent market for local farmers to supply. The butcheries should also assume a role in ongoing extension activities by providing a focal point for training local communities and farmers on food safety, livestock development, animal disease identification and control. The agroforestry project has developed five nurseries for bulking of tree species for distribution to farmers to plant in agroforestry systems with crops and livestock. Agroforestry is seen as an appropriate management practice to meet food, fuel and income needs in a sustainable land-use system. The final project focused on processing cassava into sun-dried chips. All these project areas will be further strengthened under the NMTPF. Vanuatu has also benefited from the Telefood Program of FAO. Since its inception in 1997, there have been 5 Telefood projects approved and implemented in Vanuatu.

V. Proposed Programme Framework

5.1 Based on the situation analysis and existing medium-term priorities of the Government and the UN System, and taking into account past and on-going FAO and partner’s programmes, the following four priority outcomes will be pursued in the next four years:

- 1) Strengthened policy, legal, regulatory and strategic frameworks for sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries development.
- 2) Increased production, productivity and resilience of crop, livestock, forestry and fisheries systems.
- 3) Improved marketing systems and market access for livestock, traditional food crops and high value speciality commodities.
- 4) Sustainably managed terrestrial, freshwater and marine resources.

Strengthened policy, legal, regulatory and strategic frameworks for sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries development.

5.2 Vanuatu is moving towards a sector programme approach for development of the primary sector; to further this approach a stronger overarching sector policy and strategic planning framework needs to be in place together with development of a medium-term expenditure framework (MTEF). A number of key development partners are ready to support the sector programme approach and FAO assistance aims compliment this. FAO will provide technical assistance to support policy formulation, legislation and regulation reviews and strategic planning. Particular emphasis will be placed on linking planning to financing. Capacity building support may also be provided to improve sector data collection and management systems. Policy work and strategic planning will also be a focus area for the fisheries and forestry sub-sectors.

Increased production, productivity and resilience of crop, livestock and fisheries systems.

5.3 Supply side constraints in all sub-sectors (agriculture, livestock, forestry & fisheries) limit opportunities for processing, product value adding and market development. There is a need for improved supply of inputs – planting materials, livestock feeds (including pasture development); for improved infrastructure – agricultural roads, market and post-harvest facilities; and for better technology and husbandry practices supported by appropriate research and information services. Vanuatu currently import some fresh agricultural produce which could be grown locally to meet increased demands. Primarily through the FSSLP, but also through TCP programmes, FAO will bring support to improve productivity for targeted agriculture, forestry and fisheries commodities. Particular attention will be accorded to Vanuatu’s vulnerability to the impacts of natural disasters and climate change.

Improved marketing systems and market access for livestock, traditional food crops and high value specialty commodities.

5.4 Two of the three priority policy options identified in the recently prepared agriculture sector policy are: market access and trade facilitation; and processing and adding value. The objective is to create increased income earning and employment opportunities in the primary sector. Support through the FSSLP will strengthen market and post-harvest infrastructure, improve capacity for product processing and value adding, and also strengthen capacity in food safety and standards to improve market access.

Sustainably managed terrestrial, freshwater and marine resources.

5.5 Vanuatu fully recognizes the need to protect its valuable and unique biodiversity and the importance of community involvement in this process. Biodiversity promotes ecosystem services important amongst which are: food production, provision of raw materials, recreational opportunities and cultural values. In partnership with UNDP, and subject to availability of GEF-PAS funds, FAO will support the government of Vanuatu implement a project for conserving Vanuatu’s biodiversity via an integrated system of protected areas (PAs). The main output areas will be: improved policy and legal frameworks to underpin PA networks; strengthened capacity for community-based conservation management; establishment of new protected areas; and mechanisms developed for sustainable financing for the PAs.

Priority NMPTF Outcomes and their Relationship to the to the Government and UN Medium-term Priorities

National Medium-Term Development Agenda PAA 2006-2015		UNDAF Results Areas: 1. Equitable economic growth and poverty reduction, 2. & 4. Sustainable environmental management		
Strategic Goals	Key Issues/constraints	NMPTF Outcomes	NMPTF Outputs	Potential areas for FAO assistance
<p>Primary Sector Development (natural resources and the environment)</p> <p><i>Improve and strengthen regulatory and sustainable management arrangements for the sector</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete overarching sector plan <input type="checkbox"/> Limited livelihood options for rural areas. <input type="checkbox"/> Growing urbanisation and unemployment. <input type="checkbox"/> Declining standards of nutrition coupled increasing reliance on inferior imported foods. <input type="checkbox"/> Limited financial and human resource capacity for sector development. <input type="checkbox"/> Inefficient delivery of technology and support services to the farming, forestry and fishery sectors. <input type="checkbox"/> Low productivity of smallholder production systems. <input type="checkbox"/> Supply side constraints in all sub-sectors (agriculture, livestock, forestry & fisheries). 	<p><i>Strengthened policy, legal, regulatory and strategic frameworks for sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries development.</i></p> <p><i>Increased production, productivity and stability of crop, livestock and fisheries systems.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock & quarantine policy developed <input type="checkbox"/> Fisheries policy and management plans strengthened <input type="checkbox"/> Forest sector strategic plan developed <input type="checkbox"/> Increased capacity for adaptive research and technology transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Pilot stock of sheep reared in Vanuatu <input type="checkbox"/> Production sites established and training provided <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstration plots established and farmer training provided 	<p>TA support for policy and strategic planning and data collection/management (TCPF)</p> <p>Support for adaptive farming systems research/extension (TCP)</p> <p>Introduction of Fiji Fantastic Sheep (FSSLP)</p> <p>Vegetable seed, banana and plantain production (FSSLP)</p> <p>Smallholder Pasture improvement (FSSLP)</p>

National Medium-Term Development Agenda PAA 2006-2015		UNDAF Results Areas: 1. Equitable economic growth, 2. & 4. Sustainable environmental management	
Strategic Goals	Key Issues/constraints	NMTPF Outcomes	NMTPF Outputs
<p><i>Sustainably raise incomes from agriculture, fishing and forestry resources for domestic and export markets</i></p> <p>Environmental and Disaster Management</p> <p><i>Promote sound and sustainable environmental management practices</i></p> <p><i>Ensure sustainable management and conservation of Vanuatu's biodiversity</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Small domestic markets coupled with lack of appropriate market facilities and market information systems. <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing and branding are critical to the realization of opportunities for organic agriculture and livestock production. <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulties in meeting technical requirements for market access. <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting quality and safety standards for domestic and overseas marketing. <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of competitiveness of agricultural products. <input type="checkbox"/> Need to sustainably develop and diversify fisheries and aquaculture commodities for domestic and international markets. <input type="checkbox"/> Natural forest stocks are declining due to commercial felling and clearing for agriculture and other purposes exceeding the rate of regeneration. <input type="checkbox"/> Potential loss of valuable biodiversity because of a lack of community managed Protected Areas. <input type="checkbox"/> Vulnerability to adverse impacts of natural disasters and Climate Change 	<p><i>Improved marketing systems and market access for livestock, traditional food crops and high value specialty commodities.</i></p> <p><i>Sustainably managed terrestrial, freshwater and marine resources.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> New market infrastructure in place and management and regulations established <input type="checkbox"/> National and regional training conducted <input type="checkbox"/> Butcheries completed and training provided for operators <input type="checkbox"/> Upgraded equipment, staff training and standards/regulations developed <input type="checkbox"/> Research conducted, economic evaluation undertaken, training provided <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities constructed and training provided <input type="checkbox"/> Facilities provided and training conducted <input type="checkbox"/> Nurseries established and farmers trained <input type="checkbox"/> Improved policy and legal frameworks to underpin PA networks, strengthened capacity for community-based conservation management, establishment of new protected areas, and mechanisms developed for sustainable financing for the PAs.

The FAO activities have been determined through dialogue with the government and other sector stakeholders, and in accordance with the priorities set out in its Priorities and Action Agenda (PAA) 2006-2015.