



Voluntary National Survey for Monitoring of Progress in Asia and the Pacific towards the Implementation of the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

Background

This voluntary national survey will provide information on progress regarding the implementation of the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development¹ and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Asia and the Pacific.² Results from the survey will be reported and discussed at the Seventh Asian and Pacific Population Conference, in 2023.

The ICPD Programme of Action provides an invaluable framework to guide Member States in enhancing the quality of life and well-being of every individual and promoting human development by underscoring the interrelationship between development policies and programmes, human rights, and economic and social development. At the 20-year Asia-Pacific regional review of the Programme of Action, in 2013, ESCAP member States adopted the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development. This Declaration serves as region-specific guidance on population and development in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

During the 2018 intergovernmental meeting for the Midterm Review of the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration, a monitoring framework was presented to ESCAP members and associated members to monitor progress in implementing the recommendations of both documents in the region. This framework was based on existing SDG indicators and targets to reduce the reporting burden on member States. The ESCAP Committee on Social Development, during its sixth session in 2020, endorsed the monitoring framework, noting that it would serve as an essential tool for voluntary, regular assessment and reporting of progress of implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and the 2013 Ministerial Declaration.³

At the Committee session, several member States recognized existing data gaps and lack of capacity at the national level in collecting, generating and disseminating reliable sex- and age-disaggregated data. In preparation for the Seventh Asian and Pacific Population Conference, in 2023, ESCAP, with support from UNFPA, has developed a survey based on the monitoring framework to assist member States in collecting data and monitoring the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and the 2013 Ministerial Declaration. The survey is highly qualitative in nature, aiming to understand countries' progress and achievements in all priority action areas, along with key challenges and lessons learned. Additionally, ESCAP has compiled quantitative information on the SDG indicators identified in the monitoring framework and is providing this information to member States along with the survey. The data are sourced from the Global SDG Indicators Database maintained by the Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

¹ <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/Report%20of%20APPC%202013.pdf>.

² Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

³ ESCAP/CSD/2020/3.

Suggestions for completing the Asia-Pacific voluntary national survey

The survey should be completed by countries, through their national focal points on population and development. The survey and attached monitoring framework⁴ are structured according to the priority actions identified in the Report of the Sixth Asian and Pacific Population Conference.⁵ As the Programme of Action of ICPD is a multi-dimensional framework, it is recommended that completion of the survey involves a consultative process with ministries and departments responsible for implementing the priority action areas and reporting the associated SDG indicators, and with the involvement of non-governmental stakeholders.

ESCAP is sending the survey to member States as a Word document and as a PDF document. Member States are invited to respond to it directly in the Word document. For the check boxes, please double click on them to insert a check mark.

The survey and associated documents can be downloaded from the ESCAP website at: www.unescap.org/events/2023/seventh-asian-and-pacific-population-conference.

The survey should be completed (and submitted/returned), together with relevant attachments by **31 March 2023**, by email, to: escap-sdd@un.org Please do not hesitate to contact **escap-sdd@un.org** should you have any questions.

I. Contact information

Please identify the office responsible for coordinating the responses to this survey and completing it and include its contact information.

Country : Vanuatu	
Ministry/Office/Agency: Department of Strategic, Policy Planning and Aid Coordination, Prime Ministers Ministry	
Name contact persons (First and Last)	Title/Position
Email	Telephone
Mailing address DSPPAC, Prime Minister Ministry, Vanuatu Government, Port Vila, Vanuatu.	
Please indicate whether the completed survey may be posted on the ESCAP public website of the Seventh Asian and Pacific Population Conference.	
Yes:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No:	<input type="checkbox"/>

⁴ See ESCAP/CSD/2020/3 (see Annex IV).

⁵ <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/Report%20of%20APPC%202013.pdf>.

II. National coordination mechanism for implementation of the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development, and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

1.1	Is there a national coordination mechanism to support implementation of the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development, and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development? If “yes”, please provide information for the question below. If “no”, please skip section III below.		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
1.2	Name of the coordination mechanism and website link if available: <i>Please elaborate: Vanuatu Government has an existing national ICPD committee and has been vibrant in discussing and coordinating ICPD issues in the past including organizing workshops, participate in progress report writing, attend regional and international meetings since 2015. The committee does not have a link but its members are from Government. The Committee is led by the Office of the Prime Minister and includes the representative from the Ministry of Health, the Vanuatu Bureau of Statistics, Department of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Youth and NGOs representatives.</i>			
1.3	Year of establishment: <i>Please elaborate: Until 2015 the ICPD was coordinated mainly from PSRO Suva and progress reports were also done from the Suva Office. Since then, there has been a great push to shift the responsibility to the Government and DSPPAC was selected as the ideal location for ICPD. The only weakness that the committee faces is that it relies heavily on UNFPA for funding and technical support. Where there is funding the committee is activated, else it does not function at all.</i>			
1.4	What level does the coordination mechanism operate at:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prime minister or highest level of government <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minister <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>Please elaborate:</i> Youth Reps – <i>Vanuatu National Youth Council</i> Women Reps – <i>Vanuatu Women Centre</i> Disability Reps – <i>Vanuatu National Society for People with Disability</i>		
1.5	Are civil society organizations included as members of the coordination mechanism?		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
1.6	Does the coordination mechanism have formalized Terms of Agreement or other formal operating agreements? If “yes”, please elaborate on the functions of the coordination mechanism:		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.7	How often does the coordination mechanism meet?	<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Yearly <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ad-hoc, as needed <input type="checkbox"/> The committee has not yet met		

1.8	Contact information, including mailing address, telephone/fax, email and website link for members of the coordination mechanism: <i>please elaborate:</i>

III. Challenges and successes in achieving progress concerning priority action areas outlined in the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development

The following sections cover the 11 priority action areas outlined in the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development. Please answer the questions in regard to the specific priority area mentioned in the text. This is to help measure which priority areas are characterized by **challenges** and by **progress**, as well as identify any **achievements**, **good practices** and **lessons learned** that can be shared with other countries regarding specific areas.

A. Poverty eradication and employment

Responsible

<i>Overall policy environment</i>

1.A.	<p>Are any priority actions for poverty eradication and employment included in your National Development Strategy or other development plans? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>Poverty</p> <p>Poverty is a cross cutting issue and is addressed fully by the Vanuatu Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 (People's Plan 2030). A section on Employment is provided below.</p> <p>Society Pillar 4 : Social Inclusion (Page 11) Society 4.1 : Implement gender responsive planning and budgeting processes Society 4.3 : Empower and support people with disabilities Society 4.5 : Ensure all people, including people with disabilities, have access to government services, buildings and public spaces Society 4.6 : Provide opportunities, support and protection services for youth and children as valued members of society</p> <p>Economy Pillar 4 : Creating Jobs and Business Opportunities (Page 18) ECO 4.1 Create an improved business environment with a stable regulatory framework, which promotes competition, protects consumers, attracts investment, and reduces the costs of doing business ECO 4.2 Strengthen linkages between urban and rural business and promote trade between islands ECO 4.3 Increase production and processing of niche commodities, and value addition to commodities in which Vanuatu enjoys a comparative advantage ECO 4.4 Improve and expand the range of sustainable tourism products and services throughout Vanuatu and strengthen links to local production ECO 4.5 Increase the number of decent, productive employment opportunities, particularly for young women and men and people with disabilities ECO 4.6 Ensure the health and safety, employment rights and skills development of the workforce ECO 4.7 Increase labour mobility nationally and internationally, including through the collection and analysis of comprehensive labour market data ECO 4.8 Ensure processes for acquiring and using land for economic activity provides a stable platform for investment and business growth ECO 4.9 Strengthen dialogue between government and the private sector, and enact a robust governance framework for effective partnerships</p> <p>If "yes", please provide the strategy name/link :</p> <p>(a) Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan (Peoples Plan 2030) 2016 – 2030</p> <p>(b) Vanuatu government website : https://www.gov.vu</p> <p>(b) date or time frame of the strategy/plan : 2016 - 2030</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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	(c) page number that references this action area : Full document (d) main elements of the action area : Visions, Aspirations and National Development Goals and Policy objectives. (d) its impact : Implementation in progress	
2.A.	Have there been any amendments or improvements to legislation, or new policies or action plans relating to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development priority area “poverty eradication and employment” since 2013? <i>please elaborate</i> If “yes”, please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanuatu graduated from a Least Developed Country status from December 2020 to Developing country status / Low middle income country. • Lists of Government Bills passed in Parliament since 2013 addressing the specifics of 2013 Ministerial declaration • Government Budget passed in parliament since 2013 enabling the Government to continue to address the issues of Poverty as detailed in the People’s Plan 2030. • Numerous Council of Ministers Decisions giving effect to the Government Ministries to implement the People’s Plan 2030 (a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan and website link : https://www.gov.vu (b) date of implementation and time frame : Ongoing (c) its main elements : Topics vary depending on the poverty and employment opportunities in debate, but included in the People’s Plan 2030 (d) its impact : Implementation in progress / Recurring issues	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Achievements and good practices</i>		
3.A.	Aside from what is listed above, what are some key achievements in the area of poverty eradication and employment in the country since 2013? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Vanuatu Government changed its priority to bring Government to the People. Under this approach, the Government is now building new infrastructure roads and feeder roads in the islands (Efate, Tanna, Malekula, Pentecost and Santo) and continuing on to other islands as well. • Wharves in Vila, Luganville, Tanna and Malekula have been built or renovated to take larger shipping vessels for export of local goods and imports of foreign good. • Farmers have been supported with agriculture / farming tools to help improve their crops and increase their production. Many farmers are now joining farming associations such as sugar cane farmers to help them receive assistance to improve as well as expand their production volumes. • The Employers Seasonal Schemes in Australia and New Zealand has helped significantly to bring needed income to low-income earners at the community. • Government budget policy prioritizes changes in the budgetary reallocation for fiscal space directly to the community 	

4.A.	<p>Are there any good practices the country has developed in operationalizing poverty eradication and employment programmes that other countries may find useful? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Employers Seasonal Scheme is a very good program. • Government subsidizes a lot of tools for farmers, fishermen, even solar lights to help families improve their ways of living. • Government also supplied restocking of cattle throughout Vanuatu. • Other basic crops including disaster resilient crops - manioc, kumala cuttings, yams, kava, bananas, vegetable and fruit seedlings and so on were distributed to address the issues of food security and poverty. • As part of his humanitarian program the Government also makes available cash assistance to vulnerable members of the population and small enterprises.
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Challenges

In implementing priority actions for poverty eradication and employment, has the Government encountered any of the following challenges?

[1 = never, 2 = sometimes, 3 = always]

Challenges		1	2	3	If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? please elaborate:
5.A.	Lack of human resources dedicated to poverty eradication and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is always lack of human resources to implement People's Plan 20230 and hence address poverty and employment.
6.A.	Lack of financial resources dedicated to poverty eradication and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is always lack of financial resources to complete and planned activity and monitor them.
7.A.	Lack of capacity development for implementation of programmes on poverty eradication and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The turnover of personnel in government is high and this requires continuity of capacity development to continue to deliver services
8.A.	Lack of data on poverty eradication and employment, particularly disaggregated data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data on Poverty exists through surveys but Government faces challenges in conducting regular surveys.
9.A.	Lack of overall political support related to poverty eradication and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political commitments exist. The alignment of resources to Government priorities can be challenging.
10.A.	Lack of cross-ministerial coordination related to poverty eradication and employment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11.A.	Lack of international support related to poverty eradication and employment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12.A.	Lack of development partner coordination related to poverty eradication and employment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13.A.	Lack of public awareness and understanding of poverty eradication and employment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

14.A.	A bottom-up approach to poverty eradication and employment not followed (e.g., involvement of persons in the lowest wealth quintiles, the unemployed, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Poverty is addressed both using bottom up and top down which allows for a gain-gain situation.
15.A.	COVID-19 and other disasters, emergencies and crises prevented implementation of programmes on poverty eradication and employment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Covid-19, TC Judy & Kevin (2023), TC Harold (2020), TC Phillipe (2019) TC Rita (2018), TC Pam (2015). Ambae Volcanic Eruption (2017-18)
16.A.	Has the country experienced any other major challenges in implementation of poverty eradication and employment programmes? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i> It is hard to define poverty in Vanuatu. The preferred word is "hardship". People have land but do not have the capital to develop their land. They have access to the sea but do not have the means to earn excessive income from the sea. They go to school and develop skills in working in service industries but have not been given the opportunities to test and improve on their knowledge. Many of these people have now engaged themselves in the Overseas Employer Scheme, which directly results in "brain-drain" as well as shortages of trained and skilled personnel across all the service sectors in the country both at national and rural level.				
Lessons learned					
17.A.	Are there any lessons learned in the area of poverty eradication and employment not already mentioned that other countries could benefit from? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i> Measurement of happiness is mostly used instead of poverty in Vanuatu (Ref. Alternative Indicators of well-being for Melanesia, 2011). Some preferred to use hardship. In either case, landownership provides the basis for the locals to eradicate poverty and unemployment. As Vanuatu is a communal society, people help each other in good times and bad times and no one is left out.				
Future needs: means of implementation and monitoring					
18.A.	Please select any needs the country may have in order to implement the priority actions for poverty eradication and employment. Please check as many as apply.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy and awareness raising <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data for monitoring and planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):			
19.A.	Please select any needs the country may have in order to report on progress regarding the priority actions for poverty eradication and employment. Please check as many as apply to your country.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data collection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of monitoring frameworks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/engagement with data collection entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):			

B. Health

Overall policy environment		
1.B.	<p>Are any priority actions for health included in your National Development Strategy or other development plans? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>Society Pillar 3 : Quality Health Care (Page 11)</p> <p>SOC 3.1 Ensure that the population of Vanuatu has equitable access to affordable, quality health care through the fair distribution of facilities that are suitably resourced and equipped (Page 11)</p> <p>SOC 3.2 Reduce the incidence of communicable and non-communicable diseases (Page 11)</p> <p>SOC 3.3 Promote healthy lifestyle choices and health seeking behavior to improve population health and well-being (Page 11)</p> <p>SOC 3.4 Build health sector management capacity and systems to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of quality services that are aligned with national directives (Page 11)</p> <p>(a) the strategy name/link : Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 (Peoples Plan 2030) / Vanuatu Government Website: https://www.gov.vu</p> <p>Page number : Provided</p> <p>Main elements of the action area : Provided</p> <p>Its Impacts : Implementation is in progress</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
2.B.	<p>Have there been any amendments or improvements to legislation, or new policies or action plans relating to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development priority area “health” since 2013? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>(a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan and website link : Vanuatu Health Sector strategy / Vanuatu Government Website: https://www.gov.vu, https://moh.gov.vu/images/Strategic_Plan/Health_Sector_Strategy_HSS_2021-2030_ME_Plan.pdf</p> <p>(b) date of implementation and time frame : 2021-2030</p> <p>(c) its main elements : Health Policy, strategy and priorities (Full document)</p> <p>(d) its impact : Implementation in progress</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
Achievements and good practices		

3.B.	<p>Aside from what is listed above, what are some key achievements in the area of health in the country since 2013? <i>please elaborate on achievements, by providing specific examples and their impact:</i></p> <p>Development of these documents / Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Sector Strategy (HSS) 2021-2030 • Health Sector Strategy (HSS) 2017-2020 • National Strategic Plan for Malaria Elimination 2021-2026 • NCD Policy Strategic Plan 2021-2030 • Communicable Disease Policy & Strategic Plan 2021-2030 • Review of Public Health Act (Act 22 of 1994) • Establishment of MOH National Emergency Operation Center • Oral Health Policy • Mental Health Policy • Health Facility Readiness Services Assessment (HFRSA) 2020 <p>Health Acts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Committee Act • Tobacco control Act • Food Control Act • Pharmaceutical Act • Nursing Service Act • Health Practitioners Act <p>Achievements: The strategies, acts and policies listed above are operationalized through the Ministry of Health Cooperate Plan (2021 – 2025) and Annual Business Plan.</p>			
4.B.	<p>Are there any good practices the country has developed in operationalizing health programmes that other countries may find useful? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the strong collaboration between the Donors and the Government and Implementation structure that coordinated national and provincial programs with community support. • The programs are implemented using a phased approach starting with high incidents communities first. • Malaria program eradication in Aneityum, Epi and many islands have not recorded any malaria cases in more than 10 years. • NTD (Neglected Tropical Diseases). Examples are yaws, elephantiasis, helminths have now been addressed. 			
Challenges				
<p>In implementing priority actions for health, has the Government encountered any of the following challenges? [1 = never, 2 = sometimes, 3 = always]</p>				
Challenges	1	2	3	If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? please elaborate:

5.B.	Lack of human resources dedicated to health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is absolute lack of sufficient personnel to manage health.
6.B.	Lack of financial resources dedicated to health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lack of funds is a recurring issue. With insufficient funds, there is no funds to deliver on programs.
7.B.	Lack of capacity development for implementation of programmes on health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Capacity development is supported also by development partners. The tendency to change staffs affect continuity of services delivery
8.B.	Lack of data on health, particularly disaggregated data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data is available and is limited only to the standard data requirements of MOH. Any very specific data for other purposes is not available
9.B.	Lack of overall political support related to health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.B.	Lack of cross-ministerial coordination related to health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	On adhoc basis but mostly when funds are available
11.B.	Lack of international support related to health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	International support is readily available but is often hard to use these as they come with conditions and it is often difficult to see results.
12.B.	Lack of development partner coordination related to health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	On adhoc basis based on type of program assistance
13.B.	Lack of public awareness and understanding of health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Ministry of Health addresses this through a vigorous health system.
14.B.	A bottom-up approach to health not followed (e.g., involvement of persons with lowest access to health care, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The health emphasis has always been on bottom up approach
15.B.	COVID-19 and other disasters, emergencies and crises prevented implementation of programmes on health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Covid-19, TC Judy & Kevin (2023), TC Harold (2020), TC Phillipe (2019) TC Rita (2018), TC Pam (2015). Ambae Volcanic Eruption (2017-18)

16.B.	<p>Has the country experienced any other major challenges in implementation of health programmes? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <p>Breakdown in Government Server System in 2022 & 2023 – This affected the full government communication.</p> <p>Funds - Delay of funds from the Government Treasury and Donor Partners. The Government processes to release program funds from the treasury for use can take as long as two months plus.</p> <p>Disaster – Whenever there is a disaster, it does delay programs and activities to be implemented.</p> <p>High turnover and lack of human resources - Staffs tend to shift work depending on their work status and as a result, program continuity with those having institutional knowledge of programs delay continuity of programs.</p>
Lessons learned	
17.B.	<p>Are there any lessons learned in the area of health not already mentioned that other countries could benefit from?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MOH has recruited nurses from Solomon Islands to manage health facilities in the islands • Also recruiting retired nurses on contract to help continuity of service delivery. • South-South Cooperation with retired nurses from Fiji helping out as surge personnels at the hospitals maternity wards • Partnership with NGOs for delivery for services. For example, butterfly trust, IPPF.
Future needs: means of implementation and monitoring	
18.B.	<p>Please select any needs the country may have in order to implement the priority actions for health. Please check as many as apply.</p> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy and awareness raising <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data for monitoring and planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>): </div>

19.B.	Please select any needs the country may have in order to report on progress regarding the priority actions for health. Please check as many as apply to your country.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data collection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of monitoring frameworks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/engagement with data collection entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):
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C. Sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights

Overall policy environment		
1.C.	<p>Are any priority actions for sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights included in your National Development Strategy or other development plans? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>Society Pillar 3 : Quality Health Care (Page 11)</p> <p>SOC 3.3 Promote healthy lifestyle choices and health seeking behavior to improve population health and well-being (Page 11)</p> <p>SOC 3.4 Build health sector management capacity and systems to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of quality services that are aligned with national directives (Page 11)</p> <p>(a) the strategy name/link : Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan (People’s Plan 2030) / Vanuatu Government Website: https://www.gov.vu</p> <p>(b) date or time frame of the strategy/plan : 2016 - 2030</p> <p>(c) page number that references this action area : Provided</p> <p>(d) main elements of the action area : Provided</p> <p>(d) its impact : Implementation in progress</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

2.C.	<p>Have there been any amendments or improvements to legislation, or new policies or action plans relating to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development priority area “sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights” since 2013? <i>please elaborate</i> If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>The Vanuatu NSDP 2016-2030 does not specifically mention anything on Sexual Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights. The best document is the RMNCAH Policy Strategy and RMNCAH Implementation Plan 2021-2025.</p> <p>(a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan and website link : RMNCAH Policy Strategy & Implementation / Vanuatu Government Website: https://www.gov.vu</p> <p>(b) date of implementation and time frame : 2021 - 2025</p> <p>(c) its main elements : Key Policy Strategies for program intervention</p> <p>(d) its impact : SRHR has gradually gain recognition in MOH, with positions established both at National and Provincial level. Strategic Policy priorities have also been developed as part of the MOH Sector Strategy. Also SRHR is also included in disaster assessment reports coming in from disaster affected areas to help in the monitoring of the issues affecting pregnant mothers and women needing support.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Achievements and good practices</i>		
3.C.	<p>Aside from what is listed above, what are some key achievements in the area of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights in the country since 2013? <i>please elaborate on achievements, by providing specific examples and their impact:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SRHR (RMNCAH) has been established as a Unit in the Department of Public Health, MOH. • Permanent positions have been created at both National and Provincial level to manage SRHR in the country. • Nurses at the Nursing School have also been trained in SRHR needs. • Nurses in the field have been trained in Family Planning, insert and remove implants, Counseling and MISP • Refresher PSRH (Pacific Sexual Reproductive Health) courses in country and regional have also helped in the capacity development of the nurses • Midwifery training offered through the Vanuatu Center for Nursing Education (VCNE). 	
4.C.	<p>Are there any good practices the country has developed in operationalizing sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights programmes that other countries may find useful? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <p>A National RMNCAH Committee with its TOR have already been established and the six provinces in Vanuatu are also adapting the national TOR to establish their provincial committees.</p>	
<i>Challenges</i>		

In implementing priority actions for sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, has the Government encountered any of the following challenges? [1 = never, 2 = sometimes, 3 = always]					
Challenges		1	2	3	If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? please elaborate:
5.C.	Lack of human resources dedicated to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The need for SRHR services is huge but the personnel managing the program is small
6.C.	Lack of financial resources dedicated to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MOH does not allocate funds for SRHR program. Most SRHR programs are externally funded
7.C.	Lack of capacity development for implementation of programmes on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Personnel capacity development is ongoing. This depends on higher on external funding.
8.C.	Lack of data on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, particularly disaggregated data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Data is not well collected although is available at reporting posts (Dispensary and Health Centers). It needs to be strengthened
9.C.	Lack of overall political support related to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The political support is there but needs to be boosted.
10.C.	Lack of cross-ministerial coordination related to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The SRHR is covered by both Government and NGOs
11.C.	Lack of international support related to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SRHR support is limited and is program oriented
12.C.	Lack of development partner coordination related to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SRHR is supported by different partners
13.C.	Lack of public awareness and understanding of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The public awareness on SRHR relies on availability of funds
14.C.	A bottom-up approach to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights not followed (e.g., involvement of persons with lowest access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The concept is new compared to MCH / FP and will take time to introduce it using the bottom up approach
15.C.	COVID-19 and other disasters, emergencies and crises prevented implementation of programmes on sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Covid-19, TC Judy & Kevin (2023), TC Harold (2020), TC Phillipe (2019) TC Rita (2018), TC Pam (2015). Ambae Volcanic Eruption (2017-18)

16.C.	Has the country experienced any other major challenges in implementation of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights programmes? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covid-19 lockdown has the most disastrous effect. • Breakdown in Government Server System in 2022 & 2023 • Communication network in the islands • Insufficient funds for awareness of programs consideration the high cost of travelling in Vanuatu
Lessons learned	
17.C.	Are there any lessons learned in the area of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights not already mentioned that other countries could benefit from? The program is implemented with the support from Vanuatu National Youth Council, Ministry of Education, Department of Women Affairs and the Vanuatu Family Health Association.
Future needs: means of implementation and monitoring	
18.C.	<div> Please select any needs the country may have in order to implement the priority actions for sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. Please check as many as apply. <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy and awareness raising <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data for monitoring and planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>): </div> </div>
19.C.	<div> Please select any needs the country may have in order to report on progress regarding the priority actions for sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. Please check as many as apply to your country. <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data collection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of monitoring frameworks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/engagement with data collection entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>): </div> </div>

D. Education

Overall policy environment

1.D.	<p>Are any priority actions for education included in your National Development Strategy or other development plans? <i>please elaborate</i> If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>Society Pillar 2: Quality Education (Page 10) SOC 2.1 Ensure every child, regardless of gender, location, educational needs or circumstances has access to the education system (Page 10) SOC 2.2 Build trust in the education system through improved performance management systems, teacher training, and the reliable delivery of quality services (Page 10) SOC 2.3 Formalize early childhood education and life-long learning opportunities within the education system (Page 10) SOC 2.4 Increase higher education opportunities, including technical and vocational training and skills (Page 10)</p> <p>(a) the strategy name/link : Vanuatu Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 (People’s Plan 2030) / Vanuatu Government Website (b) date or time frame of the strategy/plan: 2016 – 2030 (c) page number that references this action area : Provided (d) main elements of the action area : Provided Its Impacts : Implementation is in progress</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
2.D.	<p>Have there been any amendments or improvements to legislation, or new policies or action plans relating to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development priority area “education” since 2013? <i>please elaborate</i> If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>These are the policy directions that drive the changes in MOET since 2013.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Open VEMIS Policy (2014) ➤ Gender Equity in Education Policy (2015) ➤ Education Authority and School Registration Policy (2017) ➤ Early Childhood Care & Education Policy (2017) ➤ Child Safeguarding Policy (2017) ➤ Education Sector and Strategic Plan (2020 – 2030): https://www.globalpartnership.org/content/education-and-training-sector-strategic-plan-2020-2030-vanuatu <p>(a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan and website link : Vanuatu Ministry of Education Website (b) date of implementation and time frame : As per each Policy (c) its main elements : These policies provide guide to a more detailed Corporate Plans (every 5 years) and Business Plans (Annual Plans) (d) its impact : Implementation in progress</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Achievements and good practices

3.D.	<p>Aside from what is listed above, what are some key achievements in the area of education in the country since 2013?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of Early Childhood Care Education which prepares strong foundation for children to begin their education • Children are automatically passed to higher classes to complete year 10 and year 13. Exams are no longer barriers to determine continuity of students to higher classes. • Public access to Vanuatu Education Management Information System (VEMIS) and have a right to know the level and quality of education offered. • Female students who are pregnant are allowed to continue education after delivery • Inclusive Education Policy encourages people with disabilities to go to school as well. • Government has provided an education grant for all school aged children to complete Primary level to Junior Secondary level. • School subsidies are provided immediately after natural disasters. • Vanuatu Government has successfully established a National University. 																																																		
4.D.	<p>Are there any good practices the country has developed in operationalizing education programmes that other countries may find useful?</p> <p><i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i> The use of the Open VEMIS allows the public to follow and partner in the education of the child. In the past parents would not know what curriculum are taught to their children. This is now allowed under Open VEMIS.</p>																																																		
Challenges																																																			
<p>In implementing priority actions for education, has the Government encountered any of the following challenges?</p> <p>[1 = never, 2 = sometimes, 3 = always]</p>																																																			
<i>Challenges</i>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>1</th><th>2</th><th>3</th><th>If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? please elaborate:</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>5.D. Lack of human resources dedicated to education</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>Shortages of teachers in specific work programs are common</td></tr> <tr> <td>6.D. Lack of financial resources dedicated to education</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>Insufficient funds are a common challenge. Donors are helping to maintain the standard as well as the delivery of education.</td></tr> <tr> <td>7.D. Lack of capacity development for implementation of programmes on education</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>This has been greatly improved with positions mostly filled by the locals</td></tr> <tr> <td>8.D. Lack of data on education, particularly disaggregated data</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>9.D. Lack of overall political support related to education</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>10.D. Lack of cross-ministerial coordination related to education</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>11.D. Lack of international support related to education</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>12.D. Lack of development partner coordination related to education</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>13.D. Lack of public awareness and understanding of education</td><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>		1	2	3	If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? please elaborate:	5.D. Lack of human resources dedicated to education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shortages of teachers in specific work programs are common	6.D. Lack of financial resources dedicated to education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Insufficient funds are a common challenge. Donors are helping to maintain the standard as well as the delivery of education.	7.D. Lack of capacity development for implementation of programmes on education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	This has been greatly improved with positions mostly filled by the locals	8.D. Lack of data on education, particularly disaggregated data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		9.D. Lack of overall political support related to education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		10.D. Lack of cross-ministerial coordination related to education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		11.D. Lack of international support related to education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		12.D. Lack of development partner coordination related to education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		13.D. Lack of public awareness and understanding of education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
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14.D.	A bottom-up approach to education not followed (e.g., involvement of persons with lowest access to education, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education system is based on the bottom-up approach where the needs of the child in the most remote areas determine the level of care accorded to them by Education Authority.
15.D.	COVID-19 and other disasters, emergencies and crises prevented implementation of programmes on education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Covid-19, TC Judy & Kevin (2023), TC Harold (2020), TC Phillipe (2019) TC Rita (2018), TC Pam (2015). Ambae Volcanic Eruption (2017-18)
16.D.	Has the country experienced any other major challenges in implementation of education programmes? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i> Funds - Delay of funds from the Government Treasury and Donor Partners. The Government processes to release program funds from the treasury for use can take as long as two months plus. Disaster – Whenever there is a disaster, it does delay programs and activities to be implemented. High turnover of staffs - Staffs tend to shift work depending on their work status and as a result, program continuity with those having institutional knowledge of programs delay continuity of programs.				
Lessons learned					
17.D.	Are there any lessons learned in the area of education not already mentioned that other countries could benefit from? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i> Vanuatu is a bilingual country. English and French are both taught in School. Ministry of Education has harnessed the French and English curricula into one national curriculum. This is a huge improvement and allows the students to be trained in the same subject but in different languages.				
Future needs: means of implementation and monitoring					
18.D.	Please select any needs the country may have in order to implement the priority actions for education. Please check as many as apply.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Capacity-building Advocacy and awareness raising Resource mobilization Engagement with high-level politicians Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. South-South cooperation Public-private partnerships Data for monitoring and planning Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):

19.D.	Please select any needs the country may have in order to report on progress regarding the priority actions for education. Please check as many as apply to your country.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data collection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of monitoring frameworks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/engagement with data collection entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):
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E. Gender equality and women's empowerment

Overall policy environment		
1.E.	<p>Are any priority actions for gender equality and women's empowerment included in your National Development Strategy or other development plans? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>If "yes", please provide:</p> <p>Society Pillar 4 : Social Inclusion (Page 11) SOC 4.1 Implement gender responsive planning and budgeting processes (Page 11) SOC 4.2 Prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against women, children and vulnerable groups (Page 11) SOC 4.3 Empower and support people with disabilities (Page 11)</p> <p>Economy Pillar 4: Create Jobs and Business Opportunities (Page 18) ECO 4.5 Increase the number of decent, productive employment opportunities, particularly for young women and men and people with disabilities (Page 18)</p> <p>(a) the strategy name/link : Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 (People's Plan 2030) / Vanuatu Government Website (b) date or time frame of the strategy/plan : 2016 - 2030 (c) page number that references this action area : Provided (d) main elements of the action area : Provided (d) its impact : Implementation in progress</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

2.E.	<p>Have there been any amendments or improvements to legislation, or new policies or action plans relating to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development priority area “Gender equality and women’s empowerment” since 2013? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>If “yes”, please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Gender Equality Policy 2020-2030 • Review of the National Gender Equality Policy 2015-2019 • National Gender Equality Policy of 2015-2019 <p>(a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan and website link : Vanuatu Government Website. The updated National Gender Equality Policy is available on hard copy only currently.</p> <p>(b) date of implementation and time frame : Provided</p> <p>(c) its main elements : Provided</p> <p>(d) its impact : Gender equality is slowly gaining recognition in all the decisions-making both in Government and Civil Societies. The deliverables of the Vanuatu NSDP 2016-2030 are Gender based.</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
Achievements and good practices		
3.E.	<p>Aside from what is listed above, what are some key achievements in the area of gender equality and women’s empowerment in the country since 2013? <i>please elaborate on achievements, by providing specific examples and their impact:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A department of Women Affairs has been established in Government, • A Vanuatu Women Center providing legal services on counseling to women and families experiencing gender violence have been created both at national and provincial level. • Gender issues during disaster onsite events are given priority considerations with stronger advocacy from Gender Protection Cluster. • Women are recognized as skilled workers and working in tasks once considered as males • Women have been appointed to Directors, Director-Generals, Vanuatu High Commissioners and Higher Executive Positions including the Police Force. • Vanuatu has now a Female Member of Parliament. In the 2022 General Election, a woman was elected as a member of parliament. She is the first again, after 13 years. • Many women are participating in Seasonal Employment Schemes taking up initiatives to look after themselves and their children. • Many women are working middle to senior management positions in the banks, private firms and managing NGO operated programs in Vanuatu. • Women are the main figures selling their produce in the market and driving the economy of the country. 	
4.E.	<p>Are there any good practices the country has developed in operationalizing gender equality and women’s empowerment programmes that other countries may find useful?</p> <p><i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i> Refer to the list above.</p>	
Challenges		
<p>In implementing priority actions for gender equality and women’s empowerment, has the Government encountered any of the following challenges?</p> <p>[1 = never, 2 = sometimes, 3 = always]</p>		

Challenges		1	2	3	If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? please elaborate:
5.E.	Lack of human resources dedicated to gender equality and women's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>The program is really understaffed due to insufficient recurrent operational budget</i>
6.E.	Lack of financial resources dedicated to gender equality and women's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>This is an ongoing issue. Gender programs are underfunded.</i>
7.E.	Lack of capacity development for implementation of programmes on gender equality and women's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>There are no funds to implement programs nationwide.</i>
8.E.	Lack of data on gender equality and women's empowerment, particularly disaggregated data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>The program lacks good data due to lack of personnel and funds, affecting the establishment and coordination of gender related data.</i>
9.E.	Lack of overall political support related to gender equality and women's empowerment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Political support is there</i>
10.E.	Lack of cross-ministerial coordination related to gender equality and women's empowerment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gender is a cross cutting issue and partners of the gender sector meet regularly under the leadership of the Department of Women's Affairs</i>
11.E.	Lack of international support related to gender equality and women's empowerment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12.E.	Lack of development partner coordination related to gender equality and women's empowerment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13.E.	Lack of public awareness and understanding of gender equality and women's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>As a patriarchal society, more public awareness on the positive implications of gender equality and women's empowerment is required.</i>
14.E.	A bottom-up approach to gender equality and women's empowerment not followed (e.g., involvement of women, particularly those most marginalized, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Bottom up approach includes both Port Vila and rural as most of the incidences occur also in towns. Engagement with the community is ongoing. There are now gender officers recruited in all six provinces of Vanuatu</i>
15.E.	COVID-19 and other disasters, emergencies and crises prevented implementation of programmes on gender equality and women's empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Covid-19, TC Judy & Kevin (2023), TC Harold (2020), TC Phillipe (2019) TC Rita (2018), TC Pam (2015). Ambae Volcanic Eruption (2017-18)</i>

16.E.	<p>Has the country experienced any other major challenges in implementation of gender equality and women’s empowerment programmes? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <p>Funds - Delay of funds from the Government Treasury and Donor Partners. The Government processes to release program funds from the treasury for use can take as long as two months plus. The additional matter is whether donor funds can be used for paying for govt positions. DWA has a limited recurrent budget but needs to recruit more personnel to support it to implement the NGEF.</p> <p>Disaster – Whenever there is a disaster, it does delay programs and activities to be implemented.</p> <p>High turnover of staffs - Staffs tend to shift work depending on their work status and as a result, program continuity with those having institutional knowledge of programs delay continuity of programs.</p>	
Lessons learned		
17.E.	<p>Are there any lessons learned in the area of gender equality and women’s empowerment not already mentioned that other countries could benefit from? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <p>Vanuatu is a society where strong traditions are observed. Women issues are usually taboo to talk or discuss in public. After these years there has been a complete turnaround for the country to recognize women equality in much of the national decision-making. This in itself is a marked improvement and is a result of consistent and prolonged advocacy, backed by very good statistical data that is produced both globally but also locally..</p>	
Future needs: means of implementation and monitoring		
18.E.	<p>Please select any needs the country may have in order to implement the priority actions for gender equality and women’s empowerment. Please check as many as apply.</p>	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy and awareness raising</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc.</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data for monitoring and planning</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):</div>
19.E.	<p>Please select any needs the country may have in order to report on progress regarding the priority actions for gender equality and women’s empowerment. Please check as many as apply to your country.</p>	<div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data collection</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data analysis</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of monitoring frameworks</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc.</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/engagement with data collection entities</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation</div> <div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships</div> <div><input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):</div>

F. Adolescents and young people

Overall policy environment		
1.F.	<p>Are any priority actions for adolescents and young people included in your National Development Strategy or other development plans? <i>please elaborate</i> If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>Society Pillar 4: Social Inclusion (Page 11) SOC 4.6 Provide opportunities, support and protection services for youth and children as valued members of society (Page 11) Economy Pillar 4 : Create Jobs and Business Opportunities (Page 18) ECO 4.5 Increase the number of decent, productive employment opportunities, particularly for young women and men and people with disabilities (Page 18)</p> <p>(a) the strategy name/link : Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 (People’s Plan 2030) / Vanuatu Government Website (b) date or time frame of the strategy/plan : 2016 - 2030 (c) page number that references this action area : Provided (d) main elements of the action area : Provided (d) its impact : Implementation in Progress</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
2.F.	<p>Have there been any amendments or improvements to legislation, or new policies or action plans relating to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development priority area “Adolescents and young people” since 2013? <i>please elaborate</i> If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>(a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan and website link : Vanuatu National Youth Council Strategic Plan 2011-2015 (b) date of implementation and time frame : 2011 - 2015 (c) its main elements : Vision, Mission, Goals and Objectives (d) its impact : Establishment of VNYC as a registered charitable organization having its own Constitution</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
Achievements and good practices		
3.F.	<p>Aside from what is listed above, what are some key achievements in the area of adolescents and young people in the country since 2013? <i>please elaborate on achievements, by providing specific examples and their impact:</i></p> <p>The following documents have been developed to help the work of Vanuatu Youths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanuatu National Youth Policy (July 2020 – 2024) • Youth Networks established in all six provinces in Vanuatu. • Youth Connect Vanuatu Magazine (VNYC Magazine) • Vanuatu National Youth Development Policy 2012-2022 • Vanuatu National Youth Strategic Plan of Action 2012-2015 • Bill for the National Youth Authority Act No. of 2017 	

4.F.	<p>Are there any good practices the country has developed in operationalizing adolescent and young people programmes that other countries may find useful? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VNYC is an established organization in Vanuatu and has been receiving funds for its adolescent work Vanuatu Government, NGO Partners and Regional Partners including UNFPA. It's work is recognized in the country as well as within the Pacific Region.
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Challenges

In implementing priority actions for adolescents and young people, has the Government encountered any of the following challenges?

[1 = never, 2 = sometimes, 3 = always]

Challenges	1	2	3	If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? please elaborate:
5.F.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6.F.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lack of financial resources discourage youths to achieve the goals and objectives of their plans
7.F.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Youths have been through many trainings on Adolescent but they do not have sufficient funds to implement adolescent programs
8.F.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.F.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.F.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11.F.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12.F.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13.F.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
14.F.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

15.F.	COVID-19 and other disasters, emergencies and crises prevented implementation of programmes on adolescents and young people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Covid-19, TC Judy & Kevin (2023), TC Harold (2020), TC Phillipe (2019) TC Rita (2018), TC Pam (2015). Ambae Volcanic Eruption (2017-18)
16.F.	<p>Has the country experienced any other major challenges in implementation of adolescent and young people programmes? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <p>Funds - Delay of funds from the Government Treasury and Donor Partners. The Government processes to release program funds from the treasury for use can take as long as two months plus.</p> <p>Disaster – Whenever there is a disaster, it does delay programs and activities to be implemented.</p> <p>Change of Policy Priorities – Whenever there is a change in Government Priority, funds can be shifted out to other programs and delays other planned programs to be implemented.</p> <p>Employment Status – Youths are not employed as permanent staff. Most of what they do are voluntary and receive allowance when they implement a funded program. Where there are no programs and funds available, youths have to find employment in other sectors to help them as cost of living in Vanuatu is expensive.</p>				
Lessons learned					
17.F.	<p>Are there any lessons learned in the area of adolescents and young people not already mentioned that other countries could benefit from? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Youth Network in Vanuatu through the Youth Connect Magazine is a very resourceful information for the Public. In the magazine youths throughout Vanuatu feed into the magazine and share the activities they are doing. 				
Future needs: means of implementation and monitoring					
18.F.	Please select any needs the country may have in order to implement the priority actions for adolescents and young people. Please check as many as apply.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy and awareness raising <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data for monitoring and planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):			

19.F.	Please select any needs the country may have in order to report on progress regarding the priority actions for adolescents and young people. Please check as many as apply to your country.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data collection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of monitoring frameworks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/engagement with data collection entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):
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G. Ageing

Overall policy environment		
1.G.	<p>Are any priority actions for ageing included in your National Development Strategy or other development plans? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 (People's Plan 2030) does not have a Government Office for Aging. The Government Ministries neither have any functions specific to Aging.</p> <p>Aging, nonetheless could be linked to Culture where the aged are the main drivers.</p> <p>Society Pillar 1 : Vibrant Cultural Society (Page 10) SOC 1.1 Promote and protect indigenous languages SOC 1.2 Preserve and enhance cultural and traditional knowledge, including appropriate medicines, natural remedies and healing practices SOC 1.3 Conserve sites of cultural and historical significance</p> <p>If "yes", please provide: (a) the strategy name/link : Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 / Vanuatu Government Website (b) date or time frame of the strategy/plan : 2016 - 2030 (c) page number that references this action area : Provided (d) main elements of the action area : Provided (d) its impact : Implementation in progress</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

2.G.	<p>Have there been any amendments or improvements to legislation, or new policies or action plans relating to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development priority area “Ageing” since 2013? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>(a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan and website link</p> <p>(b) date of implementation and time frame</p> <p>(c) its main elements</p> <p>(d) its impact</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
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Achievements and good practices

3.G.	<p>Aside from what is listed above, what are some key achievements in the area of ageing in the country since 2013?</p> <p><i>please elaborate on achievements, by providing specific examples and their impact:</i></p> <p>Ageing is part of a life a human being goes through. It is nonetheless not an issue as yet in Vanuatu. It is recognized in selected specific considerations where law of the country comes into play such as :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ VNPf Medical Insurance ➤ Elders more than 60 years are not charged medical fees for Government Services. ➤ Communal system caters for the elder and the most vulnerable
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4.G.	<p>Are there any good practices the country has developed in operationalizing programmes on ageing that other countries may find useful?</p> <p><i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <p>Vanuatu is a communal society where every member of a family is looked after by everyone. Anyone member of the family brings food home and everyone enjoys the food together. Land is important to the family and the greatest asset any aging family member can leave to the family is land as land is pass on from father to son and in response the younger family members return their appreciation by looking after the family including the aging.</p>
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Challenges

In implementing priority actions for ageing, has the Government encountered any of the following challenges?

[1 = never, 2 = sometimes, 3 = always]

Challenges	1	2	3	If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? please elaborate:
5.G. Lack of human resources dedicated to ageing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6.G. Lack of financial resources dedicated to ageing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.G. Lack of capacity development for implementation of programmes on ageing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.G. Lack of data on ageing, particularly disaggregated data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.G. Lack of overall political support related to ageing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.G. Lack of cross-ministerial coordination related to ageing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

11.G.	Lack of international support related to ageing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12.G.	Lack of development partner coordination related to ageing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13.G.	Lack of public awareness and understanding of ageing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
14.G.	A bottom-up approach to ageing not followed (e.g., involvement of older persons, particularly those most marginalized, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
15.G.	COVID-19 and other disasters, emergencies and crises prevented implementation of programmes on ageing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	If “2” or “3”, please also name the disaster (s), emergency, etc.
16.G.	Has the country experienced any other major challenges in implementation of programmes on ageing? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i> <i>There are no ageing related activity mandated by any department of government to oversee and report on. It is a cross cutting issue.</i>				
Lessons learned					
17.G.	Are there any lessons learned in the area of ageing not already mentioned that other countries could benefit from? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i> <i>Vanuatu does not have an ageing home. Everyone including the aged population remains in the family home and are part of the family. Everyone lives and stays together. They care for each other together. It is a communal society where everyone is part of each other and everyone, young and old, stay together and take care of each other.</i>				
Future needs: means of implementation and monitoring					
18.G.	Please select any needs the country may have in order to implement the priority actions for ageing. Please check as many as apply.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy and awareness raising <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data for monitoring and planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):			

19.G.	Please select any needs the country may have in order to report on progress regarding the priority actions for ageing. Please check as many as apply to your country.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data collection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of monitoring frameworks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/engagement with data collection entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):
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H. International migration

Overall policy environment

1.H.	<p>Are any priority actions for international migration included in your National Development Strategy or other development plans? <i>please elaborate</i> :</p> <p>The Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan does not have any specific unit and function on International Migration. It has only legislations governing Border Controls which are overseen by the Department of Immigration. The Society Pillar below may not be relevant.</p> <p>Society Pillar 5 : Security, Peace and Justice SOC 5.3 Build the institutional capacity of national security forces and ensure they are adequately resourced to meet performance targets (Page 12)</p> <p>Economy Pillar 4 : Create jobs and Business Opportunities (Page 18) ECO 4.7 : Increase labour mobility nationally and internationally, including through the collection and analysis of comprehensive labour market data</p> <p>If “yes”, please provide: (a) the strategy name/link : Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 (People’s Plan 2030) / Vanuatu Government Website (b) date or time frame of the strategy/plan : 2016 - 2030 (c) page number that references this action area : Provided (d) main elements of the action area : Provided (d) its impact : The Department of Immigration manages the movement of people in and out of the country while the Customs and Inland Revenue manages the goods in and out of the country. This is ongoing. International migration is not processed in Vanuatu. Any person wanting to migrate to other countries follow the approved migration process of that country. In the case of Vanuatu, anyone living in Vanuatu for more than 10 years can be granted naturalized citizenship. This process is different from the process of international migration.</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
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2.H.	<p>Have there been any amendments or improvements to legislation, or new policies or action plans relating to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development priority area “International migration” since 2013? <i>please elaborate.</i></p> <p>The seasonal worker scheme approved by the Vanuatu Government to send the locals to work in Australia and New Zealand brings huge turnaround effect in the livelihood of families. It also brings much needed revenue into the country, which goes to address the issue of poverty.</p> <p>Economy Pillar 4 : Create Jobs and Business Opportunities ECO 4.6 Ensure the health and safety, employment rights and skills development of the workforce ECO 4.7 Increase labour mobility nationally and internationally, including through the collection and analysis of comprehensive labour market data</p> <p>If “yes”, please provide: (a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan and website link : Vanuatu Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 / Vanuatu Government Website (b) date of implementation and time frame : 2016 - 2030 (c) its main elements : Create Jobs (d) its impact : Many working age locals, both men and women, have registered and joined the Seasonal Employment Scheme. The earnings from their labor resulted in them building new houses, solar panels to light up their homes, boats for fishing, entered into small business and so on. The reliance on the Government to provide them with funds is becoming less and less dependent.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Achievements and lessons learned		
3.H.	<p>Aside from what is listed above, what are some key achievements in the area of international migration in the country since 2013? <i>please elaborate on achievements, by providing specific examples and their impact:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seasonal Worker Scheme is actually the priority achievement Local Fishermen working on Fishing vessels Locals working on Tourist Boats Nurses from the Solomons recruited to work in Vanuatu Fijian retired nurses working in Vanuatu as surge personnel 	
4.H.	<p>Are there any good practices the country has developed in operationalizing international migration programmes that other countries may find useful? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Vanuatu Government actually encourages the labour mobility between countries encouraging a win-win situation for all to win. 	
Challenges		

In implementing priority actions for international migration, has the Government encountered any of the following challenges? [1 = never, 2 = sometimes, 3 = always]					
Challenges		1	2	3	If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? please elaborate:
5.H.	Lack of human resources dedicated to international migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6.H.	Lack of financial resources dedicated to international migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7.H.	Lack of capacity development for implementation of programmes on international migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8.H.	Lack of data on international migration, particularly disaggregated data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.H.	Lack of overall political support related to international migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.H.	Lack of cross-ministerial coordination related to international migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11.H.	Lack of international support related to international migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12.H.	Lack of development partner coordination related to international migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13.H.	Lack of public awareness and understanding of international migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
14.H.	A bottom-up approach to international migration not followed (e.g., involvement of international migrants, etc.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
15.H.	COVID-19 and other disasters, emergencies and crises prevented implementation of programmes on international migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

16.H.	<p>Has the country experienced any other major challenges in implementation of international migration programmes? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the Employers Seasonal Scheme, many young men and women, who provided the main source of energy to help build the affairs of the nation have now travelled overseas. Although this is not as yet serious, the brain-drain is slowly growing and could be fatal for the country. • Children being looked after by extended family while parent/s are away on seasonal work is being thought to be a factor in rising rates of child malnutrition • Rebuilding after the disasters of TC Judy and Kevin in 2023 is slower or delayed due to key family members being away on seasonal work, but affordability of rebuilding is potentially higher • There is a growing demotivation of youth going through higher education and professional training, with seasonal working being well paid, therefore putting them off
17.H.	<p>Are there any lessons learned in the area of international migration not already mentioned that other countries could benefit from? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International migration must be supported by the Government • International migration is a win-win situation and helps families to address issues of poverty or hardship
<i>Future needs: means of implementation and monitoring</i>	
18.H.	<p>Please select any needs the country may have in order to implement the priority actions for international migration. Please check as many as apply.</p> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy and awareness raising <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data for monitoring and planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>): </div>
19.H.	<p>Please select any needs the country may have in order to report on progress regarding the priority actions for international migration. Please check as many as apply to your country.</p> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data collection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of monitoring frameworks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/engagement with data collection entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>): </div>

I. Urbanization and internal migration

Overall policy environment		
1.I.	<p>Are any priority actions for urbanization and internal migration included in your National Development Strategy or other development plans? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>These are the likely Government strategies that give effect to this topic.</p> <p>Society Pillar 6 : Strong and Effective Institutions (page 12) SOC 6.5 Strengthen local authorities and municipal institutions to enable decentralized service delivery (Page 12) SOC 6.6 Strengthen physical planning and management to meet the service delivery needs of a growing population (Page 12)</p> <p>Environment Pillar 4 : Natural Resources Management (Page 14) ENV 4.1 Strengthen local authorities and municipal planning authorities to enact and enforce land use planning laws and regulations (Page 14)</p> <p>Economy Pillar 3 : Strengthen Rural Communities (Page 17) ECO 3.6 Improve the provision of government services in rural areas (Page 17)</p> <p>The Department of Urban Planning is a newly established Government Department that is in the process of developing policy priorities relating Urbanization and Migration.</p> <p>If “yes”, please provide: (a) the strategy name/link : Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 (People’s Plan 2030) / Vanuatu Government Website. (b) date or time frame of the strategy/plan : 2016-2030 (c) page number that references this action area : Provided (d) main elements of the action area : Provided (d) its impact : Development of Policy priorities being initiated to address issues of Urbanization and Internal Migration.</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

2.I.	<p>Have there been any amendments or improvements to legislation, or new policies or action plans relating to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development priority area “Urbanization and internal migration” since 2013? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>The Government established an Urban Affairs Department under the Ministry of Internal Affairs in 2021 under an Act of Parliament passed in 2021 as well. The department is now fully functional.</p> <p>As a new institution, it is still in the process of developing its Strategic Policies and Plans, but is guided by the relevant provisions of Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030, provided above.</p> <p>If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>(a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan and website link Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 / Vanuatu Government Website</p> <p>(b) date of implementation and time frame : 2016 - 2030</p> <p>(c) its main elements : Institutional strengthening with vision, aspiration and goals</p> <p>(d) its impact : Implementation in Progress</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<i>Achievements and good practices</i>		
3.I.	<p>Aside from what is listed above, what are some key achievements in the area of urbanization and internal migration in the country since 2013? <i>please elaborate on achievements, by providing specific examples and their impact:</i></p> <p>The Housing and settlement section is a component of the urban planning unit. Since its establishment in 2021, the Housing and Settlement section is responsible for developing and overseeing housing standards, policies and regulations that will guarantee affordable and adequate housing for communities suitable for the country’s climatic conditions and socio-economic environment. The Urban Housing and Informal Settlement Policy will be the first of its kind to provide guidance on the national housing development allowing its implementing bodies to manage and control housing growth in the urban areas and peri-urban areas with the hope of fabricating sustainable communities with better living spaces and housing market suitable for the growing population. In accordance to the NSDP and National Strategic Plans, the National Urban Housing and Informal Settlement Policy is currently under development with the assistance of key stakeholders.</p>	

4.I.	<p>Are there any good practices the country has developed in operationalizing urbanization and internal migration programmes that other countries may find useful?</p> <p><i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <p>The National Housing Corporation (NHC) is planning to organize a national forum in the first quarter of this year in Port Vila, to deliberate on the development of the first ever Housing Policy. NHC has no policy in place since its establishment in 1986. The policy will determine the government's direction on addressing the humanitarian need for shelter in both rural and urban setting and also find solutions for affordable and resilient housing. The Policy will ensure that rural housing is adequately addressed and will contribute to improve living standard for low-income families. The forum will discuss options to interest rates of home loans. The current interests offered by commercial banks are too high. Reducing the rates will enable low income families to afford housing. The Housing Policy will encourage affordable interest rates on home loans.</p>
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Challenges

In implementing priority actions for urbanization and internal migration, has the Government encountered any of the following challenges?

[1 = never, 2 = sometimes, 3 = always]

Challenges		1	2	3	If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? <i>please elaborate:</i>
5.I.	Lack of human resources dedicated to urbanization and internal migration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is always lack of human resources
6.I.	Lack of financial resources dedicated to urbanization and internal migration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Funding is insufficient or have not been allocated for this service
7.I.	Lack of capacity development for implementation of programmes on urbanization and internal migration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The department is only being established and will soon be rolling out its programs
8.I.	Lack of data on urbanization and internal migration, particularly disaggregated data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9.I.	Lack of overall political support related to urbanization and internal migration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.I.	Lack of cross-ministerial coordination related to urbanization and internal migration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The issues of urbanization and internal migration are ongoing and is a cross cutting issue.
11.I.	Lack of international support related to urbanization and internal migration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Housing Policy of the Government is planned to provide low-cost housing to the low-income earners yet many families are still not able to even afford these.
12.I.	Lack of development partner coordination related to urbanization and internal migration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Urban Affairs department has only been established and will soon communicate with partners for support.
13.I.	Lack of public awareness and understanding of urbanization and internal migration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	It's a newly established department

14.I.	A bottom-up approach to urbanization and internal migration not followed (e.g., involvement of urban migrants, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	People travel from the rural into urban areas for different reasons. There is no law that will force them to return. The National Housing Policy is aimed to address housing in urban areas especially in the shanty areas.
15.I.	COVID-19 and other disasters, emergencies and crises prevented implementation of programmes on urbanization and internal migration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Covid-19, TC Judy & Kevin (2023), TC Harold (2020), TC Phillipe (2019) TC Rita (2018), TC Pam (2015). Ambae Volcanic Eruption (2017-18)
16.I.	<p>Has the country experienced any other major challenges in implementation of urbanization and internal migration programmes? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Many families prefer to have their children go to school in Port Vila or Luganville. The education offered in these two towns are most advanced than in the rural areas and they prepare well students to move up to higher education. This is a choice that parents make which affects student - teacher ratio per teacher in the both urban areas and islands.➤ Many families who travel to the urban towns of Port Vila and Luganville only plan to stay for shorter period, with a priority reason to just see the city lights. And then they stayed there the whole time and never return home.➤ Many families who come into town and stay a little longer ended up having families with those from different islands. These new families often stay with other families on land they do not own and as years go by, their population increases resulting in overcrowded families, poor living standards and substances abuses are very common with many unwanted children being born.➤ Land Evictions around urban peripheries is growing issue.				
Lessons learned					
17.I.	<p>Are there any lessons learned in the area of urbanization and internal migration not already mentioned that other countries could benefit from? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <p>Land ownership – In Vanuatu, the state does not own land. It is the people through hereditary or lease agreement. Land is leased for sale in Port Vila and also in the rural areas. It serves as security for the family. People who do not own land often use land that does not belong to them and many of these families have to be evicted.</p>				
Future needs: means of implementation and monitoring					

18.I.	Please select any needs the country may have in order to implement the priority actions for urbanization and internal migration. Please check as many as apply.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy and awareness raising <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data for monitoring and planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):
19.I.	Please select any needs the country may have in order to report on progress regarding the priority actions for urbanization and internal migration. Please check as many as apply to your country.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data collection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of monitoring frameworks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/engagement with data collection entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):

J. Population and sustainable development

Overall policy environment		
1.J.	<p>Are any priority actions for population and sustainable development included in your National Development Strategy or other development plans? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>DSPPAC under the office of the Prime Minister has one of its primary function being the responsibility for population and Sustainable Development. The topic is not only broad but is also cross-cutting and is included in all Government Sectoral Plans coordinated by DSPPAC, Office of the Prime Minister. Hence the Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 (People’s Plan 2030) is all about Population and Sustainable Development.</p> <p>(a) the strategy name/link : Vanuatu National Sustainable Development 2016-2030 / Vanuatu Government Website</p> <p>(b) date or time frame of the strategy/plan : 2016 - 2030</p> <p>(c) page number that references this action area : Full document</p> <p>(d) main elements of the action area : National Policies, Aspirations and Goals</p> <p>(d) its impact : Continuous and is evident from the different programs that the government and NGOs are doing in the country.</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

2.J.	<p>Have there been any amendments or improvements to legislation, or new policies or action plans relating to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development priority area “Population and sustainable development” since 2013? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>This is a broad topic and cross cutting as it captures the full change that the country is going through.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ NSDP and M&E Framework ➤ Secretarial Policies ➤ Aid Coordination Policy ➤ National Planning Framework ➤ Disaster Risk Framework ➤ National Human Resource Development Plan <p>If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>(a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan and website link : Name of documents provided / Vanuatu Government Website</p> <p>(b) date of implementation and time frame : Varies</p> <p>(c) its main elements : National Policy and Planning documents</p> <p>(d) its impact : In progress</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
<i>Achievements and good practices</i>					
3.J.	<p>Aside from what is listed above, what are some key achievements in the area of population and sustainable development in the country since 2013? <i>please elaborate on achievements, by providing specific examples and their impact:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020 National Population and Housing Census • 2013 Demographic Health Survey • 2016 Mini Population and Housing Census • 2023 MICS • NSDP Baseline survey (2019 – 2020) 				
4.J.	<p>Are there any good practices the country has developed in operationalizing population and sustainable development programmes that other countries may find useful? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <p>The Population Sustainable Development planning and coordination functions rest with PM’s office.</p>				
<i>Challenges</i>					
<p>In implementing priority actions for population and sustainable development, has the Government encountered any of the following challenges? [1 = never, 2 = sometimes, 3 = always]</p>					
<i>Challenges</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? please elaborate:</i>	
5.J.	Lack of human resources dedicated to population and sustainable development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is always lack of human resources in government and across all sectors

6.J.	Lack of financial resources dedicated to population and sustainable development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is always lack of financial resources to finance any government program both recurrent and development.
7.J.	Lack of capacity development for implementation of programmes on population and sustainable development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is a high turnover of personnel in Government. New staffs need training and the absence of special skills training does affect development and implementation of programs
8.J.	Lack of data on population and sustainable development, particularly disaggregated data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is a misalignment between available data and planning/budgeting.
9.J.	Lack of overall political support related to population and sustainable development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.J.	Lack of cross-ministerial coordination related to population and sustainable development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11.J.	Lack of international support related to population and sustainable development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12.J.	Lack of development partner coordination related to population and sustainable development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13.J.	Lack of public awareness and understanding of population and sustainable development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
14.J.	A bottom-up approach to population and sustainable development not followed (e.g., involvement of those most affected, or most marginalized populations, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Issues that address population follow bottom-up approach which is further supported by the Decentralization Act. The 2020 Population and Housing Census and the National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 are entirely people and community consultative process,
15.J.	COVID-19 and other disasters, emergencies and crises prevented implementation of programmes on population and sustainable development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Covid-19, TC Judy & Kevin (2023), TC Harold (2020), TC Phillipe (2019) TC Rita (2018), TC Pam (2015). Ambae Volcanic Eruption (2017-18)

16.J.	<p>Has the country experienced any other major challenges in implementation of population and sustainable development programmes? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <p>Funds – The Vanuatu Government Budget is not sufficient to finance all that is outlined in the Vanuatu NSDP 2016-2030 as explained above. If there were sufficient funds, then more personnel will be trained, services will increase and significant improvements can be made.</p> <p>Disaster – Vanuatu is a disaster risk country and every year as it strikes, it destroys and damages human livelihoods, which have to be built and rebuilt. Where funds are limited, progress to change is very slow.</p>
Lessons learned	
17.J.	<p>Are there any lessons learned in the area of population and sustainable development not already mentioned that other countries could benefit from? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong coordination lead by PM's office and different Government sectors. • Vanuatu uses the UN SDG to develop its own National Sustainable Development Goals and sets annual budget to achieve those local goals.
Future needs: means of implementation and monitoring	
18.J.	<p>Please select any needs the country may have in order to implement the priority actions for population and sustainable development. Please check as many as apply.</p> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy and awareness raising <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data for monitoring and planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>): </div>
19.J.	<p>Please select any needs the country may have in order to report on progress regarding the priority actions for population and sustainable development. Please check as many as apply to your country.</p> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data collection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of monitoring frameworks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/engagement with data collection entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>): </div>

K. Data and statistics

Overall policy environment

1.K.	<p>Are any priority actions for data and statistics included in your National Development Strategy or other development plans? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>If “yes”, please provide:</p> <p>(a) the strategy name/link : Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 (People’s Plan 2030) / Vanuatu Government Website</p> <p>(b) date or time frame of the strategy/plan : 2016 - 2030</p> <p>(c) page number that references this action area :</p> <p>Page 12 – Society Pillar 6 : Strong an Effective Institutions. SOC 6.9 Strengthen research, data and statistics for accountability and decision-making</p> <p>Page 17 – Economy Pillar 3 : Strengthen Rural Communities ECO 3.5 Improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of market data on the rural economy and communities</p> <p>(d) main elements of the action area : see above</p> <p>(d) its impact : Implementation in progress</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
2.K.	<p>Have there been any amendments or improvements to legislation, or new policies or action plans relating to the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development priority area “Data and statistics” since 2013? <i>please elaborate</i></p> <p>If “yes”, please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2020 National Population and Housing Census • National Strategy for the Development of Statistics, 2016-2020 • Vanuatu Population and Housing Mini-Census 2016 <p>(a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan and website link : Vanuatu Government Website</p> <p>(b) date of implementation and time frame : As provided</p> <p>(c) its main elements : availability of timely data for decision-making</p> <p>(d) its impact : Development of Government National, Corporate & Business Plans. All daily decision-makings require availability of data</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<i>Achievements and good practices</i>		
3.K.	<p>Aside from what is listed above, what are some key achievements in the area of data and statistics in the country since 2013? <i>please elaborate on achievements, by providing specific examples and their impact:</i></p> <p>As explained above, data helps the Government and all other entities make decisions.</p>	

4.K.	Are there any good practices the country has developed in operationalizing data and statistics programmes that other countries may find useful? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i>				
	Initially Bureau of Statistics use forms to collect data, then do data entry at the office. Later it shifted to using one form which is then scanned and data edited. For the 2020 National Census, tablets were used for the first time.				
Challenges					
In implementing priority actions for data and statistics, has the Government encountered any of the following challenges? [1 = never, 2 = sometimes, 3 = always]					
<i>Challenges</i>		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? please elaborate:</i>
5.K.	Lack of human resources dedicated to data and statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lack of personnel is a continuous issue
6.K.	Lack of financial resources dedicated to data and statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is always funding shortages
7.K.	Lack of capacity development for implementation of programmes on data and statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no sufficient funding for capacity development
8.K.	Lack of information for tracking of progress on data and statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This is also an issue as reports were done but have not been tracked to see if they are used.
9.K.	Lack of overall political support related to data and statistics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10.K.	Lack of cross-ministerial coordination related to data and statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The ministries collect their own information but have not been sharing them to check against the national data for quality check.
11.K.	Lack of international support related to data and statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Development support is very limited and have time line, when to begin and end.
12.K.	Lack of development partner coordination related to data and statistics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13.K.	Lack of public awareness and understanding of data and statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public awareness is not routinely done to explain data to them.
14.K.	A bottom-up approach to data and statistics not followed (e.g., involvement of those collecting, disseminating and analysing data and statistics.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The statistics office always consult the sectors before they do a survey and request them to add any questions they want them to include in the survey.
15.K.	COVID-19 and other disasters, emergencies and crises prevented implementation of programmes on data and statistics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Covid-19, TC Judy & Kevin (2023), TC Harold (2020), TC Phillipe (2019) TC Rita (2018), TC Pam (2015). Ambae Volcanic Eruption (2017-18)

16.K.	<p>Has the country experienced any other major challenges in implementation of data and statistics programmes? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i> Usually when funds are delayed, or when disasters strike.</p> <p>Delays in funds – The financial process in Vanuatu is quite lengthy and it requires to go through screening and processes before it is approved by several heads of the department. At the times where funds are insufficient, program funds may tend to be used for other purposes on the direction of the Senior Officials and also if there were to be a change in government priorities and policies.</p> <p>Disasters – Vanuatu is the highest disaster risk area in the Pacific and the globe. It is the main cause of delays in government activities with durations of up to 3 months waiting.</p>
Lessons learned	
17.K.	<p>Are there any lessons learned in the area of data and statistics not already mentioned that other countries could benefit from? <i>please elaborate and provide specific examples:</i></p> <p>The use of Tablets should be encouraged as it is easiest to use, collect and process data faster, using it. The 2020 Vanuatu National Population Census uses the tablets where data are directly entered in the field, sent and served in the server in Port Vila. Here, the information is safe and ready to be analysed.</p>
Future needs: means of implementation and monitoring	
18.K.	<p>Please select any needs the country may have in order to implement the priority actions for data and statistics. Please check as many as apply.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy and awareness raising <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data for monitoring and planning <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):
19.K.	<p>Please select any needs the country may have in order to report on progress regarding the priority actions for data and statistics. Please check as many as apply to your country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data collection <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building – data analysis <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lack of monitoring frameworks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource mobilization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with high-level politicians <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engagement with non-governmental stakeholders, civil society organizations, etc. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advocacy/engagement with data collection entities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> South-South cooperation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public-private partnerships <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>please elaborate</i>):

IV. Summary questions

Extraneous influences			
<i>Has the COVID-19 pandemic, or other national emergencies, disasters, or crises, resulted in:</i>			
2.1	Building in more resilience when developing population programmes?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat <input type="checkbox"/> No	Priority is emphasized more on safety of individuals, to build cyclone proof houses, live in higher grounds away from flood plains and coastal areas, understand the effects of disasters and how they can respond or prepare when the cyclone hits seeing messages from phones.
2.2	Increased prioritization (or mainstreaming) of population issues in policymaking?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat <input type="checkbox"/> No	The Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan 2016-2030 is people's plan. A lot of people consultation were done in the provinces before the plan was finalized to address their needs.
2.3	Diversion of funds or resources from population programmes to support other programmes?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	The main focus is on population and all government programs are directed to help people. The National Plans, Sectoral Plans and the Government budget is focused mainly in providing services to the population
Priority areas for further action			
2.4	Please rank the priority action areas outlined in the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development from highest to lowest priority in the country at the current point in time. Please use '1' as the highest priority and '11' the lowest priority.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Poverty eradication and employment (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health (5) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights (8) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education (4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gender equality and women's empowerment (6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adolescents and young people (7) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ageing (10) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International migration (11) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urbanization and internal migration (9) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Population and sustainable development (2)	

		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Data and statistics (3)
Additional comments		
2.5	<p>Are there any topics that are not covered in the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development that have become critically significant in the country since 2013? For example: food security, climate change or digital transformation? <i>please elaborate:</i></p> <p>Climate Change is the most worrying issue in Vanuatu as it affects the entire livelihood of people. Vanuatu experiences natural disasters every year where families livelihood in terms of homes, gardens and assets are destroyed and every year they have to rebuilt. Costs of living in Vanuatu is very expensive and many homes destroyed by disasters have not been repaired or rebuilt due to lack of money. In a way the situation sends them back to poverty where families are struggling to rebuilt their lives and homes again.</p> <p>Food Security in terms of nutrition need to be addressed. The Department of Agriculture has been advocating to families to plant more root crops as they remain safe during hurricanes. And after the cycone, and to plan crops that can be harvested within matter of weeks. Much of these information have already been explained in the various sections to address poverty.</p>	
2.6	<p>Are there any other lessons learned, achievements, challenges or needs that can be shared in regard to priority action areas outlined in the 2013 Asia and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development that have not already been addressed in this survey? <i>please elaborate:</i></p> <p>Covid-19 has brought changes in the way the nation thrives and there is more attention now diverted into helping farmers to develop themselves to become more self-reliant. Individuals meet their own preparation costs to travel to Australia and New Zealand where they earn monies from the Seasonal Workers Scheme and help to rebuild their own lives than waiting for the Government to respond. It is a very good initiative to reduce poverty.</p>	

V. Overall achievements/challenges in population and development

The Seventh Asian and Pacific Population Conference will be held from 16 to 18 November 2023. The intergovernmental meeting will coincide with the 60-year commemoration of the first Asian Population Conference, which was held from 10 to 20 December 1963 in New Delhi, India, the 30-year regional review of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in Asia and the Pacific, and the 10-year anniversary of the adoption of the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development. It will also mark the half-way point in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.

<i>With the above in mind, please share the country's biggest achievement and challenge in the area of population and development:</i>	
3.1	<p>Over the last 60 years (since the first Population Conference)</p> <p>a. Achievement <i>please elaborate</i>: Basically, understanding the pathway that the ICPD is taking. A lot of these meetings were attended by Vanuatu representatives, and were not followed through and merged into Government programs for continuity of monitoring. After these many years with the regular attendance of Vanuatu in the meetings and follow ups, the agreements regarding the issues are becoming more clearer to understand as well as report on.</p> <p>b. Challenge <i>please elaborate</i>: The main challenge is Government continuity to follow up on these international commitments. The Government does not have a mechanism in place that monitors progress reports for its international commitments'</p> <p>Also the lack of funds and dedicated persons responsible for the follow up of these international conventions is a huge challenge.</p>
3.2	<p>Over the last 30 years (since the adoption of the ICPD Programme of Action)</p> <p>a. Achievement <i>please elaborate</i>: [REDACTED]</p> <p>b. Challenge <i>please elaborate</i>: [REDACTED]</p> <p>The situation referred to above is the same in the last 30 years.</p>
3.3	<p>Over the last 7 years since adopting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</p> <p>a. Achievement <i>please elaborate</i>: [REDACTED]</p> <p>b. Challenge <i>please elaborate</i>: [REDACTED]</p> <p>The situation referred to above is the same as in the last 7 years.</p>

THANK YOU!