

# Vanuatu National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan 1997 -2000



# Development

- Collection and the collation of research reports and publications on the biodiversity of Vanuatu
- Conducted a rapid biodiversity assessment of freshwater and montane ecosystems
- Conducted consultation workshops in each province to identify community concerns and priorities for biodiversity conservation



- Gathered information on traditional natural resource management to gain insights on the appropriate biodiversity conservation mechanisms for Vanuatu
- Assessed the status of tree ferns and breadfruit on Ambrym due to the increased export of carvings from these species
- Worked in parallel with the environmental law drafting consultancy to identify legal measures that would assist conservation of biodiversity
- Gathered information about the use of biological resources in rural areas.

# Implementation

- The NBSAP was divided into 5 focal areas:
  - ❖ Biodiversity Protection and Conservation
  - ❖ Application of policy planning and legal mechanisms to enable sustainable management of biodiversity
  - ❖ Research Assessment and monitoring of biodiversity
  - ❖ Capacity building for environmental management
  - ❖ Environmental Education awareness and information sharing



# Biodiversity Protection and Conservation



- In this area the VED has implemented a lot of activities this through government projects as well as from NGO's
- Over the last eight years communities throughout Vanuatu have slowly realised the importance of our resources.

# Research Assessment and monitoring of biodiversity



- This focal area relies heavily on outside sources from researchers and scientists that have an interest in the biodiversity of the country
- Monitoring and research is mostly funded outside from government budgets and is usually done through projects that help to build capacity of local communities



# Capacity building for environmental management

- An area that has covered the whole country through government collaboration and NGO's
- An indicator of this action throughout the whole country environmental committees have come into existence



# Environmental Education Awareness and information sharing



- During the NBSAP period awareness levels increased by over 60%
- Increased efforts from all sectors allowed for increased information sharing
- Allowing for communities to be educated in resource management



# Apply policy planning and legal mechanisms to enable sustainable management of biodiversity



- During the course of the NBSAP the VEMCA was drafted and therefore one of the focal areas was to see it enacted which was in 2002
- This area though challenging the VED is addressing the issue by working collaboratively with departments to place regulations in order to enhance the management of its biodiversity

# Implementation

- It has been eight years since the NBSAP was written to suit the environmental management and circumstance of that era
- Since then many of these actions have been addressed
- The NBSAP now is being widely addressed within many institutions within the country and policy makers are using the document



# Reviewing

- The NBSAP has been written over 8 years we realise that it needs a review
- The review is to encompass the environmental factors that are affecting the country as well as the region including the world , ie climate change
- The main obstacle of our NBSAP review is the efforts put into trying to get the political will for the government to address the biodiversity issues of the country
- The country has taken 21 years to allow it to fully endorse a department that was done last year.
- With this entails the financial capacity to be able to review the NBSAP and address the issues



Thank you! Questions?