LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

**Smart Islands to Accelerate Digital Transformation at Community Level**

# Smart Islands: Boosting connectivity to unlock the Pacific potential

**Pacific ICT Minister's Dialogue**
**28 August 2023 – APEC Haus, Port Moresby**

THE CONCEPT OF SMART VILLAGES AND ISLANDS

low cost
better scalability
multi-sector collaboration
partnerships

whole-of-government approach

common ICT building-blocks

e-healthcare

e-education

e-agriculture

e-governance

disaster management

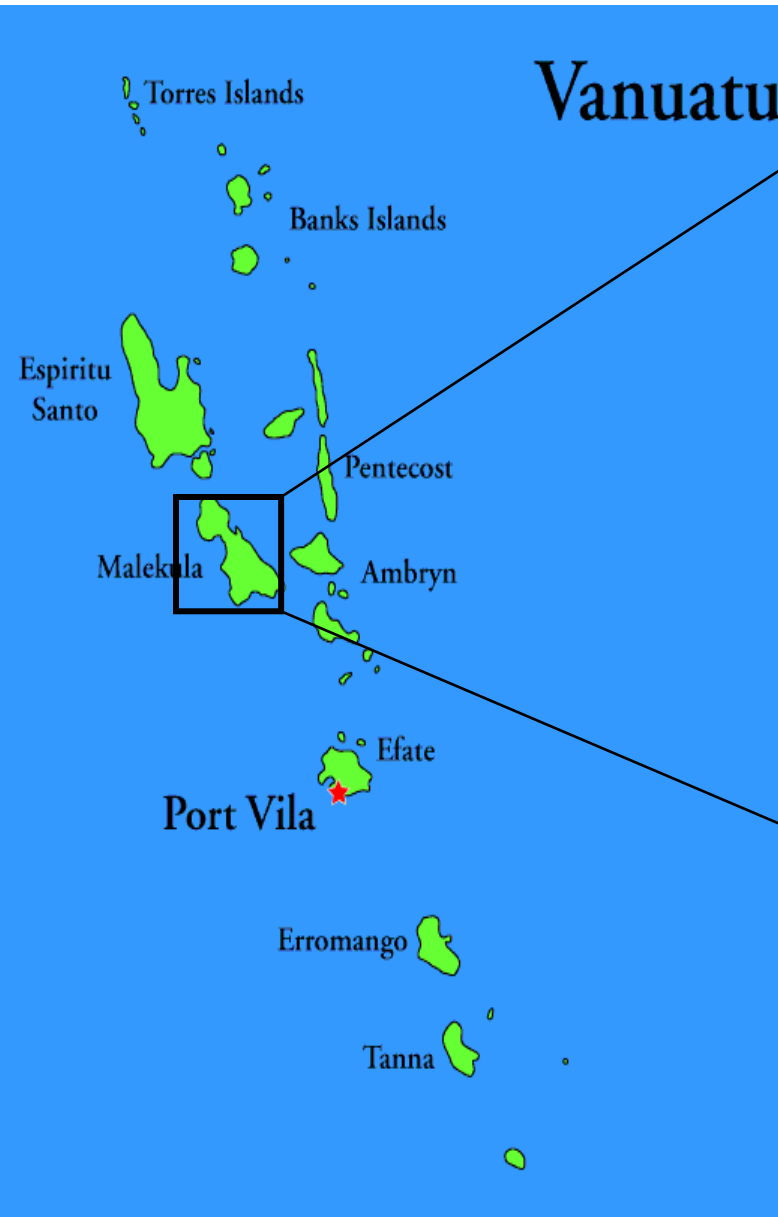digital finance

# Smart Islands: What is it?

Smart Islands programme is designed to address the **socio-economic challenges faced by communities** through **digital transformation at community level**

digital transformation goes much deeper than technology

# South Malekula

# Challenges
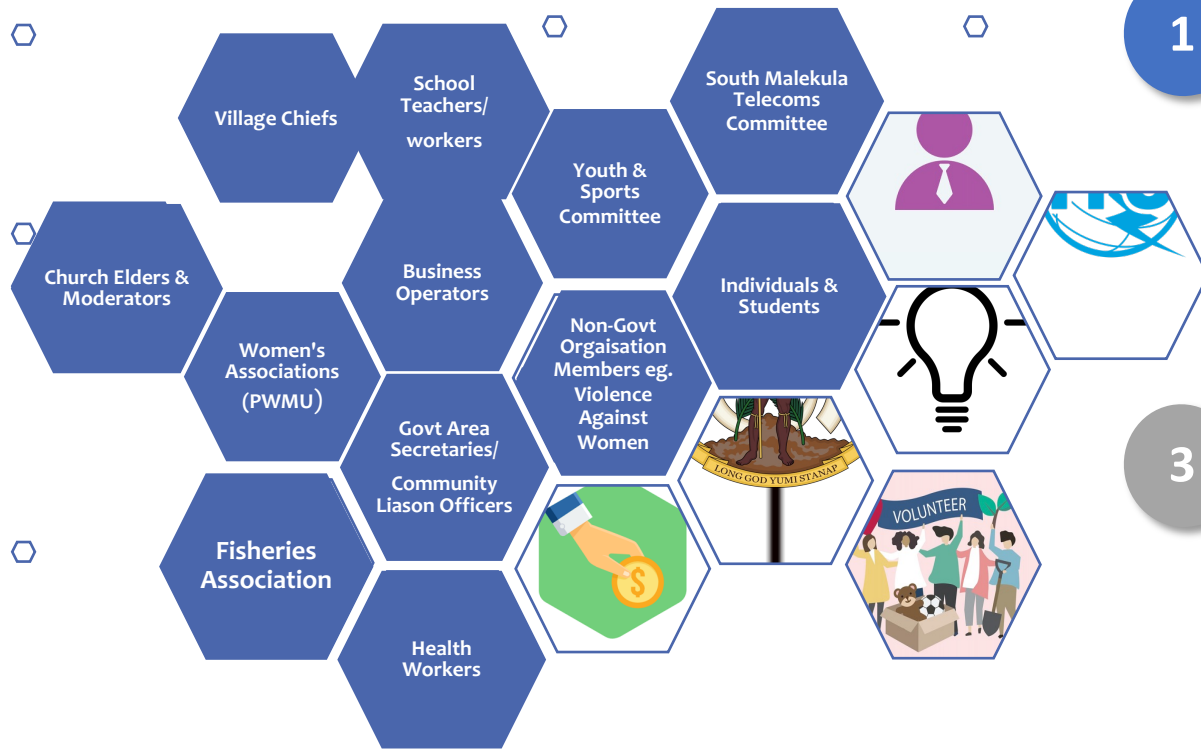


**1** High transportation cost of travel from one point to another or one village to another

**2** Unreliable and poor quality of communications

**3** Lack of skills to market and sell their products

**4** Low digital literacy and skills

**5** Power and reliable energy has been a common need

# Community Priority Needs

**1** Reliable and quality telecommunications network coverage

**2** Digital Literacy and Skills Training

**3** Sales and Marketing resource and skills

**4** A reliable power/energy supply

**5** Financial services

**6** An improved education environment with reliable internet services

**7** An improved health environment with digital literate health workers .

**8** Clean water and sanitation

**9** Adaptation to Natural disaster effects and importantly mitigation and adaptation to climate change effects and impacts.

**10** Promote South Malekula destination

# Vanuatu's National Policies & Strategies

## SOCIETY PILLAR

| SOC 1 | Vibrant cultural identity |
| SOC 2 | Quality Education |
| SOC 3 | Quality Health Care |
| SOC 4 | Social Inclusion |
| SOC 5 | Security, Peace and Justice |
| SOC 6 | Strong and Effective Institutions |

## ENVIRONMENT PILLAR

| ENV 1 | Food and Nutrition Security |
| ENV 2 | Blue-Green Economic Growth |
| ENV 3 | Climate and Disaster Resilience |
| ENV 4 | Natural Resource Management |
| ENV 5 | Ecosystems and Biodiversity |

## ECONOMY PILLAR

| ECO 1 | Stable and Equitable Growth |
| ECO 2 | Improve Infrastructure |
| ECO 3 | Strengthen Rural Communities |
| ECO 4 | Create jobs and business opportunities |

# Alignment of Priority Needs to National Strategy

**1** Reliable and quality telecommunications network coverage

**2** Digital Literacy and Skills Training

**3** Sales and Marketing resource and skills

**4** A reliable power/energy supply

**5** Financial Services

**6** An improved education environment with reliable internet services

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**8** Clean water and sanitation

**9** Adaptation to Natural disaster effects and importantly mitigation and adaptation to climate change effects and impacts.

**10** Promote South Malekula destination

# Providers and Partners

| | |
|---|---|
| **Reliable & Quality Telecommunications Network Coverage** | • Telecom Operators – Vodafone / Digicel / WanTok<br>• Telecom Regulator - TRBR<br>• Government |
| **Digital Literacy and Skills Training** | • Academics – NUV and USP<br>• ICT Training Institutes (ECF et al)<br>• Regional and International Partners |
| **Marketing & Sales Resource & Skills** | • Government / Ministry of Agriculture / Trade<br>• Training Institutes / Colleges – VCCI, VAC, etc<br>• Vanuatu Skills Partnership |
| **Reliable & Renewable Power / Energy Supply** | • Government / Department of Energy<br>• Power / Energy Vendors / Distributors |
| **Financial Services** | • GoV / MFEM<br>• Banks<br>• Digital Financial Inclusion Services / FinTech Solutions |

# Providers and Partners ...Cont

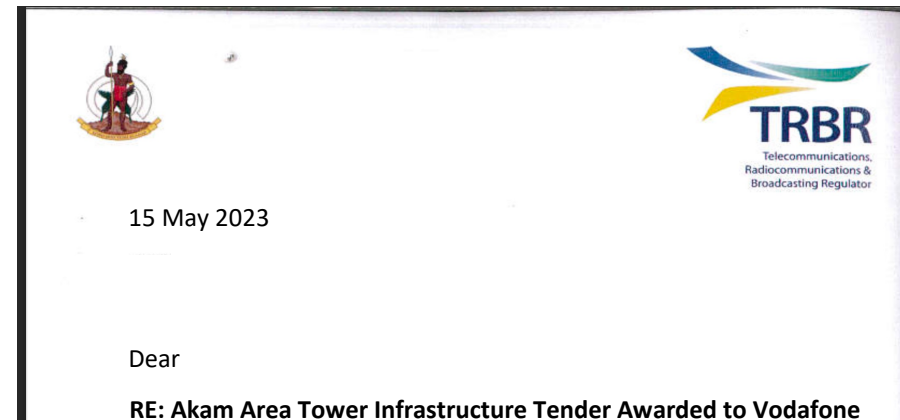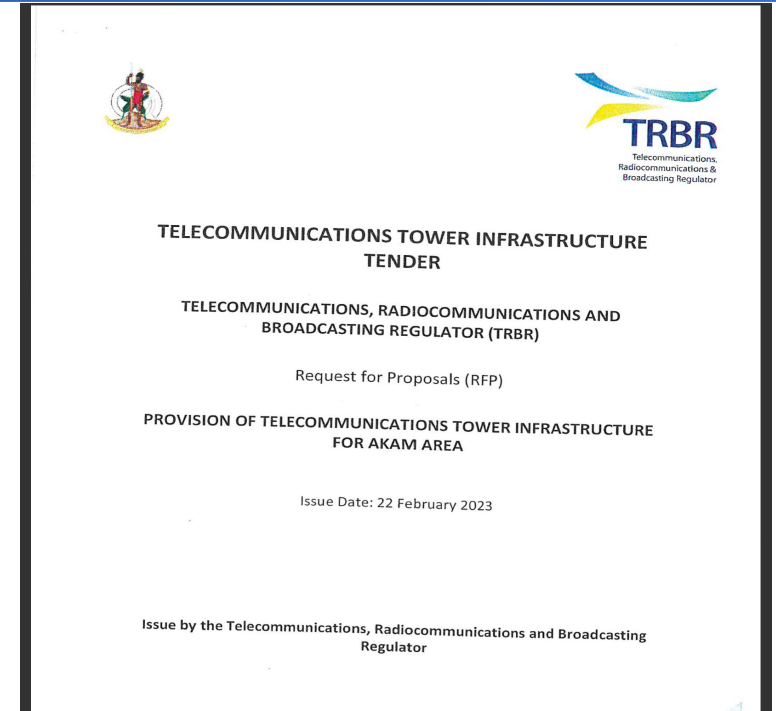| | |
|---|---|
| *Improved Education Environment with reliable internet connectivity* | • Gov / MoET<br>• Telecom Regulator - TRBR<br>• Telecom Operators |
| *Improved Health Environment with digital literate health worker* | • Gov / MoH<br>• ICT Training Institutes (ECF et al)<br>• Regional and International Partners - WHO |
| *Clean Water and Sanitation* | • Gov / Dept of Water / MoH<br>• Vanuatu Skills Partnership |
| *Adaptation to Natural Disaster Effects and Mitigation and adaptation to Climate change impacts* | • Gov / Ministry & Dept of Climate Change / NDMO<br>• International Organisations – Care, ADRA, etc |
| *Promote South Malekula – a tourist destination* | • Government / Dept of Tourism<br>• Vanuatu Skills Partnership |

# Addressing the Priorities

**Reliable & Quality Telecommunications Network Coverage**

- Government(s) / Development Partners
- Telecom Regulator – TRBR
- Telecom Operators





TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER INFRASTRUCTURE TENDER

TELECOMMUNICATIONS, RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADCASTING REGULATOR (TRBR)

Request for Proposals (RFP)

PROVISION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AKAM AREA

Issue Date: 22 February 2023

Issue by the Telecommunications, Radiocommunications and Broadcasting Regulator



15 May 2023

Dear

**RE: Akam Area Tower Infrastructure Tender Awarded to Vodafone**

# Addressing the Priorities

**Digital Literacy & Skills Training**

- Academics – NUV and USP
- ICT Training Institutes (ECF et al)
- Regional and International Partners
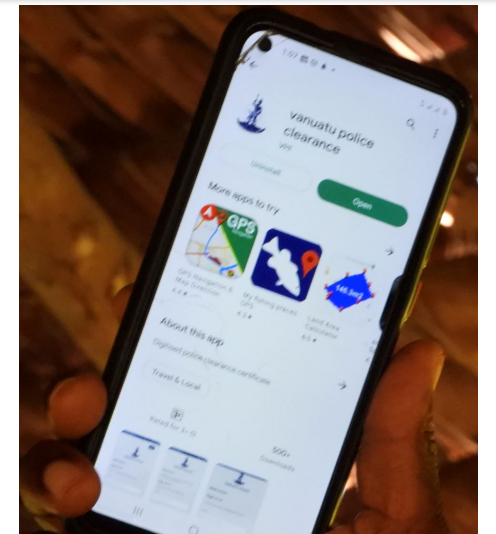
# Addressing the Priorities

**Marketing & Sales Resource & Skills**

- GoV / MALFFB / MTTCNVB
- Training Institutes
- Vanuatu Skills Partnership

# Addressing the Priorities

**Reliable and Renewable Power | Energy Supply**

- Government / Department of Energy
- Power Vendors / Distributors

## Rural communities to benefit from OGCIO, Energy Partnership



*"Vanuatu Government through the Department of Energy will install two Solar mini grid Power Systems in the Smart Island Programme area in 2023."*

# Addressing the Priorities

**Financial Services**

- GoV / MFEM
- Banks
- FinTech Solutions
- Digital Financial Inclusion Services

Parents were introduced to NBV's Isi Mobile for School payments and other use.



**National Bank**
Vanuatu's Own Bank

**Niu paymen opsen**

**hemi kwik! hemi Isi!**
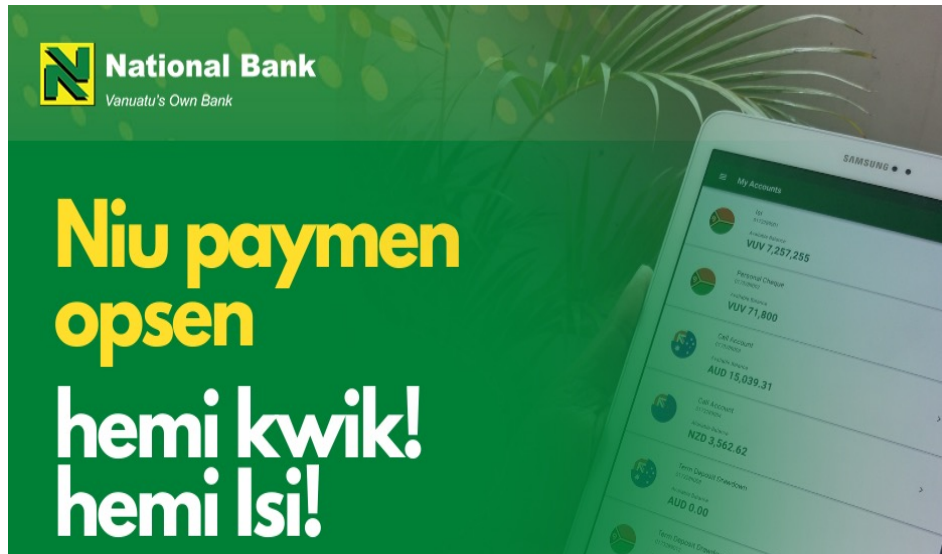
*"Hemi sevem mifala bigwan tumas long saed blong cost blong travel ko long ol skuls blong pem skul fi blong ol pikinini."*

*"Naoia mi save stap long karen, be mi save mekem order blong cargo blong store mo pem. Mi no nid blo ko long NBV long Lamap."*

*"Network blong Digicel mo Vodafone hemi on and off olsem ya mekem mi fraet se bae mi lusum vatu blong mi taem mi stap usum."*

# Addressing the Priorities

*Improve Education Environment with Reliable Internet Connectivity*

- Gov / MoET
- Academic / Vocational institutions
- Telecom Operators / Telecom Regulator



- Increase enrolment of students

- Equiping South Malekula Seconday School with tablets & laptops for Lesson Preparations

- Establishment of a Centre of Excellence Training Centre

# Addressing the Priorities

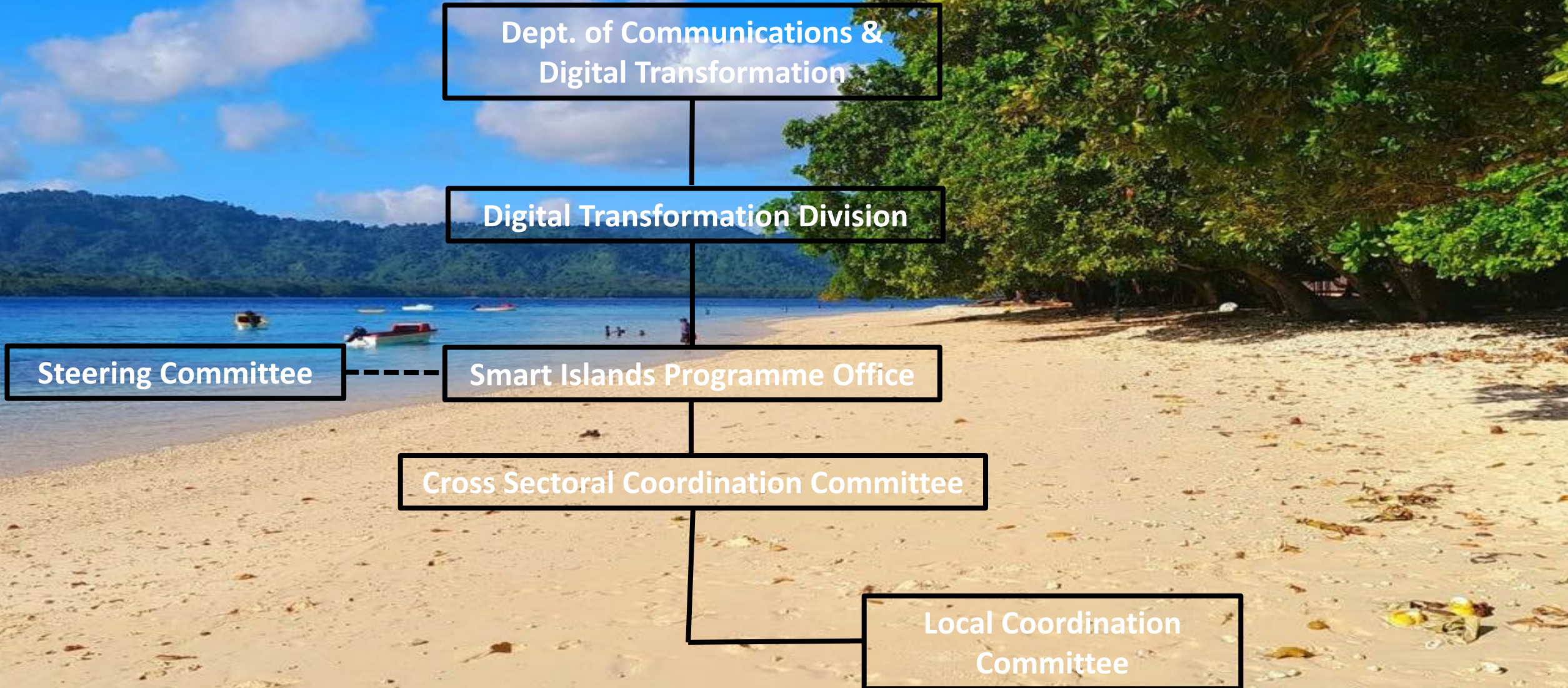**Improve Health Environment with Digital Literate Health Worker**

- Gov / MoH
- ICT Training Institutes (ECF et al)
- Regional and International Partners - WHO

- Special curriculum to be included into the Health Workers Capacity building programme;

- Improvements to connectivity at the main Referral Hospital – coverage and QoS audit is currently underway; and

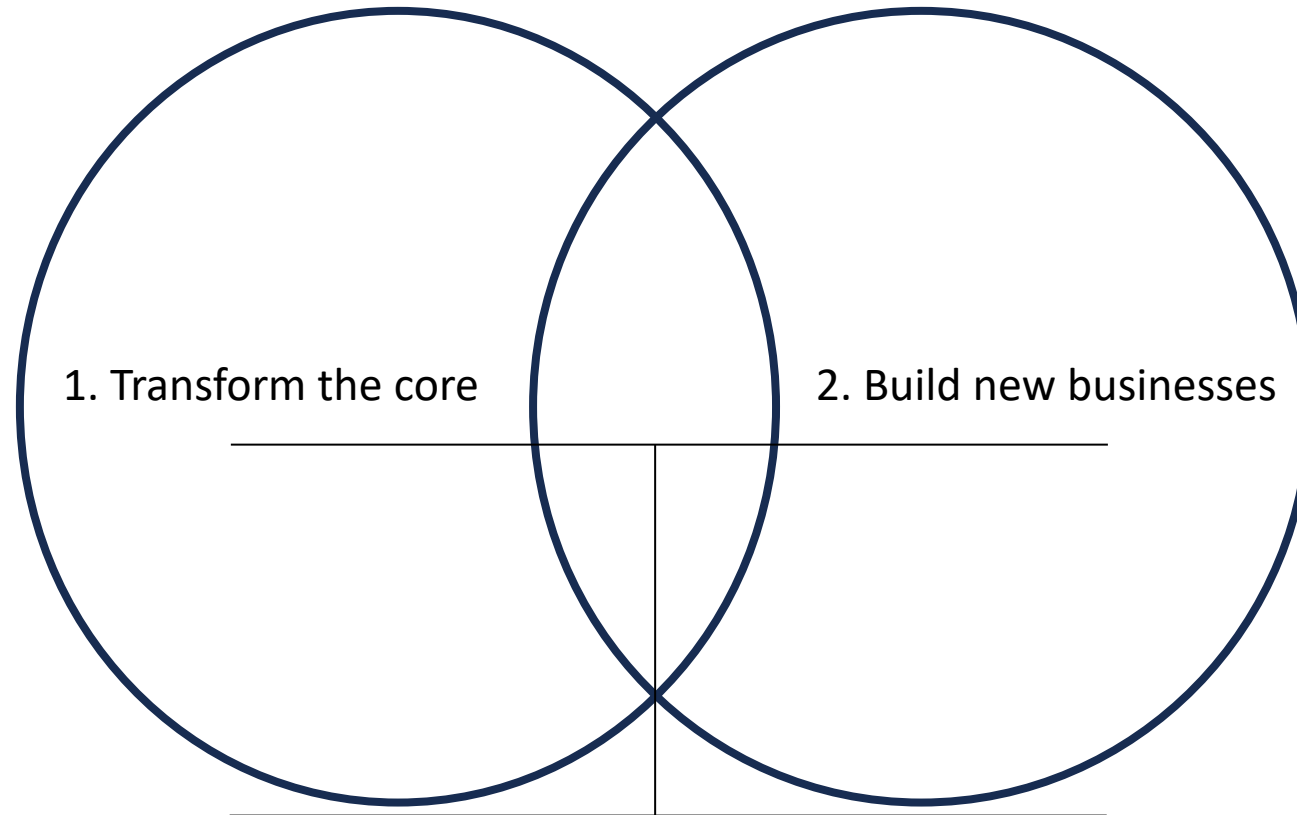- Establishment of Telemedicine Call Centre – *progressing already*
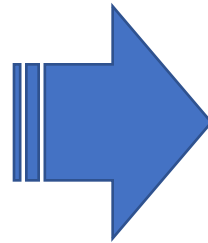
*To be Confirmed and Approved by Ministry of Health with support from WHO Vanuatu Office??*

# Governance Structure

Dept. of Communications &
Digital Transformation

Digital Transformation Division

Steering Committee

Smart Islands Programme Office

Cross Sectoral Coordination Committee

Local Coordination
Committee

# Context of Digital Transformation



1. Transform the core

2. Build new businesses

- Harness the power of data

- Modernise core technology and capitalize on new technology

- Optimizing and automating operations

- Fuel digital growth

- Create captivating digital experiences

- Building digital talent and culture

Source: https://www.digital-adoption.com/digital-transformation-mckinsey/

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# Tank yu tumas!

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