



Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

SE4ALL Centre of Excellence to Promote Sustainable Energy Markets, Industries and Innovation

Promoting RE Business Start-ups and Entrepreneurship in the Rural Areas of Vanuatu



CONTACT DETAILS:

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Key Achievements

- Number of Applicants
- ◇ 64 (22 Approved Applicants on the 2nd Quarter and 42 Approved Applicants on the 3rd Quarter)
- Number of Paid Applicants
- ◇ 22
- Number and type of paid new Businesses provided with reliable power

Type of Business	No. Count
Fish Sales Business	1
Meat Sales Business	7
Power Supply Business	4

- Number of paid existing businesses provided with reliable power

Type of Business	No. Count
Cold Drink Business	1
Kava Business	1
Meat Sales Business	1
Power Supply Business	2
Retail Shop	4
Women Business Group	1

- Number of Female and Male Applicants

Gender	No. Count
Female	14
Male	50

20%PCREEE subsidy earned

VUV 927,989 and 80% of customer

payment is VUV4,889,203.

Background

The Navara Savings and Credit Cooperative Society (NSCL) is a registered cooperative in Vanuatu. It was established in 2009 with the sole purpose of members saving a portion of their salaries and loaning against it. Years later the NSCL grew into a multiplex of different services. These include the provision of low interest loans to entrepreneurs living in the rural and remote areas of Vanuatu to purchase accredited and approved renewable energy systems and energy efficient appliances in order to stimulate economic growth and development.

The SPC's Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE) was established in April 2017 as a regional vehicle for accelerating the uptake of feasible Renewable Energy (RE) and Energy efficiency (EE) technologies in the Pacific Islands countries and Territories. The PCREEE has a Sustainable Energy Entrepreneurship Facility (PSEEF) which is aimed at providing a flexible, accessible, and differentiated support to entrepreneurial RE & EE businesses.

Through the PSEEF, the PCREEE provides funds to the Cooperative to subsidize the costs of purchasing and installing RE and EE systems.

Customers loan 80% of the costs of their energy systems from the National Green Energy Fund (NGEF) and the Cooperative provides the 20% from the PSEEF. NGEF-accredited suppliers and installers complete the installation. Cash customers that do not need a loan pay their 84% to the supplier / installer and the PSEEF provides the 16%.

Project Partners

This project is a joint collaboration between the SPC PCREEE, NGEF, NSCL and NGEF approved local solar vendors. PCREEE has then established a PCREEE Sustainable Energy and Entrepreneurship Facility (PSEEF) to address the challenges in its four programme areas and help boost the capacity of the local private sector to participate in the sustainable energy market and to generate entrepreneurship activities thereby contributing to meeting the nation's energy policy targets. The NGEF of Vanuatu provides very low interest loans for RE and EE products with the intention of increasing the rate of uptake of RE and EE products in the rural remote areas, low-income houses in the urban areas as well as supporting the government's urban electrification policies. The NGEF disperses loans to institutions which are directly overseen by the Department of Cooperatives, Department of Industry, Ministry of Education. Members of any registered cooperative can also benefit from the NGEF loans. The NSCL provides an avenue for Non-Members in other Government ministries and to still benefit from NGEF loans since the cooperative is willing to take the risk of managing repayments to NGEF.

Project Objectives

- ⇒ Empower entrepreneurs in the rural and remote areas of Vanuatu through affordable and engineered solutions of renewable energy coupled with energy efficiency system.
- ⇒ Promoting and powering business start-ups and entrepreneurial rural businesses activities in Vanuatu's rural communities through the provision of affordable Solar RE technology solutions
- ⇒ Strengthening the private sector by providing business and employment opportunities while promoting a secured and sustainable business environment
- ⇒ Capacity building on renewable energy technologies
- ⇒ Stimulate and sustain economic growth through zero carbon emission RE systems.