Pacific ICT Minister's Meeting 18<sup>h</sup> June 2015 Nuku'alofa, Tonga



The Government of the Republic of Vanuatu

# **Universal Access Policy : Case of Vanuatu**

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Sollow

#VanuatuStillSmi

Its 2000km from Vanuatu to Tonga but these images make us feel like you are by our side #TCPam @tongaredcross





Source: Twitter @aureliabalpe

# **Outline:**



- 1. Universal Access Policy Background
- 2. What we did
- 3. Plans for the Future: 98% Coverage by 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2018

## **Background:** The Policy

National vision: "A Just, Educated, Healthy and Wealthy Vanuatu"

To improve access to telecommunications service for locations, which are not or not adequately served by existing services.

#### 1. Required Level of Telecommunication Services

- By 1 January 2018 98% of population to access voice, data, internet
- Speeds at 21Mbps downlink 12 Mbps uplink
- Priority to schools, health centers and public offices

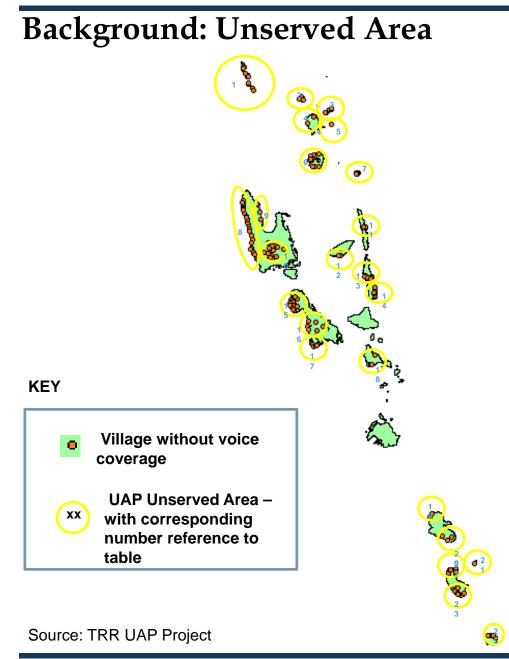
#### 2. Price

- Geographically uniform price
- Lower prices for priority areas
- 3. Implementation
  - Regulator

"Pay or Play" Approach



Photo: Lew Toulmin



Unserved areas	
1	Torres Islands
2	Ureparapara
3	East Motalava
4	NW Vanua Lava
5	East Mota
6	West Gaua
7	Merelava
8	West Coast Santo
9	North Santo
10	Central Santo
11	South Ambae
12	Central Maewo
13	Central Pentecost - Melsisi
14	South East Pentecost - Bunlap
15	North West Malekula
16	West/Central Malekula
17	South West Malekula
18	Central Epi
19	North Erromango
20	South Erromango
21	Aniwa
22	North Tanna
23	South Tanna
24	Central & South Futuna
25	North Aneityum

**Q**<sup>2</sup>

### What we did?

- 1. Asked for Money Thank you DFAT
- Develop our market development initiatives (connect schools, tablets for students and internet café`s)
- 3. Recruit a UAP Project team (3 pax)
- 4. Selected 25 project sites
- 5. Establish a Grant Review Committee
- 6. Project underway 😊

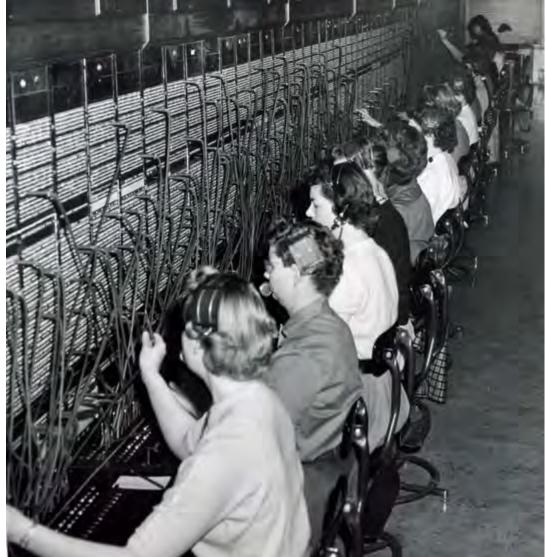


Australian

Photo: Lew Toulmin

### Plans for the Future: 98% Coverage by 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2018

- 1. Grow demand for ICT services
- Connect all 514 schools (early childhood to tertiary) throughout Vanuatu
- 3. m-Governance Strategy
- 4. Develop sectorial ICT Policies (27)
- 5. 3 5% of Ministry budget for ICT
- 6. Partnership with private sector
- 7. Increase use of ICT in Education
- 8. Support other member countries



## More info available @ www.trr.vu



Photo: Nguna Mama's