



RESERVE BANK OF VANUATU

PMB 9062 –PIERRE BRUNET STREET– PORT VILA – VANUATU
TEL: (678) 23333 – FAX: (678) 24231
EMAIL: rbvinfo@rbv.gov.vu
WEBSITE: www.rbv.gov.vu

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Telephone: (678) 23333

Facsimile: (678) 24231

Email: resrvbnk.gov.vu

Launching of Vanuatu's National Financial Inclusion Strategy (NFIS) 2018 – 2023

The Vanuatu Government will be launching the Vanuatu National Financial Inclusion Strategy (NFIS): 2018 – 2023 at the Convention Center in Port Vila on March 28th, 2018. The ceremony will be officiated by the Hon. Prime Minister, Charlot Salwai Tabimasmamas.

The Strategy was developed by the Reserve Bank of Vanuatu (RBV) in partnership with the Vanuatu Government and the Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme (PFIP) in 2017 with valuable inputs from key stakeholders in the country and abroad.

The NFIS will provide an important road map of the financial inclusion journey with the ultimate aim of improving access to and usage of appropriate financial services by the underserved adult population and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) in Vanuatu. It provides the means to achieving the vision of creating an enabling environment that will lead to enriching the livelihoods of the people and MSMEs in Vanuatu through more inclusive financial services and consumer empowerment and protection. The NFIS is integrated to the Vanuatu Government priorities as set out in the National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) 2016 – 2030.

The Vanuatu strategy encompasses a multi-sector approach and recognizes the importance of financial literacy and education in the development of financial competencies for the Ni-Vanuatu in the understanding and use of financial products and services.

One of the important goals of the strategy is to ensure that 65% of adults will be active users of formal or semi-formal financial services, of which half will be women from the current level of

47% that are using formal and semi-formal financial institutions. The strategy also calls for a suite of Micro Small and Medium enterprises (MSME) business financing products to be available, which are tailored also to the needs of businesses led by women and youth.

The Reserve Bank of Vanuatu