



RESERVE BANK OF VANUATU

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SHEPHERDS MINI AGRICULTURE SHOW (SMAS) 2021

RESERVE BANK OF VANUATU PARTICIPATION



RBV Governor pictured above with DG MALFFB, Counsellor and other VIPs during the official opening of the SMAS 2021

The Reserve Bank of Vanuatu (RBV) was fortunate to be invited by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries and Bio-security (MALFFB), to be part of the Shepherds Mini Agriculture Show (SMAS) that was held from the 15th – 18th June, 2021 in Morua Village, Tongoa Island, Shepherds Group.

This is the second time for this biennial event to be held in Vanuatu, particularly the Shepherds Group of islands. The first SMAS event was held on Emae Island in 2019.

The main purpose of this event is to gather together farmers from the agriculture, forestry and livestock sectors as well as fishermen from the six islands in the Shepherds group to show case their different agricultural and marine products, to recognise their contributions to economic activities and to educate them

through programs and initiatives such as technological advancements and exchanges of ideas that will empower them to improve productivity, enhance resilience, and maintain sustainability measures. This year's event included the commemoration of a tree planting day and Shefa Day which is celebrated annually on the 18th of June.

The RBV delegation to the SMAS 2021 was led by Governor Simeon Athy and comprises senior officials from respective departments within the RBV.

The RBV has participated in past trade fairs and similar agricultural events, however, this marks the first time for RBV to participate in the mini agriculture show since its inception. The RBV considers the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sector an important component of the economy, for food security and in sustaining the livelihood of a large segment of the population. Important economic linkages connect the sector to other important subsectors including the tourism and the export sectors – linkages that are needed for a well functioning economy and sound macroeconomic stability that lies at the center of RBV's role and function in Vanuatu.

RBV's participation in the 2021 SMAS was in the form of an awareness carried out at the event venue and in a selected school in Tongoa designed to educate and promote the role of Reserve Bank in economic development.

Reserve Bank of Vanuatu

June 2021