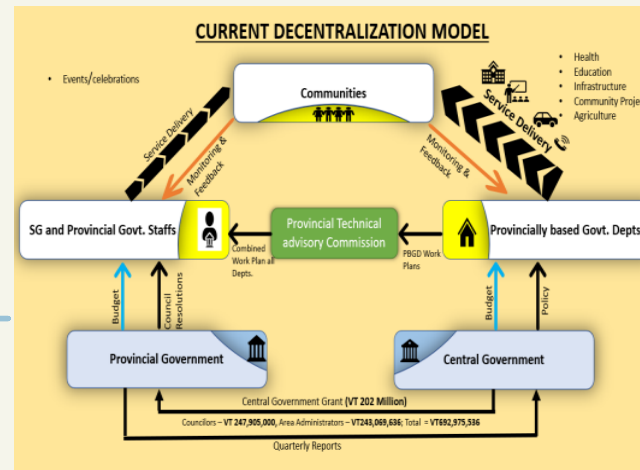


Main Components of the Decentralization Plan; *Aim of the Decentralization Implementation Plan (DIP)*

- To clearly articulate components of DIP.
- To define the steps, prioritization and the sequence of the components/activities
- To guide the preparation of detailed annual work plans for each component
- To estimate the DIP resources requirement for its effective implementation
- To indicate linkage between the major activities

“Bringing the Government Closer to the People!!!”

DECENTRALIZATION MODEL



DECENTRALIZATION UNIT

“Bringing the Government closer to the people by providing citizens with greater control over decision-making process and allowing their direct participation in public service delivery”.

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- Greater equity and effectiveness in the allocation of resources.
- Better responsiveness from government to the needs of marginalized groups.

Background & Vision

Background:

The most fundamental rationale for decentralization in Vanuatu lies in its opportunity *“to bring the government closer to the people by providing citizens with greater control over decision-making process and allowing their direct participation in public service delivery.”*

Vision:

“To achieve a fully decentralized and democratically elected system of governance characterized by open, predictable and transparent policy making and implementation processes, effective community participation in decision-making, development and administration of their local affairs while maintaining sufficient linkages between the Centre and the periphery.”

Decentralization Policy

Under Colonial Rule (1950s—1979)

- New Hebrides was divided into four (4) Districts.
- 1975 the Condominium established 25 Local Councils (British initiative).
- 1975 Local Councils were abolished in favor of Municipal and Community Councils (French initiative).
- 1980 -1994 a system of 11 Local Government Councils replaced the 11 Local Government Councils.

Decentralization is generally associated with these benefits:

- Improve transparency and accountability.
- More effective mobilization of resources.
- Reduction in power, size and costs of national government.
- Improved efficiency in decision-making.
- Better coordination of development activities at the local level.

Decentralization Policy

- ⇒ Empower local communities by devolving decision-making authority, functions and resources in order to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of services.
- ⇒ Design and implement mechanisms to ensure a “Bottom up” flow of integrated development planning and budgeting from the Area Councils (Acs) to the National Government.
- ⇒ Enhance political and administrative authority in order to effectively and efficiently deliver services to the lowest level.
- ⇒ Promote accountability and transparency in the management and utilization of resources.
- ⇒ Develop the capacity of the Acs and communities in developing planning, finance, coordinating, and managing the delivery of services in their areas.
- ⇒ Build capacity for the development and maintenance of infrastructure at local level.
- ⇒ Introduce an integrated budget for area development and management.
- ⇒ Provide a legal and institutional framework to promote autonomy in decision making at the AC’s level.