



# INVESTMENT SEMINAR- EXPLORING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN VANUATU

The Melanesia Hotel 2024

 *Thinking Investment-Choose Vanuatu*

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Vanuatu Foreign Investment Promotion Agency(VFIPA)–Is a statutory body under Ministry of Trade & Commerce (MTC). VFIPA work in accordance with the Foreign Investment Act NO.25 OF 2019. VFIPA act as the first point of contact attracting foreign investment into the country. While we are open and welcome foreign investors, certain investment activity are restricted and reserved.

## **IMPORTANCE OF FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI) IN VANUATU**

- Economic Growth - Vanuatu's GDP growth is expected at 3.1% in 2024 and 3.6% in 2025
- Employment Opportunity- FDI contributes approximately - 1/3 of the country's formal employment
- Provide Sustainable Development to the Communities
- Vanuatu National Sustainable Plan (VNSP) (The People's Plan 2016 – 2030)
- Vanuatu is the latest country to graduate out of the category of Least Developed Countriescategory to a Developing Country

## **VANUATU TRADE AGREEMENT MEMBERSHIP & INVESTMENT NETWORKS**

- World Trade Organisation –WTO
- PACER PLUS
- MSG Free Trade Agreement
- Pacific Island Forum Secretariat -PACIFIC TRADE INVEST GLOBAL NETWORK
- Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement -PICTA



# WHY INVEST IN VANUATU? TAX FREE

Iririki Island Resort 2024

Vanuatu is a beautiful remote and TAX FREE tropical paradise. It is known not only for its great location and climate in the South Pacific region, but also a great destination for new foreign investors to own and operate business in the country. Vanuatu has zero percentage in this following categories;

- Corporate Tax
- Income Tax
- Capital Gains Tax
- Withholding Tax
- Gift Tax
- Personal Income Tax

Aside from the locally applied 15% VAT and imported duties, many of the tax initiatives are not applied in Vanuatu. With such taxation regime in place for international companies and businesses, Vanuatu will always be considered the best location for investment development. Vanuatu offers 100% ownership to business owners, for example, there is no limitation to ownership of businesses in Vanuatu like other economies.



# CONTRIBUTION TO THE INVESTMENT CLIMATE IN VANUATU

## FINANCIAL HUB

UNIVERSITY GRADUATES- Contributing to the Vanuatu Human Resources Policy

SEA & AIR CONNECTIVITY (INTERNATIONAL & DOMESTIC) – Infrastructure (Lapetasi Wharf and International Airport)

GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE & SERVICES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE (EDZ) AND SANTO ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

ICT INFRASTRUCTURE – Current voice and data Coverage of up to 80% of its Population (Majority own Cell/Cell Phone)

SIX PROVINCIAL HEADQUARTERS THROUGHOUT VANUATU

INCENTIVES THROUGH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

VFIPA FACILITATION ROLE AND AFTERCARE SERVICES





# WE ARE YOUR GATEWAY TO DIGITAL REGISTRATION AGENCY

## OUR ONLINE FDI REGISTRATION PORTAL

We encourage all our customers to use our online portal for the applications

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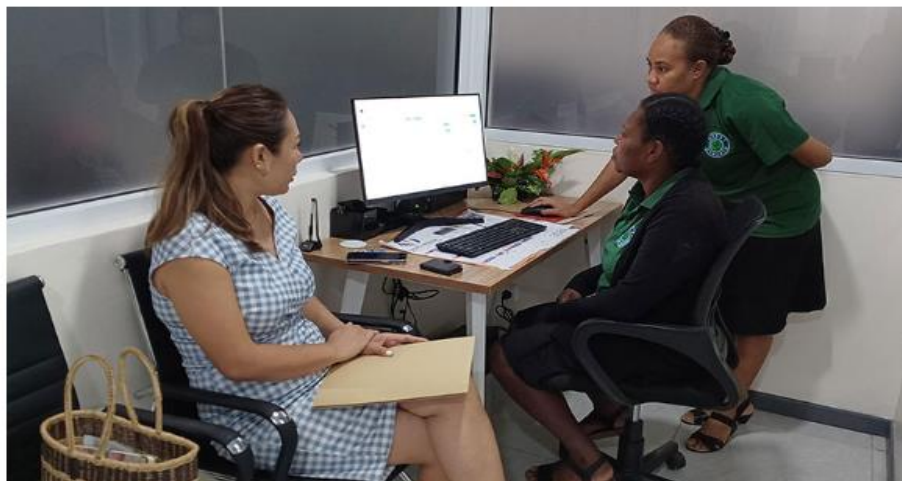
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# GOVERNMENT INVESTMENT PRIORITY SECTORS

- TOURISM (Resorts, Yachting Mariners, Boutiques)
- ENERGY ( WASTE MANAGEMENT, SOLAR RENEWABLE)
- AGRICULTURE/FORESTRY/LIVESTOCK/FISHERY – Value Adding Manufacturing
- ICT (Computer software, IT Solutions, E-commerce platform)
- EDUCATION (Universities, Training/Vocational Institutions)
- HEALTH CARE(Dialysis machine, X-Ray or CT Scan image)
- FINANCE( Banks, Insurance)
- AUDIO VISUAL(Integration of entertainment technology systems, content production in film, music or streaming, )
- INVESTMENT DIVERSIFICATION OF MAJORS SECTORS

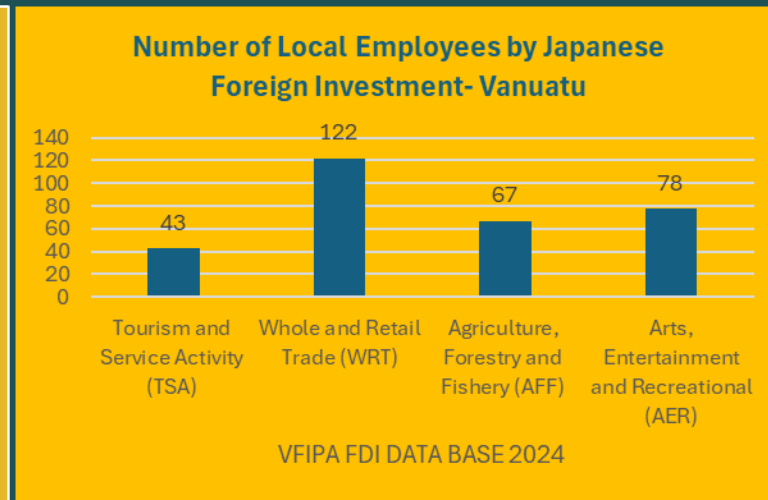
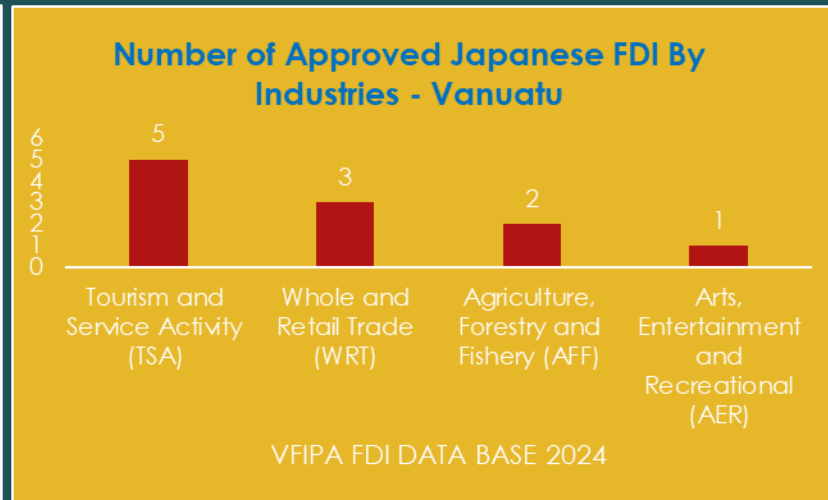
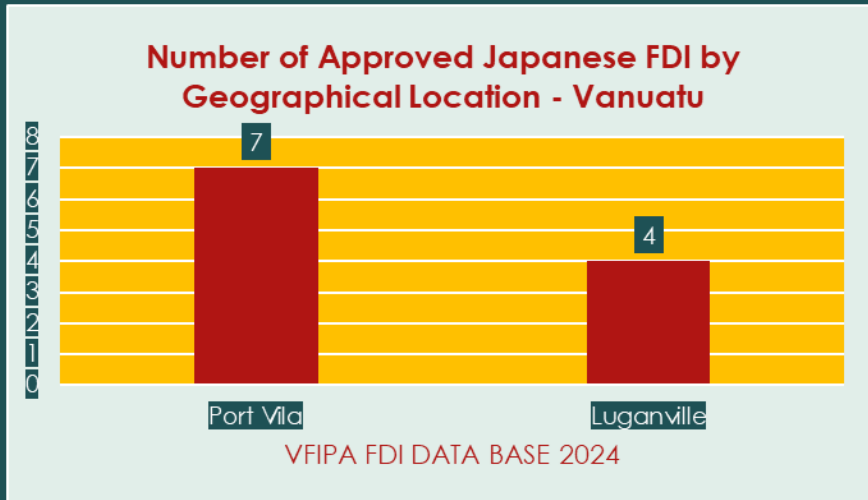
This emerging government sectors has shifted due to its importance in supporting the economic growth and also tapping into new FDI injection. The sector of Tourism, Wholesale Retail & Trade and Construction Services, which are contributing to the highest growth of the economic .This is also in line with the Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP), Pillar 3: Economy: Increase Trade & Investment opportunity. Ministry of Trade and Commerce (MTC) also signed a framework with the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fisheries and Biosecurity to work together in achieving economic independence for Vanuatu.

The Government of Vanuatu also undergoing a reform through Public Private Partnership (PPP) allowing the government to deliver development to the private sector. Vanuatu Investment Promotion Authority (VFIPA) and members of Vanuatu's Private Sector agreed on forming a Public Private Partnership (PPP).



# Investment between Vanuatu & Japan

Current FDI TREND REGISTERED BY VANUATU FOREIGN INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCY (VFIPA)



VFIPA FDI REGISTRY 2024



# Vanuatu Foreign Investment Promotion Agency (VFIPA) & Pacific Island Centre (PIC)

- VFIPA relationship with Pacific Island Centre (PIC) is recognise in the level of investment, trade and tourism with exchange of bilateral information to further boost the economic growth between the Vanuatu & Japan. This aims to strengthen investment or trade barriers and provide measure supporting sustainable development between the two country.
- The strategic partnership between VFIPA & PIC has been established throughout the recent years, and continued to maintained the strong collaborative. Through this collaborative network, VFIPA aim to see positive results, which is testament to turning FDI inquiries into real investment leads such as current investment project **“Delighting Everyone Project (DEP)”** by **Toshiba Corporation** currently doing trial demonstration in Malekula Island. This includes working with Japanese investors who show interest and wishes to invest in Vanuatu.
- VFIPA’s continuity of collaboration with Pacific Island Centre (PIC) is align to the long-term strategic objective in partnership strengthening with its strategic partners.





# The End of the Presentation

## Thank you for your kind attention!!!

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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