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# LAAV Newsletter

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**LOCAL AUTHORITY ASSOCIATION VANUATU**

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## New CEO for LAAV

On behalf of the members of LAAV, we would like to introduce and warmly welcome the new Chief Executive Officer of LAAV, Mr. Job Boe., who has began work in office on the 3rd of December, 2012. Job Boe is from the island of Ambae, in Penama Province. He was the former Secretary General for the Penama Provincial Government in the year 2008-2011. He has replaced former CEO, Mr. Michel Kalworai who had been reinstated as the Secretary General of Shefa Provin-

cial Government Council in August 2012. Michel was the first CEO, who established LAAV in August 2011, in agreement with VNG International.



New CEO, Mr. Job Boe



Former CEO, Mr. Michel Kalworai

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### Special points of interest:

- *LAAV CEO*
- *JICA sponsorship*
- *LAAV AGM*
- *TA visit to LAAV*

### Inside this issue:

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## JICA sponsors two provincial officers to Japan

Early this month of January, two Provincial Officers; Manson Taridena of Penama & Joseph Kalpeau were funded by JICA Programme to attend a training on “Community Based Development with Local residents, as main actors”,

for one month in Japan. LAAV facilitated the necessary arrangements which were in-country, while JICA met the outbound arrangements. LAAV CEO wishes to thank JICA for choosing the 2 individuals to undergo the train-

ing and also stated that all Provinces should be prepared, and encourage their members for a similar training later this year.



## LAAV farewells outgoing Chairman

LAAV farewelled the outgoing Chairman, Mr. Lami Sope at the Shefa Province, Farea Matnapuka on the 12th of March 2013. The ceremony was attended by the newly elected President of Shefa Province, Mr. Edward George, the Secretary General of Shefa Province, Mr. Michel Kalworai, the Acting Chairman of LAAV & also the Mayor of Luganville Municipal, Mr. Trevor Moli, CEO of LAAV, representative from the Department of the Local Authorities, Ms. Michelle Jonas and rest of the Shefa Provincial Staff. Deputy Chairman of LAAV, who is also the Mayor for Luganville Municipal, is the Acting Chair-

man of LAAV until the next AGM for LAAV in June, whereby the members will re-elect the new Chairman. Outgoing Chairman of LAAV; Mr. Lami Sope and Secretary General of Shefa Province, Michel Kalworai were the heads behind the location of its office next to the Shefa Tourism Office and the drafting of the Constitution of LAAV and its registration with the Vanuatu Financial Services Commission.

*Photo: Outgoing Chairman; Mr. Lami Sope receiving gift from Mayor of LMC, Mr. Trevor Moli*



## LAAV assists with shipping Products to Shefa Marobe market

LAAV was established to assist Local Government Associations in activities where central government is not able to provide in cases of emergencies; such as the case of shipping of animal and agricultural products for communities in Malampa Province to be sold at the Marobe Market in Shefa Province. In this case, the products have arrived but the farmers could not afford the shipping costs. Fortunately, LAAV had little funds available so when the need was communicated to the office, LAAV felt it had to step in to sort the

shipping costs out to avoid any delays that may have caused the products to lose their value after having been on the ship for the last several days. This is something LAAV is proud to have done for its members in a particular Local Government Authority.

*Photo: LAAV CEO, Job Boe (Left) hands over cheque to Kaltuk Mormor from Quarantine Dept.*



## TA visit to LAAV

Mr. Mark Dacombe came to Port Vila in August last year. Several courtesy visits were done during his short stay in terms of developing Advocacy, Lobbying and Communicating Strategies for LAAV with its partners; TVET, DLA, JICA, UN Women & Mr. Charlot Longwah, who is a Local Entrepreneur who runs trainings for local famers



*Michel. Kalworai, Mr. Charlot Longwah & Mark Dacombe in front of KAVA Store*

to use Solar Drier. LAAV plans to work alongside with its partners and Mr. Charlot Longwah in order to run more trainings for Local farmers to use Solar Driers for Value Added Products, such as Nangae, Tamarind, dried paw-paw, etc.



*LAAV team meeting with TVET Team Leader, & Staff*

## Events of 2012– Launching of LAAV a Success

Shefa Provincial Council hosted the In-inaugural meeting for the newly introduced LAAV- Local Authorities Association of Vanuatu which has an office in the Shefa Provincial Headquarters. It was held from the 26th-27th of June.

The Shefa Provincial President, Lami Sope launched the LAAV on behalf of all the Provincial Councils and Municipal Councils in the Shefa Conference room.

LAAV has a Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Michel Kalourai and an Administration officer, Alima Garae.

The meeting was attended by all the Local Government representatives of Tafea Province along with the Lord Mayor of Lenakel, President and Acting SG of Shefa and all their other counterparts from Malampa, Penama, Sanma and Torba.

The CEO and members also finalized and approved the Constitution and LAAV Corporate Plan 2012-2015. Newly elected Chairman and Executive members of LAAV are as follows:

Chairman– President of Shefa Province-Mr. Lami Sope

Deputy Chairman– Lord Mayor, Luganville Municipal Council-Mr. Trevor Moliva, CEO-Mr. Michel Kalworai, Finance/Admin.Officer -Alima Garae & Legal Officer– Mr. Frederick Loughman, VFSC.

The LAAV office was officially opened on the 27th of June by the Director of Local Authorities; Cherol Ala, Mr. Lami Sope and Mr. Paul Hakwa..

The next AGM will be hosted in Luganville, Santo by the Sanma Provincial Council and Luganville Municipal Council, next year **June**.



**Standing L-R;** Manuel Ure, John Willie, Michelle Jonas, Johnny Botleng, Reynold Surmat, Martine Mahe, Tom Nalau, CEO-Michel Kalourai, Kathy Napwatt, Edward Kaltamat

**Sitting L-R;** Shedrack Welegtatit, Joel Path, Reginal Tangap, CLGF-Akuila Masi, Trevor Moliva, Director DLA; Cherol Ala, Mr. Lami Sope, Paul Hakwa, Nako Natuman, Joe Massing

## ACP-EU confirms support for local authorities as Shefa takes lead

The Secretary General of ACP Group, Dr Mohamed Ibin Chambers and Assistant Secretary General of ACP Secretariat, Madame Michelle Dominique Raymond have confirmed their support for Local Authority Association of Vanuatu (LAAV), during a visit to Shefa Provincial Council headquarters in June last year.

Shefa Province is hosting the LAAV office and also takes the leading role in Vanuatu as well as the Pacific in its setting up. Acting

Vice President of Shefa stated in his speech, “I strongly recommend for the continuation support for local government developments for LAAV and it’s members, the Pacific and for the African, Caribbean, Pacific Local Government Programs (ACP-LGP). The continuation of such support programs will see establishment of more emerging local government associations in the Pacific like LAAV.

The ACP Group delegation was impressed on the warm welcome shown by the staff of

Shefa Province, but were even more surprised when the staff dressed them up with Vanuatu’s traditional dressing code to replace their “suits”. Vanuatu Ambassador to Europe, Roy Mickey Joy and his wife were among the official guests to Shefa Provincial Government.

## Local Authority Association Vanuatu

LAAV  
PO Box 3555  
Port Vila  
VANUATU

Phone/Fax: 26901  
Email: [laavadmin@vanuatu.com.vu](mailto:laavadmin@vanuatu.com.vu) OR  
[alima@laav.vu](mailto:alima@laav.vu)



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The Local Authorities Association of Vanuatu was established under the Charitable (Incorporations) Associations Act (Cap 140). Its main objectives are to provide a forum for Local Government to raise issues and problems common to Local Governments and seek best practice experiences and common solutions sourced locally and internationally. It is also aimed to lobby and advocate on behalf of Local Government in its dealings with other levels of government and promote Local Government as a respected level of Government in Vanuatu. The Association will support Local Authorities to improve their performance, operations and services through facilitating appropriate training, development and capacity building opportunities. It will also develop a sustainable financial base for the Local Authorities of Vanuatu.



## MEMBERS OF LAAV

LAAV has 9 members in total; 6 Provincial Councils and 3 Municipality Councils:

- 1) Torba Provincial Government Council
  - Secretary General– Mr. Reynold Surmat
- 2) Sanma Provincial Government Council
  - Secretary General– Mr. Joel Path
- 3) Malampa Provincial Government Council
  - Acting Secretary General– Mr. Edward Kaltamat
  - President– Hon. Willie Fred Tasso
- 4) Penama Provincial Government Council
  - Secretary General– Mr. Georgewin Garae
- 5) Shefa Provincial Government Council
  - Secretary General– Mr. Michel Kalworai

- 6) Tafea Provincial Government Council
  - President– Hon. Edward George
  - Secretary General– Mrs. Ketty Napwatt
  - President– Mr. Nako Natuman
- 7) Lenakel Municipal Council
- 8) Port Vila Municipal Council
  - Mayor– Mr. Ruben Olul
  - Town Clerk– Mr. Mandes Tangaras
- 9) Luganville Municipal Council
  - Mayor– Mr. Trevor Moliva
  - Town Clerk– Mr. Peter Sakita

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ 12th of February– Provincial Election
  - ◆ 21 of February– Lini Day
  - ◆ 12th of March– 1st LAAV Executive Meeting
  - ◆ 12th of March– Farewell of Outgoing Chairman
  - ◆ 29th March – Good Friday
  - ◆ 1st of April– Easter Monday
  - ◆ 2 April– 6th April– Albert Cerelala (FSPI) visits LAAV
  - ◆ 8th to 11th of April– TA—Bernard Weiner visit to LAAV & Donor Partners
  - ◆ 25-26th June– LAAV AGM
  - ◆ End of June-July- Mayor's Forum
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