

Business Advantage: Vanuatu



Business and
investment
opportunities in
Vanuatu

2008/9



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WELCOME TO

BUSINESS ADVANTAGE: VANUATU

Foreword by The Hon. **James Bule**
Minister for Trade, Business Development and Tourism
Government of the Republic of Vanuatu



The Vanuatu economy is currently growing at a formidable 7.2% (2006) on the back of strong growth in the key tourism sector. The economic outlook is also positive, with several well-known international companies establishing themselves in the country in 2007.

A strong track record in the area of governance has made Vanuatu the only Pacific Island country eligible for funding under the US Government's Millennium Challenge Account program. This recognition is not just a feather in our cap; the considerable funding it entails is enabling us to undertake large-scale infrastructure projects, thereby opening up new areas of the country to investment in agriculture and tourism. Vanuatu is also one of the lowest taxed countries in the world, with no income withholding or capital gain tax.

Political stability, continuing economic reform, social harmony and geographical proximity to Australia, New Zealand and New Caledonia also contribute to making Vanuatu a safe and attractive place to invest and, as the following pages demonstrate, the country offers many outstanding investment opportunities.

I therefore welcome this new edition of *Business Advantage: Vanuatu*. I trust it will increase international awareness of business and investment opportunities in Vanuatu and encourage readers to visit our beautiful islands to see for themselves what we have to offer.

BUSINESS ADVANTAGE: VANUATU, BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN VANUATU.

Business Advantage: Vanuatu is produced biennially to provide a guide to doing business in Vanuatu. It provides a reader-friendly overview of economic conditions, assesses business opportunities and imparts practical advice.

The publication is available in both magazine form and online (www.cmmc.com.au/vanuatu.shtml).

If you would like to obtain copies of the printed edition please email info@cmmc.com.au