



PAGE 4: B.1) YOUR CASE STORY: TITLE AND DESCRIPTION

Q1: TITLE OF CASE STORY

INTERCHANGE CABLE NETWORK – CONNECTING VANUATU TO THE WORLD

Q2: CASE STORY ABSTRACT

The Interchange Cable Network is a multi-million submarine cable project that connects Vanuatu via Fiji to the world. As a result of the project, prices of broadband internet have significantly dropped, by at least 70%, and are likely to drop further as demand for internet increases. Interchange Vanuatu Limited plans to install two more redundant cables, one to New Caledonia and the latter to Solomon Islands and one to Papua New Guinea.

Q3: LONG DESCRIPTION OF THE CASE STORY

The Interchange Cable Network is a multi-million submarine cable project that connects Vanuatu via Fiji to the world. The 1259km cable project is the first ever underwater cable to Vanuatu. The project is private-public partnership investment between Interchange Vanuatu Limited, a local telecommunication company, and the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu plus other stakeholders.

The total costs of installation and connection of the submarine cable was \$US30 million, in which the government committed through a pre-purchase agreement to the cable in support of the project. Since the arrival of the cable on 14 January 2014, all 4 major internet service providers were connected by April 2014, and users are now enjoying high speed internet like anywhere else in the developed world. In November 2014, the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator reported that prices of broadband internet have significantly dropped, by at least 70%, and are likely to drop further as demand for internet increases.

The Government's Universal Access Policy aims to connect 98% of just over 270,000 of Vanuatu's population, spread over 83 islands, to telecommunications services by 1 January 2018. The arrival of the cable is a contributing element to reaching this objective. Telecommunication services contribute to approximately 5% of Vanuatu's GDP, and the arrival of the submarine cable will boost dependent services such as Agriculture, Trade, Tourism, Finance, and others.

Interchange Vanuatu Limited plans to install two more redundant cables, one to New Caledonia and the latter to Solomon Islands and one to Papua New Guinea. The proposed new cable project will be ready for service by June 2016, in which Vanuatu will continue to be the competitive ICT/Telecommunications hub of the South Pacific region.

Q4: Please add here web links to project/programme materials.

Respondent skipped this question

PUBLIC SECTOR CASE STORY TEMPLATE

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Q5: YOUR CONTACT DETAILS	
Name:	Jackson Miake via Willie Luen and Gaute Eielson
Ministry/Institution/Organization:	Office of the Government Chief Information Officer, Prime Minister's Office via Trade Development Division, Ministry of Tourism, Trade, Commerce and Ni-Vanuatu Business
Country:	Vanuatu
Email Address:	jmiake@vanuatu.gov.vu;wluen@vanuatu.gov.vu;geielsen@vanuatu.gov.vu
Q6: FUNCTION	Public sector
Q7: FUNDING PARTNER Tick the appropriate box(es)	Bilateral donor, Other (please specify) Interchange Vanuatu Limited, a local telecommunication company, and the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu provided funding. Bilateral grants from Australia via direct budget support.
Q8: Additional information	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q9: START DATE OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q10: STATUS OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME	On-going
Q11: DURATION OR, IF ON-GOING, EXPECTED DURATION OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME	More than 5 years
Q12: COST OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME	More than US\$20 million
Q13: Additional information	
The total costs of installation and connection of the submarine cable was \$US30 million.	
Q14: TYPE OF FUNDING FOR PROJECT/PROGRAMME	Grant

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Q15: PROJECT/PROGRAMME TYPE

Single country / customs territory

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Q16: SINGLE COUNTRY/CUSTOMS TERRITORY

VANUATU

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Q17: REGION(If the region does not appear in the drop down menu, please enter manually.)

Pacific Islands

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Q18: MULTI-COUNTRY(Enter all countries or customs territories)

Respondent skipped this question

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Q19: CASE STORY FOCUSTick the appropriate box(es)

Upgrading network infrastructure (ICT, power, telecoms)

REDUCING TRADE COSTS FOR SERVICES

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Q20: HOW SUCCESSFUL WAS THE PROJECT/PROGRAMME Tick the appropriate box(es)

Very successful

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Q21: WHAT WERE THE OUTPUTS OF THE PROJECT/PROGRAMME Tick the appropriate box(es)	New network infrastructure (e.g. broadband), Services sector skills, Other (please specify) Capacity building training of 10 local engineers at Alcatel Lucent HQ in Paris in 2013.
Q22: Additional information(maximum 300 words)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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Q23: WHAT WERE THE OUTCOMES OF YOUR PROJECT/PROGRAMME Tick the appropriate box(es)	Reduction in consumer prices, Increase in broadband coverage, Reduction in broadband cost, Increase in data traffic, Reduction in data transfer cost
Q24: Additional information(maximum 300 words)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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Q25: WHAT WERE THE IMPACTS OF THE PROJECT/PROGRAMME Tick the appropriate box(es)	Increase in domestic investment, Increase in foreign investment, Increase in employment, Increase in consumer welfare
Q26: Additional information(maximum 300 words)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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Q27: LESSONS LEARNT Tick the appropriate box(es)	Importance of alignment with national priorities, Importance of alignment between different development partners in programming , Importance of engagement by private sector, Importance of political will and commitment by project partner
Q28: Additional information(maximum 300 words)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q29: PROJECT OR PROGRAMME MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK Tick the appropriate box(es)	Project baselines set, Impact assessment