



MINISTRY OF TOURISM,  
TRADE, COMMERCE AND  
NI-VANUATU BUSINESS

# Vanuatu Electronic Single Window Project Monthly newsletter

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## IN THIS EDITION:

- TRBR Type Approval to be the next VeSW module
- ODS Permit write-off implemented
- Benefits of the Energy Efficient Appliances module
- EIF Approves extension of VeSW Project
- VeSW creating partnerships
- Vanuatu digitization of Customs processes paying dividends
- Vanuatu presents at the UNCTAD Global Forum

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MARCH

1. Development of Type approval module system requirements
2. Deployment of ASYCUDA-CDS interface prototype
3. Development of the ASYREC module

## TRBR Type Approval to be the next VeSW module



*The Type Approval Regulation allows for the importation of equipment that only conform to international standards*

The Project team and UNCTAD have agreed that the next Single Window (VeSW) module to be developed would be the Type Approval module, to be used by the Telecommunications Radiocommunications and Broadcasting Regulator (TRBR).

The purpose of the module is to facilitate the application and processing of permits for the importation of Radiocommunication and Telecommunication Terminal Equipment (RTTE). Only RTTE's that conform with the international standards can be imported into Vanuatu. Currently this process is done manually.

RTTE's that don't conform with the standards do not only cause interference or damage to radio and telco networks, but also to the environment and the general public. TRBR's role is therefore to ensure that only conformed RTTE's are imported into Vanuatu.

Similar to past VeSW modules, the Type Approval module will also be linked to Customs clearance to ensure only RTTE's with permits are being imported into Vanuatu. [See TRBR's website.](#)

It was decided that the Type Approval module would be the next VeSW module because the business process is quite similar to other modules that have been successfully deployed in the VeSW system. The same framework and solution can therefore be applied to the Type Approval module which would hasten the development time.

The Project will now commence working with team TRBR in March to document all the permit processes and gather the system requirements before the module development can commence.

The Type Approval will be the 5th module to be developed in the VeSW system. It was initially not listed in the original Project plan, however thanks to the EIF and Government's extension approval of the Project into 2022, the team can now include this important work in the Project activities.

Once completed, the next VeSW module to be developed in 2022 will be the Industry concession module.

## ODS Permit write-off implemented

The ultimate goal of having Regulatory agencies using the same system as Customs is to allow for all the regulatory requirements to be electronically linked to Customs at the point of clearance; any goods that arrive in the country without the regulatory requirements available in the system will not complete Customs clearance.

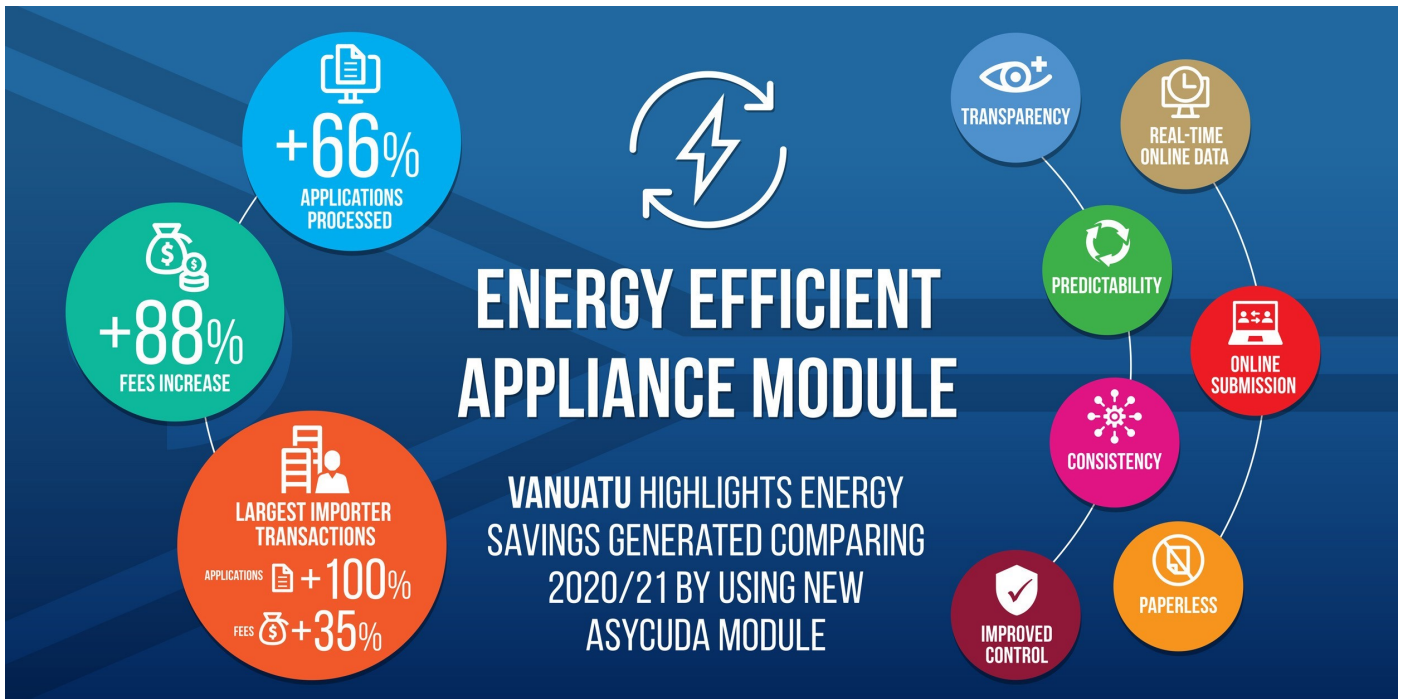
Since the launching of the ODS module on 1st of December 2021, UNCTAD experts and the Project team have been working on the write-off mechanism which eventually went live on 2nd February 2022. This process was always conducted manually in the past, so you can just imagine the loopholes, the risks and the administrative burden of maintaining such a control.

With this development, no ODS refrigerant or appliance can now enter the country without the system demanding the importer to ensure the appropriate ODS requirements are processed and available in the system at the point of clearance. The control is therefore more enhanced than ever before.



Customs Officials conducting tests of refrigerant products at the border

## Benefits of the Energy Efficient Appliances module



Since its implementation in April 2021, the Department of Energy and its stakeholders have been fully utilizing the Energy Efficient (EE) Appliance module to facilitate the application and processing of EE certificates. The benefits are obvious as displayed in the above snapshot. The module has also brought about enhanced controlled at the border by ensuring that only Energy Efficient appliances (with valid certificates) can be cleared from Customs. These same level of benefits are being experienced by the other agencies using the Single Window system, including Customs.

# EIF Approves extension of VeSW Project



## Enhanced Integrated Framework

**“The Vanuatu Government is grateful to the EIF for this second No Cost Extension.”**

Following the request by the Vanuatu Government, through its National Trade Facilitation Steering Committee, the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) has agreed for a second No-Cost-Extension (NCE) of the VeSW Project to December 2022.

The rationale for the NCE is

to give the Project and its implementing partner, UNCTAD, the opportunity to complete the Project activities as well as the additional activities identified for this extension.

EIF has also agreed to this NCE because it recognizes “the importance of the project towards the Vanuatu’s trade facilitation process, the successes to date and with funding availability (unspent funds)”

The first extension that the

EIF has agreed for the VeSW Project was for 2021, due to unfinished activities caused by the global pandemic. The initial project period was for 2019 - 2020.

EIF is the main donor partner for the VeSW Project besides the Australian Government under its Governance for Growth program.

The Vanuatu Government is grateful to EIF for this second No-Cost-Extension, and to the Australian Government for its ongoing support.

**“VeSW System has allowed agencies, Customs and Stakeholders to work more collaboratively than ever before”**

## VeSW system creating partnerships

The one major achievement of electronically connecting regulatory agencies and Customs in the one single system is it allows agencies to work more collaboratively than ever before.

The sharing of information from the regulatory require-

ments to Customs clearance in the VeSW system means that these agencies can now talk the same language with Customs and its stakeholders, which as a result, allows trade to be better regulated and facilitated.

This level of connectivity has

furthermore allowed the regulatory agencies to work in partnership with Customs Brokers. The recent meetings between the Environment National Ozone Unit, Customs Brokers and Traders on 24th February is an example of such partnerships.



Customs Brokers and Importers during their recent meeting with the NOU (Pics. [NOU Facebook page](#))

Vanuatu “electronic single window system is one of the most technologically advanced among the Pacific Island nations” Radio New Zealand:

# Vanuatu digitisation of customs processes paying dividends

From **Pacific Waves**, 6:01 am on 4 February 2022

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Customs authorities in Vanuatu say the early digitisation and streamlining of their border processes is paying dividends for the country's trade amid the pandemic.

All of the Pacific Island country's imports and exports are done online through a customised electronic single window system that is one of the most technologically advanced among the Pacific Island nations.

The manager of the project Stanley Trief joins me now.

## Vanuatu presents at the UNCTAD Global Forum



Chairperson of the Vanuatu TFSC, Mr. Harold Tarosa, giving his presentation

Due to Vanuatu's success story in having one of the most active Trade Facilitation Steering Committee (TFSC) in the region, we were fortunate to be invited to present at the UNCTAD Global Forum 2022 for National Trade Facilitation Committees.

The Chairman of Vanuatu's TFSC, Mr. Harold Tarosa was given the honor to present on behalf of Vanuatu.

Furthermore, since the VeSW project is one of the main activities under the TFSC's, Manager VeSW Project was also invited to present on Vanuatu's electronic Single Window Project.

Both the Chairman and Manager, joined speakers from around the globe, to share Vanuatu's experience. The event was viewed live by hundreds of audience worldwide. Certainly a great publicity opportunity of the work we do here in Vanuatu. The event can be viewed [here](#).

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For past editions of this Newsletter, please click on the [Newsletter link](#) on the [Single Window website](#).

The overall objective of the Vanuatu Electronic Single Window project is to expand Vanuatu's GDP through increased exports

The project outcome is to increase Vanuatu's competitiveness

through the reduction of cost and time of trading across its borders.

The Project is kindly funded by the Enhanced Integrated Framework

(EIF) and the Australian Government. The Vanuatu Government is

also providing in-kind contribution towards the project, in terms of personnel and ICT support.

The main implementing partner in the Project is United Nations for Trade and Development, UNCTAD.



Enhanced  
Integrated  
Framework



UNITED NATIONS  
UNCTAD

