# Rensarie UAP BB Pilot Project Current status and the Phase out of the Pilot Project

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OGCIO Industry Roundtable

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# Topics to be Covered

❖ Introduction

❖ Objectives of the UAP Rensarie Broadband Pilot Project

❖ Current Status and phase-out of the Rensarie UAP BB Pilot Project towards self-sustainability

❖ Deliverables of the final phase

# Introduction

❖ Under the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulation Act 2009, Section 17(1) states "the Minister must develop a policy for improving access to telecommunications service for locations which are not or not adequately served by existing services".

❖ Section 17 of the Act outlines universal access matters and obligations in general, including the UAP.

# Introduction

❖ In 2010, GoV through MoE and MoH selected two High Schools (Rensarie College in Malekula and College de Melsisi in Pentecost), and two Health Centres (Nebul in Ambrym and South West Bay in Malekula), to pilot Broadband Internet access in rural areas.

❖ For a range of reasons, in 2011, the Minister for Telecommunications (MIPU) decided to trial Rensarie only – See COM 89/2011.

# Objectives of the UAP Rensarie BB Pilot Project

❖ Use the Pilot project as a case study for consideration for possible future Broadband Internet connectivity projects for wider application in rural and remote areas of Vanuatu.

❖ Promote and encourage the implementation of rural community ICT services that can contribute to the enhancement of the quality of life of people in rural areas through societal applications; particularly through self-sustainability.

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# Objectives of the UAP Rensarie BB Pilot Project

❖ Stimulate the uptake and demand of Internet access services in the community.

❖ Promote the availability of quality services at just, reasonable, and affordable rates.

❖ Encourage the introduction of ICT's in educational and programs and curricula.

❖ Support GoV in its achievement of its vision of "ICT for All".

❖ Evaluate lessons learnt for future UAP projects.

# Current Status of the Final Phase of Rensarie UAP BB Pilot Project

❖ The 12 months pilot period began on 1$^{st}$ December 2011 and ended on 30$^{th}$ November 2012.

❖ Main stakeholders (OGCIO, the Ministry of Telecommunications and TRR) agreed to extend the pilot; with a phase out of 30$^{th}$ November 2013.

❖ Ownership of assets and operations of the Telecentre have been transferred by Incite to Rensarie College (RC) to manage it on behalf of the Rensarie Community.

❖ The final phase is intended to assist the transition and phase-out of the pilot to a self-sustainable operation.

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# Current Status of the Final Phase of Rensarie UAP BB Pilot Project

❖ The phase out provides for the Rensarie Telecentre to become substantially self-sustainable from Q3 2013.

❖ Agreement between TRR and RC was signed, effective on 1st December 2012. It outlined responsibilities of both parties during the phase out.

❖ TRR granted a license exception (pursuant to Section 14(1) of the Act) to RC for the provision of internet services to the community during the phase out of this pilot.

# Deliverables of the final phase

❖ TRR Key deliverables are to:

  ❑ Support Rensarie College in providing public broadband internet access to the local community, including the College and Health Centre.

  ❑ Assist in business development towards achievement of a fully self-sustainable model by 30th November 2013.

  ❑ Facilitate training to support areas such as technical, financial management, basic marketing skills.

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# Deliverables of the final phase

- ❖ TRR Key deliverables (continued):
  - ❑ Provide case study experience on rolling out broadband services to areas that are not currently served, or are underserved by existing services.
  - ❑ Ensure technical and IT support facilities are available.
  - ❑ TRR will actively monitor the phase out.
  - ❑ Assist in stimulating uptake and demand of internet access services in the community.
- ❖ TRR will undertake a 6 month review and develop a final Report.

# Pictorial Arrangement of the pilot Project

Rensarie Telecentre Facility

Rensarie Telecentre

512 kbps DL/128 kbps UL Bandwidth

Telecom Licensee

Community Users

Radio Link

Radio Link

Limit

Rensarie Health Centre

Rensarie College

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