



Grant Application Form

For the Internet Café Support (ICS) Program:

To assist in establishing public Internet access points, making access to the Internet effectively available to the residents of Vanuatu

A Government of Vanuatu program has been established to provide funds for up to 10 local businesses in rural and underserved communities to build Internet Cafes. These Internet Cafes will provide communities with access to computers and a WIFI network both connected to the Internet.

This program is funded by DFAT through its Australia-Vanuatu Governance for Growth (GFG) Program. Policy guidance is provided by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) in the Prime Minister's Office. The implementation of the program will be through the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications regulator (TRR).

This program is a pilot program, and is intended to aid up to 10 businesses in their quest to provide customers with Internet access.

Under the Internet Café Support Program, local businesses can apply for a one time grant for an amount up to 1 million Vatu and use these funds to add an Internet Café component to their business. The funds **MUST** be utilized for only this purpose.

It is important to note that no on-going funding after the initial grant will be provided. The following lists of types of business are encouraged to apply. This list is not exclusive, as a case can be made for other types not covered:

- Community Cooperatives
- General Stores
- Specialty Shops (Grocery, Fish market, Electronics, etc.)
- Restaurants
- Bungalows
- Existing internet café businesses who wish to expand to rural and remote communities
- Etc..

The business owner and employees will need to do the following important items to make the project work:

- Provide a detailed business plan showing how you plan to pay for ongoing Internet service, equipment service and replacement of broken equipment. Note that one way money can be raised is from increased business due to the internet service being offered as an amenity.
- Provide a schedule for when you will offer internet service for sale to community.
- Raise awareness in your community about the use of the internet and provide a report on relative interest of your local community.
- Provide a plan for how you will personally use the internet to help your business.
- Raise funds or secure a loan to purchase any materials not covered by this grant, but needed to complete your Internet Café Program.
- Report regularly to TRR on the progress of the project, what is working and what did not work, and evaluate the successes and failures of the implementation.

The following is a short list of the required items that can be purchased by the grant funds, your business funds, or a combination of both. Note that businesses that can raise a substantial portion of the funds required will be highly rated:

- An active Internet connection including modem, router, antenna, and WIFI Access Point
- A secure place to use and store equipment that is also safe from the elements (rain, salt spray, humidity, heat, etc...)
- 2 or more computers to access the Internet for community members without their own laptop. These computers can be laptops or desktops. There is no maximum number of laptops, but your business plan must justify the number, and it is expected that more than 6 with 2-3 spares would have to be very carefully justified.
- Power for all the above in the form of generator power (with a proper regulator, grounding, regular fuel suppliers, fuel storage facilities, etc...) or solar power (with a proper Pure Sign wave Inverter or alternative reliable and market proven solution)
- Fan(s) for proper room ventilation, to keep hot air from building up around the above equipment.
- Office space and amenities including photo copier and scanner

If you are *seriously interested* in the Internet Café Support Program to obtain money for your business, fill in the ICS Application form and send it to TRR, at the following contact information, before: **4:00 pm on Friday, 18th of July, 2014.**

Grant Application Forms (UAP)
Telecommunications & Radiocommunications Regulator
P.O. Box 3547
Port Vila
Vanuatu
Tel: 27621 Fax: 27440 Email: almawensi@trr.vu or jeffreytila@trr.vu

The application process for these grants will be as follows:

1. Proposals will be evaluated for their quality and likelihood of success
2. Those 10 or so successful applicants rated highest will be asked to discuss and negotiate a final plan, and sign a contract covering the project
3. Awards will be made and the execution phase will begin
4. Unsuccessful applications will be kept on file in case additional funds become available in the future.

To begin the process, please fill out the application form attached.

SCORING

The Grant Review Committee (GRC) made up of the Telecommunications and Radiocommunications Regulator (TRR), the Government Chief Information Officer (OGCIO) and the Director to the Australian Governance for Growth (GfG) program in Vanuatu will evaluate all applications and select successful beneficiaries. Applications will be evaluated based on likelihood of success from assessing the criteria outlined below. (Note that these criteria may change depending on the responses):

Demonstrated level of commitment from business owner and staff:	25%
Percentage of grant funds matched with funds raised by your business:	25%
Likelihood of long term, sustainable success:	25%
Access to staff trained in computers, power, maintenance and operations:	15%
Demonstrated interest in developing local educational and cultural content in local languages and in Bislama:	10%
Total:	100%

Applications may be reviewed in terms of their distribution around the islands and distribution in terms of high, medium and low levels of difficulty, to allow for equal access to this opportunity and to ensure a high level of success. We encourage all types businesses to apply for this grant and exclude no one from consideration. It is anticipated that some pilot businesses will be chosen from very remote areas, some from somewhat remote areas, and some from areas not too far from urban centers.

You may contact TRR for assistance with questions and comments on this form, before the deadline.

Thanks and good luck!