

Forestry Professionals in [Vanuatu]

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Restoring forests and landscapes to secure Australia's future
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Snapshot of forestry and forestry professionals

Area of forest

- Dense forest - 772,212 ha,
- Open forest - 122,937 ha.
- Forest plantations - 2,526 ha. (subject to change once planted forest inventory is completed)

Number of forestry professionals

- In Government Sector - 43
- In Private Sector - 13
- Other Such as NGO - 5

Snapshot of forestry and forestry professionals

Value of forestry [provide brief details of main uses of forests (e.g. types of timber products, annual volumes harvested, annual areas reforested, contribution of forestry to economy, environment and social/cultural values)]

- 95% of households rely on forest products
- Forest provide a range of goods and services and have been the source of life for the people of Vanuatu for many generations.
- Forest Products, include non-wood forest products continue to support livelihood
- The multi-faceted contribution of the sector to broader development contributing to social and economic wellbeing

Sandalwood Fees Breakdown	Quantity	Cost (VT)	Total (VT)	AUS Dollar
Sandalwood License Fee	200,000	134	26,000,000	328,508.58
Export Permit Fee	200,000	20	2,000,000	25,262.99
Forest Management Charge	200,000	50	10,000,000	126,314.99
Sandalwood Royalty paid to Sandalwood Farmers (on Average)	200,000	2,000	400,000,000	5,050,909.30
Value of Sandalwood Export (On Average) New Money into the Country	200,000	4,000	800,000,000	10,101,818.60
Total Value Generated			1,238,000,000	15,659,548.90

Status of National Association for forestry professionals

- Vanuatu Foresters' Association started (registered) as a civil society organization in 2013
- Registration (constitution, logo, governance structure) It is an organization registered with the Vanuatu Financial Services Commission and with the Vanuatu Association of Non-Government Organizations (VANGO)
- VFA has a chairman, a vice chair and 9 other executive members inclusive of secretaries and treasurers and ordinary executive members.
- It has over 40 individual members both within the government service and from the civil society.
- Its activities include:
 - assisting communities to adapt to climate change impacts and building their resilience to such impacts;
 - Promoting sustainable forestry and environmental management to rural communities
 - Provide an independent view to the government and the general populace on forestry related issues
 - Exchange information on forestry matters with other institutions as well as with the general public

Priorities for enhancing the professional development of forestry professionals

- Change of Name Vanuatu Foresters Association to Vanuatu Network of Forestry Professional
- Build a strong network and relationship between Vanuatu Foresters
- Capacity Building
- Establish and Strengthen the institution – Office Space, Full time workers Office
- Forestry Scholarships

Opportunities for enhancing professional skills and capacities through the Pacific Network of Forestry Professionals

- Sharing access to information and training resources,
- Mentoring programs, Exchange and Study Tour,
- Support for local training activities
- Projects to promote sustainable forest management

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