



V-LAB CARRIES ON WITH ITS ACTIVITIES!

In those difficult times, V-Lab feels grateful and specially motivated. Together we are stronger.

V-Lab has chosen to look at innovative and alternative ways to respond to the many challenges posed by Covid-19. It has done so by, inter alia:

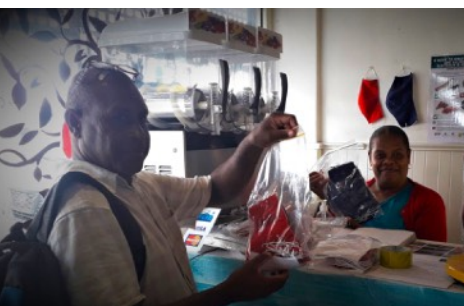


-Supporting Mamma's Laef in the production of Protective 3 layers face masks. Locally made and re-usable! The masks are on sale at ACTIV shop in town.

-Partnering with UNDP to release a Call for social impact enterprises and innovative solutions targeting social and economic challenges raised by Covid-19.



Through this 'Covid-19 Pacific Response: Sustainable Livelihoods Challenge', UNDP and V-Lab will identify and support at least six projects with grants of up to US\$10,000 and technical advisory services.

Pilot stage of the Challenge is open for Fiji and Vanuatu .




-Promoting low-tech solutions to reduce the health impact of Covid-19:

Under the auspices of V-Lab and with the support of Next Limited, a group of people (medical staff, industrials, teachers etc.) were gathered to look at the possibility of developing homemade medical products to prevent the spread of Covid-19 and reduce its medical consequences should it arrive in Vanuatu. With the support of the Lycée Français de Port Vila and the Medical Centre , a face shield prototype was produced! Further work is currently underway to try developing a ventilator.



V-LAB
BUSINESS INCUBATOR



Call for Applications
COVID-19 LIVELIHOODS
RESPONSE CHALLENGE

WHAT IS IT?

100% online Pacific Innovation Challenge - a call to develop new or existing social impact projects that address the socio-economic impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
A UNDP Inclusive Growth initiative in collaboration with Solevaka - Pacific SDGs engagement platform, UNDP Accelerator Lab, and V-Lab Incubator.

WHOM IS IT FOR?

Innovators and social entrepreneurs with local solutions;
First stage of the call is open for Fiji and Vanuatu.

WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

Business development fund up to US\$10k and technical advisory support.

HOW TO TAKE PART?

See details and apply by May 10:
solevaka.org/PacificResponse

Create an account on Solevaka to gain full access to advice on application, innovation & social entrepreneurship resources and chat with organizers in the Pacific Response community.
Contact: info@solevaka.org



Accompany, Improve, Influence



V-Lab is about connecting people. V-Lab is the way to go.

In between workshops, coaching sessions, and the pleasant visit of Port Vila Lord Mayor Eric Puyo Festa, V-LAB is currently developing two high potential projects:

- First project aims at **raising awareness of the students of the Vanuatu National University on innovation and entrepreneurship**, with the long term goal of a successful professional integration.

An introductory meeting with all students took place on May 20th and a further support program (series of trainings, meetings with local entrepreneurs, individual interviews with the V-Lab team) will be implemented for those who have an entrepreneurial project. A jury will then select the best projects!

- In parallel, **V-Lab is also looking at engaging with seasonal workers**: Through a partnership with DFAT and the Department of Labor which is currently being designed, V-Lab will identify high potential business projects among current and former seasonal workers in Australia and New-Zealand. An analysis of entrepreneurial interest will be produced (through online applications which will be compiled into a report and database) and a roster of potential entrepreneurs will be established for possible support in a second phase.

THE COACH OF THE MONTH



HAZEL KIRKHAM

"I HAVE BEEN LIVING AND WORKING IN VANUATU SINCE 2017. MY PARTNER CHRIS AND I RUN **BREADFRUIT CONSULTING**. WE HELP BUSINESSES AND ORGANISATIONS, HERE IN VANUATU, IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS AND IN FIJI, TO IMPROVE RESULTS BY IMPROVING PERFORMANCE. WE OFFER ADVICE, COACHING AND TRAINING AND SINCE THE COVID-19 CRISIS, WE'RE DOING SOME OF THAT ONLINE. CREATIVE THINKING IS SOMETHING WE ARE ALWAYS ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO DO, TO PUSH BEYOND WHAT THEY HAVE ALWAYS DONE, TO FIND NEW WAYS OF DOING THINGS. I ENJOY COACHING YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS BECAUSE ALTHOUGH THEY LACK EXPERIENCE, THEY HAVE HUGE AMOUNTS OF ENTHUSIASM AND ENERGY FOR DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE IDEAS THAT WILL BRING NEW PRODUCTS AND SERVICES TO THE MARKETPLACE, CREATE NEW EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, AND STRENGTHEN THE ECONOMIES OF THEIR COUNTRIES."



LEARN ABOUT THE V-LAB INCUBEES' PROJECTS



Who is the happily married couple behind **Mamma's Laef**? **Mary & Jack Kalsrap** in Pango Village of course! **Mamma's Laef** consists in providing a locally made, eco-friendly alternative to disposable (plastic) hygiene products. They use a holistic approach, from manufacture (sewing reusable menstrual pads for women and girls) to distribution and discussion: awareness raising. They are currently employing women who never had stable income before and who are now gaining in skills, independence and confidence. **Mary & Jack** are establishing a connection with communities and identifying all their needs. They both wish to empower women by providing sustainable menstrual products and breaking the taboo about menstruation.



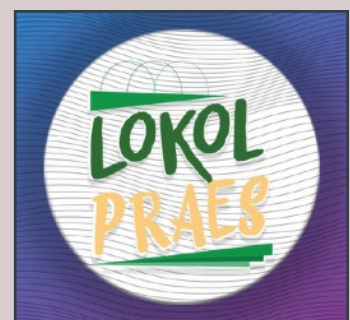
Marie-Rose Malror & Jean-Marcellin Teilemb are working on **Homestay Vanuatu**. Their friendly project consists in promoting local homestay Vanuatu business, especially in rural areas, through a portal site. Rooms fitted out by individuals within their property shall be made available for tourists. It would be a real opportunity for locals as well as for visitors to discover the region from a new angle. All actors may be involved in social activities and traditional practises, and at term in social development programs. **Marie-Rose & Jean** wish to support the local economy as well as to promote green tourism. They are mainly focusing on the marketing strategy of this project included in The Vanuatu Tourism Department Business Plan.



GPS Vanuatu Dotcom was founded by **Roy Harry** who is a professionally trained electrician and a proven leader.

After he took part in the seasonal workers program picking fruit for one season in Australia, **Roy** felt inspired and decided to start his business supplying, installing and monitoring GPS trackers for vehicles, boats and pets. **Roy's** objective for his company is to become the best value GPS Tracking & Fleet management business in Vanuatu.

He wishes to expand his services from Efate to the outer islands, while staying up to date with the latest technology.



Lokol Praes was created and developed by **Vincent Mark** who is only 29 and self employed. He has experience in Sales and marketing managing, as well as in graphic designing.

Vincent is currently running a digital marketing company and wishes to set up an online selling site which can help businesses to advertise and to sell their products for customers located inside and outside Vanuatu. **Vincent** wants to help small mobile shops to showcase their products on this platform, as well as to cut down the cost of travelling.

TRAINING : COMPLETED
WORKSHOPS DURING
THE PAST MONTHS

➤ WHAT IS
ENTREPRENEURSHIP?
➤ ENTREPRENEURSHIP
: ASSETS AND DEFICITS
CONDUCTED BY MARC-
ANTOINE MOREL

➤ COMMUNICATION &
ELEVATOR PITCH
CONDUCTED BY VANINA
GALLONI WEBER, FROM
NEXT LIMITED

➤ MARKET ANALYSIS
AND FEASIBILITY
STUDIES
CONDUCTED BY ROB
MACALISTER, FROM
SAVVY VANUATU