The Role of the Private Sector
The Vanuatu Private Sector Landscape

From 1,903 businesses in 2010 to 4,274 in 2019

Data source: Vanuatu Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Vanuatu’s Employment Landscape Before COVID-19

Figure 3. Working-age population, labour force and employment Vanuatu, 2019

- Working-age population: 183,460
- Labour force: 92,177
  - Employed: 84,859
  - Unemployed: 7,317
    - Time-related underemployment: 13,627
- Outside the labour force: 91,283
  - Potential labour force: 9,042
  - Other outside the labour force: 84,242

Source: NSDP Baseline Survey.
Since March 2020, the private sector has reported:

- 3,000 job losses in accommodation & food services
- 41% job loss in other services
- The industry sector had an initial stumble due to delays in construction projects

The GoV have invested Vt4B in productive sectors which have high self employment.

Pre-COVID-19:

During COVID-19:

Source: Vanuatu HIES 2019
% fall in revenue and FT workers during COVID-19, by sector 2020

Source: Vanuatu Chamber of Commerce & Industry 2020
Vanuatu’s Compounded Vulnerabilities & Recovery Pathways
Vanuatu’s GDP Trajectory 2011-2020

GDP Growth (annual %)

Source: World Bank
What Might The Future Hold For Vanuatu’s Private Sector?
IFC Private Sector Programs Amid The Pandemic

- PPPs
- Pacific Islands Investment Forum and provident funds
- Bridging infrastructure gaps, in relation to climate resilient infrastructure
- Supporting a recovery-oriented private sector enabling environment
- Working with commercial banks to improve access to appropriate financing for SMEs