



Initiatives, Achievements and Challenges in 3R and Circular Economy in Vanuatu

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Introduction

- National frameworks
- Brief overview of 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) and Circular Economy.
- Importance of these concepts for Vanuatu in addressing environmental challenges and promoting sustainability.
- Challenges/Wayforward

Policy framework

- Nation Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP)
- MOCC Corporate Plan – Ministry of Climate Change
- National Environment Policy and Implementation Plan (NEPIP)
- National Waste Management and Implementation Plan (NWMIP)
- National Chemical Safety Policy
- National Maritime and Oceans Policy

Legal framework

- Existing legislations/ subsidiary legislation
 - I. Environmental Protection and Conservation Act (EPC Act)
 - II. Waste Management Act
 - III. Pollution Control Act
 - IV. Waste Management regulations orders no. 15, 16 & 17
- Propose legislations/Subsidiary Legislation
 - I. Chemical Safety Act
 - II. Product Stewardship Scheme (PSS)
 - III. Container Deposit Regulation

Vanuatu's Commitment to 3Rs and Circular Economy

- Vanuatu's policy direction on waste management and circular economy.
- Integration of 3R principles in the National Waste Management and Pollution Control Strategy and Implementation Plan & NBSAP.
- Role of the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC).

Implementation of 3Rs in Vanuatu

- The 2018 ban on single-use plastics (plastic bags, straws, and polystyrene containers) – Reg order No. 15, 16 & 17.
- Support Private sectors with recycling programs
- Establishment of the first composting site in Vanuatu in 2022.
- Community and stakeholder involvement.

Implementation Outcome

Banned items



Enco friendly packaging bags



Asycuda Vanuatu



Implementation outcome

Use refillable bottles



Reusable bags



Addressing Circular Economy Principles

- Development of the legal framework for Product Stewardship Scheme.
- Introduction of the Container Deposit Scheme to encourage recycling of beverage containers.
- Partnerships with businesses to promote recycling and sustainable practices.
 - a. Case Study: Vanuatu Environmental Science Society (VESS) recycling programs.
 - b. Introduction of the composting site
 - c. SPREP pilot project on oil refinery facility.
 - d. Expected outcomes: Increased recycling rates, job creation, and reduced litter.

Challenges and Opportunities

- Key challenges in implementing 3Rs and Circular Economy:
 - Limited infrastructure.
 - Public awareness and behavioural change.
 - Financial constraints.
- Opportunities for future improvement:
 - Expanding the Product Stewardship Scheme.
 - Promoting eco-friendly businesses.
 - Capacity building and education programs.

Way Forward

- Strengthening legal frameworks and policies.
- Community education and engagement.
- Developing new waste management infrastructure.
- Partnerships with regional and international organizations.

Conclusion

- Summary of Vanuatu's progress in 3Rs and Circular Economy.
- Importance of continued efforts for environmental sustainability.
- Call for collaboration between government, private sector, and communities