

## **Vanuatu - VANGO CSO High Level Political Forum 2024**

**Statement Theme:** Building Resilience and Accelerating Progress Through Local Empowerment.

### **1. Climate Change Impact in Vanuatu and Vulnerability to Disasters**

Vanuatu is one of the world's most at-risk countries from natural disasters, with a 56.8% likelihood of a disaster occurring every year in the country. This risk is only going to increase as the climate heats and sea levels rise.

What is the Vanuatu government doing to strengthen critical infrastructure, and assist communities already impacted by rising sea levels?

### **2. Vanuatu National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP), the Monitoring of SDGs and its Development Framework**

The government's approach to SDG implementation is fragmented and does not properly include stakeholders. Currently, the VNR and SDGs committees are held on an ad hoc basis, primarily for VNR or UPR submissions. This fragmented approach hinders consistent progress towards SDG implementation.

When is the Vanuatu government going to seriously include stakeholders in an active NSDP and SDG implementation committee? This committee should include CSOs, academia, and other stakeholders to lead and provide guidance.

### **3. Education Access to Appropriate Learning Environments**

Literacy rates remain low, and the colonized curriculum fails to provide the population with the skills they need to live sustainable lives in a largely remote and rural country.

What is the Ministry of Education's plan to reform the curriculum to fit the needs of ni-Vanuatu people and provide for local solutions to livelihoods in non-formal community learning centers?

### **4. Traditional Governance**

**Empowering Indigenous Practices and Equity:** Traditional governance should focus on retaining indigenous languages and traditional community living practices.

Can the government commit to mainstreaming equity in its practices to ensure all marginalized and hard to reach groups are fully included in planning and programming?

## 5. **Social Protection**

What plans does the government have to support those in poverty?