



Australian High Commission
Port Vila

Media Release

Vanuatu's best and brightest represented in the Australia Awards Alumni Network

The Australian High Commission hosted an annual networking event for the Australia Awards Alumni Network in late March.

Among the 80 alumni members and guests at the event were some of Vanuatu's best and brightest leaders and young professionals.

An esteemed member of the Australia Awards Alumni Network, the Honourable, Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade Ralph Regenvanu gave the keynote address at the event. He thanked the Australian Government for their scholarships program. He shared his experience of how an Australia Awards scholarship contributed to his career, and encouraged alumni members to participate in alumni activities. In addition, he encouraged alumni to contribute to building the network, noting the network had great potential to influence and drive positive changes in Vanuatu.

The network is creating an environment for like-minded professionals to share ideas and build relationships that will support their efforts to make a significant and lasting difference in Vanuatu.

Since the launch of the alumni network in 2016, more than 300 alumni have joined and are accessing regular professional development and networking opportunities to support their career goals.

The event brought together alumni from various fields and backgrounds, across government, private and community sectors.

The Australian High Commissioner to Vanuatu, Her Excellency Jenny Da Rin, emphasised the importance of an alumni network to build partnerships between Australia, Vanuatu and across the Pacific, and encouraged alumni to apply their skills and knowledge to influence and drive change. Australia is proud to support talented alumni to achieve their goals.



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Some of the 21 Australia Awards 2017 Graduates with the Australian High Commissioner, HE Jenny Da Rin and the Hon Ralph Regenvanu.

A new alumni committee was also elected. It will work closely with the Australian High Commission to implement alumni activities for the next twelve months.



The new Australia Awards Alumni Network committee members with HE Jenny Da Rin, (from left): Jay Hinge, Vanua Sikon, Sainimilli Toara, Ricky Lee, Jennifer Kausei, Webster Alilee and outgoing Committee Chair John Jack.

If you have ever been sponsored by the Australian Government to undertake studies or a fellowship, you are eligible to be a member of the prestigious Australia Awards Alumni Network. Being a member of the network opens up opportunities for ongoing professional development to support you in your career. If you would like to register to ensure you don't miss out on future events, please send your details (name, qualification, year of graduation, current position and place of employment) to info@australiaawardsvanuatu.org or call the Australia Awards Vanuatu program on 22114.



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Media Contact:

Yohann Lemonnier

Public Affairs Unit Manager

Australian High Commission

Email: Yohann.Lemonnier@dfat.gov.au

Tel: 22777 (extension 129)

Mob: 7360174

