

**Note for Editor: Intended for publication in period: 20 May to 22 May 2010**

**This is a regular update on progress with the Millennium Challenge Corporation Vanuatu Project compiled by MCA-Vanuatu and the Design and Build Contractor – Downer EDI Works Vanuatu Ltd on behalf of the MCA-V Project Team.**

## **MCA Update #70 Efate Ring Road & Santo East Coast Road**



Efate: New pipes laid for the Neslep Crossing at Elownea Bay, with the concrete pump set up in the background ready to start work.



Efate: Downer roller operator Edward Tasaruru compacting the pavement on the outskirts of Eton village.



Efate: Rock lined drain construction underway near Forari.



Downer New Zealand General Manager, Commercial Operations Jeff Oldman and Engineering Cadet Amanda Taylor observe sealing underway near Ekipe.

### **Santo Work**

Clearing has reached the end of the Project length at Port Olry, and there are now only 14 of the large 750 mm diameter culverts left to lay. Final pavement placement and trimming has reached the 43 km mark just South of Hog Harbour. Sealing work has reached the 27 km mark, heading towards Lomanioc hill. Rock lined drain work is underway at the 41 km mark at Lorevulco. The Vatrath quarry is currently fully operational. “Rod Sefti Awenes Blong Pikinini” sessions were held at Lathie and Kohle Primary Schools. A similar awareness will be conducted at Sara.

### **Efate Work**

Clearing and widening is now progressing through the farmland at Erueti and has reached the 90 km mark and will reach the end of the Project length at the 92 km mark this week. Table drains have reached the 88 km mark. The pavement construction crew have worked through Eton village and reached the 78 km mark.

Sealing work has recommenced and will progress from the 48 km mark near Epule to the 69 km mark at La Cressonniere over the next few weeks. The Klehm’s Hill work has been completed and the Lelepa Hill tidy up work has started. Rock lined drain work is underway near the 68 km mark. The Epau Crossing repairs have been completed and work on the Neslep Crossing at Elownea Bay is now underway.

### **Crossing Repairs**

The Epau Crossing was reopened to all traffic 5 days ahead of schedule. A big thank you to the work crews who worked long hours to achieve this. Work on the Neslep Crossing at Elownea Bay is now underway and a temporary detour has been constructed here so that the Efate Ring Road remains open to all traffic while the crossing is rebuilt. The detour is narrow so drivers should exercise care when using

it. Downer EDI Works Vanuatu and MCA-Vanuatu would also like to thank all road users and villagers for their co-operation and patience while the crossing work has been underway. Replacement of the timbers on the deck of the bridge at Tanoliu is expected to start in two weeks time.

### **Traffic Conditions and Road Safety**

Traffic is restricted to one lane on the Lelepa Hill as kerb and tidy up work is carried out. Traffic controllers are on duty 24 hours per day to control traffic flows up and down the hill. Klehm's Hill is now open to two way traffic with only some short day-time restrictions as final tidy up work is carried out. A temporary speed limit of 30 km/hr will be imposed on the newly sealed sections of road. Road users are urged to comply with the safety signs and the directions of the traffic controllers on site. Again, we ask all drivers to refrain from speeding anywhere on the sealed road or where construction is underway. The roads are construction sites and used by pedestrians as well as vehicles.

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In addition further information can be found on the MCA – Vanuatu website at [www.mcavanuatu.gov.vu](http://www.mcavanuatu.gov.vu).

**Next update will be provided on Thursday 27 May 2010**