Note for Editor: Intended for publication in period: 23 to 25 September 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 #85 Efate Ring Road & Santo East Coast Road



Starting work on the short section of pavement at the base of Klehm's Hill.



Daniel Wolul counting traffic at Rentabao.



Speed calming at Paonangisu - the bright markings and large sized sealing chip are intended to warn motorists of the many pedestrians and 30 km/hr speed limit in the section between Manua School and the Paonangisu Health Centre.



Jeffrey, James and Manau from subcontractor MA Builders installing signs in the Eton area.



The roads have many uses – here a bulok on the road creates a traffic hazard at Takara. Road users should always be aware that stock or pedestrians may be unexpectedly on the road ahead of them and be prepared to stop – especially at night



Downer hydraulic excavators dig the hole for the new box culvert at Dry Creek.

Efate Work

This week Downer work crews have started the excavation for the new box culvert at Dry Creek and constructing the short length of new pavement at the base of Klehm's Hill.

The length between the Epule Bailey Bridge and the Neslep Stream Crossing at Elownea Bay (Section 4) was Handed – Over to The Employer (MCA- Vanuatu on behalf of the Government of Vanuatu) on 18 September.

Small teams have been counting the traffic travelling on the road at five locations around the island. This work is being carried out by MCA- Vanuatu and SHEFA PWD as part of the Project monitoring and evaluation and to gain information for road maintenance purposes. The traffic is being counted at; the top of Klehm's Hill, Tanoliu, Takara, Pang Pang and Rentabao, between 5:00 am in the morning and 9:00 pm at night. A big thanks to the workers who have "stuck with it" and carried out this important work.

The planting crew from Eton Village are making good progress with establishing grass in the table drains near the village.

Santo Work

The sealing crew are continuing to make good progress with widening the existing 5 m seal pavement to 6 m wide.

Similar to the arrangement along Efate Ring Road, traffic counts are also being undertaken at 4 locations, namely at the start of Santo East Coast Road, before entrance of Matevulu College, before junction at Khole and at Hogg Harbour

Traffic Conditions and Road Safety

A one lane temporary detour road has been constructed around the work site at Dry Creek.Road users are urged to comply with the safety signs and the directions of traffic controllers at work sites. 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 other vehicles.

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In addition further information can be found on the MCA – Vanuatu website at www.mcavanuatu.gov.vu.

Next update will be provided on Thursday 30 September 2010