

## **MSG Leaders Launch MSG Green Growth Knowledge e-Platform**

The Leaders of the Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG) today launched the MSG Green Growth Knowledge e-Platform. The aim of the e-Platform is to improve and support the exchange of agricultural and rural development information, more specifically designed to implement online knowledge and learning platform for MSG. The Platform will also facilitate knowledge acquisition, sharing and exchange of best practices on green growth. The Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing is linked to the Declaration on Environmental & Climate Change.

This initiative is supported through funding by the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation ACP-EU (CTA) on the development of the Knowledge Management Platform. The CTA's involvement in developing an e-Platform for Green Growth in the MSG was an outcome of the Workshop on Building Resilience on Climate Change hosted by Vanuatu in 2012.

Celebrating the launch, Mr. Peter Forau, Director General of the Secretariat said "that the MSG like any other organisation is always looking out for creative ways of networking and collaboration, and the e-platform is a mechanism of linking the policy makers and stakeholders works by bringing them together through the internet to share ideas and challenges, and benefit from the experience of others. By sharing sound and effective environmental and resource management practices, the MSG can develop new ways of working and collaborating creating essential competitive advantage that is essential to conserve and strengthen the region's green economy. This is also an exciting project for the MSG given that the initial phase and design was undertaken internally by the Secretariat," he further added.

Over the remaining months of 2013, assessments will be made on the four key component of the "MSG Leaders Declaration on Environment & Climate Change which was signed in March 2012 and these include: (1) Green Grown Framework, (2) Melanesian Blue Carbon Initiative, (3) Melanesian Terrestrial Commitment and (4) Melanesia Green Climate Fund. This assessment will include review of key policy briefs and concepts that have been discussed with MSG officials.

In these efforts, the MSG will engage experts from its major development partners such as International Union for Conservation of Nature, GIZ, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, United National Economic and Social for Asia and the Pacific and SPC/GIZ Coping with climate change in the Pacific Island Region (CCCPIR) Programme to name a few as well as create opportunities for learning and interaction of the broad community of practitioners, policy-makers, academics and private sector experts. The ongoing development of the e-platform is expected to be completed by November 2013.

The MSG extends its gratitude to the CTA for the funding provided for this Project.

*Authorized by the Chairman  
Noumea, New Caledonia  
19 June 2013*