

Road Construction Plant Operator Trainer

Public Works Department , Vanuatu

Assignment title	Road Construction Plant Operator Trainer		
Partner organisation	Public Works Department		
Location	Vanuatu	Port Vila	
Type of assignment	In-country Assignment		
Duration of assignment	Select total duration of assignment		
Assignment phases	Phase	Mode	Duration
	1	In-Country	12 months
Proposed start date	15 February 2027		
Website	https://pwd.gov.vu/		
Australian organisation:	No Australian organisation linked to this assignment		

ABOUT THE PARTNER ORGANISATION

Public Works Department (PWD) is part of the Ministry of Infrastructure & Public Utilities (MIPU) and is responsible for maintaining and improving the national road network. PWD has offices in the six provinces including workshops and plant and equipment for maintaining and constructing roads. Most of the road network is maintained by the private sector, however PWD has a fleet of plant with operators and maintenance crews to maintain and construct minor road projects as directed by the PWD Director and Senior Managers.

The majority of the plant is located in the Shefa, Tanna and Sanma Provinces and includes graders, excavators, loaders, rollers and trucks. PWD has a team of operators and mechanics located in the provinces and they are provided with basic tools for plant maintenance and repairs

ABOUT THE ASSIGNMENT

PWD has purchased a number of new heavy plant and machinery, which require a specialised skills to operate. Unfortunately, there is not enough staff with these skills within Vanuatu. Therefore, an expert in operating plants and machinery in road construction is required to work alongside and train local operators and staff of the department. This will in turn improve road and infrastructure projects and services carried out.

ASSIGNMENT OBJECTIVES AND PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

The volunteer will work alongside members of Public Works Department to support the below objectives:

Assignment objectives	Proposed activities
In-Country Phase Objective 1: Train and upskill local operators	• Work with and train local staff to operate blade graders, excavators to level surfaces for roadways and other construction projects. • Read and interpret site plans and blueprints to determine grading requirements and mentor local staff in those skill sets
In-Country Phase Objective 2: Identify training needs and implement a training plan	• As part of training, perform routine maintenance on equipment to ensure optimal performance. • Conduct site inspections with key counterparts to identify any grading adjustments needed.
In-Country Phase Objective 3: Work with Foreman and Supervisors to improve efficiency and effectiveness of Plant Operators	• Assist the department ensure compliance with all safety regulations and protocols.
Remote (online) Phase Objective:	•
Inclusion objective and proposed activity	
The volunteer will work alongside the partner organisation to uphold values of diversity, equity and inclusion. Inclusive approaches will aim to make everyone welcome and support equal access to activities and opportunities regardless of gender, age, disability status or background (e.g. religion, language, ethnicity and marginalised or vulnerable groups). The volunteer will work alongside members of Public Works Department to: • Ensure training are inclusive and gender sensitive	

SELECTION CRITERIA

Education and qualifications

Essential	Desirable
- Valid heavy equipment operator certification. - Proven track record of maintaining equipment and ensuring its optimal performance. - Conduct field training both theoretical and practical on different PWD locations	- English - written and verbal - A valid driver's license

Knowledge and experience

Essential	Desirable
- Minimum of 5 years of experience in operating graders or similar machinery - Problem-solving skills for addressing and resolving on-site issues quickly. - Introduce better practices in terms of better operating technics for longer machine life span.	- Physical stamina and strength to operate machinery for extended periods. - Ensure compliance with all safety regulations and protocols

Following the Program's values on locally led development, this Assignment Description has been developed and negotiated in good faith with the Partner Organisation. The information contained was correct at the time of acceptance of the request. However, while we take responsibility for matters under our direct control, all assignments and arrangements are subject to change. This assignment may be amended or withdrawn to reflect changes in circumstances.

Line Manager: John Tavuti, PWD Fleet Manager

Working relationships: Working with Fleet Manager, Workshop Manager, and Operators

Hours and days of work:

In-country phase	Remote Phase
Full time	Flexible: to be discussed by partner and volunteer

Leave: All volunteers are entitled to 20 days leave per 12 months, unless advised otherwise. The same conditions and terms as local colleagues apply, including national holidays.

Work from home: Working from home while on an in-country phase must be in line with usual partner organisation's practices and agreed with the in-country office.

Professional indemnity insurance (*Required for all volunteers who are acting as a medical, allied health or legal professional whilst on assignment*):

No, this assignment is not deemed to require professional indemnity insurance

The volunteer should consult the partner organisation about the need for professional indemnity insurance for the role prior to departure. Where required and/or considered essential to hold this insurance, please discuss this with the Volunteer Services Manager in Melbourne prior to departure.

LIFE AS A VOLUNTEER

The Australian Volunteers Program supports volunteers from preparing to go on assignment through to returning home. For a full breakdown of support provided including assignment allowances, please visit: <https://www.australianvolunteers.com/volunteering/lifestyle-and-support/>

Country context

Learn more about the host country's location by reading the country profile. We encourage candidates to research the specific location of this assignment as it will be discussed and addressed with a recruitment officer during the interview process.

For more information, please visit country links:

<https://www.australianvolunteers.com/countries/vanuatu> and <https://www.dfat.gov.au/geo/vanuatu>

HOW TO APPLY

All applications must be submitted online through the Australian Volunteers Program website. If you have not already done so, you will need to register on our website prior to applying. For more information about how to apply, please visit: <https://www.australianvolunteers.com/volunteering/how-it-works>

We actively support and encourage people of all backgrounds and abilities to volunteer internationally and aim to make the program as accessible and inclusive as possible. The program has a dedicated Indigenous Programs Coordinator to support Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander volunteers, who can be contacted at indigenouspathways@australianvolunteers.com. Access and inclusion plans are available for volunteers with disabilities, to ensure their assignments and living and working arrangements are made more accessible.

Personal circumstances (*This may not apply for Remote-only assignments; consider discussing with AVP team*)
Due to security, cultural, legal or visa restrictions associated with this location, we ask that applicants disclose the following:

- If they want their same-sex partner to accompany them on assignment.
- If they want their partner, to whom they are not legally married, to accompany them on assignment.
- If they want their child(ren) to accompany them on assignment.
- If they have a criminal conviction where a criminal conviction may be relevant to the inherent requirements of the assignment.