

Introducing your Council

Over the coming months VCCI would like to introduce you to your Council members. This week we feature the First Vice President of the Council of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr David Russet.

Name, position and sector you represent on the council:
David Russet, Director Bellevue Property Management, First Vice President VCCI and representing Agriculture and Livestock Sector
Brief summary about yourself and your business:
I was born in Vanuatu from a farmer orientated family. I am a cattle farmer and a plantation owner. We have a herd of about 10 000 heads. Among our activities, we also have copra that we harvest and sell, approximately 400 tons per year. We also plant, harvest and sale cocoa and kava.
Your vision for the sector you represent / what you would like to achieve for the sector while serving on the council:
There is a shortage of cattle in the country as such, we would like to increase our cattle herd to about 16 or 18 000 heads over the next couple of years. With regards to copra, we purchased and received a VCO (Virgin Coconut Oil) plant to produce virgin coconut oil. The factory which is in Norsup, island of Malekula, should be operational within the next 3 months. In addition, we would like to replant coconut trees in our farm at Norsup (1 000 Ha). For the cocoa, we invested into a better drying equipment and are able to produce quality cocoa. Again, we would like to replant cocoa over the coming years as it is a commodity that has proven to be consistent. For the kava, we currently have around 25 Ha of kava in our farm at Fanafo, Santo. Again, there is an increasing demand.
Are you a member of a sector related association, if so, which one?:
Yes, I am the Vice Chairman of the Livestock steering committee.
Way/s by which members within your sector can contact you:
By phone 774 9985 or email bellevueptymgtdr@vanuatu.com.vu

