

**Funding Source:**

Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) - 30%  
Sarami - 70%

**Program:**

Enterprise Challenge Fund for the Pacific and South East Asia

**Project Name:**

Smallholder Cattle Improvement Project

**Project Location:**

Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu

**Project Start Date:**

1 July 2009

**Project End Date:**

30 June 2012

**Total Grant Funds Approved:**

A\$1,375,000

# Sarami

## ABOUT THE COMPANY

Sarami Plantation has been breeding cattle in Vanuatu for 30 years and was the first property in Santo to introduce cross Brahman bulls on their 2000 hectare breeding property. Sarami has continued to upgrade its breeding herd and has bought and developed a 2000 hectare fattening property.

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

With the support of ECF funding, Sarami will work with smallholder cattle farmers to improve beef production in Vanuatu. Smallholder farmers on Santo and nearby islands are generally unable to achieve top prices for their cattle due to their unimproved pasture, poor breeding practices, overstocking and limited watering systems.

To address these issues, Sarami will purchase cattle directly from the farmers at a 50 per cent higher average price than currently paid by the abattoir. Stock will be fattened on Sarami's improved pastures with silage which will then be sold at a higher price.

## BENEFITS TO THE POOR

The main beneficiaries will be the smallholder cattle farmers. Sarami will also provide training to local farmers on improved animal husbandry techniques and management in a mutually beneficial arrangement.

Other anticipated benefits of the project include:

- An increase in 15 full time and 10 part time workers at the expanded operation
- Small holder farmers will receive a free genetically improved bull for every 40 animals supplied to Sarami by either an individual or community group. This will improve the offspring of Vanuatu's cattle and help to secure the longer term livelihoods of these relatively disadvantaged suppliers
- Increased beef exports from Vanuatu.

This project will also be an excellent model for livestock breeding practices in the tropics which can be easily replicated in the Pacific Islands and neighbouring countries. Lessons learnt from this project will be shared and technical information will be provided to relevant companies, agricultural bodies and other interested parties in the Pacific islands and other ECF recipient countries.

## THE ROLE OF ECF FUNDING SUPPORT

Because of the lead time required to implement this project and the extensive support required for smallholder cattle farmers, Sarami was unable to fund all of the associated project costs. Commercial finance was not available because of the project's more remote location and the cautious attitude of local banks.

Without ECF support the project would not have been implemented in the medium term and may never have been implemented on such a large scale.

For more information please visit our website [www.enterprisechallengefund.org](http://www.enterprisechallengefund.org)



**Australian Government**  
**AusAID**

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