

Vanuatu's Economic Citizenship Programme — Peak Revenue, EU Visa Suspension, and a 2025 Overhaul

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Vanuatu

Quality score: 38/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Vanuatu's Economic Citizenship Programme once supplied 14% of GDP in government revenue (2020) but due-diligence failures triggered a full EU visa-waiver suspension (2023) and permanent revocation (2024), forcing a 2025 overhaul of the scheme.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	2/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	2/3
Scalability	1/3
Sustainability / continuity	1/3
Innovation	1/3
Inclusiveness / equity	0/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

[Government of Vanuatu — Citizenship Office](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

[Citizenship by Investment News — IMF: Vanuatu citizenship revenues reach 7% of GDP](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

[European Council — Vanuatu: Council fully suspends visa free travel agreement \(2022\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

[IMI Daily — Switzerland follows EU to suspend visa-free entry for Vanuatu passport holders](#) — accessed 2026-08-27

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