

## **300 youth targeted for IYD in Torba**

An estimation of around 300 youth has been targeted to attend the annual International Youth Day (IYD) celebration that will be held in Vanualava, Torba Province on August.

The chairman of the Torba international youth day committee, Mr. Clifton Lonsdale said this year's commemoration of the International Youth day will be a very big celebration compared from the past celebrations which took place in other provinces.

Mr. Lonsdale had confirmed that the committee is targeting to bring together youth throughout all the provinces of Vanuatu to attend the event as is the only international annual event that brings together youth from around the country to discuss the potentials they have as partners of today's global society.

"We are targeting 300 youth from all our provinces to come over to Torba to celebrate the big day and youth must definitely come", says Mr. Lonsdale through a phone interview.

Mr. Lonsdale says a committee has already been set up with given responsibility to carry out in preparation towards the youth event. He also said, official invitation letters are to be sent to seek for interested additional sponsors.

Every island in the Torba province will be taking part in the event and will be showcasing their unique custom dances as well as performing skits and dramas.

"We are aiming for a maximum of 15 youth from each youth groups in Torba to attend and showcase their talents/skills they have in performing custom dances, skits and dramas. It will be a best time for them to capitalise in involving them with other youth in other provinces to learn more and build their working relationship and friendship", says Mr. Lonsdale.

Mr. Lonsdale has also said the annual celebration will last for a week, commencing in August 12 – 17.

All youth will be accommodated at the AREP Junior secondary school and will also be using the Torba Sports Complex for recreational activity.

The 2015 Torba IYD Committee is calling on all interested sponsors to come forward to support this event to make it a successful one. Interested sponsors who wish to support should call Mr. Clifton Lonsdale on phone number 5978130 /5909776.

On the other hand, the Vanuatu National Youth Council will be working with the provincial youth presidents and donor partners as part of its preparation towards the youth event.

VNYC would also like to add that, interested youth who wish to attend the event will be self funded as VNYC will only be responsible for funding all presidents' fair to Torba.

Therefore, any youth who wish to attend the event must confirm his/ her name to the VNYC office on 22352 to register.

Meanwhile, according to UNESCO website, 12 August was first designated International Youth Day by the UN General Assembly in 1999, and serves as an annual celebration of the role of young women and men as essential partners in change, and an opportunity to raise awareness of challenges and problems facing the world's youth.