



Australian Government
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Vanuatu Government

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Mr Joel Path
Secretary General
SANMA Province

20 November 2011

SANMA TVET CENTRE UPDATE – SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2011

Secretary General,

Please find below a brief report on key activity undertaken by the TVET Sector Strengthening Program to improve the quality of, and access to, training delivery in SANMA Province in support of provincial development for the months of September and October. We look forward to your participation at the upcoming Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) Meeting next month where more details of TVET Program achievements and results will be discussed.

1. Employment and Training Fund (ETF) Training

The Sanma TVET Centre coordinated ten ETF trainings during this period.

- During the month of October, the TVET Centre coordinated for the first time trainings in the areas of a) Tile Laying; b) Block Laying; c) Basic Electrical Wiring; and d) Solar Installation and Maintenance. All trainings were conducted by the Vanuatu Institute of Technology (VIT) with the first two in partnership with Listair Training Centre and the latter with Saint Michel Technical College. Through this partnership approach, the less experienced locally-based trainers working alongside the VIT trainers were able to build their own training capacity while at the same time delivering training in these high demand areas.

The Laying Tiles and Basic Wiring trainings were delivered by two female trainers who were both recipients of Australian Government scholarships designed to encourage more women into non-traditional trades as part of the VIT Institutional Strengthening Program. They subsequently went on to obtain scholarships to further develop their skills at the Australian Pacific Technical College (APTC). Through the training delivered through the TVET Centre they have now been able to model to women in rural areas that gender does not have to be a barrier to skill development in economic growth areas.

As examples of the practical, “hands-on” skills that trainees acquire through these trainings, the following outcomes were achieved at training completion: a) the administration room at Listair Training Centre administration room is now fully tiled; b) all power points and switches at Saint Michel College are now repaired; c) a Luganville resident has fully installed solar panels in his home.



Gail Waki from VIT delivering Tile Laying training

The TVET Centre also worked with VIT in the delivery of a Cooking and Hygiene training which now enables participants to cook food for sale in town in accordance with the safety regulations of the Luganville Municipality.



Cooking and Hygiene training

- The TVET Centre worked in partnership with the Vanuatu Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) to deliver Business Management trainings to VANWODS members in East and West Malo. The mamas expressed their appreciation for the training as providing valuable skills to enable them to repay their loans more efficiently.
- From 3-28 October, the TVET Centre coordinated the first provincial level training of the full accredited course in Business Management delivered by VCCI, comprising modules in General Business Management, Retail Business Management, Start your Business and Generate your Business. The Centre worked closely with the Sanma Provincial Government Youth Officer to select the participants from the 9 Area Councils with a minimum formal qualification of year twelve and clear business goals. Following the training, the TVET Centre worked with local businesses to find work experience placements for all trainees, thereby consolidating their training with “on-the-job” experience and maximizing their potential for finding permanent employment in the future through establishing links with employers.



Business Management training to VANWODS members in West Malo

- As part of the program of support that the Centre is coordinating for local Business Development Services (BDS) providers – including extension officers, provincial government staff, training providers – the Centre delivered in partnership with VCCI a module in Basic Accounting. Participants had requested this training in order to improve the quality of their assistance and advice to community members.

2. Business Development Services (BDS)

- From 19-23 September, the Centre coordinated a BDS workshop in Cocoa Plantation Management in Nokuku Village in West Coast, Santo with a total of 27 participants. At the end of the workshop, the participants decided that they would establish a Cocoa Growers Association which will assist with addressing the issue of transportation of their cocoa products to market in Luganville. The Association will also link directly with the existing

Cocoa Growers Association in Malekula. Follow-up BDS assistance is planned to support the participants formally register themselves as a Cooperative Association.

- As part of the BDS Tourism Coaching Program delivered through the Centre, a Safety Audit was undertaken in collaboration with the Millennium Cave Committee. A Risk Assessment and Improvement Strategy has now been developed and the Committee is now actively working to making all the necessary safety improvements. Continued follow-up coaching and training will continued to be provided by the Centre to support this key tourism attraction. A coaching workshop was also conducted for all Tourism clients in the area of Product Benchmarking from 24-28 October. The Centre is also working very closely with the newly appointed Provincial Tourism Officer to ensure that the Centre continues to support the priorities of the Department of Tourism and assists in building the capacity of key Government staff.

3. Capacity Building

- The month of October also saw the continuation of the professional development program that the TVET Program has put in place in partnership with the Australian Pacific Technical College (APTC). TVET Centre management staff across the two provinces, as well as other key management stakeholders within the TVET sector, are being supported by the TVET Program to participate in this training initiative.



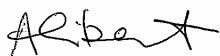
Throughout the course, they are acquiring critical skills for effective management and leadership, culminating in the award of the recognised Australian “Diploma of Management” qualification. The training program is made up of a number of modules focused on workplace effectiveness involving a combination of face-to-face training and on-the-job application. Key provincial TVET sector stakeholders are taking part in the Program, namely the Provincial Planner and the Provincial Training Board Chair.

3. Monitoring and Evaluation

- Follow-ups to measure the post-training outcomes for ETF and BDS TVET Centre clients continued throughout September and October across the province in preparation for the next annual evaluation report scheduled for early next year. Particular focus has been directed at ensuring that all activity (output) level data is ready for the upcoming SAG meeting in December.

The TVET Centre staff have been working very hard to achieve these results and we look forward to continued positive outcomes for the benefit of the people of SANMA province.

Sincerely,



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