

Mrs. Ketty Napwatt
Secretary General
Torba Provincial Government
Sola

28th September 2014

Dear Madam

TORBA TVET CENTRE MONTHLY REPORT – August 2014

I am pleased to inform you of the activities that have been carried out by the Torba TVET Centre during the month of August.

It is very encouraging to see activities with a lot of potential to soon make changes in our communities.

Thank you



RUDDLEY H Albert
Centre Manager

Copies:

- Johnson Toa, Acting Director, Technical Vocational Education and Training
- David Lambukly, CEO, VQA
- Christelle Thieffry, Senior Program Manager, Australian High Commission

- Peter Morris, TVET Program Technical Director
- Livo Mele - Director Agriculture
- George Borugu - Director Tourism
- Anna Gibert, TVET Program Team Leader
- Fremden Shadrack, TVET Program Deputy Team Leader
- Dick Hopkins - Torba PGTB Chairman
- Michael Silona - Torba Provincial Planner

Business Development Services

Tour Guiding and Bungalow Clients Coaching and Workshop

The Torba TVET Centre through the 'TVET for Tourism' program organized a Tour Guiding workshop for Gaua Tourism clients from the 4th -7th of August. This workshop was followed by individual coaching of tour guides and bungalow clients to evaluate their action plans as part of continuous improvement to their products.

Twenty six tour guides of which six were female have been through coaching according to their action plans to improve their products like water music, Siri falls and others products. Tour guides also had a full day session on tour guide techniques to improve their capacity on tour guiding.

Bungalow clients were also coached based on their action plans. From the five bungalows, three are currently operating and two are under construction. It was suggested by the TVET for Tourism industry coach, Mr. Pascal Guillet that three of the bungalows will now be assessed by the Department of Tourism as they will soon meet the minimum standards set by the Department of Tourism.



Island Cooking using local Resources and Local Recipes

A three days workshop was organized from the 12th to 14th of August with TVET for Tourism Industry Coach Odile Guiomar on island cooking using local resources and local recipes on Motalava island. This workshop gathered together twenty six participants from Torres, Ureparapara, Gaua, Vanualava and Motalava island.

All twenty six participants were females and the majority of the females work with their husbands in their bungalow businesses while others are working as chefs in some of the bungalows.

The workshop provided knowledge and skills of using local root crops, vegetables, fruits and sea food to meet tourist demands, and also add value to the food which leads to an increase in their income. The participants learnt thirty two different local recipes which will help to improve the quality of food served within each of their bungalows.



Bungalow Design and Construction

From the 12th to 13th of August, the Torba TVET Centre supported the Tourism clients to continue gaining knowledge and skills to improve their bungalow standards. This was followed by a coaching workshop that was done with bungalow operators on Motalava with focus on constructing bungalows using local materials.



Twenty one (21) male participants from Torres, Ureparapara, Mota, Gaua, Vanualava and Motalava Island attended the coaching and workshop. It was interesting for the participants because they gain new knowledge and skills of how to construct bungalows using local materials. One of the benefits of this workshop is that it will improve the standard of accommodation within the islands and meet the national standards of Island bungalow. During the coaching, participants gave positive feedback about the fact that a lot had been learnt during the workshop as it will help make changes to their bungalow business.

Coaching on Farmers' Action Plans.

Famers who participated in the first block of the accredited 'Planting Vegetables' training in July need to continue in the second block of the training which is on Soil Fertility Management. The requirement to attend the second block on Soil Fertility is that farmers need to demonstrate that they are following their action plans after the training. With the partnership between the TORBA TVET Centre and the provincial Department of Agriculture in Sola, Mr. John Antas, Agriculture extension officer coach and monitor the participants based on their action plans and recommends the active farmers to attend the second block of training. Each participant successfully implemented their action plan and was recommended for second block training.

The photos below showed some participants with their plot during the monitoring by the Agriculture Officer.



Accredited Training

Soil Fertility Management

The second block of agriculture training on Soil Fertility management took place in Sola from the 25th to 29th of August. This training was successful through the partnership between the Secretariat of Pacific Community (SPC), the Torba Agriculture Department and the Torba TVET Centre. The training equipped farmers to:

- Have the knowledge and skills on soil fertility management to be able improve soil fertility and ensure continuous production when land resources are limited.
- Demonstrate simple sustainable methods of improving soil fertility that are affordable for low income farmers.



Twelve participants attended the training of which four were females. The farmers gave positive feedback by stressing the importance of gaining new knowledge and skills that will help them plant varieties of vegetables to help provide a balanced diet for their communities and increase incomes.



The Torba TVET Centre would like to acknowledge all its stakeholders and the Vanuatu Agriculture College for the positive outcomes of trainings, workshops and coaching that have been successfully carried out. The Torba TVET Centre will continue to uphold this partnership with all stakeholders to provide the required knowledge and skills as demanded from our communities to help improve their livelihoods.