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## More new bungalows on Tanna open for visitors

By Anita Roberts Jan 24, 2018



Some new bungalows have been launched on Tanna recently as part of the Tanna Tourism Recovery Project. Seen in photo, inside of Lava View Bungalow with its spectacular view of the famous Mt Yasur in the distance

**Five more new bungalows** are now open for business on Tanna after being launched by the Department of Tourism (DOT) as part of the Tanna Tourism Recovery Project (TTRP) after cyclone Pam.

The Australian Government-funded TTRP aims to support local tourism operators who lost their businesses to cyclone Pam to recover.

Almost 10 new bungalows were up and running again last year after being brought down by the cyclone, thanks to TTRP that provided around Vt29 million for small tourism operators to renovate and built new businesses.



The five newly launched bungalows in the eastern part of the island are part of the second round of the project.

Volcanic Village Vista, Treehouse Eco-Adventure, Volcano Island Paradise Bungalows, VEATH and Lava View Bungalows will obtain Vanuatu Tourism Operation Minimum Standard Permits and be marketed through the newly established Tanna Travel Centre.

Following the success of the project, a further stage of investment has now been approved to support additional tourism operators, such as tours and activities, as well as accommodation operators.

Thirty-one more operators are selected to be part of TTRP second stage, which starts in February (next month).

TTRP is managed by the Tafea Department of Tourism in partnership with the Tafea Provincial Government Council (TPGC) and the Vanuatu Skills Partnership (TVET Program).

Improving the quality of local tourism accommodation through product development support and subsidized construction materials is the main objective of the project.

The costs of local construction materials was subsidized to assist operators with their reconstruction plans in a partnership approach.

Activities conducted as part of the project included targeted workshops and nationally accredited accommodation services training, as well as on-site coaching visits from product development and construction coaches.

The President of TPGC, Jeffery Kout, has commended the Australian Government for its financial assistance to taking tourism on Tanna and Tafea province to another level.

“There are a handful of productive sectors which Australia came to assist after the devastation of the TC Pam and through the working together of the Department of Tourism and the TVET Program, we are able to rebuild the tourism sector,” he said.