



To: Mr. Jean Marie Virelala, Acting Director, Tertiary Education Directorate
Mr Jimmy Rantes, Acting Director, Department of Industry
Mr Antoine Ravo, Director, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Mr Donald Pelam, Acting Director, Department of Tourism
Mr David Lambukly, Chief Executive Officer, Vanuatu Qualifications Authority
Ms Adela Aru, Chief Executive Officer, Vanuatu Tourism Office
Mr Fremden Yanhambath, Director, Vanuatu Skills Partnership
Ms Christelle Thieffry, Senior Program Manager, Australian High Commission

29th May 2018

Dear Directors and CEOs,

Re: **Provincial Skills Development Report: March to April 2018**

The Tafea Provincial Training Board (PGTB) in collaboration with its key partners undersigned is pleased to submit the bi-monthly skills development report for the months of March and April 2018.

This report highlights continuous relationship building to implement skills activities in support of the productive sectors in Tafea Province, coordinated by the Tafea Skills Centre. As much as possible we would encourage you to provide positive feedback and engagement to continue improving our activities in months to come.

Thank you sincerely for your continuous support and attention.

Yours Sincerely,

Thomas Butu
Principal Education Officer
Chairman, Tafea Provincial Education Board

CC: All Provincial Productive Sectors concerned

Co-authored

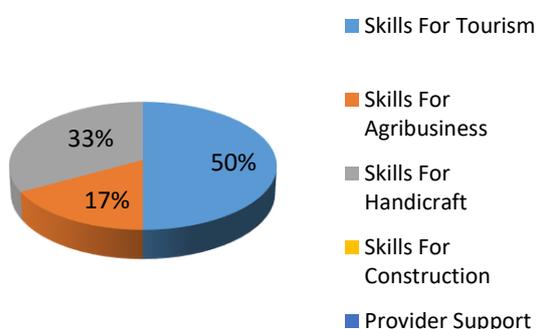
Xavier Nakou	Sam Niau	Jimmy Kawiel	Joe lautim
Department of Industry, Tafea	Department of Agriculture, Tafea	Department of Tourism , Tafea	Tafea Skills Centre

Tafea Provincial Development Report March and April 2018

Overview

The Tafea Skills Centre coordinated and supported implementation of 12 skills development activities which included 3 workshop in the handicraft sector, 4 technical coaching in the tourism sector, 3 assessments and 1 site support activity.

Percentage of Activities by Sector in March and April 2018



Assessments conducted included:

- Testing the levels of Learning, Literacy and Numeracy of potential handicraft clients;
- Accreditation exercise by the Vanuatu Tourism Office (VTO) with the tourism operators to check on their Operation Standards; and
- Determining the level of market demand for farm products on Aneityum.

A total of 56 Individual Clients were supported through coaching and workshops and a further 52 potential clients were given initial assessments and support.

Highlights

The Tafea Provincial Training Board spent two days with a team of productive sector officers to undertake a Road Show to review the 2018 productive sector work plans that will be implemented in collaboration with the Vanuatu Skills Partnership through the Tafea Skills Centre. The work plans for 2019 were also discussed.



Figure 1: Road Show with Tafea PGTB



Figure 2: TTIC Website launched (www.tanna.travel)

The Tafea Travel Information Centre (TTIC) launched its live website in the month of April and it is a significant achievement to have the Centre now fully operational for booking and marketing of Tafea tourism products abroad.

Skills for Tourism

Under the Skills for Tourism (SFT) work stream, a joint assessment by the Department of Tourism and the Vanuatu Tourism office was undertaken to check the level of compliance with Vanuatu Tourism Office Minimum Standards (VTOMS) by Tanna clients. A separate report on this will be released at a later date.

Tanna Tourism Recovery Project Stage 2 (TTRP2) Material Purchasing and Client Preparations

Material procurement, packaging and shipment arrangements begun under TTRP2 with the support of the Sft Coordinator in Port Vila during the months of March and April, with the first shipment of materials delivered to Tanna at the end of April.



Figure 3: Unloading of Recovery Project Materials

There was also client follow up on local material preparation including sand, coral and wood and site preparations. Site preparations supported by the Sft Construction Industry Coach included clearing of project sites and setting out for construction works. A total of 24 clients were visited by the Construction Coach to provide both awareness and preparation.

Skills for Handicraft

The Centre coordinated an assessment by Mr. Watt Abea in Futuna to ascertain the levels of Learning Literacy and Numeracy (LLN) for selected mamas' sub-associations which form the Futuna Tuta Fana'ariki Handicraft Association. The selected mothers will be attending the governance training that will be delivered later to strengthen governance of their emerging association which is focusing mainly on pandanus products.

As Tanna and Aneityum are showing high potential for market of Made in Vanuatu (MIV) handicraft, the Vanuatu Skills Partnership has engaged Mr Martin David who has recently graduated at USP to assist the Tafea Skills Centre to coordinate handicraft development activities on the islands of Tafea Province. The Centre welcomes Mr Martin David!

The Centre began preparations in April 2018 for a major awareness on MIV products in Aneityum after a one day meeting with the SfH Advisor, Nicky Barnes, Industry Coach Julia King and the department of Industry Officer, Mr. Xavier Nakou. The other major objective of this awareness is to discuss opportunities and where possible establish inter island trade connections with vendors in Aneityum.

Tanna Jewellery Making Workshop and Coaching

A jewellery making workshop and follow-up was conducted by Industry Coach, Trudy Kalotiti from 15th to 22nd March 2018. The first 2 days were a follow-up jewellery production using burau fibre to produce maze earrings, coconut shell earrings, volcano earring design, local black dye and necklaces. The next 3 days were spent on ensuring the quality of products to meet tourists' expectation.

During the follow-up, the majority of the clients showed some of the products they had produced since the original trainings and 4 out of the 20 female clients showed samples of all the 5 products which they were taught to produce. In this group of clients there is 1 male participant who is more engaged in carving but is now also producing some fine necklaces using coconut shells.

It is important to note here that the majority of mamas are skilled weavers of traditional local baskets, mats and other decorations for the local market and therefore introducing them to new and finer (smaller) products for the tourist market can pose some challenges which Tafea Skills Centre is working with the industry coaches to address.

Printing Press Workshop



The Print Press Workshop was conducted by Industry Coach, Anne Smith from 3rd to 6th April 2018 to the Drawing clients. Clients were introduced to the use of a donated print press and were taught how to cut lino and wood blocks for use in press printing.

Four individual clients are producing impressive drawings and print products which are currently on sale at the Tafea Travel Information Centre and in a few of the bungalows and resorts on Tanna.

Figure 4: Clients practising with Press Printing Machine



Business Finance Follow up 1

The Business Finance follow-up was conducted by Industry Coach, Mr. Kalowie Robert, from the 21st to 22nd March 2018 in Aneityum. Each of the 8 female clients were visited by the Coach to discuss and check the records of sales using a sales recording system learned during their first training. In general, clients who have been using the recording system are coming to realise the benefits in terms of comparing sales from different cruise days and also to compare sales of different products.

Each client expressed their recognition of the value of professional recording; 3 of the clients have started using the new system, 1 client has been supported to enhance her own already robust recording system and 4 other clients are yet to use the new recording system.

Disability Inclusive Development Fund

The Centre, with the support of the Department of Livestock and the Department of Fisheries conducted assessment on potential clients who will benefit from the Disability Inclusive Development Fund (DIDFund) provided by the Australian Government to the Vanuatu Skills Partnership in 2017. The Tafea Skills Centre in collaboration with the Tanna Disability Committee requested support for poultry and fish farming start-up materials from the Vanuatu Skills Partnership Disability Inclusion Team, who manage the fund. Following approval, 10 chicken wires and 20 bags of chicken feed and 6 polythene plastics for fish farming were purchased.

In the months of March and April 2018, 3 people with disabilities who were nominated by the Tafea Disability Committee were visited and confirmed for the fish pond projects and 7 confirmed for the poultry projects. We still have 6 people with disability to be assessed in order to complete the client selection process.



Skills Centre Manager, Joe lautim (far right) joins the Area Secretary of South Tanna (far left) following the assessment of the interior of South Tanna to determine who will benefit from chicken wire. The assessment was conducted by two brothers (to the right of Mr lautim).

Skills for Agri-Business

Assessment of Analcahat Market Demand

Analcahat is the main market center on Anietyum island and the Tafea Skills Centre has been conducting strategic workshops and coaching with people in Umej and Port Patrick since 2016 on semi-commercial farming and small livestock farming with the broader intention to establish market linkages for farm produce in Analcahat and on Mystery Island. The table below shows the number of participants who have been attending workshops on agri-business since 2016.

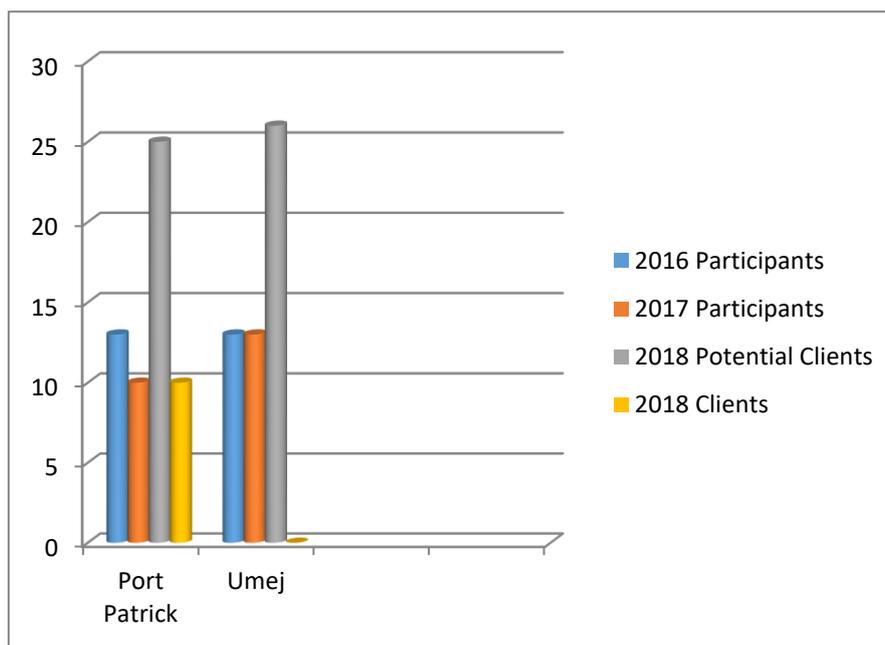


Chart 1: Aneityum Participants in the Agri-Business Sector since 2016

The assessment undertaken in March 2018 by Mr. Olivier Iato from the Farmers' Support Association and Mr. Sam Naiu from the Department of Agriculture confirmed that there is high and growing demand for farm produce in Analcahat market. However, out of the 50 farmers assessed, only 10 clients are producing to meet the local market demand while the rest of the farmers are producing on a very small scale to meet their household food needs with only small surpluses which go to the market. Assessment further revealed that though there is transport availability to the market from both communities, low volumes of production makes it expensive for the farmers to hire boats to transport their produce to Analcahat.

During this visit individual farmers were also technically advised on;

- Off-season pineapple production;
- Organic farming practices;
- Farming practices for vanilla and pepper;
- Advice on crop diversification; and
- Encouragement to farmers on the importance of developing a crop planting and harvest calendar