

Partnership for Malampa TVET trainings hailed a huge success

By Harrison Selmen

THE MALAMPA PROVINCIAL Government, AusAID's Direct Aid Project, Malampa Provincial Women Council, Vanuatu Institute of Technology (VIT) Londua Training Centre, Lakatoro Fish Market and the Australian- Government funded -Technical Vocational and Educational Training (TVET) Centre in Malampa province have worked in Partnership to support two up skill trainings that were held in Lakatoro, Malekula.

Their commitment towards these accredited trainings have seen a successful completion of the tile laying while building construction is being completed.

The tile laying training was delivered by VIT's trainer in building construction, Mr Elia Tabisap and the building construction training was delivered by Londua Rural Training Centre's trainers in building construction, Mr Harold Virautu and Mr Kenward Vatu.

There were 19 Participants altogether who attended the building construction training. Seven of them were stu-

dents from Morobian Training Centre in North West Malekula. Fifteen uncertified construction workers attended the tile laying training. Most of them came from the central part of Malekula.

The tile laying took a total of three weeks which saw 15 uncertified construction workers taking part in a one-week theory and two weeks practical.

The participants displayed what they learned throughout the one-week theory by laying tiles inside the Lakatoro Fish Market. The inclusion of the tiles into the fish market to meet the international safety standards for food handling is in line with the Department of Fisheries objectives. The training will build upon the work already undertaken by Malampa TVET Centre and the Fisheries Department in conducting training in sea food safety.

Elia Tabisap, trainer for tiling said he believes most of the participants have gained lifelong skills and knowledge during the training and can be certified as competent tile laying professionals. Tabisap

encouraged the participants to keep their hands working after the training so that they may not lose what they learned. In Fact, these participants who will be certified with a VNTC's certificate of attainment in floor and wall tile laying, have been approached for tile laying contracts. There are plans in place to develop participants' business services to complement the accredited training program in tile laying, they have just completed.

The other building construction training saw the participants build a new handicraft centre for the Malampa Provincial Women council. The handicraft centre could now become one of the market hubs for successful income generating for the Malampa women in the future. Thanks to AusAid for funding the building materials.

Most of the participants who attended the building construction training were uncertified builders and after the training will be awarded nationally accredited certificates of attainment from the Vanuatu National Training Council (VNTC).