



TO: Kalwajin Skepha, Secretary General, Malampa Province

DATE: 31st March 2021

Dear Secretary General,

Provincial Skills Development Quarterly Report: January to March 2021

The Malampa Skills Centre is committed to supporting implementation of the Government's National Recovery Strategy, *Yumi Evriwan Tugeta* – and the longer-term goals of the *National Sustainable Development Plan 2030*.

Yumi Evriwan Tugeta clearly outlines three priority objectives:

1. Enhance lives and livelihoods
2. Repair the built environment
3. Restore and strengthen essential social services and protections

Working together to enable high quality skills training and market access facilitation in our key productive sectors is essential to achieving these objectives. This requires collective action, innovation and a determination to leave no one behind in the development of our province.

The Malampa Provincial Government Training Board is pleased to share with you the results of our efforts in this quarterly provincial skills development report.

We look forward to our ongoing partnership for the recovery and prosperity of our communities and the nation as a whole – *Long God Yumi Stanap*.

Yours faithfully,

Renjo Samuel
Chair - Malampa Provincial Government Training Board

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Overview

Quarterly Activities

	Activity Type (list in Dot Points)
Skills for Agribusiness/Food Security	Meeting (x2) Field visit/information collection (x1)
Skills for Construction	
Skills for Creative Industries	Audit (x1) Mid Term Review (x1) Professional development (x1) Exchange visit (x1) Board meeting (x3)
Skills for Tourism	Workshop (x1)
Training Provider Support	QMS development (x1) Meetings (x3)
Leadership & Management	Professional development (x1) Leadership development (x1)
Inclusion	School support (x1)
Other	Disaster response (x1) PGTB (x1)

Quarterly Participation of Individual Clients

	Skills for Agribusiness	Skills for Construction	Skills for Creative Industries	Skills for Tourism	Training Provider Support	Leadership and Management	Other
Women	14		11	18	1	5	
Men	120			24	6	15	1
TOTAL	134	0	11	42	7	20	1
People with Disabilities (included in totals above)							
Couples (included in totals above)							



Highlights

Enhancing lives and livelihoods

Skills for Agribusiness - Food Security

Name of activity: Malekula pepper farmers visit/data collection

Location: North West & North East Malekula

Total number of participants: (disaggregated by gender and disability) 15 women, 108 men

Overview: From the 15th to the 26th of March, Mr. Patick Joe, a lead pepper farmer in Malekula and founder of *Malekula Spices* visited pepper farmers in the North West and North East of Malekula to collect data on the no. of farmers, pepper farms and pepper plants. In 2020, Mr. Joe participated in a pepper crops management, processing and marketing workshop by Malampa Skills and DARD Malampa in 2020. He was also supported to establish a pepper nursery in North West Malekula. He currently has 1,000 pepper plants in his nursery that are ready for planting. In 2020, Mr Joe and his farmers produced over 80 kgs of high quality pepper, earning a total of 188,000VT. Slowly, the demand for Malekula pepper is increasing and therefore, Mr. Patick's mission through this activity is to find out what is available in terms of pepper resources on the island and what is needed to develop this industry further.

Support to the pepper industry in Malampa in 2021 is in line with the Department of Agriculture's objective of increasing production of agricultural produce and products through the engagement of all stakeholders.

Key achievements/ outcomes:

- A small database of pepper farmers and farms in North West and North East Malekula is now in place (108 men and 15 women pepper farmers in North West and North East Malekula)
- Lead farmer, Patick Joe connected with farmers on the ground
- Training needs were identified
- Pepper farmers keen to formalise a Malekula pepper association

Quote from Partner/Client:

"Malekula has the potential to grow its pepper industry. As I went out collecting data, I realised that we have many pepper farmers but they have little or no knowledge on how to farm and process quality pepper. With Malampa Skills's support, we now have the data to help us move forward. Our aim is to improve quality and increase production of

Malekula pepper in 2021 and set up a pepper farmer's association that will bring together all the farmers." Patick Joe, Lead Pepper farmer, North West Malekula



Patick Joe (left) during his field visit in North West Malekula. Photo to the right – Patick's pepper nursery in Malua Bay, North West Malekula. The nursery currently has 1,000 pepper plants that are ready for planting.

Skills for Creative Industries

Name of activity: Malampa Handicraft Centre (MHC) Mid-term review and AGM Support

Location: Lakatoro, Malekula

Total number of participants: (disaggregated by gender and disability) 2 women (MHC staff)

Overview: A mid-term review of MHC was carried out this quarter to appraise the performance of the Centre against its Business Plan of 2019-2022. The review found that the Centre achieved 5 of the key performance indicators whilst 8 are half achieved and 2 are on the poor grading.

The report concluded that:

"This is reasonable progress considering that MHC is only halfway through implementing the 3- year Business Plan, plus the economic downturn caused by COVID. The main problem is that MHC will not achieve its target of financial sustainability in 2021 (Objective 1). In times of crisis, the Board must be more active and engaged with the business. When COVID impacts hit in March 2020, businesses across Vanuatu prepared Response & Recovery Plans but MHC did not have one. Unless some urgent action is taken, MHC may not survive upon the end of G4G funding." MHC Mid Term Review Report, March 2021.

Key achievements/ outcomes:

- The completed mid-term review provided a real picture of MHC as a business
- The review report is a critical document that will guide VSP and other partners' support to MHC to ensure its sustainability
- The mid-term review will also guide decisions at MHC's first AGM

Strengthening Malampa Handicraft Centre is an activity that aligns with the Department of Industry's objective of promoting improved handicraft competitive market positioning in Vanuatu.

Quote from Partner/Client: "As a founder of MHC, I really want to see this business grow into the future to support the women of Malampa. I thank VSP for their support throughout the past. The report has now given us a picture of the business and we need to still work together to take things forward." Naomi Malau, founder of MHC.



Naomi Malau (left) and Estella Ores (right) from the Malampa Handicraft Centre (MHC) teaching West Coast Santo women how to weave during an exchange program in March 2021 to promote the handicraft industry.

Skills for Tourism

Name of activity: Brand and Digital Readiness Workshop (Turisim Marketing Storian)

Location: Ambrym and Paama

Total number of participants: (disaggregated by gender and disability) 42 participants (18 female and 24 male)

Overview: In mid-March 2021, a team from the Vanuatu Tourism Office (VTO) and the Malampa Tourism Council travelled to Ambrym and Paama for a VTO Turisim Marketing Storian.

The Turisim Marketing Storian is an important series of workshops run throughout Vanuatu by VTO to support tourism business owners and operators market their products to both local and international tourists. Each Turisim Marketing Storian event were preceded with site visits by the team to local tourism businesses. Workshops were then held in each location where all local tourism operators were able to meet together under one roof. During the workshops, the VTO team discussed and presented ideas about Vanuatu's destination brand and how each tour operator contributes to Vanuatu's reputation as a tourism destination.

Malampa Skills Centre is pleased to partner with VTO and DOT Malampa to support this activity. This is in-line with the national recovery plan and tourism strategy to deliver a range of marketing activities for local tourism operators to better engage with the domestic market and prepare for when international borders reopen.

Key achievements/ outcomes:

- More awareness about the #Sapotemlokolturism domestic campaign, Answer the Call brand and Keeping Vanuatu Beautiful recovery message among the operators
- Increased understanding on the role and responsibilities of the VTO and the difference with DoT
- Bigger digital footprint for the Malampa province industry
- Updated information and professional pictures for Ambrym and Paama operators

Quote from Partner/Client:

According to CEO of Vanuatu Tourism Office, Adela Issachar, the domestic tourism workshops are a key part of VTO's work.

"Our Turisim Marketing Storian events are preparing businesses for when we can start receiving international visitors to our shores again so that their business and the Vanuatu economy can recover. Hemi impotent tumas se yumi evriwan long Vanuatu i kontinu blong sapotem lokol turisim." Mrs Issachar Aru said.



Hawor cultural tour in West Ambrym was one of the tours visited by the team in March 2021. Source: VTO

Training Provider Support

Name of activity: Pektel RTC Registration Support & VQA Board meeting in Malampa

Location: Norsup, Malekula

Total number of participants: (disaggregated by gender and disability) 6 men, 1 woman

Overview: Throughout this period, Pektel RTC received the following support:

- Visit by Malampa Skills Centre and Education Office to discuss 2021 operational plan
- VEMIS data entry support
- PEO TVET's visit to discuss Stimulus Package, 2021 work-plan & sort out bank account
- Meeting facilitated by VQA representative to discuss 2020 Pektel self-review recommendations and draw up action plans for 2021

In addition, the Vanuatu Qualification Authority (VQA) board met in Malampa, on the 25th of March. This is the first time, the board met in Malampa and outside of Port Vila. The meeting was held at the Malampa Skills Centre conference room in Norsup and the board had the opportunity to visit Rensarie College, a proposed TVET in school location and Malampa vocational training centre.

Key achievements/ outcomes:

- A 2021 workplan for the RTC is in place with specific action plans to address self-review recommendations
- Pektel received a stimulus package of 4,116,000vt from the Government as a result of updated VEMIS information in 2020
- Pektel's board are well informed of the purpose of the stimulus package and a plan is in place to guide how to utilise the funds
- Pektel now has a more transparent finance procedure. The bank account signatories include the Board Chairman signature, Deputy Manager – Administration and Acting Manager who is a staff of the Malampa Education Office.
- VQ Board is informed of Malampa PGTB's priorities for 2021.
- VQA CEO announced that VQA, TED and VSP will work together to support a Malampa vocational training centre at Rensarie.

Support to Pektel RTC this quarter is in line with the 3rd pillar of the Vanuatu Education and Training Sector Strategic Plan of 2020-2030 which is to improve planning and financial management of institutions.

Quote from Partner/Client: "Thank you PEO TVET, Malampa Skills and Malampa Education for your support that has enabled the Centre to access the stimulus package this year. This is a big achievement for the Centre." Nicol Axis, Chairman of Pektel Board.



Photo above: PEO TVET and Pektel staff and board after a meeting in March to discuss the Government's stimulus package to the RTC. The newly constructed admin office is in the background and on the right is the newly constructed kitchen. It is encouraging to see new developments at the centre in 2021.



VQA board members outside the Malampa Skills Centre in Norsup, 25th March 2021. It is the first time VQA board met outside of Port Vila.

Leadership & Management

Name of activity: Leadership and Management course for Malampa leaders

Location: Lakatoro, Malekula

Total number of participants: (disaggregated by gender and disability) 20 (15 men, 5 women)

Overview: This is a leadership and management course by APTC to support the professional development of a number of heads of departments and key officers working in Malampa. The course will be delivered over a period of 6 six months in 3 different blocks. The first block was delivered from the 22nd of March to 2nd of April. The participants included;

- Area administrators (5 male)
- Government Officers (6 females, 8 male)
- Private sector/NGO (1 male)

Key achievements/ outcomes:

- The leadership course supports the strengthening of the area administrators to do their work effectively within their new structure as per the decentralisation Act and to be leaders within their communities.

Quote from Partner/Client:

"I am blessed to be part of this leadership and management training. I thank VSP for the support provided to make this a reality. I know this will be very useful to me. When I attended the adaptive leadership workshop by VSP in October 2020, it boosted my morale to improve my work. I went back to my area council in West Ambrym and set up a Area Technical Group to oversee all our development activities. We then set up a fisherman association and a farmers' association. I am sure this training will give me more

ideas to work differently to achieve more results in my area council.” Bong Massing, Area Administrator, West Ambrym.



Participants of the APTC Leadership and management course in March supported by Malampa Province and Vanuatu Skills Partnership. The participants are made up of heads of departments, area administrators and officers in the Government and private institutions.

Inclusion

Name of activity: School support for client with disability

Location: Rensarie College, Malekula

Total number of participants: (disaggregated by gender and disability) 1 male young person with disability

Overview: Alick Melteckrory is a student with disability who dropped out of Lakatoro school in year 9 in 2020. He is from Vemolo village in Central Malekula. Malampa Skills and the Malampa Disability Desk teamed up in January 2021 to support him to go back to school through a 'special intervention'. This activity supports the strategic priority of the Provincial Disability Desk mandated by the Ministry of Justice and Community Services to mainstream the rights of persons with disabilities in all policies, plans and programs across the education and training sector.

Key achievements/ outcomes:

- Alick Melteckrory was accepted into Rensarie College and is now a year 9 student at the college
- Alick Melteckrory is one of the few persons with disability in Malampa to be in school and to progress to secondary level

Quote from Partner/Client:

“We hope Alick will one day be a role model for many other children with disability in Malampa. This is also a strategy to encourage parents/communities in Malampa to

support the education of children with disabilities and not hide them at home.” Vijay Lele, Malampa Disability Desk Officer.

“I am so happy that Alick is back in school. I was concerned when he dropped out because I know he is not capable to do gardening because of his disability. I always wanted him to go back to school and complete his studies so that one day he can have a job and look after himself.” Alick’s Sister-in-law



Alick Melteckrory in front of the college signboard in February 2021 after his registration. He is happy to be back in school after dropping out in 2020.

Disaster response

Name of activity: Disaster response to flood affected communities in Central Malekula

Location: Hatbol, Lingarak, Barick and Potindir (Central Malekula)

Total number of participants: (disaggregated by gender and disability) 160 households – over 800 people.

Overview: In February, 4 communities in Central Malekula with over 800 people were affected by flooding and Malampa Skills responded by providing water filters to the communities to ensure the communities have access to clean drinking water. This was a direct response to the Provincial Government and the Malampa Disaster Operations Centre’s call for response by all relevant partners on the ground.

Key achievements/ outcomes:

- A total of over 50 water filters were distributed to flood affected communities and a further 200 are being ordered for distribution in late March
- Access to safe drinking water contributed to reduced water borne diseases

Quote from Partner/Client:

"The water filters are a big help to us. The water is not only clean but it taste good too. Thank you for the generous support." Chief Kalmassing Peter, Hatbol village.

"When the flood happened, all our water sources were contaminated. The water filters are a big help to our community." Lorina Willie, Lingarak village.



Malampa Skills Centre staff donating water filters to flood affected communities and a primary school in Central Malekula in February 2021.

Leadership and Governance

Name of activity: Support to Malampa's school girls leadership scholarship through Wilkins Foundation

Location: Malekula

Total number of participants: (disaggregated by gender and disability) 3 female students were chosen in March to join the scholarship program

Overview: The Wilkins Foundations provides scholarships to girls in year 10 in Malampa. So far there are 11 girls in the program. In March, VSP joined the Wilkins team to do interviews for the 3 girls to join the program in 2021. The aim of this foundation is to develop/build leadership through education. Malampa Skills is proud to support this initiative to build girls leadership for the future of this province and Vanuatu.

Key achievements/ outcomes:

- 3 girls were selected and awarded their scholarships in March

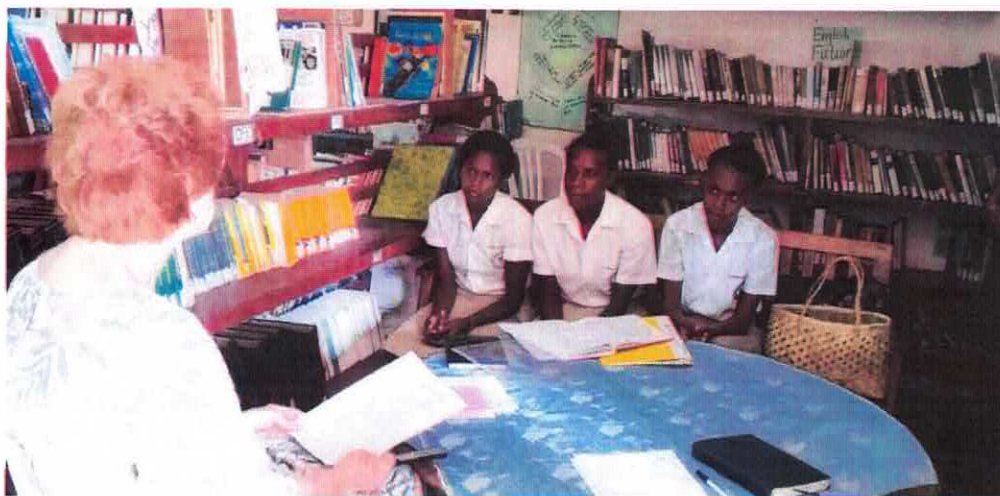


- Malampa's PTC will include this initiative in her work-plan to monitor and support and the girls starting this quarter

This is in line with VSP's Better Balance Strategy that focuses on a better balance in female and male roles, relations and opportunities for an inclusive and prosperous Vanuatu.

Quote from Partner/Client:

"Thank you VSP for the great partnership to build leadership through education. We look forward to continuing to work with the dedicated Malampa Skills team to develop and support female leaders for this province and Vanuatu." Sallie Latella, Country Manager, Wilkins foundation.



Sallie Latella, Country Manager of Wilkins Foundation speaking to Lakatoro secondary school students about the Wilkins Foundation scholarship, February 2021.