



MALAMPA SKILLS CENTRE

Quarterly Report
Q1, 2025

Image 1: Mrs. Serel Julun (Construction graduate from Rensarie) and her husband, Mr Guytou Julun, posing with the tiles she laid at the Northwest Area Council Stage during International Women's Day celebrations



SKILLS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

Priority area: Completion of Vanuatu Travel Information Centre construction works

Achievement/Outcome:

- In July 2024, the Malekula North Central South (MNCS) Construction Company commenced works on the Vanuatu Travel Information Centre (VTIC) – Malekula Branch. After some delays at the end of 2024 and early 2025, construction works have now been completed.
- The MNCS Construction Company was formed by trainees who completed a Certificate II in Building and Construction at Rensarie in 2023. Three of the trainees are female and two of the male trainees have disabilities.
- Construction of the VTIC - Malekula Branch has been a collaboration between the Vanuatu Tourism Office and the Malampa Skills Centre, both of which made significant financial contributions.
- Through February and March, MNCS completed final works including plastering of concrete walls, completion of the veranda, installation of a rail for the accessible ramp, construction of door and window frames, installation of ceiling works, installation of floor tiles, glass doors, windows, septic tank, and painting works.
- To assist with the completion of the building, Malampa Skills Centre procured furniture and solar lights for added security.
- The building was officially launched on 2 May 2025.



Image 2: The completed VTIC building, with solar lighting installed and the accessibility ramp complete



Image 3: Painting works being completed on the VTIC building



Image 4 : Mr. James Manai from MNCS Construction Company undertaking the plastering works



Image 5 : Completion of septic works as part of construction

BETTER BALANCE

Priority area: International Women's Day Celebrations

Achievement/Outcome:

- On 7 March 2025, the Department of Woman's Affairs hosted celebrations for International Women's Day at the Area Council headquarters in Lekan Village, Northwest Malekula.
- The Malampa Skills Centre supported the event by assisting seed producers to showcase their seeds, handicraft producers to showcase their products, and a construction graduate to showcase her skills in how to 'set out' a new house and to lay tiles.
- One of the Malampa Skills Centre handicraft clients with a disability, Mrs. Roslinda Sipteley, attended the event, while most of our other clients who attended the event were also women. Some female clients brought their husbands, demonstrating 'better balance' to the community, and showing what can be achieved when men and women work together as a team.
- For instance, the seedbank chairperson and his wife are both seed farmers, while Mrs. Serel Julun, the construction trainee, joined her husband to deliver a demonstration on setting out for the Area Council generator shed. She also showed her expertise in laying tiles.
- Through this event our clients had the chance to share how the training they attended has improved their skills and supported them to generate income for their families, paying for basic needs such as school fees and health care expenses.
- The Area Administrator and members of the community were very happy to be part of the event. Several members of the community indicated they were willing to form a new handicraft association and join the Malampa Handicraft Centre once their association is set up later this year.



Image 6: Area Administrator, Mr Jerryson Hosea, Disability Desk Officer, Mr Vijay Lele, client with a disability and handicraft producer, Mrs Roslinda Sipteley (third from left), posing with other women leaders in Northwest Malekula during a cake cutting ceremony on International Women's Day



Image 7: Mrs. Serel Julun showing her skills in laying tiles during celebrations for International Women's Day in Lekan Village, Northwest Malekula.



Image 8: Mrs. Marian Sipteley speaking at International Women's Day, explaining how she can use corn leaves to create salusalu which she sells for VUV 600 each.

SKILLS FOR CREATIVE INDUSTRIES



Image 9: Handicraft producer, Mrs. Marian Sipteley, working with Mrs. Poling Nimbwen from VCCI during the financial literacy monitoring exercise

Priority area: Follow up on financial literacy skills for Malampa Handicraft Hub producers

Achievement/Outcome:

- In November 2024, the Malampa Skills Centre facilitated financial literacy skills training for 17 Malampa Handicraft Hub producers on Wala Island. The training was delivered by the Vanuatu Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI).
- In March 2025, the Malampa Skills Centre and VCCI conducted a follow-up monitoring exercise to learn how the handicraft producers are applying the new knowledge and skills, and to identify any further skills gaps. Thirteen handicraft producers participated in the monitoring exercise including 15 women (one with a disability) and two men.
- The monitoring exercise identified that the producers still lack the ability to keep accurate financial records, while they continue to experience challenges accessing markets to sell their products and generate income for themselves and their families.
- During the follow-up, the VCCI team gathered sufficient information to prepare a financial literacy training plan for the producers to strengthen their capacity for financial management, including how to keep accurate financial records, as well as build their capacity to market their products.
- Further financial literacy skills support will be delivered to the producers later this year.



Image 10: Mr. Renmal and Mrs. Renmal at their home on Wala Island during the Financial Literacy monitoring visit



Image 11: Mrs. Poling Nimbwen, one of the Malampa Handicraft Hub producers, and Mr. Robert Malau, at home in Lambubu area, central west of Malekula

WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES FOR QUARTER 2?

Skills for Infrastructure

- Official launch of the Vanuatu Travel Information Centre - Malekula Branch.

Skills for Tourism

- Confirm tourism clients identified in the 2024 audit and prepare for skills development activities.

Skills for Agriculture

- Deliver a workshop focused on harvesting, processing and packaging for pepper farmers from Northwest Malekula.

Skills for Creative Industries

- Roll out the financial literacy training program for craft producers in partnership with VCCI.
- Facilitate a product quality workshop for handicraft producers on Paama.

Disability Inclusion

- Facilitate a Disability Inclusion refresher workshop for Malampa Skills Centre staff.

PARTICIPATION IN SKILLS DEVELOPMENT TRAINING*

SECTOR	WOMEN	MEN	TOTAL	PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
Skills for Creative Industries	15	2	17	1 woman

**Participants in skills training activities only- this data excludes market access activities, consultations and events.*