



Australian High Commission
Solomon Islands

MEDIA RELEASE

AUSTRALIAN-BACKED PROGRAMS DEVELOP THE NEXT GENERATION OF CONSTRUCTION LEADERS

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Two Australian-funded programs have joined forces to help shape the next generation of infrastructure leaders in Solomon Islands' growing construction sector.

Representatives from five local construction companies delivering Australian-supported infrastructure projects have completed targeted leadership training to strengthen construction management capability and improve project quality.

Australia's Solomon Islands Infrastructure Program identified emerging local contractors through its Minor Works Panel, while the Pacific Australia Skills Program delivered People Leadership Skills training, equipping supervisors, team leaders and managers from both the public and private sectors with practical tools to lead teams, communicate effectively and manage day-to-day challenges on site.

Australian High Commissioner Jeff Roach said supporting strong leadership in local companies is key to delivering safe, well-built infrastructure.

"Good leadership is really about helping teams work safely, stay organised, and deliver quality work on time," High Commissioner Roach said.

"By bringing Australia's infrastructure and skills programs together, we're giving local companies the practical management skills they need to take on more complex construction projects."

The five local companies are part of a Minor Works Panel selected to deliver a range of Australian-funded projects in partnership with the Solomon Islands Government.

The group says they're now feeling more confident about problem-solving, managing conflict and leading their work teams.

Spencer Lulu from DDC Pacific Ltd said the training will help him in his daily tasks.

“The workshops help me communicate better with my team, handle problems on site and keep things running smoothly,” Mr Lulu said. “Every day I’m looking forward to further improving my leadership skills on the job.”

Building industry capability is central to Australia’s long-term commitment to deliver more of its infrastructure program through local companies employing skilled Solomon Islands workers.

As part of this approach, 17 local contractors have recently completed tender-writing training at Solomon Islands National University, strengthening their ability to compete for and deliver major infrastructure projects.

The Solomon Islands Infrastructure Program and the Pacific Australia Skills program are continuing to explore new partnerships to further build skills, leadership and capability across the construction sector.

Media enquiries: Andrew Muratore, Australian High Commission, 7607 148

PHOTOS:



Caption 1 - “Getting this certificate helps me do my job better and support my team on site,” Spencer Lulu from DDC Pacific Ltd receives his certificate from Australia’s Second Secretary for Economic, Monika Betts.



Caption 2 – Australia is supporting local construction companies to invest in their workforce with practical leadership training for safer, higher quality management of construction projects.



Caption 3 - 30 participants from across the private sector received *Certificates of Participation* after completing People Leadership Skills the workshops.