



Australian High Commission
Solomon Islands

MEDIA RELEASE

BUILDING SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE FOR HOSPITALITY CAREERS

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From kitchens, cafés, and training rooms across Honiara, thirteen Solomon Islanders recently completed a hands-on workshop in Hospitality Drink Preparation Skills, delivered through the Pacific Australia Skills program.

These professionals are stepping forward with newfound confidence and skills that can open doors to work, small businesses, and future opportunities.

Australian High Commissioner to Solomon Islands, Jeff Roach, acknowledged the importance of training that is practical and responds to the needs of industry, and enhances employability for Solomon Islanders.

“Australian programs are creating jobs and building a skilled workforce in Solomon Islands, focused on long-term economic growth and creating opportunities for young people and women”, High Commissioner Roach said.

“We know that jobs and growth are the top priority for the Solomon Islands Government, which is why we’re so proud to support this work.”

The workshop included real workplace skills, from coffee preparation to non-alcoholic and low-alcohol beverages, equipping participants with experiences they can take straight into cafés, restaurants, hotels, resorts, and events across Solomon Islands.

Most of the participants were women, reflecting the important contribution that women are making to the country’s hospitality and tourism sector.

Participant Ms Pat Ella Lomo, a tutor at the Solomon Islands National University’s Tourism and Hospitality Department, said the workshop had enhanced both her technical skills and her confidence as a hospitality professional and trainer.

Ms Lomo said the workshop also highlighted the real potential of hospitality as a career pathway for young Solomon Islanders.

Pacific Australia Skills Country Director for Solomon Islands, Ms Atenasi Ata, said the sessions were designed to reflect real workplace expectations and industry standards.

“Learners are now better prepared to grow in their roles and contribute to further growth and development of the hospitality industry,” Ms Ata said.

The Pacific Australia Skills program will continue to deliver inclusive, accessible and high-quality skills training workshops, trainings and upskilling opportunities that encourages Solomon Islanders, particularly youth and women and people with disabilities, to participate meaningfully in the workforce.

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Caption 1: Group photo of the 13 participants and Pacific Australia Skills staff upon completion of the Statement of Participation in Hospitality Drink Preparation Skills workshop.



Caption 2: Thirteen participants proudly smile with their Statement of Participation, celebrating the successful completion of the workshop in Hospitality Drink Preparation Skills delivered by Pacific Australia Skills.



Caption 3 - Students proudly showcasing their end products after a hands-on practical in cocktail and smoothie preparation.



Caption 4: Students work together, gaining practical, hands-on experience during the workshop.