

Peace Corps Vanuatu



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Port Vila, Vanuatu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Peace Corps Sponsors High Value Crop and Sustainable Agriculture Workshop in Luganville

In mid-May, Peace Corps, the Farm Support Association, and the Ministries of Agriculture and Youth and Sports, jointly hosted a training workshop that focused on the topic of High Value Crops and Sustainable Agriculture, in Luganville. This workshop was conducted under the auspices of the Future Farmers of Vanuatu project, which is a collaborative effort involving the above entities and interested communities on several Islands. The goal of the Future Farmers Project is to interest youth in agriculture as a livelihood, while promoting increased food security, income generation and sustainable natural resources management. Approximately 36 participants, including Peace Corps Volunteers and Ni Vanuatu counterparts, from Santo, Malo, Paama, Efate, Epi, Motalava, Malakula, Maskelynes, Ambae, Pentecost, and Tanna attended this workshop. During the workshop, participants received intensive training in the production, processing and marketing of several important crops, whose commercial potential has yet to be fully realized in Vanuatu, including vanilla, pepper, cocoa, pineapple and the raising of laying hens. An important theme throughout the workshop was sustainable agriculture, particularly agroforestry, green manure cropping, and soil conservation. During the workshop, very interesting field trips were made to Malo Island and Vanui Vanilla farm. Peace Corps would like to thank FSA, including Charles Rogers and Piero Bianchessi, and Senni Mole of Malo, for their assistance. As part of the Future Farmers of Vanuatu project, Peace Corps looks forward to working with other communities and stakeholders in the future, and building on efforts such as this training workshop. For further information about Future Farmers of Vanuatu, please contact Ron Savage at Peace Corps at 26160 or by e-mail at rsavage@vu.peacecorps.gov

“High Value Crops Workshop Participants in Santo – September 2003”

