

Te Au Vaine Makete



1st- 3rd August, 2017

The Trade Day Market 2017 provided a great opportunity for our Women & Girls with Disabilities Organisation on Rarotonga and women from the Pa Enuia to showcase their products.

The three day market showed the expertise of our women in craft-making, massage oil production and embroidery. This annual event was supported by the Gender and Development Unit of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. This is the fourth time the Trade Days Market was held on Rarotonga. Some of the women that participated in this year's market day event were first timers and they expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to be part of the event. According to one Mama, *"I am so glad that I took part in this event as it gave me confidence in selling my products and encourages me to produce more crafts in this short time."*

Te Au Vaine Makete was a huge opportunity and great opening for our women not just to show their expertise but share their experiences and challenges while producing their various products. The women expressed their appreciation to the Gender Unit for this opportunity and to the Government of Australia for enabling them to participate in this milestone event, which is also supported by the Government of the Cook Islands.

Produced by Gender Unit of the Ministry of Internal Affairs



Government of Australia

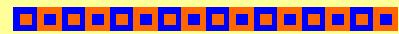


Government of the Cook Islands

An Experience for our Women & Girls with Disabilities



Teupoko Rota “This is my first time to take part in a Trade Days market, and I’ve really enjoyed sharing my experiences in what I do as the Project Coordinator for the Cook Islands Women & Girls with Disabilities Organization. I work alongside my sisters helping them with the making of the crafts and today, I’m helping with the sale of our products.”



Veronica George “I am so happy to be part of this Trade Day’s market as this is my first time to take part and sell my crafts. Yes I sew outfits for my family for free. Now after joining our women and girls with disabilities group, I started making little souvenir gifts like wallet covers, cheque book covers, make-up kits for ladies and other miniature things that ladies like to sell.”

“During the last 3 days, I met a lot of new friends and exchanged contacts with them including our neighboring vendors the friendly Mama’s from the island of Aitutaki including tourists. I shared with them how I made my products with my own logo and design and I do them every work day at our Cook Islands Women & Girls with Disabilities work station.”





Tapita William-Teiotu

“This 3 days trade-day event has been really good for us, I am so happy to be part of this trade day market along with my sister here Tearoa Ngatoko, from the island of Aitutaki.”

“I would like to say thank you to our Aitutaki Island Council for bringing us here to the trade day market. This is a good opportunity and experience for us the women from the Pa Enea. We have in our stall, colorful printed pareus, sheets, and embroidered Bed covers (Tivaevae), massage oils and remu (seaweed).”



Tearoa Ngatoko

“What a joy for me to be part of this trade day market. It’s my first time to attend and I’ve been so excited from the first to the last day, meeting new friends.”

“This is a good experience for me, and I’ve enjoyed selling our products and doing really well.”





Mama Ake Pouao “I am glad to be part of this Trade Day market. I help out with our stall, selling our products, that our women produce themselves, from our island of Mitiaro. We have in our stall, different styles of pandanus baskets, massage oils, fresh locally made head ei’s and long ei’s and roll of pandanus. Meitaki ranuinui.”



Matatu Tetava “This is my third time here at the Trade Day market, and I am very happy to be here amongst our Mama’s. This is a great opportunity and experience for me to be a part of.”

“The three days of trading is plenty for us, we did really well as we sold out our products, especially on the third day. Akameitaki te Kavamani Kuki Airani no te tau-turu.”



Visting Friends

“Anne Taylor, from Waitangi, New Zealand, popped in to our stalls at the Trade Days market with her husband. They saw the great opportunity for the Mama’s and their hard work selling their own locally-made products.”

“Visitor Alison Mark, caught a glimpse of remu (seaweed) selling at our Aitutaki Mama’s stall. “I am very supportive for our local Mama’s selling their own locally made products,” she said.”

“Helen Nunce, came along to our stalls with her family. They were so excited to see the colourful locally printed pareu and embroidery, made by our Women & Girls with Disabilities. They supported by purchasing the women’s products as a gift for their friends.”



Tearoa Kaokao, “I am so happy to be here , the location for our stall was a great spot. I made a lot of friends from other vendors, and customers. I was really happy to see how our products were selling well. In our stall we have different pandanus baskets, fans, massage oils and rolls of dry pandanus leaves selling at a reasonable price. Three days trade market is enough for us.”

“Two women travelled over to Rarotonga with me. When we go back to Mauke we will share our fantastic experiences here at the Trade Days Market.”

