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PRESS RELEASE

Second Phase of Vanilla Cultivation Training for Women and Girls Completed and Nursery Inaugurated in Belmopan

Belmopan, March 7, 2025.

The Office of the Prime Minister and Ministry of Investment, through the Investment Policy and Compliance Unit (IPCU), in collaboration with the National Women's Commission (NWC), the Taiwan Technical Mission, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, the Belize Permaculture & Renewable Energy Ltd, the Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Transport, and the Department of Youth Services, officially inaugurated Belize's third public vanilla nursery at the Western Region Youth Training Institute.

This vanilla nursery has been fully planted with two (2) species of vanilla native to the south of Belize. This establishes further progress toward the planned increase in the supply of vanilla beans from Belize.

Present at the inauguration ceremony were Roberto Pan, Chief of Mission of the Taiwan Technical Mission; Lincoln Blake, Director, IPCU, Ministry of Investment; Eleanor Murillo, Executive Director of the National Women's Commission; Walton Garbutt, Deputy Director of the Department of Youth Services; and Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Nesbitt of Belize Permaculture & Renewable Energy Ltd.

The Office of the Prime Minister and the Women's Commission anticipate a bright future in this newly emerging sector of vanilla production and in pioneering new economic activities to encourage female leadership in Belize's economic diversification.

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