

THE SOL EDUCATOR TIMES

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Issue #05



FROM THE MINISTRY

Welcome to the May edition of The Sol Educator Times, MEHRD's monthly newsletter for teachers, supported by the Stronger Education Together (SET) program.

This issue highlights key initiatives advancing education across Solomon Islands. We feature MEHRD's financial management training for education providers and schools, designed to strengthen accountability, transparency and the effective use of public education funds.

We also celebrate the launch of the 2026 STEM Education Project with UNESCO, an important step in preparing students with practical, future-ready skills. In addition, this edition spotlights the MEHRD Radio Awareness Program, which keeps teachers, school leaders and communities informed through regular education updates on SIBC.

Together, these stories reflect our shared commitment to building a stronger, more accountable and forward-looking education system.

MEHRD thanks all educators for your continued service and dedication to learners throughout the country.

Dr. Franco Rodie
Permanent Secretary

MEHRD strengthens Financial Management Capacity



Left: Key facilitator, Ms Vivian delivers a presentation. Right: MEHRD Finance officers and Provincial Accountants attentively listening, during the Training Workshop.

The Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development (MEHRD), with support from UNICEF, hosted a two-day Education Financial Management Training Workshop for Provincial Education Provider accountants and finance personnel at the Mendana Hotel from 26–27 May 2026.

The workshop aimed to strengthen the ability of Education Providers, schools and Early Childhood Education centres to manage education grants and public funds effectively, transparently and in line with the new Education Funding Code, Financial Management Manuals and the Education Legislative Framework.

In his opening remarks, Permanent Secretary Dr Franco Rodie said strong financial management

is essential to delivering quality education, maintaining trust and ensuring accountability. He reminded participants that every dollar allocated to schools should directly support students, improve learning environments and contribute to better education outcomes.

Under the Education Act 2023, Education Providers serve as Principal Accountable Officers for schools under their responsibility.

The training helped finance officers better understand budgeting, record keeping, grant acquittals and reporting obligations.

MEHRD thanked UNICEF for supporting the initiative and encouraged all participants to apply the knowledge gained to ensure education resources are used wisely for the benefit of learners across Solomon Islands.



Did You Know...

Students remember more when learning is spaced over time rather than crammed in one session.

<https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED536925.pdf>

MEHRD and UNESCO Launch 2026 STEM Education Project



MEHRD, UNESCO, MFAT, Chinese Embassy and education stakeholders mark the official launch with a ceremonial cake cutting.



St. Nicholas Anglican College students observe practical STEM displayed by Racquelah Filia Form 3 following the official launch programme.



St. Nicholas Form 1 students demonstrate a hands-on (Robot Syringe Hand) STEM project using syringes and recyclable materials.

The Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development (MEHRD), in partnership with UNESCO, officially launched the 2026 STEM Education Project at St. Nicholas Anglican College in Honiara.

Officiated by Permanent Secretary Dr. Franco Rodie, the event brought together representatives from UNESCO, New Zealand MFAT, the Chinese Embassy, SINU, USP, SIAVRTC, MEHRD officials, school leaders, teachers and students.

Dr. Rodie described STEM as essential to national development, environmental resilience and participation in emerging industries,

stressing that all students, including those in rural and remote communities, should have access to quality STEM learning.

The project will focus on strengthening curriculum and teacher training, building capacity for educators and technical trainers, promoting STEM careers, and improving science laboratories and learning hubs.

St. Nicholas College, Gizo Secondary School and Waimapuru National Secondary School will serve as pilot schools to guide wider implementation across Solomon Islands.

QUICK TIPS

► Wellbeing

- *Start the day with a quick check-in to gauge student mood and engagement*

► Technology

- *Be flexible - always have a non-digital backup plan.*

► Child Protection

- *Protect student privacy - handle personal information with care.*

Stay up-to-date with MEHRD Radio Awareness



The Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development (MEHRD) delivers its Radio Awareness Program every Wednesday morning on SIBC, sharing important education updates with communities across Solomon Islands.

The weekly broadcast informs teachers, school leaders, education providers, school boards, parents and the public about key policies, initiatives, school administration matters and issues affecting teaching and learning.

It also explains new developments, addresses concerns and encourages community support for stronger schools.

As radio remains a trusted and accessible medium, the program helps reach both urban and rural audiences.

Recordings are posted on the MEHRD Facebook page. MEHRD encourages all stakeholders to tune in, listen and share the information.