



PR#113-25

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Third Cohort Completes Cell Phone Repair Training in Punta Gorda Town**

*Belmopan. July 7, 2025.*

The Office of the Prime Minister and Ministry of Investment, through its Investment Policy and Compliance Unit (IPCU), partnered with the Taiwan Technical Mission, Punta Gorda Town Council, and the National Women's Commission to expand the "Cell Phone Repair Training for Women in Belize" in the Toledo district.

The course was conducted from June 30 to July 5 at the Toledo Community College, with 50 hours of intense training for the 15 female participants from Punta Gorda Town, Mafredi Village, San Benito Poite, San Felipe, and Conejo Creek. The objective of the training was to create self-employment opportunities for women while addressing the growing demand for cell phone repair technicians.

Throughout the training, participants gained practical skills in repairing common issues in iOS and Android devices, including screen and charging port replacements. Over 80 devices were repaired during the training, and one participant quickly adopted key techniques to repair mobile device motherboards. To complement the technical training, the Belize Training and Employment Centre (BTEC) facilitated a three-hour session on sales and professional etiquette.

At the end of the course, each trainee received a certification of completion and a starter kit containing essential repair tools, including antistatic mats, electric multimeters, soldering irons, magnifying lamps, and tool kits. This investment enables the women to begin offering repair services or launch businesses immediately.

This initiative supports the broader goal of diversifying export-led economic activity in the Toledo district by enhancing skills and entrepreneurship, especially in growth sectors such as the Orange Economy.

Present at the closing ceremony of the training were Hon. Oscar Requena, Minister of Education, Science, and Technology; Mr. Andrew Su, Chief of the Taiwan Technical Mission; Ms. Jahrine Avila, Councilor, Punta Gorda Town Council; Mr. Lincoln Blake, Director, Investment Policy and Compliance Unit; Ms. Olivia Sho, Commissioner, National Women's Commission; Ms. Indira Usher, Foreign Service Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade, Culture, and Immigration; and Mr. Abisur Quintal, Cell phone repair instructor from Jarvis Fix.

## **Ends**

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