



Photo Credit; Emily Ellis

## JASTIS, SEFTI, DIGNITI, RISPEKT MO GUD FASIN BLONG EVRIWAN

The purpose of this Newsletter is to share information, news and data among our Sector. You can keep up with more news at the Ministry of Justice & Community Services (MJCS) website and other Sector agencies websites.

## SECTOR UPDATES

## National Children's Day celebrations



On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July MJCS and MoET led the National Children's Day celebrations at Saralana Park in Port Vila. The event was a great success, including a parade from Fatumauri Bay to Saralana, brass bands, speeches by children and the launch of MoET's campaign on starting school at the right age.

The theme of the day was *"Everyone should support children's learning by"*

*Enrolling all our children into class 1 at age 6".* This theme was discussed in a full week of radio programs on VBTC leading up to the launch last Monday.

This year was the first year that children have led the official National Children's Day celebrations. It was fantastic to see all our partners allowing space for children to be up front and centre of their day. Seeing children's smiles and growing confidence is one of the best gifts in life.

The celebrations would not have been possible without the support of our partners. The commitment from such a wide range of partners demonstrates that children are valued members of our society. Thank you once again to all involved for making this year's celebrations a success.



## LOA MO SOSEL JASTIS TOKTOK

The newsletter from the Justice and Community Services Sector



MINISTRY OF JUSTICE & COMMUNITY SERVICES

Brought to you by:

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*Community leaders and DG Mark Bebe cut the cake.....*

On 10<sup>th</sup> July, delegates from MJCS, MOYDS, UNICEF and Penama Provincial government travelled to Tavalunwai community in North Pentecost to launch the newest pilot site for the joint MJCS-MOYDS-UNICEF Child Protection Pilot Project.

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*Sleeping house near complete at Second Lagoon....*

When Tropical Cyclone Pam devastated communities in the Southern Provinces of Vanuatu in March 2015 many people were left with little

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## Department of Correctional Services Updates

### Corrections Human Rights training



The Correctional Services Department Correctional Officers, Senior management and the Senior management of the Probation Unit undertook a one week training at the Police College in July on *"Human Rights in Places of Detention"* facilitated by MS Patrina Phuong and Mr. Ashley Bowe from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights Head Office in Fiji.

The training was to equip all Corrections and Probation Senior management team on some of the international recognized rules passed by the United Nations namely the Mandela Rules and the Tokyo Rules. The Mandela Rules was mostly about the management of Correctional Centres in light about the non-custodial and reports and that is where

offenders get community sentences instead of imprisonment and also highlights on the supervision and management of these community offenders and pre-sentencing reports to a Court and a Parole Board.

The training was quite intensive which saw presentations done, group discussions. The training workshop concluded with the Correctional Services Act No.10 of 2006 final review that will be finalised and submitted to the State Law Office. The Corrections Department would like to express their gratitude to the OHRHC in Fiji in particular MS Phuong, the Acting Head of Office in Fiji and the facilitators for making it a memorable moment.



*Participants to the HR training*

### Malampa Community Justice Supervisor's workshop

The Probation Services Unit of the Correctional Services Department since its establishment has been running training, workshops and forums for community leaders appointed by the Department to help supervise offenders in the community voluntarily.

These workshops support their roles more and assist to deal with issues arise while supervising offenders. It also enhances their understanding about the Correctional Services Act, the criminal justice process, the work of the Probation officers and Department as whole and other important aspects. The Correctional Services Act No: 10 of 2006 give them legal mandate to carry out their duties in the community.



On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June, the Malampa Province Community Justice Supervisor (CJS) workshop took place in the Lakatoro chapel and it was a success, 10 Years after the Corrections Department was established, the Malampa Province had its first two female Community Justice officers who were appointed and also took part in the training to equip them as community justice supervisors to help supervise community based offenders in the community.

Malampa Province has 19 parole cases, 18 community work and 1 supervision cases spread across between Malekula, Ambrym and Paama although Malekula has most cases than the other two islands. Malekula is known for its group offending cases. The CJS assist the Probation officer's in supervising clients in the community to see clients abide by the conditions and report in regularly.

The Probation Management would like to express its huge gratitude to the NZAID for funding the training workshop. In 2016 and 2017, there will be other similar workshops in other provinces.

*Malampa Community Justice Supervisors (CJS) Training Workshop at the Lakatoro Chapel recently.*



## New staff's training initiatives in DBKS are showing promising results.



DBKS is seeking to run more in-house training courses and evaluation results completed by DBKS staff which show they are more popular than courses run by external training providers, with a 92% satisfaction rating. *"These results show that in-house courses can be more relevant and targeted to staff needs, and that we have staff who can deliver quality training,"* said Director, Johnny Marango.

Another initiative that commenced this year is workplace learning attachments. *"The Catering Instructor for southern Correctional Centres has just returned from a two-week attachment with his counterpart in Luganville,"* explained Mr. Marango. *"During that time the instructors shared their skills and experience and learnt a lot from each other."* Further training attachments between southern and northern Probation and Administration offices are now underway.

*"2016 was the first year that my Department prepared a Staff Training Calendar,"* added Mr. Marango. *"Planning and budgeting for training has seen over 230 training participations this year to date. I look forward to seeing officers apply the new skills in their jobs."* Courses undertaken include Correctional Officers Core Skills, Health and Safety, Computer Skills, Training Skills and Human Rights.

*On-the-job assessment has become part of the Correctional Officers Core Skills course. Officers here are being assessed on cell searches and body searches at the ex-British Correctional Centre.*

## Farming commences at Erangorango

Dipatmen blong Koreksonal Sevis (DBKS) and detainees are celebrating the first harvest from Erangorango farm. The farm, located behind the airport, aims to provide vocational skills for detainees, provide more *aelan kaekae* to improve detainee diets and assist the Department's budget.

Farming commenced in April with a team of 12 low-risk detainees working there up to five days per week. The farm is currently only 0.5 hectare but the Department hopes to significantly expand operations, once donor support for infrastructure has been secured.

Dipatmen blong Koreksonal Sevis (DBKS) is also negotiating land at Beleru, for a farm to be operated by the Luganville Correctional Centre.



*Beans and cabbage ready for cooking at Stade Correctional Centre kitchen*



*Erangorango farm*

## Pacific Prevention of Domestic Violence Programme Update

As many will know, for the last five years Inspector Peter McKennie has been the Pacific Prevention of Domestic Violence Programme (PPDVP) mentor to Vanuatu Police. He has made many visits to Vanuatu during those five years, working to improve the capacity and capability of Police, and communities themselves, to prevent domestic violence and to improve the effectiveness of response when domestic violence offences occur.

Unfortunately, a change in management role for Peter in New Zealand Police means he is not able to visit Vanuatu so often. He advises that, in the interests of PPDVP and Vanuatu, he has made the difficult decision to stand down from his PPDVP mentoring role. This allows someone else to come into the position that will be able to give the programme more time than Peter can now offer.



*New SR Sgt Mr. Akerei, Director General Mr. Mark Bebe and outgoing Sgt Mr. Peter McKennie*

### Key progress made while Peter has been the PPDVP mentor includes

- More cooperative working relationships between Police and other Government and community agencies in response to domestic violence.
- A much greater public awareness of domestic violence issues and a growing public voice that domestic violence is not acceptable behaviour.
- More leaders across all parts of the community willing to stand up and speak publicly against domestic violence, including some who had other views when Peter first visited Vanuatu.
- Up-to-date Police family violence Policy, Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and training package; and delivery of that training to VPF and VMF officers throughout all of Vanuatu's provinces.
- Some changes in charging procedures, enabling the Justice system to be more efficient and effective in dealing with domestic violence cases and other serious crimes.

Peter advises that Vanuatu has a strong platform to build on compared to its Pacific neighbours. Vanuatu was the first Pacific Island nation to have specific domestic violence legislation, with the Family Protection Act, and it is the only Pacific Island nation to have Police Policy, SOPs and a Police training package to align to the legislation. The recent introduction of investigation training for Police officers, with the assistance of VAPP, will further build on the strong platform Vanuatu has.

The new PPDVP mentor is **Senior Sergeant Akerei (Rei) Maresala-Thomson**. Rei is a very experienced New Zealand Police officer who has worked in Vanuatu previously as part of the Pacific Policing Programme (3P). He also recently mentored for PPDVP in Tuvalu. Peter and Rei completed a joint handover visit in Vanuatu during early July, meeting with many key stakeholders.

Rei looks forward to continuing the positive relationship between PPDVP and the people of Vanuatu and the opportunities to make further progress in the capacity and capability building. He points out that domestic violence is a community problem, not just a Police problem. It does not happen at Police Stations or in Court houses. It happens in homes and in communities; so preventing the harm caused by domestic violence requires communities to stand up against it, starting with the leaders of those communities.

### Some parting considerations from Peter regarding domestic violence

- There is nothing in any religious scripture or Pacific culture saying that domestic violence is okay. Culture is something to be proud of, and no pride can be taken from domestic abuse. It is just bad behaviour that has been going on for too long, and it needs to stop.
- Children in a violent home grow up thinking it is normal. They often end up being domestic violence offenders or victims themselves when they grow up, and their children do the same; so the problem gets worse for society with each generation.
- To break the cycle of inter-generation domestic violence the community must send a clear message that domestic violence is not normal and not okay.
- If you know domestic violence is happening in a home or community and does nothing about it you are sending a message to the offender, the victim and the children in that community that domestic violence is okay. It is not okay, so do something positive to stop the cycle of violence. Police cannot do it alone.



Peter has enjoyed his time in Vanuatu and the hospitality and friendship of the Vanuatu people. He is sad to be leaving the role, but happy knowing that things are better than when he arrived and continuing to improve. He says that none of the improvements would have been possible without the cooperation and assistance of many in Police, wider Government, non-government agencies and communities. He sincerely thanks them all and encourages them to now put that support behind Rei as the programme continues to deliver for safer families across Vanuatu.

## Child Desk Update

### Launch of Child Protection Pilot Site in Pentecost

On 10<sup>th</sup> July, delegates from MJCS, MOYDS, UNICEF and Penama Provincial government travelled to Tavalunwai community in North Pentecost to launch the newest pilot site for the joint MJCS-MOYDS-UNICEF Child Protection Pilot Project.

Tavalunwai will be the third pilot site in this child protection project, alongside one in Tanna and another in Erromango. The aim of the project is to give communities the knowledge and skills to work together to protect children from violence, exploitation, neglect and abuse so that all children grow up in a safe environment.

The child protection pilot project is based on a model which builds on the community's strengths, and links with existing community structures including churches and chiefs.

During the orientation, the community established a Community Child Protection Committee who will lead child protection activities in Tavalunwai. Over the next 12 months, the community will participate in trainings on child rights and child protection, first aid, child protection in emergencies, and organise awareness activities on all these topics.

The CCPC will also coordinate prevention, intervention and response to child protection cases in the community, and develop a community based referral system linking with provincial service providers including corrections, police, health and education, and also with child protection coordination mechanisms at the national level.



*Community leaders and DG Mark Bebe cut the cake to officially launch the child protection pilot site in Tavalunwai*



*Children in Tavalunwai dance to mark the launching of the child protection pilot site*

## Disability Desk Updates

### Sleeping Houses; an example of how communities can support people with disability:



*Sleeping house near complete at Second Lagoon*

When Tropical Cyclone Pam devastated communities in the Southern Provinces of Vanuatu in March 2015 many people were left with little to nothing and had to rebuild their lives from scratch. The Disability Desk worked hard with other stakeholders from the Gender Protection cluster to ensure that people with disability were included in the disaster recovery activities. It was recognised that there would be extra hardship on most Ni Vanuatu people and particularly people living with disabilities as there are higher living costs, barriers to education, health and employment and unpaid caring responsibilities.

The Disability Desk partnered with Friends Vanuatu, a local charity group and Life Changer Ministry to build sleeping houses for some of the most vulnerable people with disabilities who had lost their shelter in TC Pam. To date the Disability Desk with funds generously from Friends Vanuatu has built nine sleeping houses throughout Shefa. The sleeping houses measure 5 metres by 3.6 metres and are built to category 4 standard. They cost approximately 160,000 vatu and we thank Life Changer Ministries for keeping the price at below cost.

Unfortunately the Disability Desk does not have the funds to build a sleeping house for every person affected by the cyclone. Thus what we hope to highlight from the ones already built is that a community could with a little effort, fundraise to build one for someone in their community. It has been inspiring and rewarding to watch community members where the houses have been built come to the realisation that the person in their community with a disability can and should receive this type of quality support. Each community has helped make the cement floor inside the sleeping house to show how they too value this person in their community. The houses have provided the opportunity for the community and the recipient to show each other that they care and that their wellbeing matters to them.

Friends, Life Changer Ministry and the Disability Desk would like to promote the opportunity for communities now to help support people with disabilities by ensuring that their shelter is safe, comfortable and homely. It is a basic human right that people have the right to shelter, we want communities to enact on this within their own resources or they can contact the Disability Desk and we can support them to raise the funds to provide a sleeping house like these from Life Changer Ministry.

The houses we have built not only support the person with the disability but benefit their family too. The sleeping houses have been donated only to the most disadvantaged and disabled persons who lost their shelter in TC Pam and have been living under tarpaulins or temporarily with others.

To date these houses have been constructed at Eratap, Erakor, Second Lagoon, Club Hippique, Takara, Ekipe, Moso Island, Nguna Island, and Pele Island. Life changer Ministry have built many more on Tanna and in other parts of Tafea Province. Please contact the Disability Desk if you are interested in supporting a person with a disability in your community with a sleeping house.



*Sleeping house under construction at Nguna Island*



*A happy family watching their new house being built*



## Pacific Washington Group Disability Questions implementation Workshop, Nadi Fiji.

The United Nations Washington Group on Disability Statistics (WG) held an Implementation Workshop on Disability Statistics on the 13th – 15th of July in Fiji. The workshop was coordinated by WG, Leonard Cheshire Disability & Inclusive Development Centre Department of Epidemiology & Public Health University College London and SPC and funded by Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The Washington Group on Disability Statistics (WG) is a UN city group established under the United Nations Statistical Commission to address the urgent need for cross-nationally comparable population based measures of disability. Its mandate is the promotion and co-ordination of international health statistics focusing on disability data collection tools suitable for censuses and national surveys. The Washington Group Short Set of questions has also been endorsed by an Expert Group of United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) as the means to disaggregate outcome indicators by disability status, which is vital for evaluating the new Sustainable Development Goals. For more information on the WG please see our website [www.washingtongroup-disability.com](http://www.washingtongroup-disability.com)

This training has been organized in response to a need in the region for additional technical support for implementing and analyzing the WG tools and data in upcoming national censuses.

The workshop is to provide:

- In-depth training on how to implement the Washington Group data collection tools,
- Information on using the tools in ongoing surveys, and
- Guidance on how to analyses and disseminate the data collected.

The aim of the workshop is to build and strengthen local capacity for data collection. By the end of the training participants had acquired the tools/knowledge to:

- Independently implement the WG Short Set successfully
- disaggregate census data by disability status
- evaluate data collected relating to the Sustainable Development Goals
- monitor the UN Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disability

In attendance were NSO, MOE, and Disability Focal point from Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu and Kiribati. There was also participation of the Chairman of the Pacific Statistic Committee, Mr. Simil Johnson, Director of the Vanuatu Statistics Office, representative of the South Pacific Community (SPC), and observers from Melbourne University.

Workshop facilitators were 4 members from the Washington Group who facilitated the presentations and discussion in the 3 days training.

The meeting commenced with a welcome remarks from the chair-lady of the Washington Group Mrs. Jennifer Madans. In her remarks she thanked participants from responding to the very short notice invitation to attend the importance workshop. She stressed the importance of comparable data on disability across countries which is why the pacific region has requested training on the Disability Washington group questions.

Mr. Simil Johnson , the chairman of the PSSC provided a brief update on statistics around the region and stated that there has been a numerous improvement on statistics and will continue to support countries to ensure disability data a captured in surveys and censuses.

Presentations were around the use of the Washington Group Question when conducting censuses or surveys. The question ask *are 'DO YOU HAVE DIFFICULTY SEEING, EVEN WHEN WEARING GLASSES, DO YOU HAVE DIFFICULTY WALKING OR CLIMBING STAIRS, DO YOU HAVE DIFFICULTY HEARING , EVEN WHEN WEARING AN EARING AID, and DO YOU HAVE DIFFICULTY WITH (SELF-CARE SUCH AS) WASHING ALL OVER OR DRESSING.*

*The questions have four response categories – No Difficulty, Some Difficulties, A lot of Difficulties, Cannot Do at All.*

Countries provided their experience on how they have included above disability questions and responses in censuses and surveys over the decade. Experiences showed that most countries in the region have at least made attempts to insert disability questions into their surveys and censuses. Vanuatu presented on the attempts made to included disability Washington question in the 2009 census, which showed that 12 per cent of the population had some form of disabilities. Also the Demographic Health Survey did include Washington Group Question. The Disability pilot survey conducted In Ifira, Eton, Epule and Futuna Island also included disability questions.

Discussions also include WHO question for children which should be included to capture information on children from 2-5 years of age. Questions were raised on why infants' questions were not included. It is difficult to detect disability in babies, which is the reason for including children from age 2 upwards.

The Washington Group has some extended set of questions on disability which includes participation, employment and other information which will be useful for surveys while the short set of questions be used in censuses.

Tonga has been earmarked as the first country to pilot the Washington Group question after this workshop. Vanuatu also indicated that Washington Group Disability question will be included in the Mini-Census later this year 2016.

The Chairman of the PSSC on behalf of Government statistician in the region strongly raised the issue of collaboration between the Washington Group, WHO, UNICEF and other institutions to ensure a collaborated effort in data collection consider the amount of work each country in the region has in regards to data collection.

Participants acknowledge the Washington Group for convening the workshop and looks forward to implement what they have learnt from the workshop.

At the end of the 3 days Disability statistics workshop, participants from Vanuatu including the NSO, MOE and MJCS staffs met to discuss ways forward on what the 3 ministries would do to improve disability data collection in Vanuatu.

An important question we should ask ourselves is about what to do with the information once we have it.

**The discussions further discuss the following way forwards:**

Activity	Responsible Min/Dept.	Comments
Develop a conceptual framework for data collection between NSO, MOE, MOH, Civil Status, and stakeholders	MJCS – Disability Desk	Good practices from Fiji and Solomon Islands
Request SPSS Training	VNSO	Washington Group can run the training or share resources
Review disability question- mini census, discuss translation and interpretation of disability questions.	NSO, MOR & MJCS – Andy Calo, Melvin Boesel & Sam Kaiapam	Make adjustment following knowledge gained from the Workshop
Participants to be part in the mini-census Enumerators Training and pilot, field work and data analysis	Andy, Melvin & Sam	To ensure clarity of disability questions and capacity building exercise for the WG disability question.
Review Disability Pilot survey question	VNSO, MOE, MJCS	
Re-visit MOE school census	MOE	
MOE to complete all processes for clearance before team revisit school census.	MOE- (Melvin)	
Conduct Training for Teachers on data collection of children with disabilities	MOE, VNSO, MJCS	Long Term
Develop Disability Registry for 2019 National Census	VNSO, MJCS	Too late for Mini-Census
Conduct a training for all stakeholders on collecting Disability data	MJCS, VNSO, MOE	

### ***Acknowledgement.***

The Disability Desk wish to acknowledge the support from DFAT and Leonard Cheshire Disability & Inclusive Development Centre Department of Epidemiology & Public Health University College London, and SPC for all the coordination and logistics of this meeting.

The Desk also acknowledges the Government of Vanuatu, through the MJCS, MOE and the National Statistics Office for allowing 4 participants to attend the workshop. The Disability Desk will coordinate with the VNSO and the MOE to ensure above plans are fulfilled as an outcome of the workshop which will inform policy and program development and better services delivery to society.



## Community-Based Rehabilitation in Malekula and Ambae by Disability Desk and Joint Therapy Team from Australia.

**Date:** 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> July 2016

**Island:** Malekula

**Areas visited:** Norsup, Unua 1, 2 and 3, Litchlitch, Tautu and Wala, rano and Vao Island

The Joint Therapy Outreach Team again this year 2016 had made another trip to Vanuatu to visit people with disability in Malekula. The visit to Malekula is a follow up visit from last year's CBR work. The team was led by Janet who is an occupational Therapist. She came with a team of a doctor, 2 physio therapists, 2 speech therapist, 3 occupational therapist and a counsellor from Perth, Australia. There is a couple who worked in Paama who joint in with the JTO team to Malekula's trip to visit people with disability in different villages.

The JTO team's main aim is to try and "make a small change in the lives of people with disability in Vanuatu".



*The JTO team members including Knox Morris from the Disability Desk*

On the Island of Malekula the team had visited 28 people with disability altogether. This figure comprises of 19 males and 9 females. Most of the clients visited in Malekula are adults and few are children, 20 adults and 7 children.

Clients who were visited during this outreach to Malekula are those with Physical Impairments, hearing impairments, and few with vision impairment. The team's main focus is on working with those with physical impairment. Others with sensory impairment are referred to go to Norsup hospital in Malekula

As mention above the group is made up of Physiotherapist, speech therapist, Occupational therapist and a Doctor. The services which are provided are as follow:

- Providing assistive devises
- Teaching individuals how to swallow
- Providing communicate boards
- Providing exercises
- Helping out some to do his own daily activity
- Do referrals for specialist teams
- Build corner chairs for kids

This is what the team had done throughout the visit:

- 3 wheelchair for Kids
- 2 Adult wheelchair
- 2 communication board
- 2 clients for surgery



*Physiotherapist and An OT building a corner chair*



*Physiotherapist providing an exercise with this old man*



The doctor had the opportunity to tour the Norsup Hospital and for the second he conducted a half a day workshop with 10 staff from the Norsup hospital in Malekula. He was assisted with a speech therapist and a Physiotherapist for this session. He covered topics on

- Working with people with disability.
- Different disability types
- How to help someone swallow
- Different assistive devices

The JTO team had really helped some people with disability in some of the villages in Malekula. The team would like to come back to visit other parts of Malekula in the Future. Every year the JTO team usually come with new team members with the same team Leaders, Lois and Janet. During this trip Lois was not able to come to Vanuatu due to some commitments back at home.

They usually bring with them assistive equipment's, walking aids, stationaries and some other stuff which are being donated to them from the people of Perth in Australia.

### **Acknowledgement**

The Disability Desk wishes to acknowledge the support from the Joint Therapy Outreach team for the in kind contribution for coming to Vanuatu every year to visit people with disability.

Also a word of thanks to the team members who were able to share their skills and knowledge with the staff from the Disability Desk who was with them for this visit.



Thank you for reading the July edition of Loa mo Sosei Jastis Toktok.

If you have any feedback for the newsletter please send to [MJCS@vanuatu.gov.vu](mailto:MJCS@vanuatu.gov.vu). If you have any information to share for next month's newsletter please also email us.

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