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# LOA MO SOSEL JASTIS TOKTOK

*The newsletter from the Justice and  
Community Services Sector*



Brought to you by:

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

IN THIS ISSUE

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

### Welcome to our new staff



The Ministry of Justice through the Disability Desk is pleased to welcome Ms. Ginette Morris who joined the Ministry earlier this year to the position of Disability Social Welfare Coordinator.

Ginette comes to this role with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Welfare Studies from the University of McCarthy, Western Sydney, Australia. Previously she worked with Save the Children for nine years and six months performing various functions including advocacy work,

Community education programs and coordinating and administrating Save the Children site office at Lakatoro and Lamap in Malekula for 18 months.

Ginette is looking forward to working more efficiently and effectively with all staff and stakeholders of the Ministry to accomplish set tasks that are aligned with the overall objectives of the MJCS Business Plan Goals.

The MJCS congratulates Ms. Ginette Morris.

### Strategy for Justice & Community Services Sector 2018-2021 launch

*The Justice and Community Services Sector launched its 2018-2021 strategy (JCSSS) in a brief event at the Ramada Resort on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.*

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### point of light

*A point of light award was presented by the Deputy British High Commissioner – Paul Dryden to Marilyn Tahi on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March at the New Zealand High Commission*

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### New Year begins

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## March 2018, Pacific People Advancing Change Advocacy Training



19/03/2018- Luganville, Santo- CSOs participants

The Pacific People Advancing Change (PPAC) previously known as the Legislative Lobbying Project (LLP) seeks to equip potential leaders in the Pacific, both at the community as well as national levels with basic knowledge and skills on lobbying and advocacy approaches to contribute to improved governance, leadership and human rights in the region.

On the 14-16 March 2018 and 19-21 March 2018, SPC's Human Rights Programme the Regional Rights Resource Team, *Senior Human Rights Advisor Mr. Martin Child* and *SPC's Country Focal Officer Ms. Donna Marie Pune-Narai*, held a three days training in Port Vila and Luganville with Representatives of the Civil Societies Organizations in both locations.

PPAC focuses on the skills and processes required to see transformative change in legislation, policies and law and includes the following: Problem analysis, Research and information gathering, Development of campaigns, Strategic

planning, Lobbying 'Pacific style of advocacy' and monitoring effectiveness.

After the three days training in both locations, the participants came to identify key issues in the communities that they would work on and advocate for change. For that they have to work in coalition as Campaigns groups and funding will be provided by the SPC RRRT for the implementation of their planned activities and monitoring.

The call for proposal will be open in June 2018 and successful Campaigns groups that apply for the Grant will receive their grant in July 2018.

This project starts in July 2018 and will be end in June 2021.



16/03/2018- Efate, CSOs participants

## Office of the Ombudsman news update

### Appointment of an Acting Ombudsman

On 14 March 2018, the Head of State signed an instrument appointing Mr Alain Wai Molgos as the Acting Ombudsman of the Republic of Vanuatu. This development came about 3 months after Mr Kalkot Mataskelekele's term came to an end on 18 December 2017.

Staff members welcomed the appointment and are happy that an Acting Ombudsman is finally appointed to lead the organisation.



Mr Molgos taking his Oath at the Ombudsman's Office

### Tongan Ombudsman's study visit to the Vanuatu Ombudsman's Office



Acting Ombudsman Molgos with Mr Aisea Taumoepeau, Ombudsman of Tonga, and secretary Sisilia Tokai.

From 26 to 28 March 2018, the Ombudsman of Tonga, Mr Aisea Taumoepeau visited the Ombudsman's Office in Port Vila.

The purpose of the visit was a study tour to learn about the Leadership Code and how the Office conducts investigations against leaders. The Vanuatu Ombudsman's Office was happy to provide information relating to the Leadership Code and the Office's Case Management System.

## Department of Correctional Services news update

### Vila POS Parole rehab Awareness Programs

The Parole Board's Rehabilitation Awareness program started in Feb and again in March in the Correctional Centers whereby probation officers conduct awareness to inmates of the Act with regards to Parole, the process and how the parole system operates with the community's support, Community Parole Board, the conditions, rehabilitation and enforcements plus other parole issues. This is the second one in the Low Risk Unit after last month's Medium Risk Unit awareness.

The awareness targets inmates who may reoffend mainly about their privilege on parole in the community and rehabilitation as well as re-integration issues. Offenders that serve Parole in the community can be recalled back if noncompliance occurs.



### Community Awareness Santo-Kamewa School

Probation officers conducted an awareness in Santo School on crime prevention education. The awareness targeted classes four (4) to eight (8) and the topics covered were; Rod blo Jastis, Sex mo Loa and Pornography.



*Probation officers Nickson, Priscilla and Matthew*

The Principal of the school requested this awareness to take place. He said that he wanted the students to be educated about the laws of Vanuatu as he does not want any of his students to end up in any Correctional Centres in Vanuatu in the future.

The purpose of this awareness is to educate students about the Criminal Justice system and different forms of sexual offending plus pornography thus helping them in their personal lives, families and communities to reduce such offences in their communities, islands and the Country as a whole.

Department of Correctional Services welcomes Mr Sam Kaiapam, former Disability Desk officer from MJCS, who joined the Probation Unit of the Corrections Department. Photo caption shows Mr Kaiapam in action setting up Community Work for offenders on North Efate with Probation officer Paul Thomas.

Community Work is a community rehabilitative punitive sentence imposed by the Court for the benefit of the wider community or village, doing some good work - taking responsibility for their offending and gives the chance for the community to be involved in the management of the sentence. Minimum is 40 Hours and Maximum is 400 Hours.

The Courts impose such second chance sentences.





TORBA Mere Lava Awareness Caption Below - Two Probation officers Matthew Walter and Priscilla Wells and a Police officer undertook crime prevention educational awareness on Mere Lava Island lately.



The awareness was funded by the Stretem Rod Blong Jastis mo Sefti for the first time to help the community know more about the laws and its penalties on sexual offences like Incest, Unlawful Sexual Intercourse without Consent, Indecent Act and others.

The community Chiefs and people were ecstatic about the information and acknowledge having a clear understanding of the Justice Process and laws. It was great to see Probation and Police working in partnership in crime prevention awareness programs however there is need for more stakeholders to be involved.

The Probation Unit deeply express their gratitude to the Stretem Rod blong Jastis Mo Sefti- DFAT for its support to make it possible for the awareness in Mere Lava - TORBA Province.

## Department of Women's Affairs news update

### International Women's Day Celebrations – 08<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Theme: *Press for Progress*

Location: Luganville

The celebration in Luganville was a joint collaboration between the Northern Island Market Vendors Association (NIMVA), Luganville Municipal Council (LMC), UN Women and DWA. NIMVA is a Market Vendors Association registered NGO under the Vanuatu Financial Services Commission who operate daily in the Luganville Municipal Market House in Santo. As of 15th March 2018, the total number of NIMVA members is 2,866 of whom 100% are from rural areas representing the 12 Area Councils of Sanma Province.

In the past 3 years, NIMVA has been assisted by UN Markets for Change program, under the Pacific Regional project "Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development" and funded by the Australian Government. These includes training on Bookkeeping and Financial Literacy and promoting markets in empowering women in social and economic activities.

An MOU marked by a donation of VT100,000 by NIMVA to LMC was signed between NIMVA and LMC for partnership in supporting Market vendors association in the Northern town.



## Ministry of Justice & Community Services, Corporate Services news update

### Enhancing Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning for Improved Access to Justice



The Justice and Community Services Sector held its inaugural M&E Network Workshop in Port Vila on 27-28 February 2018. M&E Network members have been nominated by their respective Heads of Agencies, and are working together to facilitate collaboration, strengthening of and consistency of approaches towards, monitoring and evaluation across the sector.

The Inaugural M&E Network Workshop was opened by MJCS Acting Director General, Mr Pacco Siri, who highlighted the importance of a consistent approach to monitoring and evaluation across the sector. He made important linkages to the Government's National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) 2016–2030 and the JCSSS 2017 – 2021 and emphasized the Sector's commitment to strengthened implementation, monitoring and reporting of the plans, adding that this can only be realized through robust M&E systems and processes in each agencies.

A keynote presentation was also provided by the Monitoring and Evaluation Adviser to the Australian High Commission in Vanuatu, Mr John Fargher.

M&E Network members were introduced to the theory of monitoring and evaluation, including basic concepts and practices and the use of SMART Indicators - (Specific, Measureable, Achievable/Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound). Participants gained practical experience in the development and testing of SMART Indicators across each of the thematic strategies, enabling strategies and cross-cutting policies of the new *Justice and Community Services Sector Strategy 2018-2021*. The contributions of the M&E Network informed the development of the new JCSSS Monitoring and Evaluation Framework 2018-2021, which supports implementation of the new strategy and progress towards the strategic goal of 'improved access to justice'.

Meetings of the Sector M&E Network will be held on a quarterly basis, with the first quarterly meeting scheduled and held on Thursday 29 March, 2018.



### Strategy for Justice and Community Sector (JCSSS) 2018 – 2021 launched.

The Justice and Community Services Sector launched its 2018-2021 strategy (JCSSS) in a brief event at the Ramada Resort on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2018. The JCSSS 2018-2021 is the Sector's 4 year plan which is aimed to promote and guide equitable service provisions to meet the needs of the communities, uphold the rule of law and protect human rights.

The occasion was attended by Sector Heads of Agencies, the Judiciary and very senior agency staff members, senior Program Managers from the Australian High Commission, the Stretem Rod Blong Jastis mo Sefti (SRBJS) Program Managers and key MJCS staff.

Acting DG, Mr. Pacco Siri in his official remarks, acknowledged the independence of each agency as constitutional and statutory institutions, and particularly recognised Heads of Agencies for their pivotal leadership in the implementation of the previous Strategy 2014-2017. He encouraged members to build upon this support in the implementation of the JCSSS 2018-2021, and continue to work collaboratively to achieve access to justice for all. He additionally thanked the SRBJS Program for its immense support to develop the JCSSS 2018-2021, from its inception to its launch.



The Strategy builds on considerable cross sector consultation and planning under the previous Strategy 2014-2017 and incorporates many of the lessons learnt from the practical experience of implementing the previous JCSSS. The strategies and the approach to implementation, also reflect a maturing of expectations and recognition of what it takes to achieve sustained, coordinated cross sectoral change through collaborative efforts.

## Summary Prosecutors news update

### New Year begins



In February 2018, a legislative amendment saw a name change from 'State (police) Prosecutors' to 'Summary Prosecutors'. This is a subtle but more appropriate title.

It has proved a challenging start to the year for staff within SPD with the commencement of a long period of leave for its most senior prosecutor and also the administration officer. This has meant an office reshuffle and additional responsibility and increased caseload for the remaining staff.

A significant challenge has been the service of summons. This has been and continues to be a major issue to getting cases to and through the courts. Currently the responsibility rests with Vanuatu Police to serve all summonses.

This year has seen a small but significant change in the process of registering new charges at both the Island Court and Magistrate Court. New charges are delivered to the courts in a timelier manner allowing the courts to manage listings more effectively.

Prosecutors have worked very hard in the first quarter of 2018 drafting charges. As at 19<sup>th</sup> March, possibly for the first time ever, charges for every case had been drafted and registered at court.



Improved case and data management and processes has led to better transparency in terms of what stage a case is at, recording of court outcomes and a more even distribution of workload.

Going forward, SPD are working with stakeholders to find a sustainable solution to the service of summonses and will also work with police to use 'police bail' more effectively thereby eliminating the need for summoning.

### A point of light award



A point of light award was presented by the Deputy British High Commissioner – Paul Dryden to Marilyn Tahi on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March at the New Zealand High Commission. The award is a Certificate signed by Her Majesty the Queen. Her Majesty the Queen as Head of the Commonwealth is honouring Marilyn as the 40<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Point of Light representing Vanuatu for her inspiring work campaigning for women's right and Supporting thousands of victims of gender-based violence.

The Commonwealth Points of Light award has been created to recognise outstanding volunteers that have delivered a significant impact on the lives of others, creating innovative approaches to social challenges and have inspired others to make a positive change within and beyond their communities. Points of Light began in America under President George H. W. Bush and today over 6,000 US Points of Light have been recognised. The scheme has the support of all living US Presidents. Since 2014 the UK Prime Minister has also been recognising a daily Point of Light from the UK, with almost 900 now recognised.

Commonwealth Points of Light is a special series of awards recognising inspirational volunteers throughout the Commonwealth in the lead-up to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in London in April 2018. Marilyn Tahi, is the Coordinator of the Vanuatu Women's Centre – a national NGO.



## Child Desk news

### Two weeks training for Child Desk Provincial Officers

On the **05th March 2018 to 16th of March 2018**, the Child Desk Office organized a two weeks training for their Provincial Child Protection Officers. The two weeks training took together 6 Officers including 2 volunteers working under the Ministry of Justice and Community services and the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

The purpose of this training is twofold

- (i) An induction for the Officers
- (ii) And support to further build the capacity, knowledge and skills of Officers in gaining more in-depth child rights and child protection so that they will confidently work with children, parents and the communities when they return

During the first week, the Officers went through a series of administrative topics to help understand the linkages to their work, in relation to working with children. The Ministry Heads of units are the Capacity Development, Human Resource, Policies affecting children, Family Protection Act, Monitoring & Evaluation and Disability Inclusion were involved to brief the Child Protection officers on the work they do and how they can support the human rights activities which include children, and Finances. **Stretrem Rod Blong Jastis, UNICEF and Vanuatu Women Centre** were also invited to facilitate some sessions.

On the second week, there was a 3 days refresher training on Child Protection. Topics covered include, what is Child Protection, who is Responsible, CRC and the Principles of CRC, Best Interest of the Child, Child Development, Assessing Case using a holistic approach, and self –Care.

Elizabeth Emil, Rebecca Solomon and Meriam Bule who have gone through a Child Protection training provided by Child Fund in 2017, co-delivered this training.

At the end of these two weeks officers have learnt a lot, and further expand their knowledge and skills in child protection.

### Supporting Child Protection work in Erromango

In the absence of the Acting Director General, Mr Pacco Siri, Mr Johnny Marango, who was acting Director General then, handed over some equipment to Mrs. Sonia Rungu, Child Protection Officer, working on the Child Protection Pilot project5 at Port Narvin Erromango,

The CP Pilot project was implemented and managed by the Child Desk under the Minister of Justice and Community Services. The handing over was witnessed by a group of MJCS staff. The CP pilot project is financially supported by UNICEF. The solar set and the Generator are to assist and support the Officer to better implement the CP activities.

In his words the Acting DG, Mr Marango congratulated the MJCS staffs for their efforts done so far in working with vulnerable people especially children, in the communities, who are facing a lot of social issues and child protection issues.

He also thanked UNICEF for the ongoing and committed support to the Vanuatu Government for the betterment of its' children in Vanuatu.



## Department of Women's Affairs news

### Induction Program – Department of Women's Affairs

The department of Women's Affairs welcomed and induct their new employees on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2018. Ministry was invited to take part in the induction program, with Pacco Siri the Acting Director General giving the opening remarks. The New employees are; Celine (Women Gender Officer), Rachel Ores (Malampa Provincial Officer), Lilgai Laliet (Shefa Provincial Officer) and Rocklyn Jiriana Eldad (Torba Provincial Officer).

The induction sessions includes the Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, Jocelyne Loughman presenting on the M&E basics and the Justice Community Services Sector Strategy (JCSSS), Capacity Development Coordinator, Louise Nasak Presenting on the National Sustainable Development Plan and its Linkages and the Principal Human Resource Management Officer, Ann Sharon Pakoa running the induction on the Public Service Staff Manual.

It was a two days induction program, however the Ministry was only involved on day one, the outcome was a success one with new employees moving to their respective stations with the right set of mind and sufficient knowledge on the requirements of the Public Service Commission, the Ministry and the Department of Women's of Affairs.



### Pam Recovery and Upgrade to the Department of Women's Affairs office building



The main office building of the DWA in Port Vila is currently undergoing recovery works and upgrade by a local contractor, Loli Business Enterprise and is being supervised by the Ministry of Justice & Community Services (MJCS). The project started in January and is expected to be completed by end of April 2018. An exact date of completion will be agreed by the project team.

The cost of works is around 9.20 million vatu and is funded by Public Service Commission (PSC), Stretem Rod Blong Jastis mo Sefti (SRBJS) and the Pam Recovery fund. Upgrade works include additional spaces for a counselling room, an additional meeting room and a new kitchen. The entrance will have a new concrete ramp for access for people with disabilities and a concrete pavement towards the parking area. The MJCS would like to thank all the funding agencies who have generously contributed to this project.



## Disability Desk highlights

### National Disability inclusive Development (DID) Policy 2018-2025

The National Disability Inclusive Development (DID) Policy has ended its consultation process. After the process of consulting on the Draft National Disability Inclusive development Policy, the Ministry of Justice and Community Services is now with the final version and is ready for printing. The National Disability Inclusive Development Policy document will be launched this month sometime in the 1<sup>st</sup> half of the year.

The Disability Desk at the MJCS is looking forward to working with other stakeholders and other Sectors for the implementation of the priority areas that are captured in the Policy Document.

### Surfability

The Disability Desk at the Ministry of Justice and Community Services work in collaboration with the Vanuatu Society for People with disabilities (VSPD) were also involved in the Surf ability festival this year Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018. The surfability is a sport activity that Persons with disability can also participate in annually. This is the second time for persons with disability to be part of this Surfing festival at the Leimalo Surfside Pango village. Surfability is a sport activity that Persons with disability can also participate in annually.

VSPD was delighted to invite its clients to attend Surfability again this year. In total, 39 people with disabilities attended the event along with their families and caregivers, 24 of this number actually participated in the Surfability activities in the surf including women, men, girls and boys. The following table provides a summary:



Gender	Adult	Children	Total
Female	4	3	7
Male	3	14	17
Total	7	17	24

### Special Package for Persons with Disability – Sola Light



The Disability Desk at the Ministry of Justice and Community Services is working with Power and Communications Solutions on a special gift Voucher for persons with disability for purchasing a solar light. The Special gift voucher is for the sun king home package. As of the month April the Voucher is now reduce from 5,000vt to 4,000vt which a person with disability can purchase the package for only 4,000vt.

The Special package offer is valid from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018. For more information on the special voucher you can contact the Disability at the MJCS on 33615.

The Sunking Home Solar package

We can be contacted on: **33615** and ask for **Ginette** or **Knox**.

## Capacity Development Corner

### Sector managers strengthen team-building skills

On Monday 26 March, *Stretem Rod Blong Jastis mo Sefti* (SRBJS) held the first Management Development Program (MDP) Technical Intensive workshop on **Building Effective Teams**.

The MDP, designed and funded by *Stretem Rod Blong Jastis mo Sefti* in partnership with the MJCS, aims to engage managers in development that *strengthens their practical capabilities so that they are better equipped to confidently and skillfully undertake management responsibilities, and contribute to improved agency performance*. The technical intensive workshops, which will run across 2018, address management capabilities specifically relevant to Vanuatu Government procedures and systems identified by participants in November 2017.

This first one-day workshop included a range of interactive activities to strengthen participant skills in motivating and managing teams (including remote teams), holding team members accountable, communicating effectively, valuing team diversity and resolving conflict.

Participants also shared a small group panel session with three experienced Vanuatu leaders and managers;

- Ms Cherol Ala, Director General, Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Ms Elvie Tamata, Manager, In-service Unit, Vanuatu Institute of Teacher Education
- Mr Fremden Shadrack, Program Director, Vanuatu Skills Partnership.
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The panel members spoke openly with participants, providing a wide range of advice and illustrative anecdotes to assist managers with their continuing development. Participants particularly appreciated this opportunity to meet with and learn from their peers. SRBJS thanks these leaders for their generosity and enthusiasm to support management development across the sector.



The next MDP Technical Intensive Workshop will be held in June 2018. On 12 April 2018, MDP participants will also graduate from the Certificate IV in Leadership and Management delivered through the Australia-Pacific Technical College in 2017. Congratulations to the 17 participating managers from across the Justice and Community Services Sector for your hard work completing this course!

### MJCS teamwork tested

On 29 March 2018, MJCS (CSU and Cabinet) staff worked together to solve a short team-building scenario. The MJCS Capacity Development Coordinator and SRBJS Training and Learning Adviser jointly designed and facilitated the session to address findings from a team diagnostic completed in November 2017. At the end of the session, it was hoped that team members would be able to:

- Demonstrate how a shared sense of purpose impacts team effectiveness
- Explain how clear, accessible communication and knowing what team members are working on impacts team effectiveness
- Reflect on the value of having fun together.



Staff collaborated very effectively together and solved the scenario with plenty of time to spare. The session concluded with a debrief where staff drew parallels with the MJCS office environment, outlined desired changes to strengthen the team and shared a morning tea.



## First 2018 HRO Sector Network Workshop Completed

The Justice Sector HRO Network opened its first quarter meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018, the Network was fortunate enough to have the Ministry Acting Director General Pacco Siri, giving the opening remarks at the Moorings Hotel Port Vila. This was also a perfect timing for this first Quarter network meeting for 2018, since the sector has also welcomed a new Human Resource Technical Advisor, Richard Evans who was also present during the one day work shop.

During the opening comments the Acting Director General thanked participants and endorsed his support for the HR network workshops and provided comments and insights on the importance of HR in ensuring efficient and effective operations across the sector.

This was the first of four planned all day workshops for 2018 aimed at providing targeted HR support to teams across the sector and builds on previous HR work completed over the last 3 years including the development of the Sector HR Shared Vision:



*Acting DG & Participants*

*"A sector that is strategically led, professionally managed, and purposively structured to become an employer of choice."*

Louise Nasak, Capacity Development Coordinator at MJCS facilitated the workshop, which brought together human resource specialists from agencies across the sector. As a result participants were able to share complex issues faced in their respective agencies, and discussed solutions and way forwards.



*Pierrick Lesines of VIPAM & Participants*

The workshops goals are to provide a platform for sharing HR knowledge, and practices, delivering tailored training and learning programmes, while also developing support networks across teams.

The first workshop was well attended with over 17 participants and included a number of group activities, planning activities, problem solving case scenarios and team discussions.

We would like to thank our guest facilitator, Pierrick Lesines from the Office of the Public Service Commission for attending the workshop and Pierrick conducted a very useful session on staff induction based on the Public Service Staff Manual.

The first meeting was a great success and thank you to all those who participated and contributed so positively to the workshop. We look forward to seeing you all again at the next workshop in June.



Thank you for reading the January - March edition of Loa mo Sosel 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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