Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion (REACH) for Rural and Urban Fijians Project

The REACH Project aims to promote peace building, social cohesion and inclusiveness. The Project conducts awareness raising of the social, economic and legal rights enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji, provides access to the services associated with these rights, and strengthens institutional capacity to deliver these services. A mobile service delivery approach is undertaken to reach communities throughout all of Fiji with the focus to reach the furthest behind first.

The Fiji Government has endorsed the Sustainable Development Goals which aim to ensure that no one is left behind and endeavour to reach the furthest behind first.

In Goal 16, there is commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. In Goal 5, there is commitment to achieving gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls.

The REACH Project supports the achievement of these goals.

Project Overview
- **Project duration**: 2015 – 2018
- **Project location**: Throughout Fiji
- **Partnership**: The Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and the Legal Aid Commission
- **Total budget**: US$2.685 million
- **Funds**: Government of Japan and UNDP

The REACH project aims to accomplish the following key results:
- Increased awareness in urban, rural and maritime communities, of constitutional rights in the areas of social and economic wellbeing and justice, focusing on legal aid, through the provision of mobile teams.
- Enhanced delivery of the services provided by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and the Legal Aid Commission through the provision of mobile teams visiting urban, rural and maritime communities.
- Strengthened capacity of the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and the Legal Aid Commission through support to strategic planning, monitoring of results and support of coordination for effective and coordinated service delivery to urban, rural and maritime communities.
- Policy making informed and based on evidence through research and analysis on the relevant areas related to the empowerment of women and girls, promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provision of access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions.
REACH Mobile Service Delivery

The REACH Mobile Service Delivery Buses are custom designed and equipped in Fiji for effective service delivery. They cater for services to all, including children, the elderly and people with disabilities, reaching out to rural and urban communities in Fiji to leave no one behind.

KEY FACTS

- Three buses
- Two of 11.5 meter in length
- One of 9 meter in length
- Government mobile service delivery
- Mobile office concept
- Robust build for sealed and unsealed roads
- Accessible to all
- Eco-friendly
- Smart technology
- Accredited ‘Fijian Made’ product

Key Results (September 2015 - September 2017)

8,905 people (4,237 women, 3,959 men and 709 children) benefited from the REACH mobile awareness raising and service delivery.

526 communities in 85 districts in 15 provinces across Central, Eastern Northern and Western Divisions received the REACH mobile awareness raising and service delivery.

11,420 services (6,350 women and 5070 men) immediately provided in the communities by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, the Legal Aid Commission, and the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission.

126 people (68 women and 58 men) from the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, the Legal Aid Commission, Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission, and other key stakeholders further strengthened their capacity to undertake awareness raising and service delivery.

For more information, contact:
Christine Fowler, UNDP Programme Manager:
Access to Justice, Rule of Law and Human Rights
Email: christine.fowler@undp.org

United Nations Development Programme
Level 8, Kadavu House, 414 Victoria Parade
Suva, Fiji
Tel: 679 331 2500
Email: registry.fj@undp.org
www.pacific.undp.org

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23 October 2017

From left: H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan; Ms. Osnat Lubrani, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative; Hon. Mereseini Vuniwaqa, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation; and Mr. Shahin Rafique Ali, Acting Director, Legal Aid Commission at the Commissioning of the Mobile Service Delivery Buses on 12 April 2017 in Suva, Fiji.