

# RIGHTS, EMPOWERMENT AND COHESION (REACH)

## FOR RURAL AND URBAN FIJIANS PROJECT



United Nations Development Programme

UN

REPORT

April 2017

DP



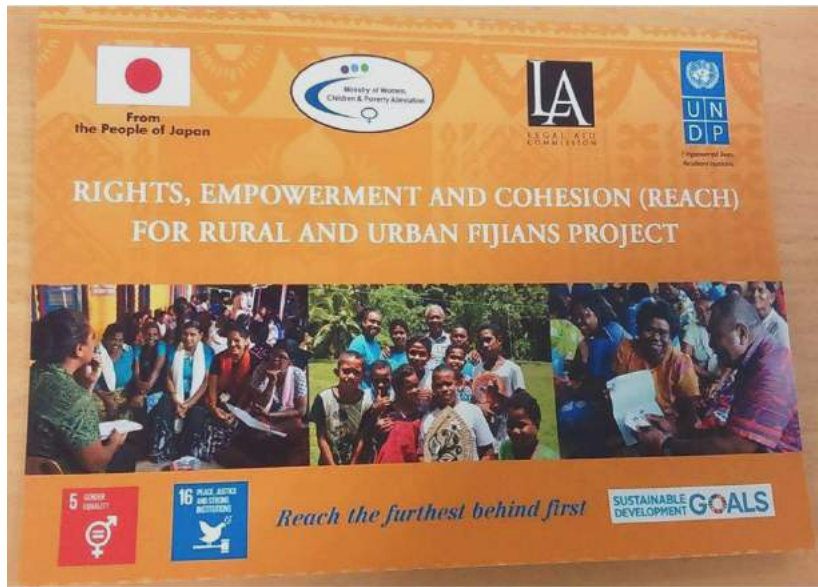
REACH buses being commissioned in Suva to further enhance the delivery of mobile services undertaken across Fiji by the REACH project.

<b>Location &amp; Date</b>	Albert Park, Suva, Fiji; 12 April 2017.
<b>Activity</b>	Commissioning of the Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion for Rural and Urban Fijians (REACH) Service Delivery Buses
<b>Key Result</b>	172 persons (male to female ratio being 1:3), participated in the commissioning of three buses, and benefitted from receiving an overview of services provided by the REACH mobile service delivery initiative.
<b>Event Summary</b>	<p>On 12 April 2017, the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and UNDP Pacific Office jointly organized the ‘Commissioning of the REACH Mobile Delivery Services’ at Albert Park in Suva, Fiji, facilitated through the REACH Project. This project is being implemented by UNDP, in partnership with the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, the Legal Aid Commission, and the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission. Most recently, the Fiji Police Force has become a new partner.</p> <p>The commissioning event was officiated with welcome addresses delivered by the Hon. Ms. Mereseini Vuniwaqa, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan to Fiji, Mr., Acting Director of the Legal Aid Commission, and Ms. Osnat Lubrani, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative. The event saw high-level participation from Speaker of Parliament, ministerial participation from the Fijian Government, Commissioners (West, Central and Eastern Divisions), members of the diplomatic corps in Suva, Fiji Police Force, and other senior officials. The Fiji Police Brass Band, Fiji Police Dance Band, and Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Choir provided musical accompaniments contributing towards marking this special event. At the event, the REACH video (<a href="#">link</a>) was launched to provide an overview of the project, and for awareness-raising purposes during subsequent REACH missions across Fiji.</p> <p>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 also 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.</p>

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# 1. Invitation and Programme



Invitation



Programme

## 2. Keynote Speakers



(L-R) H. E. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan, 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.

### **Hon. Ms. Mereseini Vuniwaqa, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation**

*“Today’s occasion is very symbolic – through the Government of Japan’s financial assistance and the facilitation of the UNDP towards the REACH initiative, we now have a strong platform to boost Government service delivery. Partnerships such as these go a long way in not only realizing our Ministerial mandate, they also forge our national efforts towards the realization of the sustainable development goals.”*

### **H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Fiji**

*“The mobile service delivery by the REACH Project will also lift the spirit of Fijians, when they see that despite the remoteness of their dwelling the Government cares for them and their rights ... with these buses we take the fight for women’s empowerment, access to legal and social services, and awareness of citizens’ rights preserved in the Constitution to all Fijians in the far and remote areas of the country. I reaffirm Japan’s commitment for providing continued assistance for the sustainable development of Fiji.”*

### **Mr. Shahin Rafique Ali, Acting Director, Legal Aid Commission**

*“The Legal Aid Commission is fully committed to creating awareness about the rights of Fijians, in order to help them understand their legal rights, and to also access the free legal services funded by the Fijian Government through the Legal Aid Commission. It is imperative that all Fijians have access to information on their rights, have access to government services; but more importantly, they must have access to these services, regardless of where they live. If they cannot come to us, we must go to them. We shall leave no one behind.”*

### **Ms. Osnat Lubrani, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative**

*“Recently UNDP, in partnership with the Government of Fiji, undertook the Pacific launch of the global Human Development Report 2016, which is entitled ‘Human Development for Everyone’. Human development is all about human freedoms: freedoms to realize the full potential of every human life, not just of a few, nor of most, but of all lives. That is why as part of the Sustainable Development Goals agenda there is the recognition that the global goals and targets must be met ‘...for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society’, and to endeavor ‘to reach the furthest behind first’. Project REACH is ground breaking in being aligned with the Human Development Report 2016 strategy to best care for those furthest behind. Through Project REACH we look forward to supporting the delivery of tangible and sustainable human development benefits to Fijians around the country.”*

### 3. Participant Voices

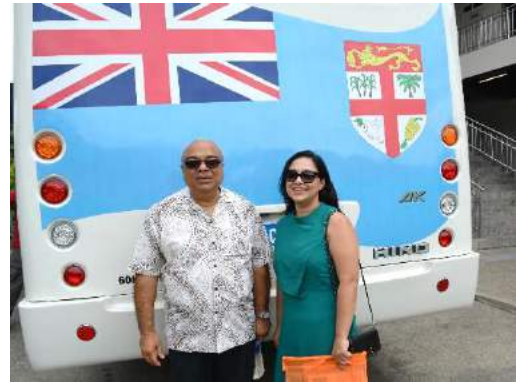
*“I feel the REACH project is a very good initiative. It is a useful way that the community’s women can access important social services, which traditionally they have difficulty in acquiring. It would be great if the mobile service delivery can reach my community in the future.”*

Ms. Lili Natabua, Fiji Police Brass Band



*“It is great to undertake a project outside our daily scope of work. The project of constructing the REACH buses was both challenging and interesting for us as bus manufacturers. It tested the capacity of our team of employees at P.A. Lal Coachwork. We had our talented employees who are hearing impaired also being an active part of this project. The installation of special features in the REACH bus, such as the wheelchair lift, required efforts but our team is happy with the results.”*

Ms. Marissa Lal, P.A. Lal Coachwork, Group Operations Manager



(L-R) Mr. Richard Lal and Ms. Marissa Lal

*“I am happy to have been part of the team at P.A. Lal Coachwork which has worked on this bus. At first, it was a difficult project, but as time went by I grew more confident in the outcome, and it is good to present at the launch of the service delivery vehicles today.”*

Mr. Paula Ratanawake, P.A. Lal Coachwork Employee

*“I am glad to have been a part of this project of constructing the REACH buses. It is good to see that the mobile service delivery initiatives will also benefit persons with disabilities, and that REACH is an inclusive project. I am appreciative that I work with P.A. Lal Coachwork, as they have given me equal opportunities.”*

Mr. Simione Vuniwaqa, P.A. Lal Coachwork Employee



(L-R) Mr. Paula Ratanawake, Mr. Simione Vuniwaqa and Mr. Michael Nora Din

*“A lot of women are vulnerable in rural communities in Rabi Island; especially single mothers, women with young children, and the elderly. I am hopeful this initiative will empower women, and provide the community with important skills they need to facilitate their further development.”*

Ms. Tuata Puvantau, Banaban Women’s Association

*“Skill development of women’s groups is valuable for our community in Rabi Island. We would like to impart important skills to the youth and women, and hopefully a training-of-trainers modality could help us in making this a reality through the REACH project.”*

Ms. Erena Putinto, Banaban Women’s Association

*“The REACH mobile service delivery approach is a one-stop shop for service provision. It would be good to see how the networking of the project develops with partner organizations. It’s a great initiative, which will bring important services to the grassroots.”*

Ms. Turenga Nakalevu, Home of Hope Fiji



(L-R) Ms. Tuata Puvantau, a visiting member of Banaban Women’s Association, and Ms. Erena Putinto



*“The REACH initiative is a step in the right direction. With the visibility REACH has in remote communities of Fiji, people in these settings will not feel left behind and will receive a morale boost because they are not forgotten. I think it will be important going ahead to consider the sustainability of the project, and continuation of effective partnerships between the concerned agencies to effectively reach the most vulnerable groups. Only then will communities be able to view the service arm of the law as a friend and not as a barrier.”*

Mr. Joshko Wakaniyasi, Spinal Injuries Association Fiji

#### 4. Information Shared Prior to the Event

Radio programmes on REACH were conducted using English, Hindi and iTaukei languages for raising awareness consecutively over three weeks in advance of the commissioning of the buses in April in Suva. The REACH project implementation team, including the UNDP Pacific Office, the Department of Social Welfare, the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and the Legal Aid Commission, participated in these programmes to raise awareness on the REACH project, its ways of implementation, the progress made so far, and the commissioning of the mobile service delivery buses in Suva.



**Na Vakakeli, Episode 267** (representative of the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation on the programme)

[YouTube Link](#)



**Speak Your Mind, Episode 240** (representatives of the UNDP Pacific Office, the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and the Legal Aid Commission on the programme)

[YouTube Link](#)



**Aaina, Episode 261** (representatives from the Department of Social Welfare and the Legal Aid Commission on the programme)

[YouTube Link](#)

## 5. Information Shared During the Event

During the event, the REACH awareness-raising video was launched, providing an overview of the project in English, iTaukei and Hindi languages ([link](#)). Specially designed info-packs containing the event programme, the REACH project brochure, the REACH mobile service buses delivery information sheet, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) stickers, and a copy of the video on CD were provided to attendees. Newly developed REACH project banners, a stage backdrop, and a pop-up wall banner were on display at the venue. The REACH team and partners were wearing specially designed shirts with a REACH print in the colours of the project.



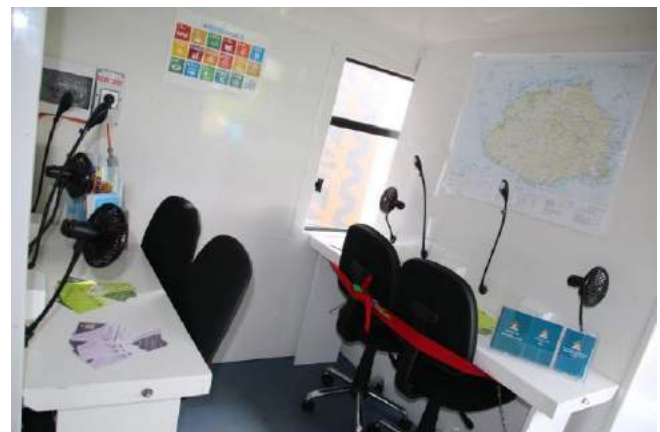
REACH overview video presentation



REACH CDs with the newly launched video



REACH info-pack bag provided to attendees



Interior of buses with publications, posters and wall map



REACH banners and posters on display to the audience



SDG stickers



**PROJECT OVERVIEW**

- PROJECT DURATION**  
2015 - 2019
- 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



**REACH Mobile Service Delivery**

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

**RIGHTS, EMPOWERMENT AND COHESION (REACH) FOR RURAL AND URBAN FIJIANS PROJECT**

*Reach the furthest behind first*





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 also 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.

**Sustainable Development Goals**



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

At **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. At **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.



**The REACH Project aims**



- 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.



**TO SUPPORT**

Peaceful and Inclusive society  
Access to Justice for all  
Effective and accountable institutions

**FOR**

Sustainable Development

**KEY RESULTS**  
SEPTEMBER 2015 - MARCH 2017

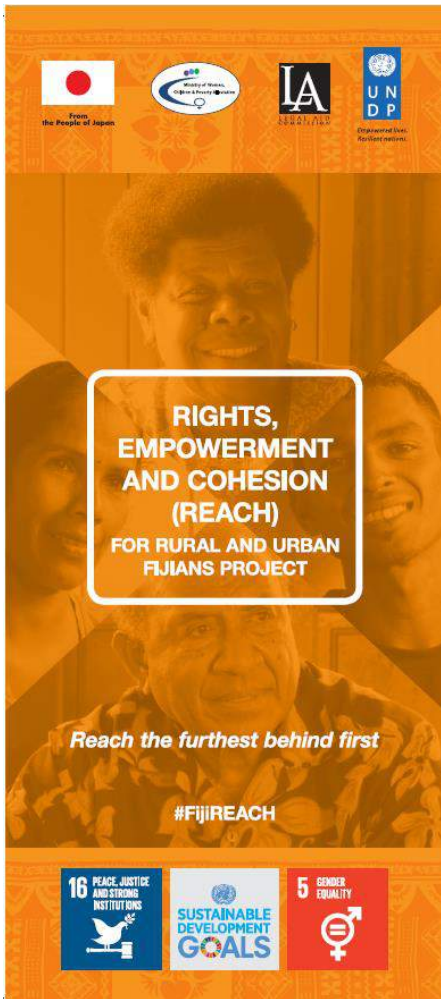
- 3138 people (1591 women, 1579 men and 168 children) benefited from the REACH mobile awareness raising and service delivery.
- 132 communities in 28 districts in 10 provinces across Central, Eastern, Northern and Western Divisions received the REACH mobile awareness raising and service delivery.
- 2988 services (1535 women and 653 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, the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission and other key stakeholders further strengthened their capacity to undertake awareness raising and service delivery.

**REACH project brochure (front/reverse)**



**REACH print shirts**





Banner displayed beside stage [Dimensions: 85m x 2m]



Pop-up wall banner displayed at the venue near the buses [Dimensions: 2.1m x 2.3 m]



Backdrop banner featured behind the stage [Dimensions: 3m x 1m]

REACH banner, backdrop and pop-up banner displayed at the event premises

## REACH partner information on display at the event



The Constitution of Fiji in iTaukei, Hindi and English



Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Brochures



Department of Social Welfare Brochures



Legal Aid Commission Brochures

**Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission**  
Neither Greater nor Lesser but Equal: Dignity, Equality and Freedom for All in Fiji

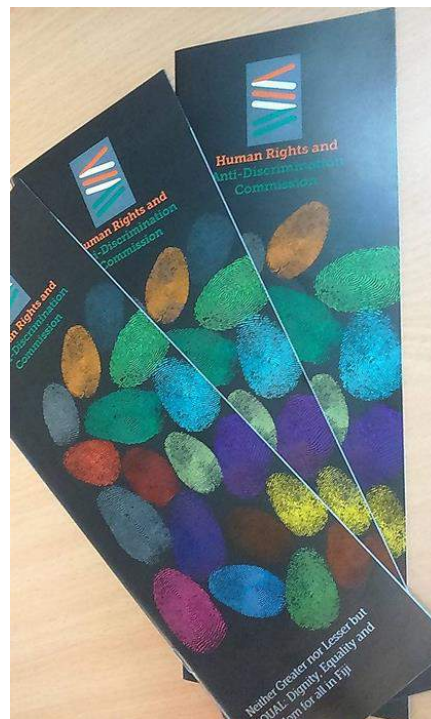
## ARRESTED OR DETAINED?

If so you have the following rights under the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji

- **YOUR RIGHT** to be informed in a language that you understand of the reason for your arrest or detention
- **YOUR RIGHT** to be informed of the possible charges that may be brought against you
- **YOUR RIGHT** to remain silent
- **YOUR RIGHT** to be informed of the consequences of not remaining silent
- **YOUR RIGHT** to communicate with a lawyer of your choice at your own cost and the right to free legal advice from the Legal Aid Commission, communication with a lawyer will be in private in the place where you are detained
- **YOUR RIGHT** not to be forced into making a confession that could be used against you
- **YOUR RIGHT** to be held separately from persons who are serving a sentence of imprisonment
- If you are under 18 years old **YOUR RIGHT** to be kept separate from adults
- **YOUR RIGHT** to be brought before a court within 48 hours after your arrest, or if that is not reasonably possible, as soon as possible thereafter
- **YOUR RIGHT** to adequate accommodation, food, and medical treatment
- **The RIGHT** to inform someone of your arrest including the right to communicate with a family member or social worker

**THE FIJI POLICE FORCE WILL UPHOLD THESE RIGHTS AND WILL HELP YOU TO ACCESS THESE RIGHTS**

Contact the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission if you feel that your Constitutional Rights have been violated on: ☎ 330 8577 ☎ 970 9894



Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission Poster and Brochures

## 6. Photographs



(L-R) Mr. Ashwin Raj, Director, Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission, Minister of Forestry, Hon. Osea Naiqama, H. E. 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.



Mr. Shahin Rafique Ali, Acting Director of the Legal Aid Commission, with the team from the Legal Aid Commission.



H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan, with the team from the Embassy of Japan, and Ms. Tomoko Kashiwazaki of UNDP Pacific.



The REACH team, including implementation partners, farewell the service delivery buses at the close of the event.



**Fiji Police Brass Band**



**Fiji Police Dance Band**



**Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Choir**



**P.A. Lal Coachwork Team**



## 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 also 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 REACH Mobile Service Delivery Buses are custom designed and equipped in Fiji to provide a 'Mobile Office' for effective service delivery across Fiji**

- Three buses
  - Two of 11.5 meter length
  - One of 9 meter 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

For more information: Christine Fowler, UNDP Programme Manager: [christine.fowler@undp.org](mailto:christine.fowler@undp.org) [www.pacific.undp.org](http://www.pacific.undp.org)

## Key Features



- Accessibility aided by a chair lift that will assist all community members including children, the elderly and people with disabilities. These are the first locally installed chair lifts in buses, a first for Fiji.
- Solar energy with stored energy capability to operate laptop computers, printers, lights, fans, projectors and provide internet connectivity to the REACH teams when out on missions in remote areas. The use of a solar system will promote a sustained use of energy and is environmentally friendly. This is also a first for Fiji.

- The bus has been wired to switch to 240-volt energy to allow connection to an electrical power supply when the solar energy is exhausted.
- Each bus is designed and manufactured to meet LTA requirements and the vehicles width, height, turning circle, wheelbase and ground clearance provide for easy manoeuvrability on both sealed and unsealed roads.
- The vehicles are diesel driven. The Fijian governments' initiative of introducing 10ppm diesel is aimed at reducing emissions and these buses will comply with this requirement.
- The bus interior has been designed and constructed to be robust. This applies to the fittings and fixtures, seating, meeting rooms, storage, sound proofing, insulation, and LED lighting.
- Private sound-proofed meeting rooms to conduct meetings with fold up/fold down furniture. Additional workstations with fold up/fold down furniture.
- Roof hatches and windows installed for ventilation and natural light.



### Built by P. A. Lal Coachwork

- P. A. Lal Coachwork is a locally family owned business and a subsidiary of P. A. Lal Holdings Limited.
- The company was established in 1946 by the founder, Late Mr. P. A. Lal, father of current directors Richard Lal (Managing Director) and Victor Lal (Non-Executive Director). This year marks the 71<sup>st</sup> year since the company was established and has been built over 3 generations.
- P. A. Lal Coachwork is Fiji's largest bus and coach body builder and is more commonly known as being 'Pioneers in Bus and Coach Body Building'. Most the buses seen on Fiji roads today have been manufactured by P. A. Lal Coachwork.
- P. A. Lal Coachwork employs a team of dedicated personnel who specialize in areas such as welding, fabrication, machining, fiberglass specialists, glaziers, automotive electrical, upholstery, painting, finishing, inventory management and administration.
- Traditionally, team members received on the job training in the selected areas and built upon their skills through peer teaching and external trainers. As the level of educational courses improve in Fiji, team members are joining the production teams as apprentices who have completed theory based courses and then receive practical experience in the production setting from their peers to build upon their skills and work towards building their careers.
- For the past twenty-five years, P. A. Lal Coachwork has partnered with the Fiji Association of the Deaf and employed team members with hearing impairments. These team members receive on the job training and upskilling. They are treated as equals to their hearing colleagues. Currently P. A. Lal Coachwork has nine employed in the company, many of whom have worked at P. A. Lal Coachwork for at least 5 to 10 years and one team member for 25 years.
- P. A. Lal Coachwork's products have received the 'Fijian Made' accreditation that is licensed by the Ministry of Industry and Trade. This accreditation, which was first awarded in 2012, endorses the commitment to supporting the local economy, and keeping Fijians employed in a unique manufacturing industry that supports the unique skill set of team members.

Link: <http://bit.ly/2oZGN6B>

## REACH Mobile Service Delivery Buses' to deliver government's services to people across Fiji



*The REACH Mobile Service Delivery Buses (Photo: UNDP/Tomoko Kashiwazaki)*

**13 April 2017 Suva, Fiji** – Three new custom built buses were commissioned today in Suva that will allow the Government of Fiji to deliver social, economic and legal services to remote communities and raise awareness of Fijians of the rights enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji.

The Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, the Legal Aid Commission, the Government of Japan and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) commissioned three REACH Mobile Service Delivery Buses as part of the Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion (REACH) for Rural and Urban Fijians Project that aims to promote peace building, social cohesion and inclusiveness.

The buses are custom designed and equipped to support the Government to undertake effective service delivery to rural and urban communities in Fiji, leaving no one behind – be it a child, an elderly person or a person living with disabilities.

Hon. Mereseini Vuniwaqa, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation said in her Welcoming Address, “Geography and challenges faced by our clients limit their ability to access our services. Some live with disabilities, some have no access to affordable or timely transportation and some have absolutely no idea what kind of services are available for them. It is in this realization of the challenge in front of us that the REACH Project was born. Where people could not come to us, we decided to take our services to them.”

“Today’s occasion is very symbolic – through the Government of Japan’s financial assistance and the facilitation of the UNDP towards the REACH initiative we now have a strong platform to boost Government service delivery. Partnerships such as these go a long way in not only realizing our Ministerial mandate, they also forge our national efforts towards the realization of the sustainable development goals” the Minister emphasized.

Mr. Shahin Rafique Ali, Acting Director, Legal Aid Commission said, “The Legal Aid Commission is fully committed to creating awareness on the rights of Fijians in order to help them understand their legal rights and to also access the free legal services funded by the Fijian Government through the Legal Aid Commission.”

Mr Ali also said, “It is imperative that all Fijians have access to information on their rights, have access to government services, but more importantly, they must have access to these services, regardless of where they live. If they cannot come to us, we must go to them. We shall leave no one behind.”

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 awareness raising and service delivery approach is undertaken to reach communities throughout all of Fiji with the focus to reach the furthest behind first. The mobile awareness raising and service delivery is undertaken by teams from the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, the Legal Aid Commission, the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission and UNDP. The Fiji Police Force have also recently joined the team. The ‘REACH Mobile Service Delivery Buses’ will support the team’s outreach across Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, and for maritime areas the teams will continue to travel by boats.





(L-R) H. E. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan, 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  
(Photo: UNDP/Joeli Uluinayau)

From September 2015 to March 2017, the mobile teams conducted awareness and service delivery to 132 communities in 28 rural districts in 10 of the 15 provinces in Fiji throughout Eastern, Northern, Western and Central Divisions. The mobile teams reached 3,138 people including 1,591 women, 1,379 men and 168 children. The mobile teams also delivered 2,388 services, 1,535 to women and 853 to men, such services that included advice on eligibility for poverty alleviation schemes, information on women’s empowerment, discussions on women and child rights, and legal advisory services.

H. E. Takuji Hanatani, Ambassador of Japan said in his Official Address, “The mobile service delivery by the REACH Project will also lift the spirit of Fijians, when they see that despite the remoteness of their dwelling the Government cares for them and their rights ... with these buses we take the fight for women’s empowerment, access to legal and social services, and awareness of citizens’ rights preserved in the Constitution to all Fijians in the far and remote areas of the country. I reaffirm Japan’s commitment for providing continued assistance for the sustainable development of Fiji.”

Osnat Lubrani, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative said in her Official Address, “Recently UNDP, in partnership with the Government of Fiji, undertook the Pacific launch of the global Human Development Report 2016, which is entitled ‘Human Development for Everyone’. Human development is all about human freedoms: freedoms to realize the full potential of every human life, not just of a few, nor of most, but of all lives. That is why as part of the Sustainable Development Goals agenda there is the recognition that the global goals and targets must be met ‘...for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society’, and to endeavor ‘to reach the furthest behind first’.”

“The Project REACH is ground breaking in being aligned with the Human Development Report 2016 strategy to best care for those furthest behind. Through Project REACH we look forward to supporting the delivery of tangible and sustainable human development benefits to Fijians around the country,” stated Ms Lubrani.

The three-year REACH Project supports the Government’s implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal Five to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, and Goal 16 to promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies.

The project is being implemented by UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and the Legal Aid Commission and supported by the Government of Japan and UNDP.

- The Fiji Times**      <http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?id=396458>
- 13 April 2017**      **REACH program launches mobile service**
  
- Fiji Sun**              <https://fijisun.com.fj/2017/04/13/social-services-reach-rural-maritime-areas/>
- 13 April 2017**      **Social services REACH rural, maritime areas**
  
- Fiji TV**                <http://fijione.tv/reach-mobile-service-buses-commissioned/>
- 12 April 2017**      **REACH mobile services buses commissioned**
  
- FBC News**            <http://www.fbc.com.fj/fiji/49855/three-mobiles-service-delivery-buses-commissioned>
- 12 April 2017**      **Three mobile service delivery buses commissioned**
  
- Fiji One News**      <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qw8IrgMDROs&t=1164s>
- 12 April 2017**
  
- FBC News**            <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BfOiGDfa2Es>
- 12 April 2017**



Fiji Sun, 13 April 2017



The Fiji Times, 13 April 2017

The support given by the Government of Japan through the REACH project was covered by two major national newspapers, *The Fiji Times* and *Fiji Sun* as well as via video online by FBC News and Fiji One.

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## MWCPA Updates

### COMMISSIONED 'REACH' MOBILE SERVICE BUSES CUSTOM DESIGNED FOR ALL FIJIANS

Earlier in the week, the Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Hon. Nereasa Vunivavaqi, Acting Director Legal Aid Mr. Shahn Byrd Afi, Ambassador of Japan to Fiji H.E. Tetsuo Hasegawa and the UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Ostrat Luwani jointly commissioned 3 Mobile Service Delivery Buses that was funded by the Government of Japan with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).



The Public Service Delivery Buses are part of the Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion for Rural and Urban Fijians, the REACH project, which is custom designed and equipped in Fiji to support the Fiji Government's mandate to reach out to all Fijians and deliver effective mobile services linked with social, economic and legal rights as embodied in the 2013 Constitution.

These buses conceptualize the model of putting "offices" on wheels to give rural and urban Fijians an ability to access the essential services of the Government. It is robustly built for sealed and unsealed roads, equipped with smart technologies that are user and eco-friendly.

The bus has been wired to switch to 240 volt energy to allow connection to an electrical power supply when the solar energy is exhausted. Each bus is designed and manufactured to meet UN requirements and the vehicles width, height, turning circle, wheelbase and ground clearance provide for easy manoeuvrability on both sealed and unsealed roads. The vehicles are diesel driven. The Fiji Government's initiative of introducing 100ppm diesel is aimed at reducing emissions and these buses will comply with this requirement.

The bus interior has been designed and constructed to be robust. This applies to the fittings and fixtures, seating, crewing room, storage, sound proofing, insulation, and LED lighting. Private sound-proofed meeting rooms to conduct meetings with fold up fold down furniture. Additional workstations with fold up/fold down furniture. Reef hatches and windows installed for ventilation and natural light.

There are 2 buses which are 11.5 meters and the other is 6 meters in length. The buses will be stationed in the Northern, Central and Western Division respectively.

The working station inside the REACH Bus

Solar Panel - This is the first Fiji Made Bus which have solar panel to support it's air conditioning and this is the way to conserve our environment.

Lift to assist people using wheelchair

With the quest to "Reaching the Furthest, behind First" the following features have made the buses more unique:

- Accessibility aided by a chair lift that will assist all community members including children, the elderly and people with disabilities. These are the first locally installed chair lifts in buses, a first for Fiji.
- Solar energy with stored energy capability to operate laptop, computers, printers, lights, fans, projection and provide internet connectivity to the REACH teams when out on missions in remote areas. The use of a solar system will promote a sustained use of energy and is environmentally friendly. This is also a first for Fiji.

www.welfare-women.gov.fj

Facebook Page: Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation

Compiled by Media Unit at MWCPA Headquarters. Ph: 3332199 Fax: (679) 3303828

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## MWCPA Updates

### "REACH" INITIATIVE: 2,388 MOBILE SERVICE DELIVERED TO ORDINARY FIJIANS

Since the inception of the project in 2015, a mobile team consisting of the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, the Legal Aid Commission, the Human Rights and Anti-Corruption Commission and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have provided awareness to 2,331 ordinary Fijians in 1,262 homes, 1,079 men and 1,248 women and 122 remote rural communities in 200 districts across 10 provinces in the Eastern, Northern, Central and Western Divisions.

During the outreach the mobile team immediately delivered 2,388 direct services that is 1,026 services to women and 1,362 services to men, to the people who attended the awareness.

These services include the advice and dissemination of the Poverty Relief Scheme, Bus Fare Subsidy Program, Social Pension Scheme, Food Vouchers for Rural Prepared Matters, Fire Victim Assistance, Child Care and their rights, legal advice and social, dispute resolution services, women income generating project or formation of women groups.

See more photos from the REACH project on the website: [www.welfare-women.gov.fj](http://www.welfare-women.gov.fj) or Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/welfare-women.gov.fj>



Women Groups from Vanua Levu seeking assistance from Christine Avelino



Legal Aid Commission Officer Delivering Service in Nodrau Village Avelino



Mr. Nagesaiaava delivering Social Welfare Service in Vainilolua, Namodi



Mr. Tevita Dewar offering advice related to programmes under UNDP



Promoting SOG IS Gender Equality in Vainilolua, Namodi



Women Inquest Officer Ilisera advising the women of Vainilolua on women related programmes

www.welfare-women.gov.fj

Facebook Page: Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation

Compiled by Media Unit at MWCPA Headquarters. Ph: 3332199 Fax: (679) 3303828

## 10. Facebook and Twitter Posts

Facebook posts on UNDP in the Pacific and PNG: <https://www.facebook.com/UNDP.Pacific>

**UNDP in the Pacific and PNG**  
13 April at 19:00 · 🌐

"Geography and challenges faced by our clients limit their ability to access our services. Some live with disabilities, some have no access to affordable or timely transportation and some have absolutely no idea what kind of services are available for them. It is in this realization of the challenge in front of us that the REACH Project was born. Where people could not come to us, we decided to take our services to them." Hon. Mereseini Vuniwaqa, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation #FijiREACH <http://bit.ly/2oZGN6B>



Like Comment Share

6

2 shares

**UNDP in the Pacific and PNG**  
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"Geography and challenges faced by our clients limit their ability to access our services. Some live with disabilities, some have no access to affordable or timely transportation and some have absolutely no idea what kind of services are available for them. It is in this realization of the challenge in front of us that the REACH Project was born. Where people could not come to us, we decided to take our services to them." Hon. Mereseini Vuniwaqa, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation #FijiREACH <http://bit.ly/2oZGN6B>



Like Comment Share

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2 shares

## Twitter posts by UNDP Pacific (@UNDP\_Pacific) and project staff

UNDP Pacific & PNG Retweeted

**tomoko kashiwazaki** @tomokoUNV · Apr 11  
Govt services r being delivered directly to pple in their communities w/ #FijiREACH mobile office @UNDP\_Pacific



0:08

5 14

**UNDP Pacific & PNG** @UNDP\_Pacific · 3h  
'REACH Mobile Service Delivery Buses' to deliver government's services to people across Fiji [pacific.undp.org/content/pacific...](http://pacific.undp.org/content/pacific...) via @undp



3 7

**Viliame Vocevuka** @VocevukaViliame · Apr 11  
 #FijiREACH Mobile Service Delivery Bus Launch that will reach out to grassroots communities in Fiji to ensure that #NoOnesLeftBehind



1 2

**Joeli Uluinayau** @ului\_joe · Apr 11  
 #FijiREACH Commissioning of the Mobile Service Delivery Buses reaching the furthest behind first supported by @JapanGov @UNDP\_Pacific



tomoko kashiwazaki, Dyfan Jones, UN in the Pacific and 2 others

1 6

**Tevita Dawai** @tubinawaqa09 · Apr 11  
 FijiREACH Mobile Services Delivery Buses Launched @tomokoUNV @UNDP\_Pacific



5 13

**Tevita Dawai** @tubinawaqa09 · Apr 11  
 We shall leave no body behind, #FijiREACH Buses Launch @JapanGov



3 5

**tomoko kashiwazaki** @tomokoUNV · Apr 11  
 Japan Dev Cooperation supports Fiji to strengthen sustainable development to leave no one behind thru #FijiREACH



UNDP Pacific & PNG, 国連開発計画 (UNDP) 駐日代表事務所, MOFA of Japan and 5 others

2 14

**tomoko kashiwazaki** @tomokoUNV · Apr 11  
 #FijiREACH supports Fiji's strategic policy implementation to reach the furthest behind first #goal5 #sdg16



UNDP Pacific & PNG, 国連開発計画 (UNDP) 駐日代表事務所, MOFA of Japan and 5 others

8



**tomoko kashiwazaki** @tomokoUNV · Apr 11  
3 #FijiREACH buses will deliver Govt services to communities across Fiji, being launched now in Suva.



UNDP Pacific & PNG, 国連開発計画 (UNDP) 駐日代表事務所, MOFA of Japan and 3 others

5 17



**Ria S** @Ria1S1 · Apr 11  
#FijiREACH project commissions #buses 4 mobile #servicedelivery in exciting launch w support of #Fiji Gvt and Gvt of #Japan @UNDP\_Pacific



2



**Tevita Dawai** @tubinawaqa09 · Apr 11  
FijiREACH Mobile Services Delivery Buses Launched @tomokoUNV @UNDP\_Pacific



5 13



**Ria S** @Ria1S1 · Apr 11  
#FijiREACH project commissions #buses 4 mobile #servicedelivery in exciting launch w support of #Fiji Gvt and Gvt of #Japan @UNDP\_Pacific



2



**tomoko kashiwazaki** @tomokoUNV · Apr 11  
Happening soon, #FijiREACH Mobile Service Delivery Buses Launch in Suva, Fiji w/ Fiji Govt n Japan



UNDP Pacific & PNG, Osnat Lubrani, 国連開発計画 (UNDP) 駐日代表事務所 and 4 others

4 5



**Tevita Dawai** @tubinawaqa09 · Apr 11  
Awesome message to commission to the buses!



**UNV Pacific** @UNV\_Pacific  
Commissioning of the #FijiREACH Mobile Service Delivery Buses.  
REACH buses are ready to reach the furthest behind first.

4



*Photo credits: Joeli Uluinayau and Ria Sen (UNV/UNDP)*

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**Twitter:** [@UNDP\\_Pacific](https://twitter.com/UNDP_Pacific)