South Pacific



Building Translation Capacity



Overview

This project will build new headquarters for Bible Translation work in Vanuatu and relocate the Bible Society South Pacific (BSSP) Translation team there. Capacity Building training for project management will also take place there.

The Need

In an ever-changing and challenging post-pandemic world, the Bible Society of the South Pacific must adapt, evolve and restructure to ensure sustainability, continuity, and productivity — especially with its Bible Translation work. The translation of Bibles into 16 major languages within Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Samoa are the major needs that will be met by this project. Currently, there are major project coordination issues and relational strain caused by cost, distance, and isolation.

There is a great need for BSSP to restructure, to ensure sustainability, continuity, and productivity, especially with its Bible Translation work. 16 island <u>nations</u> and major <u>languages</u>.

2.8m

1.7m

earn minimum wage or <u>live below the</u> poverty line.



ADVOCACY

Goals

Vanuatu is a major focus for Bible Society translation work. Having the Bible Translation Department based in Vanuatu will bring about sustainability, regional collaboration and continuity of projects, even in the face of the COVID pandemic.

The goal of this project is threefold. Firstly, to build a two flat residence and office building that caters for office space and training by December 2024. Secondly, to decentralise BSSP's Translation Department and relocate the two senior staff to Vanuatu by mid 2024. Finally, to recruit and train a Translation Project Manager by December 2024, to help with the reporting and writing of Project proposals, conduct monitoring and evaluations, and communicate with key stakeholders Ultimately, the vision is to have 45 translation projects within Vanuatu by 2025.

Impact

The total number of people this project will impact is the 2.8 million people living in the South Pacific Islands.

This project will give unity to Bible Society translation work in the 16 Island nations that BSSP serves. It will enable teams to work together more efficiently for the future and benefit of Bible Translation in the Pacific, reaching millions with new and revised Bible translations. After starting in 2022, the project has already impacted over 2,000 people.

Testimonies

"After my Covid-19 lockdown experience in Vanuatu, I would love to go back and work there. Having the Translation Department based there would benefit the BSSP translation work in many ways."

Rev. Apenisa Lewatoro - Director of Publishing

Prayer Needs

- Pray that BSSP Leadership and staff and all the regional staff and volunteers — will embrace this new regional mission mindset and heart.
- Pray that the 16 island countries of the South Pacific would be the heart of BSSP mission with collaboration, sustainability, accessibility, and continuity.
- Pray that the transitions, decentralization initiatives and stages would be smooth and move swiftly

