



Enabling Growth

Overview

Bible Society Australia is supporting Bible Society of the South Pacific (BSSP) to boost the effectiveness and sustainability of BSSP.

The Need

BSSP serves 16 independent island nations, totalling 2.8 million people, with 60% (1.7 million) falling between minimum wage and the poverty threshold. To effectively reach this population, BSSP requires improved connectivity and accessibility. It is essential to address challenges in transitioning mission and outreach information to digital platforms, including addressing the lack of skills and proper IT equipment.

Additionally, supporting full-time staff and Regional Coordinators is crucial for accelerating the implementation and impact of BSSP projects across missions and translation efforts.



16

independent islands which the Bible Society serves, covering 15% of the world's surface.

60%

of the population live between minimum wage and poverty threshold

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

Psalms 119:105, ESV

Goals

In 2024, this project aims to bolster capacity and the financial sustainability of BSSP.

The project will seek to develop staff capacity, expedite project implementation within the region, and support the newly recruited full-time Mission and Translation Coordinators specifically for Vanuatu, Fiji, and New Caledonia. Additionally, a Translation Trainee will be brought on board as part of the broader BSSP succession planning initiative, ensuring a pipeline of qualified individuals for future roles.

Recognising the need for additional support in key areas, the project also aims to recruit new staff members with expertise in Human Resource Management and Project Management.

While this project enabled essential warehouse upgrades in 2023, the process will be completed in 2024.

Impact

In 2023, BSSP's Fiji Mission team received a dedicated vehicle for efficient outreach to rural communities and timely distribution of trade stock to bookshops nationwide. Progress was made in meeting the rising demand for Bibles, with BSSP's warehouse upgraded to increase stock holding capacity, to facilitate printing bulk orders and achieving economies of scale.

The impact of this project will be seen in the improved technical capacity of BSSP staff, especially in the areas of inventory and marketing skills, and in their use of key fundraising, translation and publishing software, as well as increased competency in BSSP staff performance and organisation development.

Testimonies

"[A] major challenge is how we have been set up and the infrastructures we have. Most of the communication and infrastructure that helps us do the work has aged over the years and we are currently implementing some changes, but it takes time when we are dealing with the vast body that we serve here in the South Pacific." — Geoffrey Miller, BSSP General Secretary.

"Bible Society South Pacific definitely needs an upgraded version of its IT equipment that will allow for better work execution, remote access and better connectivity." — Ernest and Young, auditors

"The Bible Society of the South Pacific is the Hub for Bible Trade and has the greatest opportunity to develop into a major wholesaler for the Pacific Region because it is trading one of the world's best sellers — the Bible." — Mr. Noel Tofinga

Prayer Needs

- Pray for the safety and wellbeing of all BSSP Staff, translators, volunteers and mission partners across the South Pacific and the Oceania Alliance.
- Pray for BSSP and the Christian churches to discover new approaches, ideas, and strategies for mission during these challenging and rapidly changing times, and for greater collaboration within the Oceania Alliance.
- Pray for Bible work in the Pacific and for effective user systems for Scriptural resources.
- Pray that the Lord will lead the right staff to Bible Society, to take up the positions under recruitment.