

# South Pacific



## Enabling Growth

**Project: 102868**  
**Non Tax Deductible**



# 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

### Overview

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Bible Society Australia is supporting the Bible Society of the South Pacific (BSSP) to boost its effectiveness and sustainability. BSSP's mission is to make God's word easily understood, available and affordable so that people can engage with it in all situations.

### The Need

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BSSP serves 16 independent island nations within the South Pacific region, totalling 2.8 million people, with 60% (1.7 million) falling between minimum wage and the poverty threshold. To effectively reach this population with God's word, 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's projects across Bible mission and translation efforts.

## Goals

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In 2025 this project will continue to bolster the capacity and sustainability of BSSP. Activities planned for this year include recruitment, staff development, and infrastructure improvements. BSSP is recruiting a new Bible Translation Officer for Oral and Sign Language, a Tonga National Collaboration Coordinator, and a Trade and Distribution Officer. New laptops will be provided to all new hires, and an iCloud server will be set up for efficient collaboration and data management.

As part of its staff development, members of the BSSP staff will be attending the South Pacific Bible Forum, meeting with various organisations and partners in Bible translation work. They will also attend literacy and publishing development trainings. Certain staff members will also receive education in Human Resources and Typesetting.

Additionally, BSSP plans for the demolition of their old building to be followed by a new property development. These efforts aim to strengthen BSSP's operational capacity in the years to come.

## Impact

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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.

This project will improve the infrastructure and resources of BSSP, ensuring it can reach rural communities when needed for their spiritual renewal, distribution of Scripture resources, and to build relationships. BSSP's relevance, responsiveness and resilience will grow, as BSSP staff are provided with upgraded IT equipment, software and internet access, that will ensure accessibility, connectivity and productivity from home or remotely.

BSSP will be better able to manage the supply of Bibles held in the warehouse to meet trade demands on a timely basis and be able to generate income at the same time, that will boost cash flow and sustainability. BSSP will have the human resources and manpower to extend and expand Bible Society mission and translation work within the region.

## Testimony

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*"We distribute to major bookshops in the towns of Fiji. We have Fijian Bibles here, we have Tahitian, we have Samoans ... Bislama, Tongans, and some languages of New Caledonia. We bought two thousand of the compact sizes of this [Fijian] Bible and now it's all sold out, within two weeks." — Ledua, BSSP Operations Manager*

## Prayer Points

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- Pray for the safety and wellbeing of all BSSP Staff, translators, volunteers and mission partners across the South Pacific and the Oceania Alliance. Pray that the Lord will lead the right staff to Bible Society, to take up the positions under recruitment.
- 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 the Bible mission work in the Pacific, or its expansion and reach to more Pacific islands.