



Vanuatu Wheelchair Service Provision

Phase I project summary 2015-17

The Vanuatu Wheelchair Service Provision project Phase I (WSPI) is a one year (2015-2016) collaboration between the Vanuatu Ministry of Health (MOH), VSDP (Vanuatu Society of Disabled People), the Sanma Frangipani Association (SFA) and Motivation Australia.

Together we are building consistent, sustainable, equitable access to appropriate, basic level wheelchairs for women and men in Vanuatu.

Basic level wheelchair services are for people who need a wheelchair for their mobility, but they can sit upright without additional postural support.

Intermediate level wheelchair services are for people who need additional support to sit upright. Many children need intermediate level wheelchair services.

The WSPI project focuses on:

Services – Establishing service sites in three locations with the tools, materials and service systems needed for basic level wheelchair service provision.

Training – Training conducted for up to 16 national clinical and technical personnel, using the World Health Organisation's Wheelchair Service Training Package (WSTP) – basic level.

Awareness – Building the awareness of users, service providers and the Government of Vanuatu about appropriate wheelchair service provision.

Phase II design – Planning for appropriate solutions to strengthen mobility device service delivery in Vanuatu including intermediate level wheelchairs, prosthetics and orthotics; as well as addressing equitable access for rural and urban wheelchair users.

Project partners

The Ministry of Health (MOH) is responsible for the provision of health and rehabilitation services in Vanuatu. The MOH is a key project partner; as two of the proposed service sites will be integrated into Vanuatu's two main hospitals in Port Vila and Luganville.

The Ministry of Justice and community services (MOJCS) is responsible for the provision of leadership in the promotion and protection of the rights of people living with disabilities, through the Disability Desk. The MOJCS will assist in coordinating activities and in managing the projects data collection system.

The Vanuatu Society for People with Disability (VSPD) is a local Non-Government Organisation (NGO) that provides rehabilitation services to people

with disabilities in the community. VSPD will carry out wheelchair service delivery for wheelchair users living on Efate.

Sanma Frangipani Association (SFA) is an NGO that aims to assist people with disabilities across Sanma Province. SFA volunteers will assist with aspects of wheelchair service delivery such as wheelchair maintenance.

Motivation Australia is a not for profit disability and development organisation that works in partnership with local organisations to enhance the quality of life of people with disabilities in the Asia Pacific region. Motivation Australia will manage the project, provide training and capacity building.

For more project information please contact the Project Manager, Lauren Flaherty: laurenflaherty@motivation.org.au or visit: www.motivation.org.au

Project funders

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