



Vodafone  
ATH Fiji  
Foundation

# JEEVAN

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION FROM THE VODAFONE ATH FIJI FOUNDATION | JEEVAN IS THE HINDI WORD FOR LIFE AND BULA | ISSUE: # 29: APR 2017



**NETWORK OF  
POSSIBILITIES**

WE REACHED **600+**  
VILLAGES AND  
BUILT MEANINGFUL  
RELATIONSHIPS



**CHEVALIER  
FARM  
PAGE 7**



**YEAR IN  
REVIEW  
PAGE 8**



**WOD  
REPORT  
PAGE 9**



## PASSION FOR THE VANUA

### CONNECTING FOR GOOD

BY PRADEEP LAL, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, VODAFONE FIJI

Connecting our people is what we do best and better than anyone else. 2016/17 saw us use this business competency to empower communities, reduce social inequality, enable social cohesion and realize holistic development.

Real development is when we are able to enhance the capabilities needed to lead a meaningful life. In the past year, our efforts were geared towards addressing inequality in terms of systematic differences in the capabilities of people within our diverse communities.

Access to and the use of mobile voice and data services is a prerequisite to its usefulness as a tool to address inequality and incapability. Ensuring that what we offer is taken full advantage of by all communities in order to engage in our initiatives to mitigate issues related to inequality, we took to upgrading our network, diversifying our services and reducing the cost of mobile communications.

Mobile allows individuals and organizations greater opportunity to participate in economic growth, income generation and social development. Our micro-business funding to women and youth groups are now 100% linked to MPAISA, allowing safe and easy banking alternative.

The use of mobile to reshape, deepen and extend social networks allows people to

change their patterns of access to knowledge and hence, challenge existing social norms and allow innovations within a community. Such changes help to mold the processes defining the social context of people's daily lives.

Direct access to information addresses knowledge inequalities. The more open and diverse the access to information resources, the greater the opportunity for flexible economic and social innovation.

Our new online portal 'mobilise' empowers people with curated information that enables them to take better control of their lives on a daily basis.

As we usher into the 2017/18 Foundation year, we recommit to catalyse economic growth, equality and empowerment through our networks and services.

At the center of our 2017/18 strategy is our intention to create stronger partnerships with key institutions/organisations and work towards three significant transformation goals: micro-enterprise, women and youth, and digital empowerment.

Each goal has the potential to deliver profound socio-economic benefits for our customers and wider society, while each is also derived directly from - and will be achieved by means of - our core long-term business objectives.



### THE NECESSITY TO TRANSFORM AND ADOPT SMART WAYS

BY LIONEL YEE CHAIRMAN, VODAFONE ATH FIJI FOUNDATION

Much has changed since mobile technology was introduced in Fiji by Vodafone some 22 years ago.

Fiji's mobile network now covers almost the entire population. Data speed has increased significantly and the cost of voice and data is more affordable.

On the global scale, the mobile network now covers nine out of ten people on the planet - more than those covered by the electrical grid. Thirty years ago, it didn't exist.

This digital revolution is of significant value to us, but we can only benefit from it if we transform ourselves accordingly. Businesses need make digital transformation to deliver better services and realise productivity gains. Individuals and societies need to get digital literate and adopt smarter ways of doing things.

Mobile allows communities to connect with service providers, access information, and carry out transactions. Mobile payment and information services can transform the

prospects for farmers and small and micro business holders.

At the heart of the Foundation is the belief that mobile communications technologies can address some of the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. Our Mobile for Good programme focuses on using our innovative mobile technology in mobilising social change and improving people's lives. The Foundation is constantly looking to use mobile technology in a way that has the biggest impact for positive change. We are constantly looking for transformational projects that can significant difference in people's lives.

Digital technologies are well suited to helping civic action, mobilising large communities, sharing resources and spreading power. We have this in our hands, almost every time. If we start using it effectively by transforming the way we do things, it will have a big net effect on our society.



Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation is a registered charity. The Foundation was formed to bestow its philanthropic responsibility towards the community it does business with and where its stakeholders, shareholders, suppliers, customers and employees live in. Through the 'passion for world around us' and 'commitment for making Fiji a better place' for all, the Foundation ensures implementation of the social investment policy through annual contributions from Vodafone Group Foundation, Amalgamated Telecomm Holdings and Vodafone Fiji Limited.

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### Foundation Programmes

**World of Difference:** WoD is a paid volunteer programme. Focusing on individual candidature, empowering them, building their capacities in such a way that the projects they implement have multiplier and replicator effects. WoD specifically looks at supporting the human resources development which is the core and strength of any project and charity.

**Sustainable Funding:** To support programme that has the potential for holistic development, together with multiplier and replicator effects that benefit the population, whilst linking them to generation of social profits with an aim to reduce poverty

**Beyond Funder:** Business cannot success in the failed community is the punch line for Beyond Funder. The beyond fund strategy aimed to link corporate to other civil society organizations and also network for better results.

**Double your \$:** An employee engagement project that supports cause the staff is passionate about. DY\$ also enables staff to raise funds and also volunteer with the customers to address the pain of the community.

**Mobile for Good:** M4G programme uses technology and its people to bring about social change in the community that we work with. The platform shares information pertaining to the face to face symposiums and training of trainers programme we run in the community in partnership with the charity organizations. Our cross-cutting strategy for any M4G initiative is to develop, partner, or provide assistance for programmes/projects that promise or meet the essential needs of people in our communities. We work in collaboration with partners to identify opportunities and develop tailored mobile services and applications that meet these needs. These are 'lifeline' rather than 'lifestyle' services because they help improve people's quality of life.



# BUILDING A NETWORK OF POSSIBILITIES WITH OUR PROVINCES

Our 2016/2017 Foundation year started with the realisation that the single most indispensable strategy for advancing social change is cross-sector collaboration that creates genuine and measurable value for all.

Such collaboration is part of the way we will create actual solutions to society's challenges.

With this in mind, we started to engage with District Officers under Commissioners Office and Provincial Councils and Provincial Administration.

We consulted and made presentations to the 'movers and shakers', sharing the benefits of engaging with Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation and the capacity we have to be able to bring about holistic change.

We were given opportunities to present at the Bose Ni Yavusa, Bose Ni Mataqali, Bose Ni Tikinas, 'Soqosoqo Vakamarama' and 'Tabagone' at the Provincial Councils.

We also reached out to the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs and Ministry of Rural Maritime Development and Natural Disaster to ensure 'no one is left behind' in our quest to create better value for all.

It became imperative for us to create synergy with the most relevant and influential stakeholders who are closer to the grass roots communities and the community based organisations that we seeking to benefit.

In these collective efforts, we strengthened

relations with all the Roko Tui, Provincial Administrators and stakeholders, line ministries such Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Education, and Ministry of Youth & Sports development, allowing Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation to reach 7 provinces, 104 Tikinas and 646 villages

The Foundation evolves at innovative pace based on the needs of the community, environmental setting, and the aspirations of relevant stakeholders who partner together to bring about positive social change.

Through Provincial and Tikina engagement we were able to speak at same wave length with all the 'Matani Tikinas' and 'Turaga ni Koros' who then share our vision of successful entrepreneurship and income generation projects with villages, 'Soqosoqo Vakamarama' and 'Tabagone'.

The dream of 'Leaving no one behind' led Foundation to contribute to larger plans which in turn compliments District plans, Provincial plan leading to achievement of National objectives.

Foundation will continue with provincial and district engagement ensuring larger rate of return for small income generation projects that we support.

In addition, it's worthy to share that our relation has grown many folds and the depth and breadth of our these relationships will address the pain of the community.

## RA PROVINCE

+ 7370 families  
+ 19 Tikinas  
+ 86 villages

## SERUA PROVINCE

+ 4560 families  
+ 4 Tikina  
+ 24 villages

## NAMOSI PROVINCE

+ 1,725 families  
+ 5 Tikinas  
+ 28 villages

## TAILEVU PROVINCE

+ 13930 families  
+ 22 Tikina  
+ 146 Villages

## NADROGA/NAVOSA PROVINCE

+ 14600 families  
+ 22 tikina  
+ 21 villages

## NAITASIRI PROVINCE

+ 161000 people  
+ 16 tikina  
+ 91 villages

## CAKAUDROVE PROVINCE

+ 49350 people  
+ 16 Tikina  
+ 132 Villages

FOUNDATION REACHES 600+ VILLAGES

# CAKAUDROVE PROVINCE GETS A BOOST



*Your contribution will lead to positive change to the lives of our future generation and will make their dreams come true at the right time.*

The province of Cakaudrove in the northern division received \$10,000 for four community projects.

Tokatoka Vacalea and Gaunavou Youth Clubs and Taveuni South Primary and Taveuni South Secondary were allocated \$2500 worth of assistance each.

The two schools received mEducation support of free tablets and internet connection for a year while youth clubs got funds to revamp and kick-start income generation projects.

“Vodafone ATH Foundation is really a blessing to the four youth clubs who will be assisted by the Foundation”, said Senior Assistant Roko, Mr V.B.Talemate.

“Our vision is for effective participation of the iTaukei in social and economic development, and Vodafone ATH Foundation support is effectively making a difference,” said Mr Talemate.

“Thank you so very much for the generous support and open mindedness to come down to the grassroots level and show your support to all levels of the community at Cakaudrove,” he said.

“Your contribution will lead to positive change to the lives of our future generation and will make their dreams come true at the right time.”

“On behalf of all the youths in the province of Cakaudrove we would like to say a big vinaka vakalevu to Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation and we hope that there will be more to come for Cakaudrove in years to come. We wish Vodafone a very successful New Year”

Foundation Executive Ambalika Devi thanked Foundation media partners who have been helping identify and publicise the needs of grassroots communities.

## TAVEUNI HANDOVER

The Foundation handed over mobility devices to Senior Divisional Medical Officer at Taveuni Hospital together with the Hospital Board of Visitors and Somosomo Provincial Office.

While on Taveuni the Foundation visited various women and youth group projects and met with district officers to learn of challenges faced by the community.



# ALLIANCE GETS \$10K FOR SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AND INCOME PROJECTS



The Foundation handed over a cheque of \$10,000 to Western Charity Alliance (WCA) for income generation and social enterprise projects.

The funds will be used to engage unemployed youths to generate revenue and address pressing issues in the communities of western division, said WCA's Jitendra Naidu.

"The Western Charity Alliance was mooted by Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation Beyond Funder programme with the aim to engage the corporate to give towards meaningful projects," said the Foundation Executive Ambalika Devi.

"The vision of WCA is to share information, collaborate with corporate

sectors and implement projects that matters most to the community we do business with," she said.

"Corporate sectors can donate to WCA for projects that they and their employees may be passionate about," said Devi.

"Together we can make a huge difference whilst working in isolation imposes more challenges in addressing issues," she said.

"WCA replicates all programmes of the Foundation in the western division, ranging from wheel chair needs assessments, youth and women project needs, and employing volunteer methodology to address issues," said Naidu.



## 'MANAGE YOUR TIME FOR DAILY PRODUCTIVITY'

Effective time management is crucial for achieving greater productivity, says Foundation Executive Ambalika Devi.

Speaking at the Fiji Council of Social Services strategy workshop, Devi told community leaders and groups that the nature of social work always demanded more activities and more time.

"In this line of work we can easily get stressed because our focus is always on serving our mission," she said.

"However, while serving our mission we must realise that we have to be both efficient and effective."

Devi said that one way to ensure that we got done everything that needed to get done was by organising our tasks in some logical order or batching tasks.

"It's impossible to get a good handle on your time without knowing what needs to get done. If you haven't already, sit down and write up a plan for your area of management," she said.

Devi told participants that they should spend their time managing smart and thinking big.



## NORTH FAMILY RECEIVES MOBILITY EQUIPMENT

Valentines Day turned special for Pundit Shiu Shankar Singh and family when the Vodafone team in Labasa delivered mobility equipment to their house.

The Shankar's plight was published in the newspaper, seeking assistance for a wheel chair for Mr Shankar's 87-year-old mother, a walker for the daughter and walking stick for

himself as he is suffering from stroke.

The Vodafone Labasa team responded with a special delivery.

"This is very special gift specially on this day," said Mr Shankar.

Vodafone's Arunesh Vishwa said he was grateful to the media for highlighting the Shankar's needs.

## EIGHT CLUBS ON TAVEUNI GET FUNDING



Foundation Executive with Turaga Ni Koro, Youth leaders and Youth Coordinator Taveuni.

The Foundation handed over funds for income generation and economic empowerment, ranging from technology project to farming, to canteen start-up, to eight clubs in Taveuni.

Youth Coordinator at Somosomo Provincial Office, Mr Manueli Koroi, said the funding was a great boost for the youths.

“This is the first ever grant from Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation and we will now start monitoring the projects as it gets implemented,” he said.

Assistant Roko, Mr Emori Tokalau welcomed the assistance saying that the youths and women’s clubs will get strengthened through the projects.

“We will make sure that the grants are put to good use and its timely especially for those communities who were affected by cyclone Winston,” he said.

“A big vinaka Vakalevu and we are extremely appreciative for the support, said Mr Tokalau.

The Foundation also conducted capacity building workshop on Taveuni to help the youth and women with knowhow of business and money management, and how to use mobile phones to conduct and scale-up small projects.



## mEDUCATION PACKAGE FOR SCHOOL

The Foundation’s mEducation package is now helping students and teachers of Taveuni South Primary School in their learning and teaching.

The Internet connectivity and technology rollout package includes tablets, wifi device and internet connection free for a year.

The Taveuni South Primary School Head Teacher Mr Pratosh Kumar thanked the Foundation for the nine tablets and wifi with 50GB free data per month .

“These electronic gadgets are of great benefit to teachers and students when it comes to research work and additional learning,” said Mr Kumar.

He said “these will greatly assist in

achieving the major learning outcomes of the school curriculum.”

“It will also support teachers and students to raise the school education standard, and hence contribute to education standards in the country nationally.

“These assistance have been very timely, after destructions caused to all computers and laptops by Cyclone Winston. These compatible devices are easy to store and handle. Many thanks to Vodafone ATH foundation for coming to our rescue with e-learning devices,” said Mr Kumar.

**Happy New Year  
Ambalika. Our 2016  
Cataract surgery  
program was  
very successful  
and all 200 plus  
patients departed  
with their sight  
restored. We feel  
our project fulfills  
a very worthwhile  
and rewarding  
function. To return  
sight, returns  
independence  
and offers full  
participation  
in family and  
community life.  
Our goal is to cater  
for 275 patients from  
all over Fiji in our  
next clinic.**

GEOFFREY AMOS  
ROTARY CLUB OF TAVEUNI ISLAND



## BAND BOYS GET HELP TO BUY INSTRUMENTS

The Foundation handed over \$2500 to Buaboiyawa Kei Uluiqere band boys for purchase of musical instruments.

Rarabasaga village and Naveyago village will benefit from this project.

Naveyago Village is also home of Olympic gold medalist Semi Kunatani.

“Twenty-eight youth members of Naveyago village youth club are part of Buaboiyawa Kei Uluiqere band which performs at weddings, birthdays, and also play in the remote of Navosa for tourist village tour entertainment,” said Provincial Youth Coordinator Marika Nagata.

The village has a population of over 200 with 36

households.

Apart from the band project youths do farming and supply to hotels.

“We generate some \$300 to \$600 playing at one event said band president Tevita Naodele.

“This funding from Vodafone will be used for the purchase of musical instruments and trainings for the band boys,” said Treasurer Joseva Kurudugu.

“We will also use some of the funds for the farming project in order to generate for revenue,” he said.

“The two projects have been running for over years and this funding will help to upscale them,” said Kurudugu.

## FARM EVOLVES INTO A SUSTAINABLE

A decade-old farm, the Chevalier Duck Farm has evolved into a sustainable business.

The farm started as a small project in 2007 by the Chevalier Training Centre in Wainadoti, outside Navua. The Chevalier Training Centre is a vocational institute for the underprivileged youths of Fiji. It is managed by the Chevalier Youth Trust Board.

At present the Centre has 75 youths aged 17-25 coming from poor and economically challenged families.

Since 2007, the Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation has provided \$40,000 to the farm, including assistance for water treatment facility together with Rotary Pacific Water for Life.

Today, the farm generates \$2500 every six months from the sale of ducks.

“It’s almost a decade now and over \$50,000 has

been generated from duck sales,” said Father Simon Mani.

“The

duck farm revenue was reinvested in chicken sheds for meat birds, goats and piggery, vegetable farming like rourou, dalo and cassava, and egg production.”

“The meat bird, goats and piggery sale generate another \$50,000,” he said.

The Centre provides a two-year skill training programme in Carpentry, Cabinet Making, Motor Mechanics, Welding & Metal Work and Farm Management.

The revenue generated from the duck sales is reinvested in buying training tools for the students.

“Through the training given to the youths, we strive to find them permanent employment, making them more successful and self-confident members of society,” said Father Mani.

“Poor children, school dropouts, kids from destitute families and vulnerable community are able to study in Chevalier,” he said.

“Our priority is to assist those who have the least hope,” said Father Mani.

“Thirty students graduate annually, and there are many success stories of students graduating,” he said.



Father  
Simon Mani





# CONNECTED EMPOWERMENT

We have been true to our strategy of creating a more equal society

**W**e started the 2016/17 Foundation Year with a new strategy of 'Connected Empowerment' that would create a more equal society.

This strategy aligned with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals which enshrine the global agreement around addressing inequality.

The goals highlight the importance of empowering and promoting the social, economic and political inclusion of all people, irrespective of status, and of ensuring equal opportunity and reduced inequalities of outcome.

The new strategy carries Vodafone's belief that investments in mobile broadband network and offering widespread access to online services can potentially decrease inequalities.

2016 saw the expansion of Vodafone's 4G+ network covering 45% of Fiji. This investment ensures that Vodafone users have access to reliable, high quality, and affordable services. New voice and data packages were also launched to ensure we had plans for all segments. Affordability and value were key considerations in developing these

**WORLD OF DIFFERENCE:**  
\$141,427.59

**DOUBLE YOUR DOLLAR:**  
24 staff, \$24641.60

**MOBILE FOR GOOD :**  
9 organisations, \$39,500

**DEAP:**  
7 Organisations, \$14,700

**SUSTAINABLE FUNDING:**  
31 groups, \$143,800.00

products.

2016 also saw the upscaling of the Foundation's SMS-based mChannels.

We realised that affordable and reliable access to the network by itself was not enough; the value equation required us to make available local information and services, and an adequate level of education and digital literacy among users.

The Foundation launched 'Mobilise' - an online portal that curates information

to drive social change.

Mobilise leverages Vodafone's network and smart phones to change lives by providing information that enable people to make better decisions. Mobilise focuses on current and emerging social issues on health, youth, girls and women, food security, and environment.

Mobilise currently has over 70,000 hits and over 14,000 page views. The site contains some 400 pieces of curated and authored articles and videos.

Two of our World of Difference candidates achieved great milestones, one bringing in over \$12million worth of mobility devices and another transforming Fiji's oldest social services organisation.

2016/17 also saw us connecting more schools by providing mEducation packages. We saw it necessary in the aftermath of TC Winston that students and teachers in affected areas needed access to resources. Not providing them access would have left them disadvantaged of what others would have. Our people and technology made it possible to reduce the equality gap.

## MOBILE FOR GOOD

Our Mobile for Good programme supported nine organisations with a total of \$39,500 in grants.



Efforts centred around helping schools affected by TC Winston by providing tablets and internet access. Additionally, all connected

community solutions projects throughout the year were aligned to initiatives that are connected to technology for wider reach at minimal cost. The use of MPAISA also saw embedment of technology into Foundation programme. The disbursements of funds for Double your Dollar, Christmas donations, World of Difference and some Mobile for Good hand overs were done through the use of MPAISA.

Mobile for Good was established with an aim to help NGO's/charities reach communities with minimal cost, with efficiency, effectiveness and on regular basis on larger scale using our technology and network to empower people with necessary tools to make a difference in Fiji and the World. mEducation partners with number of schools to provide advance technology, bridging digital divide and internet connectivity in schools and address the needs of educational institutes.

## BEYOND FUNDER

Beyond Funder programme aims to share the strength of corporate giving and also link them to charity organisations and needs on the ground. Beyond Funder allows corporate trusts to raise funds for the cause that they are passionate about and apply for mCorp Technology Fund and in turn helping communities that they nurture as their home.

The following occurred under Beyond Funder programme

- Identifying corporates at risk and raising awareness on the complementary role of Foundation in the vicinity of these corporates especially, the employees, village they belong to and helping with health and wellness of these employees and their families.

- Raising awareness and sharing Trust/charitable registration documents and requirements, sample terms of reference, volunteer, HR, child protection, financial policies etc.

- Building the capacities of Provincial councils where the village profiles can be used to access funds for needs identified in the village profile from corporate in the vicinity of the province.

- Tidesreach Resort, Taveuni raised funds in Malibu, USA and is currently assisting Naselesele Primary School in Taveuni with solar system and technology rollout.

2016 / 2017  
YEAR IN REVIEW

### Funding Recipients

- + Grace Trifam Ministry
- + Fiji Table Tennis Association
- + Rotary Club of Taveuni
- + Lions Club of Ba
- + Lions Club of Labasa
- + Tabala Youth Club
- + Naqwavui Youth Project
- + Uluisoru Youth Club
- + Rotary Club of Labasa
- + Spinal Injury Association
- + Waikanikia Women's Club
- + Kawaca Youth Club
- + Vision Fiji
- + Tavunasia Youth Club
- + Valenimalumu Youth Club
- + Western Charity Alliance
- + Semo Youth Club
- + FCOSS National Volunteer Centre
- + Naveyago Village Youth
- + Waikula Youth Club - Verata
- + Lutu Youth Club
- + Marise Youth Club
- + Yaroi Youth Club
- + Young Entrepreneurs Council



## SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

We provided 'sustainable Funding to 31 organisations totalling over \$143,000. The aim of this funding was to assist partner NGOs and community-based organisations to bring about holistic change in communities by implementing projects that would uplift livelihoods. The Sustainable Funding programme strives to promote the health, wellbeing, and capabilities of young people in Fiji, with a focus on building social leadership capacities. Projects ranged from micro business in villages, youth and women ventures, assistance to schools, training and guidance to youth, farming, and healthy living.

# WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

2016 / 2017  
YEAR IN REVIEW

The Foundation's WoD programme provides employment for individuals who are passionate about charity and wishes to deliver programmes that address the issues of our grass roots community. Two candidates continued to work for distinctive charities advocating, collaborating, and engaging on community issues and influencing policies that matter to the key communities. Spinal Injury Association and Fiji Council of Social Services continued to manoeuvre and moot programmes that sought to benefit wider community throughout Fiji. The accomplishment of this year's programmes is embedded in high-level strategic plans and fine-tuning of policies, processes and procedures to deliver a high rate of return on social investment for Foundation and the two member based organisations.

## TRANSFORMING FCOSS

WoD candidate, FCOSS Executive Director Neil Maharaj focused on reforming Fiji Council of Social Services, its programme and membership drive whilst simultaneously managing FCOSS Microfinance, HelpAge Centre, FAMPAC, National Volunteer Centre, Philanthropy and Voluntary Youth Network, Promoting Rural Women Initiative and Advocacy, Collaboration and Engagement on government sub committees.

2016 saw FCOSS launch its 2016-2020 strategic plan geared towards a vibrant, innovative and collaborative platform for CSO excellence and development effectiveness and sets a direction grounded in best practices. The new plan is aligned with the SDG or the Agenda 2030 centred on people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnerships.

In line with its strategic priority areas FCOSS achieved the following in 2016:

- Through partnership with HelpAge International, over 100 older people were mobilised in 6 districts for World Health Day, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day and International day for older person. It is proven through research that by 2025 onwards, there will be more older person in Fiji and globally then ever before, Hence its is important that improved policies are implemented focusing on strengthening social and economic rights of older persons. Neil currently represents civil society in the National council of Older Persons in the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation.

- Having lead the Beyond 2015 and Action 2015 campaign as civil society representative in Fiji for past 4 years, Neil was able successfully obtain funding from PIANGO & CIVICUS to actively engage and mobilise citizens to raise

their voice for sustainable development goals or the agenda 2030.

Neil currently represent Fijian civil society in the National SDG Taskforce in Ministry of Economy and the Pacific SDG Taskforce in the Pacific Islands Forum (PIFS).

- FCOSS was invited to present at the Parliament Speakers Debate. Neil spoke on "Is Fiji's Economic Growth Benefitting All Fijians". The presentation highlighted how key social issues could impede economic growth in Fiji.

In its effort to strengthen capacity of its partners and constituents, FCOSS and the vodafone mYouth programme and FCOSS continued to provide technical support to National Youth Council of Fiji (NYC), the peak body youth development representing 14 provinces. The support has enabled NYC to have an office space for operations of the organisation activities and coordinate youth activities for young people.

- As the chairperson of the Code of Minimum Standards Working Committee, Neil Maharaj is working 10 civil society organisation to develop minimum standards for accountability of civil society organisations. The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to ensure consistency of practise, transparency, accountability of civil society organisations in Fiji. The CSOs code of minimum standards is a set of values and standard which CSOs in Fiji can have their performance measured. It will also define behaviour expectations within the CSOs for good development



practice. It is expected that following the launch of the code, the civil society organisations will have a self-assessment tool for accountability standards

- Chief Guest at Pt Vishnu Deo Memorial School – Neil was the chief guest at Pt Vishnu Deo Memorial School during their prefect investiture ceremony where he delivered speech on key qualities, competency and principles of leadership. Approximately 35 plus student leaders were inducted as next generation leaders of the school and the country as a whole. He talked about how leaders demonstrated their qualities through action as oppose to on talk. He inspired leaders to take lead role in making the difference through use of good use of technology and advised how mYouth, mEducation and mCorp engaged young people bring about positive social change.

- As FCOSS embarks its journey into celebrating 60 years of CSO leadership and excellence, the role of Neil Maharaj in 2016-2017 was to reshape the organisation's traditional umbrella body concept to strong innovative institution

envisioning a collaborative national platform for civil society organisations and community based organisations. The reform was done through strategic planning, policy development, and implementing performance monitoring tools and frameworks.

Over 4500 individuals were empowered in small business and income generation projects through financial literacy, business skills and microfinance awareness programmes. The individual members were also registered with MPAISA registration for quicker and easier transaction. With close to 1 million dollar loan and savings portfolio and reach to over 6 districts, Neil manages over 18 staff, 3 branches and volunteer coordinators to ensure micro finance service delivery.

With the support of Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation through World of Difference Candidate Neil Maharaj, FCOSS has benefitted through in the area of capacity building, organisational management, networking and liaison with civil society



and community based organisations and advocacy. Through this support FCOSS has now a sustainable leadership and institutional capacity strengthening capacity.

Neil has been working closely working with the Foundation and FCOSS board leadership to bring innovation,

solidarity and harmonisation within the sector. He has been successfully able to connect regional and international development agenda and partners at national level. Through the Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation, FCOSS is able to make difference at national, regional and international level.

## EXCELLING IN SERVICE DELIVERY

Spinal Injury Association executive Joshko Wakaniyasi focused on service delivery, mooted new programmes, new funding opportunities, and facilitating change.

Joshko managed to secure 10th consignment of \$1.2m worth of motorized wheelchairs and mobility equipment in partnership with PhysioNet UK.

This brings to total over \$13million worth of mobility devices brought into Fiji since 2010 through the partnership between the Spinal Injury Association (SIA), PhysioNet UK, and Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation.

In July 2016 the ninth consignment worth \$1.2million arrived from UK for Tropical Cyclone Winston post disaster assistance.

Sixteen institutions and 586 individuals together with their families were supported.

Joshko's work with the UCP Alliance Australia saw twenty children get fitted with specialized wheelchairs. UCP Australia supplied clinic equipment valued at \$4000 per client or child.

A partnership with Fiji Disable Peoples Federation to support persons affected by TC Winston saw 683 individuals and their families benefit from a UN Women funding of US\$35,000.

The partnership with LDS Charities for 40th consignment of 296 wheelchairs and spare parts and other accessories were directed to CWM Hospital and Tamavua Rehab. Over \$40,000 worth of equipment was handed over to the CWM Hospital



by Foundation trustee Ashok Narsey.

Supported by Motivation Australia, SIA provided training to Hilton Foundation on assessment and fittings of specialized equipment to children in November 2016.

Joshko's other engagements included the following:

- Supported by UCP Alliance distribution and fittings of equipment to inclusive schools under the access to Quality Education Programs (AQEP) in Savusavu and Beqa.

- Facilitator in-house training and workshop on strategic planning. Currently compiling SIA Strategic Plan 2017-2020.

- TC Winston lessons learnt workshop and feedback -Novotel,Lami

- Fiji Government standing committee

- on Disability Legislative Bill (Disability Bill No.12)

- WHO Community Based rehabilitation consultation - Novotel, Nadi
- nWHO Mental Health Consultation - Novotel, Nadi

- Consultation and feedback on National Election focusing on needs of person with disability for registration and election date proper

- Consultation and feedback on SDG Framework targeting the key performance indicator prioritized nationally in GPH and Novotel.

- Attended Regional Consultation and workshop on appropriate wheelchair and mobility aid service delivery initiative - Port Villa, Vanuatu

- National Budget Consultation.

# MOBILISE CONNECTS YOU TO ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

The Foundation's online portal connects Fijians to essential information for taking charge of their daily lives.

Mobilise (mobilise.com.fj) now has some 400 pieces of content that has been curated based on social issues faced by individuals and communities.

"After consultation with Vodafone Mobile for Good team, a revised content architecture was developed in consultation with mChannel partners," said Foundation Executive Ambalika Devi.

"The portal is now realigned to the needs of the community. The technical and aesthetic changes now aim to build capacities online and serve as awareness and educational portal."

"The mPortal pursues to provide 'one-stop' information that addresses the needs of the community," she said.

Mobilise focuses on current and emerging social issues on health, youth, girls and women, food security, and environment.

"We are continuously updating articles based on recent developments and research. Plans are to incorporate all face to face capacity building, symposiums and training of trainers onto the Mobilise



platform," said Devi.

"With the proliferation of smart phones in Fiji, we have the opportunity to use this medium to change lives," she said.

## CSO TECHNOLOGY ROLLOUT FOR FCOSS BOARD MEMBERS



Charity organisations has always been challenged by constrained human and financial resources to enable them to reach the target audience, the socially excluded, the marginalised and the poor. In light of this, the Foundation provided FCOSS board members and Microfinance coordinators tablets and smart phones to assist them improve service delivery to their constituents.

## YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS COUNCIL

The Foundation donated \$2500 to the Young Entrepreneurs Council (YEC) in its continuing efforts to help the youth of Fiji

YEC is the Fiji Commerce & Employers Federation's (FCEF) latest project in its aim to help prosper the private sector and business development in Fiji. The council is set to help young entrepreneurs (below 40) in driving the economy forward and assist other young entrepreneurs get the best and latest information and training for business development.

YEC designs and implements advocacy and lobbying programmes for youth entrepreneurs, and also potential entrepreneurs who are in school.

Foundation Executive Ambalika Devi said that more innovations like YEC was needed in Fiji.



## NAMATUKULA WOMEN MEAN BUSINESS



**M**icro-business has become the way for a group of women in Namatakula Sigatoka.

Two years after the Foundation initially provided them support, the Namatakula Women's Club has ventured into multiple micro projects that are benefitting the village.

The club consists of 30 women in a village with approximately 300 people.

The club had come up with a project of giving roofing iron and metal posts on hire to the community.

The Foundation had given a grant of \$2500 for starting the project .

Roofing irons are given on hire at \$1.00 each and the metal posts for \$2.00 each for four days. After four days the items have to be returned, if not, they have to pay double the amount .

After success of this project the women started another small business of selling souvenirs.

The wooden souvenir gifts are sold in the shell market in the village every Friday when the tourists arrive.

Next, these women ventured into painting sulu, bedsheets, pillow cases, curtains, and similar items. Single

bedsheets are painted for \$3.00 and \$1.00 for pillow cases.

So this keeps generating income while they invest in another project.

"All these projects are running successfully for the last two years and is of great benefit to the community," said club treasurer Mrs Ilikia Nagatagata.

She said the iron and post project was a great help and relief to the people of the village as its saved time for travelling to another village or place to hire items for sheds and also saved transportation cost as earlier, villagers used to higher carriers to transport the roofing irons and the metal posts.

"Now it's transported within the village by the help of each other in the community."

Mrs Nagatagata said that now instead of hiring a hall for events, villagers just hire the roofing iron and metal for the sheds.

The women plan to reinvest their savings into other projects and involve more women in the village into such ventures.



The Foundation was invited to share its wisdom at the Warwick Fiji community careers expo. Foundation Executive Ambalika Devi spoke on mobilising resources and holistic approach to addressing community issues.

## EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

**Informed and engaged employees are essential for any business to operate effectively. And its equally important that corporate values are effectively passed to the employees so that they can utilise the same to make a difference in the communities they live in. For Vodafone Fiji, employee engagement is not only a business practice but also part of its corporate social responsibility strategy. The Employee Engagement Programme which has been running for several years now, has been lifted to another level whereby employees are encouraged to take ownership of efforts to help communities. Vodafone communicates its CSR strategy and new developments to employees and motivates them to apply personal initiative to help people in need, thereby making our socio-economic environment much better. Recent employee initiatives under the Employee Engagement Programme include the following**

Vodafone frontline staff Parnil Chaudhary and Irfaz Mohammed collected \$1200 Abdul Safik of Nakasi Nausori for his cardiac surgery overseas. The Foundation contribute addition \$1000 bringing the total sum to \$2200.

Ashneel Naidu of Vodafone's corporate and business section raised \$1240 for Ashmita Lata who was suffering from Marfanoid body habitus with Apex left thoracic and lumbar scoliosis. The Foundation contributed an additional \$1000. Ashmita Lata went for treatment to Shriners Hospital in Hawaii.

Abdul Riaz Ali of Vodafone's Finance warehouse section raised \$450.60 for Mohammed Irfaad Hussain for treatment of kidney disease in China. The Foundation matched the amount.

Shereen Lata Chand raised \$1250 for Jai Raj who needed kidney treatment. The Foundation contribute addition \$1000 bringing the total sum to \$2250.

Shaneel Kumar collected \$1000 to help Rahik Sharma whose house caught fire in October last year. The Foundation topped up the amount with another \$1000.

Sales and Marketing section staff Haaziq Buksh raised \$1000 by selling raffle tickets to help Mohammed Eqbal get heart treatment overseas.

Shaneel Kumar of Vodafone's IT section did door-to-door collection and raised \$1010 for Mrs Sunira Devi of Muanikoso Nasinu for her kidney transplant overseas.



**MEducation:** The FSC school in Ba received mEducation grant. The Foundation has equipped the school with 11 tablets worth of \$2500 and free internet connection for a year.



**MERE WINS SPORTS AWARD:** Mere Roden, flag bearer for Fiji at the 2016 Rio Paralympics and Pacific Games gold medallist won the 2016 Sportswoman of the Year Award, a category which included both able-bodied athletes and athletes with disabilities. Roden has been playing table tennis for just over two years. Since 2015 the Foundation has provided financial support to Roden. Roden is also the President of the Spinal Injury Association of Fiji, an organisation that the Foundation has supported for over three years. The 2016 Fiji Sports Awards was held on Friday 17th February at Vodafone Arena in Suva. 64 athletes from 17 sporting associations were nominated, with 11 awards up for grabs on the night.



**SHARING SUCCESS:** Foundation shares information on successful projects and how communities can grow micro-business ventures. Foundation-funded successful micro enterprises include farming, bakery, canteen, handicraft, screen printing, musical groups performing at events, equipment hire, fish shop and internet cafe.



**IWD GIFT** A perfect gift of wheel chair to 87-year-old Shiu Raji of Dreketilailai Labasa on International Women's Day delivered by Vodafone north team.



**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY:** Foundation Executive Ambalika Devi was invited at various International Women's Day events as guest speaker. Devi presented at Asaleo Care, Gyan Mandir in Samabula, Suva, and Naitasiri Provincial Council. Devi spoke on women's empowerment and social transformation. "Girls and women as the most powerful force for transformation and progress. It is our responsibility as women that we strive to effectively contribute to social and economic development irrespective of the challenges we face," Devi told the women and men present. "At Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation we believe in increasing the capacity of women and women's groups so that they are able to make better choices and transform those choices into desired actions and outcomes," she said.



**CARE FOR CHILDREN** Hilton School, Wings of Morning Ministry, MOH, Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation and partners come together to make difference in the lives of children. A team of experts were here from the Shriners Hospital in Hawaii to check children with orthopaedic disability. Majority of the children screened had club foot, a deformity of the foot and ankle that babies can be born with. The position and function of the foot can be greatly improved, if treated early. The Shriners Hospitals for Children is recognized for its devotion to transforming the lives of children through expert care and research. It is a destination for children who have orthopaedic problems, spinal cord injuries, burns, cleft lip and other complex surgical needs. In 2016/2017 the Foundation contributed \$30,000 to assist the Hilton School send children to Hawaii for treatment.



**Youth our hope** Foundation continued monitoring youth projects by visiting youth groups in various provinces. Discussions were around youth grants and upscaling current income generation projects.



**LEARNING FROM OTHERS:** Foundation visited Koripita, a model village outside Lautoka, and its founder Peter Drysdale (sitting). Koripita is a life giving community and an outstanding model of how a good quality of life can be provided for such large numbers of under-privileged people. Koripita is the home of about 1000 people.



**CAPACITY BUILDING** Foundation charity partner Spinal Injury Association conducts the Include Disability Employ Ability training workshop. Foundation assists charity partners in capacity building.



**REACHING OUT:** Foundation engaged with provincial, community, and corporate leaders to better understand and deliver community solutions. This meeting in Sigatoka included the Nadroha/Navosa Provincial Council, Warick Resort, and district Advisory Councillors.

VODAFONE ATH FIJI FOUNDATION

# SUSTAINABLE FUNDING GUIDELINE



STRATEGY: ENHANCING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL  
CAPACITIES, HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF YOUTH AND  
WOMEN IN FIJI ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- + PROJECT MUST BE THE PRIORITY FUNDAMENTAL NEED.
- + MUST BE REGISTERED CLUB, NON-GOVERNMENTAL, CIVIL SOCIETY AND OPERATING FOR THE 18 MONTHS TO 3 YEAR AND OVER.
- + MUST HAVE A BANK ACCOUNT AND IS ALSO REGISTERED WITH MPAISA.
- + PROJECTS THAT COMPLEMENT NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND ARE BASED IN FIJI.
- + HAVE ACCESS TO EMAILS, SOCIAL MEDIA TO BE ABLE TO SHARE PROJECT PHOTOS AND INFORMATION ON FACEBOOK ETC FROM REMOTE.
- + BE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PREPARATION, MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING OF THE PROJECT.
- + HAS THE ABILITY TO PROVIDE FOR THE PRE-REQUISITE.
- + ABILITY TO PROVIDE WRITTEN REPORT AND FINANCIAL EVIDENCE OF FUNDS USED FOR QUARTERLY ACCOUNTABILITY & REVIEW.
- + MUST BE TRANSPARENT, ACCOUNTABLE AND PRACTICE ASPECTS OF GOOD GOVERNANCE.



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