

# KEREBEI & NASAWA, FACILITATED WITH CLEAN, SAFE WATER SYSTEM



Dr Mera with Survivor Unit

Two remote medical centres in Vanuatu now have access to clean, safe water thanks to a pilot program initiated by SWS (Sustainable Water Systems) Pacific in collaboration with the Department of Water Resources. The medical centres, at Kerebei and Nasawa on Maewo received Trunz Survivor 300 mobile solar powered water filtration units to provide safe, clean drinking water to the centres.

Swiss based Bertarelli Foundation, whose trustees visited Vanuatu funded the units, which were delivered and installed by SWS Pacific last month. The SWS Pacific team provided training to medical centre staff and were accompanied by Kalmar Albert from the Department of Water

Resources and Ratu Bani from the Ministry of Health.

SWS Pacific's John Nell said the new filtration units, a first in Vanuatu will make an enormous difference to the people of Maewo.

"Whilst both medical centres have gravity fed water systems, during heavy rainfall, the sources of these systems are infiltrated with mud and the supply becomes undrinkable. While waiting on protecting a spring box is yet to commence, the Trunz solar powered units purify the dirty water to provide safe clean drinking water."

Mr Nell said he met with Dr Roderick Mera, the only doctor on Maewo, who was very happy

with the equipment particularly as many patients present themselves to the medical centres with a water related illness.

"There are many remote medical centres across Vanuatu that get water from gravity fed tanks which take their source from rivers. In many instances, the water may not be safe to drink. By installing these simple solar powered water filters at other medical centres it could be one way to reduce the amount of water related illness across Vanuatu," he said.

"Hopefully other aid donors and foreign embassies will be able to support the program so we can see every remote medical centre in Vanuatu having access to clean, safe drinking water."

The Trunz Survivor 300 is a mobile unit and comes with its own foldable solar panel. It can produce 180 litres of safe clean drinking water per hour from any contaminated dirty water source. It is simple to operate and easily transportable.

Mr Nell said the units were delivered and installed with the assistance of Seal Superyachts Vanuatu and many government department staff including the Director of the Department of Water Resources, Erickson Sammy.

"We encourage any aid donors or charity groups who would like to see clean, safe water delivered to

all remote medical centres across Vanuatu to get in touch with us at SWS Pacific."



Filling water containers from Survivor Unit



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