



**Advocating for Rights &  
Promoting Abilities of People  
with Disabilities since 1999**

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**Press Release**

### **Information & Communication Technology is vital for person with disability**

The Disability Promotion & Advocacy Association (DPA) conducted two day training for its members who were identified to carry out a survey on persons with disabilities access to accessible Information & Communication Technology (ICT) in Vanuatu. The two trainings for the surveys were conducted in Vila and Luganville.

The survey aims gather data on the number of persons with disabilities that have access to ICT, and its importance to their lives.

The participants of the two trainings will conduct the survey in Luganville and in Vila. Those who were part of the training in Vila have already started the survey last week in Vila. The survey in Luganville will begin this week after the training.

The DPA National coordinator Mrs. Nelly Caleb says that now days most people receives information through phones. She reiterate that it is good to carry out the survey as it will provide legible data for government to use, to develop plans, policies and programs that will ensure accessible ICT for all, including persons with disabilities.

She further stressed that the survey will establish a base line data of ICT usage by persons with disabilities in Vanuatu.”

“The survey will show the number of persons with disabilities who own phone narrowing it down to whether it is a smart phone or a simple phone,” she said

She stressed that it will highlight the number of times persons with disabilities uses their phone to access information on what they want to know through ICT devices.

She said that “It will show the number of persons with disabilities that have access to a phone and uses it to access information”

“Vanuatu has a high uptake of mobile telephone that people use every day,” said Ms. Caleb.

“Hence, the needs to gauge how many of these people are persons with disabilities”, she said.

DPA acknowledged the Pacific Disability Forum, International Communications Union (ITU), the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer in Vanuatu (OGCIO) and the Telecommunication Radio communication Regulator in Vanuatu for partnering the project and ensuring ICT accessibility in Vanuatu.

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