

Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health



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Press Release

Mari-One Holdings Limited and Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health Limited (FISH) announces international partnership to deliver **Digital Health Equality** [™] for First Nations people of Australia using Space Enabled Health Solutions

Perth, Western Australia, 12th March 2024

Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health Limited (FISH) & Mari-One Holdings Limited from Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom, today signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to deliver technology solutions that will advance digital health equality for First Nations people of Australia by co-designing an array of digital health solutions specific to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Using Mari-One's space enabled technologies and remote sensing software techniques, combined with FISH's decades of experience of Indigenous sustainable health initiatives brings both parties together to focus on co-designing space enabled digital health software solutions. The partnership will address the key challenges of digital health inequality in the most remote and rural environments across Australia. Together both organisations are strategically focused on advancing the deployment of real time digital health solutions that will enable and empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to own and co -create the best digital health solutions for their unique communities and locations.

Using advanced space enabled technologies both parties will together address the specific connectivity challenges of remote sensing by using customised appropriate gateways that consider the unique and rural locations most typically found across rural and remote Australia. A key barrier to promoting digital health equality is connectivity which is a recurring issue whilst considering the remotest and rural locations typical to Western Australia. This international partnership will demonstrate that connectivity is a key cornerstone towards promoting the future advancement of all sorts of digital health solutions and services which will now become accessible by Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Annette MacDougall CEO, of Mari-One Holdings Ltd, remarked, "Being selected to be a participant of the UK – Australia Space Bridge over the last year has allowed us to have considerable time to review and research the best methodologies and partnerships to illustrate the applications for space-enabled health data whilst focusing on the most geographically extreme and rural environments. By adopting a holistic approach to solving the global issues of digital health equality we are delighted to be collaborating with FISH to create this world first using space enabled technologies for human health monitoring. We believe by investing in locations such as Western Australia with its thriving technology innovation hubs and ecosystem we will be able to demonstrate for the first time that it is possible to share the power of space enabled digital health solutions. This is particularly best suited for those global citizens who may not have had access to the benefits of such technology due to their location or the connectivity challenges that often prevent their communities from realising such."

"We are also pleased to have been supported on the journey by the West Australian Government, Academia, WA Innovation Hubs, the UK Dept of Business & Trade together with Scottish Development International who have shared their valuable time, resources, to help solve this global issue of digital health inequality. "

Areas of focus for the partnership

Together we aim to provide MO and FISH employees and partners opportunities for them to contribute their time and resources to local initiatives that bring sustainable change in the lives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

• The partnership will provide a test bed for advanced connectivity solutions that enable greater opportunities for space enabled digital health solutions to be deployed and support educational, cultural, and social programs.

• Together MO and FISH will promote a test bed for an innovation hub in the rural and remote locations of the Kimberley and Pilbara as well as Myalup, South of Perth that incorporates the various sensing technologies that can monitor health as well as environmental conditions.

• Lead the co-design processes with MO for digital health solutions to be deployed and support educational, cultural, and social programs for rural and remote communities.

• Together MO and FISH aim to encourage a holistic environment for strategic collaboration with the wider digital health community in WA, and broader Australia, which includes academic research partners and innovation programs that specifically benefit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Mark Anderson, CEO of FISH commented, "We are delighted to share the same strategic objectives and values alongside our new international partners as we continue with our purpose to deliver Indigenous sustainable health solutions for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia and Close the Gap in health outcomes. By partnering with Mari-One we will walk together to harness the holistic approach needed towards co-designing unique and versatile software user interfaces that speak to and are specific to the unique and differing needs of the First Nations peoples of Australia. With this international partnership we will advance and empower the creation of First Nations digital health program management teams that will continue to provide the knowledge share of their past, present and future Elders and leaders by determining a principal view from the onset with valued contributions to the customisation of solutions for their own communities, future digital health matters."

Comments on the announcement today included, **British High Commissioner Vicki Treadell**, "I am delighted to congratulate Mari-One and FISH on their partnership. It underscores the benefits of international collaboration which was the aim of the UK-Australia Space Bridge. Participating members of the UK – Australia Space Bridge, such as Mari-One, bring tangibility to the fact that with a series of strategic initiatives between our great nations we can together create an ecosystem for innovation and collaboration that addresses some real-life challenges which now includes delivering digital healthcare to rural and remote locations. Equally by adopting an integrated approach to solving digital health inequality we are embracing the specific needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia as a central focus towards tangible outcomes."

April Kelly, Scottish Development International ANZ Country Head and Investment Lead commented, "Scottish Development International is delighted to support Mari-One's international ambitions and the company is a great example of Scotland's world class capability in the space sector that spans small satellite manufacturing, data analysis and earth observation."

Daniel Smith, Scotland's Trade & Investment Envoy for Space commented, "It is exciting to see Mari-One and the Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health Ltd (FISH) moving forward with their innovative collaboration. I was delighted to meet with both teams during a recent trip to Australia and learn about their solution for advancing digital health equality. I've no doubt that their partnership will prove yet another example of how Scottish companies are using satellite intelligence to support vital challenges here on Earth, as well as the importance of the UK-Australia Space Bridge initiative." **Professor Kevin Pfleger, Director Biomedical and Health Innovation of the WA Life Sciences Innovation Hub** commented, "Access to healthcare is clearly an issue for those living in rural and remote regions compared to metropolitan areas, particularly in a state the size of Western Australia, and particularly for Aboriginal people. Digital health solutions such as those proposed by Mari-One are important for helping to Close the Gap, especially when co-designed with First Nations people. It is therefore exciting to see this memorandum of understanding between Mari-One and the Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health Limited. It is great to see that Western Australia's health and medical life sciences innovation ecosystem is attracting such international partnerships, addressing unmet needs for the state, while demonstrating advancing technological capability that can be utilised to benefit people all over the world."

Supporting this collaboration **Dr Tracey Wilkinson, National Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator, MTPConnect & WA Life Sciences Innovation Hub** commented "We are delighted to have connected Mari-One Limited and FISH as part of our role in supporting WA's innovation ecosystem to attract international partnerships. This MOU announced today in the digital health technologies sector is a positive step towards collaboratively solving digital health inequality issues, starting right here in WA. We hope it will support positive health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in rural and remote communities in WA and around Australia, and others impacted by digital connectivity challenges.

About Mari One Holdings Limited

Mari-One Holdings Limited, parent of trading entity Mari-One Limited ("MO"), is a company incorporated in Scotland, United Kingdom, with company number SC655019 and having its registered address at Cornerstone, 107 West Regent Street, Glasgow, G2 2BA United Kingdom. MO's purpose is to create digital health equality worldwide. MO provides bespoke digital health solutions using an intelligent digital health platform that applies remote sensing techniques. MO's digital health platform incorporates a fully autonomized human health monitoring customizable system most suitable for extreme and rural environments.

Mari-One considers that any digital health concepts or ideas to be shared in association with the Aboriginal community should be co-designed in association with Aboriginal people for Aboriginal people. Consideration of all technology options available are an integral part of the Mari-One collaborative innovation process. Mari-One will positively contribute to the global communities they serve to bridge the gap in digital health inequality.

About Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health

Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health Ltd (FISH) is an Australian registered company limited by guarantee with ASIC, a Public Benevolent Institution registered with the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profit Commission (ACNC) and a registered Income Tax Exempt Charity and Deductible Gift Recipient with the Australian Taxation Office. FISH's Board of Directors and Team are made up of over 51% of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the focus of the organisation is "by Aboriginal people for Aboriginal people". FISH's purpose is to improve the social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and break intergenerational cycles of trauma, poverty and engagement in the justice system and enable them to be valued by and positively contribute to their community. FISH has seven service delivery pillars that are integrated as they collaborate holistically with individuals, family, and community. The pillars are Creative; Culture; Education, Training & Employment; Health; Home Ownership; and Justice. ABN: 89 141 884 684.

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