



Republic of Fiji



VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW

Fiji's Progress in the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

JUNE 2019



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1. Foreword

It is my pleasure to present Fiji's Voluntary National Review on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.

Spurred by a collective commitment to safeguard our planet and humanity, the community of nations overwhelmingly endorsed the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015. Four years on, the realisation of those goals is more critical than ever, and Fiji stands fully committed to doing our part to put the growth of the global economy on a more sustainable path by working to meet the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda.

Over the past four years, Fiji has been leading from the front in prioritising development that is – above all else – sustainable, by ticking all the boxes of inclusive and responsible progress. The Fijian economy has achieved record-breaking success, reaching ten straight years of expansion. Our networks of high-quality infrastructure have continued to expand, essential services have become more accessible, we've created and sustained employment for our people, we've built up our resilience to climate change and we've enforced a zero-tolerance policy towards environmental degradation. And in the midst of this unprecedented growth and prosperity, Fiji can proudly report that the economic benefits are being felt society-wide, given that wealth inequality in our country is actually shrinking.

Our implementation of the 2030 Agenda has guided and helped deliver these historic national achievements, and we're undertaking this voluntary review to ensure that our future aspirations are similarly imbued with a consistent commitment to sustainable development.

We've presented our blueprint for our continued development through our transformative 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plans which articulate the scale of our ambition in sustainably uplifting the Fijian people. Through this voluntary review, Fiji will be comprehensively assessing our progress to-date, identifying which strategies have proven effective and which are less efficient. The review will look beyond the scope of government, analysing how Fijian businesses, Fijian organisations and Fijian citizens are all contributing towards Fiji's sustainable development agenda.

There can be no serious discussion about Fiji's progress in sustainable development without considering the reality of climate change, and this review is deeply conscious of the threat posed to the Fijian people by worsening climate impacts. Whether it's more frequent



and more severe cyclones, the rising seas, ocean acidification or changing weather patterns, this review acknowledges that Fiji faces extreme vulnerabilities that will require funding from within and beyond our borders to adequately address.

Fiji has earned a respected reputation as a champion for sustainable development, and through this review, our commitment to this critical global campaign will strengthen. As a Pacific island developing country, we know the value of a multi-sector approach better than most. As we work to create enduring prosperity for our people and prioritise sustainable practices, we'll be leaning heavily on the knowledge, perspectives and experiences of our partners around the world. But Fiji also has a great deal to offer the world, and we'll similarly be sharing our own experiences in adopting innovative solutions that drive sustainable, inclusive and responsible development.

Hon. Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum
Attorney-General and Minister for Economy

2. Executive Summary

Fiji's unprecedented progress in recent years has been both guided and inspired by aims of the 2030 Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Fiji's commitment towards sustainable development is reflected across the nation's development aspirations and engrained within the three pillars of Fijian democracy, the judiciary, the legislature and the executive.

Fiji's VNR is a comprehensive review of the implementation of the transformative 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs. As Fiji's first-ever national review of this nature, the Fijian government has made a special effort to ensure inclusivity throughout the exercise, underpinned by an unwavering commitment to leaving no Fijian behind.

Fiji's 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plans are the blueprints for Fiji's continued development through 2030 and beyond. The plans, both developed through a nationwide consultation process, embody the key goals and principles of the SDGs. Through the NDP, Fiji has mapped out our agendas for climate action, green growth, environmental protection, gender equality, disability assistance and good governance, along with the development of new and existing sectors of our economy and other key metrics of societal progress. The NDP recognises the natural synergies that exist between these development areas, and minimises overlaps and maximises efficiency through a cross-cutting interagency approach.

As Fiji's democracy has matured, the Fijian Parliament has strengthened its key role in promoting, implementing and monitoring the progress of the SDGs in Fiji. Likewise, the judiciary promotes the implementation of the SDGs through its strong and independent institutions and its committed effort to expand the reach of legal services across the country.

Fiji's unprecedented streak of ten years of unbroken economic growth has been the engine powering Fijian progress towards the attainment of the 17 SDGs. Unemployment has reached a two decade-low and the percentage of Fijians living in poverty is steadily

decreasing. On the back of historic investment towards education, Fiji has achieved universal access to primary education. Rates of child and maternal mortalities are falling.

Access to social welfare and economic services are increasing. Fiji has led the world in taking on two of the greatest challenges facing humanity, climate change and ocean degradation, and Fiji is leading at home in driving resilient and sustainable development across rural and urban areas alike.

But Fiji is not resting on its laurels. There is still a great deal of work left undone and many challenges on the horizon in securing development that is sustainable over the long-term. Fiji badly requires greater resources and capacity to fully implement the SDGs at all levels of Fijian society, and Fiji is urgently calling for greater access to finance in this aim. SDG 17 is Partnerships, and only through partnerships can Fiji realise the 2030 Agenda in its totality. That will require collaboration with the private sector and development organisations to ensure that Fiji's future progress remains wide-reaching and inclusive.

To consistently and reliably track progress, Fiji will commit significant funding towards monitoring and evaluations processes that continually assess SDG implementation against pre-determined benchmarks. This VNR is a valuable tool in determining where Fiji stands in relation to the 17 SDGs and which areas require greater attention and funding to fully implement the global goals.

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INTRODUCTION



Fiji is a small island developing country with an estimated population of 884,887 people in 2017. It has 332 islands with a total land area of about 18,300 square kilometres. The country has abundant natural resources and is one of the most developed countries in the Pacific region. The World Bank classifies Fiji as an upper-middle income country. In 2017, Fiji's GDP per capita was USD5,589 and GDP reached USD5.06 billion. The 2018 Human Development Report released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) categorises Fiji as a High Human Development country, and the country is ranked 92nd among 189 countries. Table 1 lists some key social and economic indicators for Fiji.

is a plan of action for people, the planet and global prosperity, expected to be implemented by all countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, through bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world onto a sustainable and resilient path. The SDGs substantially raise the bar from the MDGs and aim to achieve a paradigm shift in many key development areas. The transformative agenda seeks to finish the unfinished business of the MDGs through its focuses on the five Ps (People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership).

Fiji's 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan

Main Social and Economic Indicators in 2017

Main indicators	Value
Population in 2017	884,887
GDP (Current FJ\$ billion) in 2017	10.9
GDP (Current US\$ billion) in 2017	5.31
GDP per capita (FJ\$) in 2017	12,310
GDP per capita (US\$) in 2017	6,000
Export (Current FJ\$ billion) in 2017	2.03
Export (Current US\$ billion) in 2017	0.99
Import (Current FJ\$ billion) in 2017	4.93
Import (Current US\$ billion) in 2017	2.40
Poverty rate (% of population) in 2013 ¹	28.10%
HDR ranking in 2017	92nd /189
DBR ranking in 2019 ²	101st /190

Source: Fiji Bureau of Statistics, National Development Plan, WDI, HDR 2018, and DBR 2019.

During the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) period between 2000 and 2015, Fiji achieved four of the MDGs. Fiji realised universal primary education (MDG 2) by 2013, reduced the under-five and infant mortality (MDG 4) to less than 20 deaths per 1,000 new births, reduced maternal mortality (MDG 5) to less than 20 deaths per 100,000 live births, and achieved the targets (forest coverage, access to improved water and sanitation services etc.) set under MDG 7. It also made significant progress in the other MDGs.

In 2015, Fiji made its commitment to achieve the 2030 Agenda and its seventeen SDGs. The 2030 Agenda

(NDP) developed through a comprehensive nationwide stakeholder consultation process that embodies the SDGs. The NDP with a vision of "Transforming Fiji" is based on the principles of sustainable development and addresses many cross-cutting themes such as climate change, green growth, the environment, gender equality, disability and governance across the various sections recognising the integrated nature of development. Many of the SDG goals and targets have been localised in the NDP indicating that the global goals are implemented through the national policy, planning and budgetary mechanisms. Fiji's other national policies such as the National Climate Change Policy, the National Adaptation Plan and the Fiji Low Emission Development Strategy and various other sector policies including but not limited to education, health and agriculture place clear emphasis on the achievement of global goals

1 5-Year & 20-Year NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN: Transforming Fiji, <http://www.fiji.gov.fj/getattachment/15b0ba03-825e-47f7-bf69-094ad33004dd/5-Year--20-Year-NATIONAL-DEVELOPMENT-PLAN.aspx>

2 Fiji Country Profile, Training for Reform, Doing Business 2019, <http://www.doingbusiness.org/content/dam/doingBusiness/country/f/fiji/FJI.pdf>

primarily through the government machinery.

Achieving the SDGs is a complex and systematic endeavour that requires involvement from a wide range of stakeholders across different backgrounds, thus creating social and institutional partnerships as well as joint responsibility of public entities, businesses and citizens for the implementation of the SDGs. Fiji has limited resources and is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Consequently, international partnerships and collaboration are also important for Fiji to achieve its SDGs. To achieve the goals and targets set out in NDPs and SDGs, Fiji also requires

significant public investment and private investment to implement the programs set out in its NDP.

This Voluntary National Review is the first for Fiji and appraises the localisation of the global development agenda and provides a comprehensive update on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs. The report is structured according to the 2019 Edition of the Handbook for the Preparation of Voluntary National Reviews prepared by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.



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METHODOLOGY AND PROCESS FOR PREPARATION OF THE VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW

Fiji's VNR is a reflection of our national circumstances and commitments to achieve the 2030 Agenda. It is a comprehensive review of the implementation of the transformative 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs. As this VNR is the first national review, its development has been a comprehensive and inclusive exercise, upholding the principle of leaving no one behind. The formal processes started with the receipt of the formal communication from the President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in March 2018 confirming Fiji's intention to present its VNR at the 2019 high-level political forum (HLPF) on sustainable development when it would be convened under the auspices of the ECOSOC in 2019.

The Ministry of Economy, the central government agency responsible for national development planning and thus the sustainable development agenda, led the development of the VNR. The Ministry is also the convener of the SDGs Taskforce that is charged with the important responsibility of overseeing SDGs implementation in the country.

The development of VNR started with a detailed data and information review exercise, followed by a comprehensive and inclusive stakeholder consultation process via various platforms.

a) Baseline Data Collection and Assessment

As Fiji learned during the Millennium Development Goals monitoring process, data paucity can adversely impact the quality of national reports. With the support of the United Nations Development Programme, we started the comprehensive data collection process in mid-2018 to establish the SDG baseline status in Fiji and a SDGs M&E system, and enable SDGs M&E. The basis of this work was the SDGs global indicator framework which was prepared by the Inter- Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators. The framework includes 232 SDGs global indicators, and the SDGs Pacific Indicator framework developed by the Pacific SDGs Taskforce as part of the Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development that includes 132 Pacific Sustainable Development Indicators.

The baseline data collection work involved baseline data collection and baseline data assessment through desktop review of both qualitative and quantitative secondary data available within Government agencies, non-Government organizations (NGOs), and academia, and



consultation with government agencies and NGOs. The exercise revealed concerns on data availability for SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Sustainable Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 14 (Life Below Water) and explored proxy national indicators for these SDGs. The assessment also highlighted indicators that have yet to be mainstreamed into the 5-Year and 20-Year NDP and suggested a number of indicators that needed to be adapted to the Fijian context. This exercise also helped identify a number of indicators that are not relevant for Fiji.

b) Stakeholder Consultations

Fiji's VNR processes have been strengthened by a comprehensive and inclusive national stakeholder consultation, which were held through a number of national events and gatherings. These include:

i. High-Level Briefing Session on the VNR

A high-level briefing session on the VNR was convened by the Ministry of Economy in November 2018 with the objective of informing Government agencies of the review process and seeking strategic inputs on the preparation of the VNR. The session was attended by the Speaker of Parliament and the United Nations Resident Coordinator and served as a useful strategy building session for the development of

Fiji's VNR. This was also an important whole-of-Government awareness process as the Ministry officials commenced the drafting of the core chapters of the VNR, which from past experience requires frequent linking back with implementing agencies in Government.

ii. Call for Submissions

The Fijian Government issued a call for submission from the private sector, non-government organisations, civil society organisations, academia and philanthropy on programmes or initiatives that are being implemented by these stakeholders to support the achievement of SDGs as well as their perceptions on SDG implementation in Fiji. The call for submission allowed private stakeholders the opportunity to provide detailed information on SDG related projects that demonstrate their commitment to implementing the SDGs.

iii. Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action – Fiji Progress Report

To mark the 25th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, the Fijian Government conducted a comprehensive national review towards this universal commitment to women and girls. The review



process involved a wide array of stakeholders. The resultant progress report has provided useful information on the implementation of SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

iv. Civil Society Organisation SDGs Forum

The Fiji Civil Society Organisation (CSO) Voluntary Review Taskforce organised a two-day forum to assess and report on CSOs contributions to the implementation of SDGs since 2015. The taskforce comprises NGOs such as the Fiji Council of Social Services, Fiji Women's Rights Movement, Fiji Disabled People's Forum, Citizens Constitutional Forum, Fiji Commerce and Employers Federation, Save the Children Fiji, ADRA Fiji, Haus of Khameleon, Rainbow Pride Foundation, Pacific Centre for Peacebuilding, Habitat for Humanity Fiji and the Pacific Islands Association of NGOs. The outcome of the CSOs Forum has been integrated into Fiji's VNR.

v. National Poverty Forum

The Fijian Government also convened a National Poverty Forum with the theme of leaving no one behind. Recognising the multi-dimensional

nature of poverty, the Forum provided useful input for the articulation of Fiji's progress on SDG 1 (No Poverty) and a number of other SDGs.

vi. SDGs Taskforce Meeting

The SDGs Taskforce served as an important validation platform for the draft VNR. Over 90 participants from Government, NGOs, CSOs, faith-based organisations and academia participated in the review and validation process providing overall guidance on the key messages captured in the draft report. The feedback from the SDGs Taskforce meeting was critical in finalizing the VNR.

c) VNR Development and Submission

The VNR report has been developed by the team from the Ministry of Economy based on SDG baseline data assessment and consultation with national stakeholders. As a nationally owned process, the VNR development has gone through several iterations to ensure the feedback and inputs from stakeholders have been appropriately captured. The Ministry of Economy also led the development of a short video for presentation at the 2019 HLPF.

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POLICY AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT



a) Creating Ownership of the Sustainable Development Goals

Fiji recognizes the transformative and the development ambition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and considers the 2030 Agenda, along with the Paris Agreement, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, as critical components of a framework for achieving a sustainable, prosperous and peaceful future for all people. While the SDGs represent a global response to global challenges, Fiji considers them to be nationally relevant and capable of having a transformative impact on the quality of life of all Fijians. The integration of the SDGs in the three arms of the State – the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary is the pinnacle of SDGs ownership and localisation.

b) Incorporation of the SDGs in National Frameworks

The sustainable development principles underpinning the SDGs have long been the underlying principles for Fiji's national development. In implementing the SDGs, Fiji has adopted a 'whole-of-Government' approach which utilises national development planning as the primary instrument to drive forward SDGs implementation.

In 2017, The Fijian Government launched its 5-Year & 20-Year National Development Plans (NDP) with the vision of transforming Fiji. The NDP proposes two mutually inclusive and mutually reinforcing development strategies:

- **Inclusive Social-Economic Development which aims to further improve the living standards of Fijians; and**
- **Transformational Strategic Thrusts which aim to cement Fiji as the regional hub of the South Pacific through continuing the momentum of key reforms and building on locational, infrastructural, and institutional advantages.**

The NDP is the outcome of a nationwide consultation process that involved the private sector, civil society, community groups, government and the general public reflecting the aspirations of the Fijian people and their Government's commitment to build a more prosperous and inclusive Fiji.

Mainstreamed and integrated within the various thematic areas of the NDP are the SDGs – 15 SDGs

are explicitly integrated into the corresponding 29 strategic priorities of the NDP while SDG 10 (reduce inequalities), SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production) and SDG 13 (climate action) are treated as cross-cutting issues across the NDP. Consequently, the SDG implementation and its monitoring hinge on the NDP processes including the overall monitoring and evaluation.

At the sector level, SDGs have already been integrated into sectoral strategic plans and policies in many sectors including but not limited to education, health and agriculture. Fiji also recognises that, while Government holds the important responsibility for achieving the SDGs, it is in everyone's interest and everyone's responsibility including private individuals, private enterprises, NGOs and CSOs to advance the sustainable development agenda. Working with these stakeholders, the Fijian Government is helping advance socio-economic development that empowers all Fijians.

Mapping of the National Development Priorities with the SDGs

	SDG1 No Pov- erty	SDG2 Zero Hunger	SDG3 Good Health and Well-being	SDG4 Quality Educa- tion	SDG5 Gender Equality	SDG6 Clean Water and Sanitation	SDG7 Affordable and Clean Energy	SDG8 Decent Work and Economic Growth	SDG9 Industry, Innovation and Infra- structure	SDG10 Reduced Inequality	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities	SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Produc- tion	SDG13 Climate Action	SDG 14 Life Below Water	SDG15 Life on Land	SDG16 Peace and Justice Strong Institutions	SDG17 Partner- ships to achieve the SDGs
1. Inclusive Socio-economic Development																	
1.1 Water and Sanitation						X											
1.2 Energy							X										
1.3 Housing Development											X						
1.4 Food and Nutrition Security		X															
1.5 Education				X													
1.6 Health and Medical Services		X	X							X	X						
1.7 Social Inclusion and Empowerment	X																
1.8 Youth and Sports Development								X			X						
1.9 Women in Development					X			X			X						
1.10 Culture and Heritage								X			X						
1.11 National Security and the Rule of Law								X			X				X		
2. Transformational Strategic Thrusts																	
2.1 Modernising Land Transport									X								
2.2 Inter-Island Network									X								
2.3 Domestic Air Services									X								
2.4 International Connectivity (Airports and Sea Ports)									X								X
2.5 Modernising the Business Regulatory Environment									X								
2.6. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development								X									
2.7 Manufacturing and Commerce								X									
2.8 Financial Services								X									
2.9 Sustainable Cities and Towns	X					X	X	X		X	X						X
2.10 Expanding the Rural Economy	X					X	X	X		X							
2.11 Sugar		X															
2.12 Non Sugar Agriculture		X															
2.13 Fisheries													X				
2.14 Forestry														X			
2.15 Mining												X					
2.16 Tourism								X									
2.17 Enhancing International Trade and Foreign Relations																	X
2.18 Information and Communication Technology									X								X

Linkages between the National Adaptation Plan and the SDGs

	Climate info services and management	Climate change awareness and knowledge	Resource mobilisation	Food and nutrition security	Health	Human settlements	Infrastructure	Biodiversity and the natural environment
SDG1: No Poverty	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SDG2: Zero Hunger	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓✓				
SDG3: Good Health and Well-being				✓	✓✓✓			
SDG4: Quality Education		✓✓✓						
SDG5: Gender Equality	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SDG 6: Clean Water & Sanitation							✓✓✓	
SDG7: Affordable & Clean Energy							✓✓✓	
SDG8: Decent Work & Economic Growth	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure			✓✓✓				✓✓✓	
SDG10: Reduced Inequality	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓✓✓	✓	✓
SDG11: Sustainable Cities & Communities			✓			✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓
SDG12: Responsible Consumption & Production		✓✓		✓✓			✓	✓✓✓
SDG13: Climate Action	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓✓
SDG14: Life Below Water				✓✓✓				✓✓✓
SDG15: Life on Land				✓✓✓			✓	✓✓✓
SDG16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions		✓✓✓						
SDG17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal	✓	✓	✓✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Note: The number of ticks represents the number of prioritised NAP actions under a particular thematic component that address SDGs.

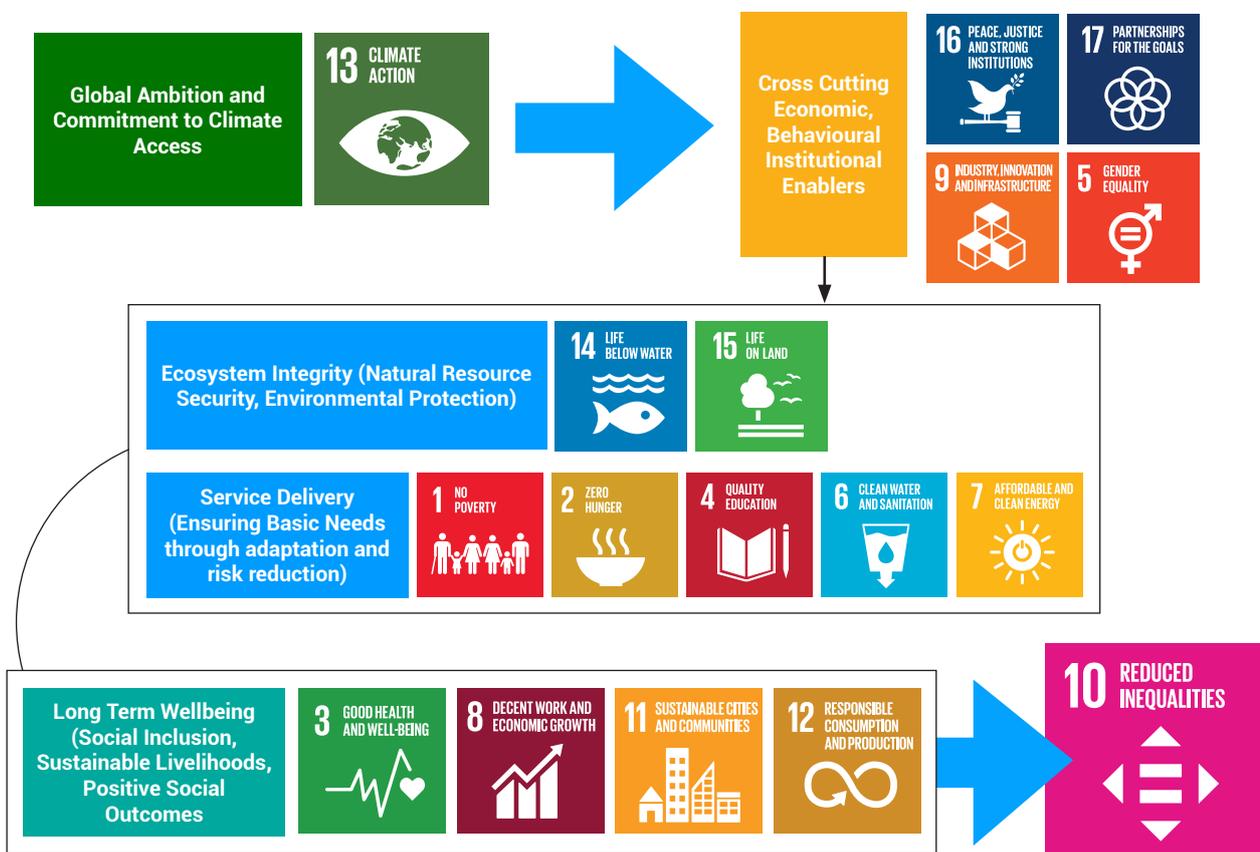
c) Integration of the Three Dimensions

The Fijian Government recognises that economic development, climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk reduction, and environmental protection objectives are deeply inter-woven and that without increased effort to address these linkages, trade-offs will become increasingly difficult to manage. Inter-governmental approaches to development must recognize that national resilience can only be improved if the relationship and dependencies between social dynamics, environmental hazards, economic risks, development impacts, climate changes, and sectors are addressed and considered in a holistic way. This calls for a reform of systems, increased connectivity and collaboration between a wide range of stakeholders, improved capability for strategic foresight and evidence-based decision making, and an increased emphasis on common objectives and interests over sectors. These are underlying principles of the Fijian Green Growth Framework and the National Development Plan that recognise the need for action at all levels, to strengthen the environmental resilience, drive social improvement and reduce poverty, enhance economic growth and

also build capacity to withstand and manage the anticipated adverse effects of climate change.

Fiji's National Change Policy (NCCP) deploys a strategic approach to achieve interwoven and inter-dependent SDG implementation. For example, in Fiji's case, vulnerability to climate change has the potential to derail and undermine progress against each of the SDGs. Thus the NCCP approaches the SDGs through the lens of SDG13 and the woven approach helps to provide insight into the relationships between the SDGs, as it recognises that global and national ambition and commitment to climate action is a key holistic enabler to achieving the SDGs.

The NCCP recognizes that gender equality (SDG 5), strong institutions (SDG 16), partnerships (SDG 17), as well as sustainable physical infrastructure and innovation (SDG 9) are major prerequisites for improving basic services (SDG 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7) and protecting ecosystem integrity (SDG 14 and 15). Actions to deliver against these goals will improve long-term well-being, economic resilience, and sustainability (SDG 3, 8, 11 and 12) which will ultimately enable the reduction of societal inequality (SDG 10).



d) Leaving No One Behind

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda by UN Member States in 2015 was a landmark achievement, providing for a shared global vision towards sustainable development for all. The Agenda and its SDGs represent a commitment to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development by 2030 world-wide, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Common Identity

For Fiji, leaving no one behind is about creating equal opportunity and a common identity. The foundation of equal citizenry and opportunity was established by the 2013 Fijian Constitution, which established every citizen as a 'Fijian'. The common identity and equal citizenry shared by the Fijian people is creating a level playing field on which every citizen can excel and facilitates justice, transparency and good governance.

Comprehensive Bill of Rights

The Bill of Rights of the Fijian Constitution is extremely comprehensive and robust. For the first time in Fijian history, the Constitution upholds a vast array of civil, political and socioeconomic rights. It obligates the State, by law, to advance, protect and progressively realise these fundamental rights for all Fijians. These rights are enforceable through an independent judiciary.

Leaving no One Behind in Policy Development

In delivering the transformative development agenda through the Government machinery, it is imperative that all stakeholders are consulted in the policy development process. The NDP, for example, has been formulated through an inclusive consultative process that is unprecedented in Fijian history. The extensive consultations including over 800 public forums all over Fiji undertaken since 2015, including the two rounds of public consultation, provided a strong platform to receive feedback from ordinary Fijians on where Government's development focus should be, and to validate the plans of Government to ensure it meets the needs and aspirations of all Fijians. Likewise, the Fijian Government engages in rounds of in-person and online public consultations during the preparation of national budgets. The Government believes that it is important to bring every Fijian together in this national conversation so that they can continue to provide their invaluable input for development, growth and prosperity.

Translating Policy into Sustainable Action

The Fijian Government has embarked on a wide array of social, economic and infrastructure development programmes to ensure economic and social prosperity for all Fijians, particularly those who are most vulnerable. The Government's focus on infrastructure development and modernisation plans not only improve connectivity between Fijian communities and with the rest of the world but address deeply rooted challenges of isolation from markets and services. Investment in roads, bridges and jetties also connect Fijians to new markets and new opportunities.

Similarly, the Fijian Government's free education scheme ensures that all Fijians are given equal opportunities and accessibility to attain education given that a lot of emphasis is placed on an educated society which will in future inject much needed empowerment, skills and knowledge in all Fijians to progress productively. Policies such as free education, transport assistance and free text books are some of the reform initiatives to make education accessible. Recognising the importance of technical and vocational education and to meet the demands of a changing labour market as well as to address unemployment, the Fijian Government has undertaken substantive investment in technical colleges since 2015. These opportunities will allow young Fijians to become job creators within a growing Fijian economy.

Addressing Discrimination Against Women and Girls

While the rates of some forms of discrimination against women and girls in Fiji have decreased over the years, varying forms of gender inequality continue to hold many women and girls back, depriving them of basic rights and opportunities and limiting their participation in decision making spheres. The prevalence of patriarchal and heteronormative values, structural barriers, entrenched notions of gender roles, and discrimination faced by marginalised women are impediments to the economic advancement of women.

In line with Fiji's commitments to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Fiji National Gender Policy, the Fijian Constitution as well as Fiji's other human rights commitments, collaborative work is underway between Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM) and the Fiji Courts, Office of the Director of the Public Prosecution, Fiji Police Force and the Legal Aid Commission in publishing sex desegregated data. The FWRM has done further

analytical work to review cases of violence against women and children from the years 2006 to 2018. This review has uncovered a serious problem of entrenched patriarchal norms that affect women and girls' participation and perception in society, and increase vulnerability to situations of violence and accessing justice. To ensure that there are parallel and continued efforts to educate the people of Fiji on gender equality, human rights, the law and services provided when violence is experienced, FWRM is presently working with a wide range of community organisations to strengthen community awareness sessions.

Comprehensive Social Protection Coverage

Poverty has steadily declined in Fiji, with rare instances of extreme poverty. Social protection initiatives such as the Poverty Benefit Scheme, Care and Protection Allowance, Social Pension Scheme and other safety nets of the Fijian Government play an important role in providing assistance to vulnerable Fijians to meet their basic needs. Transformative interventions such as the free water, subsidised electricity, free education, and free medicine and health services lighten the cost burden for many Fijian families. The Fijian Government also has a functioning food voucher program for rural pregnant women.

Disability Inclusive Development

An area of work that truly reflects the Fijian Government's pledge to leave no one behind is programmes and policies for Fijians living with disabilities. In 2017, Fiji ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities following which the Parliament enacted the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2018 that further clarifies and mandates legal obligations pertaining to the rights of persons living with disabilities in Fiji. The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2018 has expanded on Section 42 of the Fijian Constitution to reflect international obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons living with Disabilities making Fiji one of only two Pacific countries with comprehensive legislation for Persons with Disabilities.

For persons living with disabilities, a key component of their welfare is caregiving. To enhance the capacities of individuals and families to take care of persons living with disabilities within their families and within their communities, the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation has partnered with Australia Pacific Training Coalition to carry out

caregiving skills trainings in communities. So far, 285 Fijians have been trained. This community training will continue as part of the community empowerment programme for the welfare and care of the elderly and those living with disabilities.

Other initiatives funded by Fijian Government that have empowered persons living with disabilities include the disability monthly allowance programme, economic empowerment programme, grants to organisations which provide services to persons living with disabilities, 20 fulltime scholarships made available to students with disabilities, annual budgetary allowance for the Fiji National Council for Disabled Persons, a 300 percent tax incentive for employers who employ persons living with disabilities, funding allocation for making Fijian buildings disability friendly and prioritising areas of training like Speech Therapy, Educational and Clinical Psychology and Occupational Therapy in the national toppers scholarships scheme.

There is also a clear commitment under the Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to produce disability disaggregated data in a comparable manner through the use of the Washington Group Short Set (WGSS) of Questions in censuses and surveys. Fiji included the WGSS in its last census round to generate valuable data that will contribute to better inform policy and programmes on disability.

Addressing the Climate Injustice

The impacts climate change has on small island developing nations like Fiji are vast and far reaching. Despite its economic status, vulnerability and size, Fiji is in the forefront of global climate action. In 2017, Fiji assumed chairmanship of international climate negotiations, COP23, and used this global platform to shed light on the realities of climate change faced by many small island developing states. Since then, Fiji has continued to be a global advocate for climate action. Fiji's global leadership is built on its regional and local commitment to address the devastating reality of climate change. In Fiji, impacts such as rising sea-levels have encroached on low-lying maritime communities, resulting in surging tides that threaten crops and livelihoods. This has resulted in the growing need to relocate affected coastal communities and settlements to safer areas. Although Fiji's global greenhouse gas emissions are negligible, Fiji is shifting to cleaner and more renewable forms of energy. The Fijian Government is also allocating national resources, developing policies/plans and taking steps to

ensure that relocation efforts undertaken at all levels are sustainable, promotes human rights and dignity and safeguards the interests of all involved.

Bridging the Digital Divide

ICTs in Fiji are rapidly becoming more accessible. This explosion in the ICT sector is bringing new opportunities into the lives of the Fijian people and ICTs are essential to realising the SDGs. ICTs are relevant to the developing world as an enabler of social development and good governance and a driver of growth in economies and productivity.

The Fijian Government was the first in the Pacific to implement its broadband policy, which has led the nation to achieve mobile broadband penetration of ICT services of 95%. Fiji is also the first Pacific island state to auction off 4G spectrums and is also making significant progress in the area of broadcasting, with the country switching on its first Digital Television transmitters in September 2016, with nationwide rollout of digital TV completed by end of 2017.

In 2018, the Fijian Government also commissioned a submarine cable project that has increased connectivity speeds on Vanua Levu (Fiji's second major island) by fifty times, from two gigabits to 100 gigabits per second across the island. The faster Internet speed, amongst other things, has meant that schools have the ability to engage in digital learning in an entirely new way - bringing more students online to engage with their classmates and the rest of their nation. It has also created a vital link of reliable communication for those students and teachers in the most remote parts of the North.

e) Institutional Mechanisms

Fijian Parliament and the Sustainable Development Goals

Legislatures have an essential role in representing citizens, enacting laws and adopting budgets, as well as in ensuring accountability for its effective action, including in its capacity to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In recent years, the Fijian Parliament has expanded its role and initiated activities to strengthen its support towards the promotion, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs. Beginning in 2016, the Parliament has undertaken initiatives promoting and ensuring progress of the implementation of the SDGs. These include amongst other activities, capacity building exercises of Members and staff, development of



a gender analysis toolkit and the promotion of the SDGs with the public through the “Speaker’s Debates” initiative. The Parliament is also closely engaging with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP, through its Fiji Parliament Support Project) and the InterParliamentary Union (IPU) for support towards mainstreaming the SDGs and conducting capacity building for Members of Parliament to strengthen their role of oversight of the Executive in the implementation of the goals.

In May 2019, the Fijian Parliament and partners launched a Guidance Note³ on integrating the SDGs across the work of all Fijian Parliament committees. The document features concrete, tangible actions that committees can take to improve oversight of the SDGs. Titled, ‘Oversight of the Implementation of the SDGs: Guidance Note for the Standing Committees of the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji,’ the Note aims to assist committees in engaging effectively with the SDGs in all of their work. The document emphasizes the importance of the SDG indicators, and describes how the committees can use these indicators to track progress toward the SDG targets as well as the targets of Fiji’s National Development Plan (NDP). The Note shares methods

3 <http://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/library/eg/guidance-note-fiji-parliament-standing-committee.html>

and tools for committees to use in order to improve their oversight role in monitoring SDG progress and the NDP, such as engaging civil society, conducting site visits, engaging the government and conducting enquiries. The Guidance Note also features a series of checklists, sample questions and step-by-step guides to support the committee's efforts. Case studies share lessons learned from other countries' SDG oversight.

The Guidance Note identifies key entry points for the Fijian Parliament to engage in the implementation and oversight of the SDGs, scrutinising bills, annual reports and expenditures through an SDG lens. For example, the document explains how a Standing Committee to which a bill has been referred can assess whether the bill is in compliance with the SDGs. This would offer an opportunity to bring domestic laws and policies into alignment with the SDGs. The Note provides a step-by-step guide to help parliamentarians scrutinise annual reports, including a list of proposed actions and guiding questions. Similarly, Standing Committees can use annual sectoral reports submitted by line ministries to Parliament to assess whether, how and to what extent programmes and policies of government have contributed to achieving the SDGs over the past year, and conduct a review of SDG outcomes delivered in each portfolio area.

The aim of this Guidance Note is to assist Committees in making the SDGs central to the work of the Parliament and in engaging effectively with the SDGs in all areas of Committee work. The Guidance Note starts with an overview of the SDGs and 2030 Agenda and why they are relevant to the Parliament of Fiji and its Committees. It offers practical guidance regarding specific entry points to proactively engage in the implementation and oversight of the SDGs and discusses specific methods, tools and innovative approaches that can be used by the Committees to actively monitor SDG implementation; including through the examination of SDG and NDP indicators that have been categorised according to the remits of the Standing Committees. Moreover, the Guidance Note includes a series of sample questions, checklists, case studies, step-by-step guides, examples of international case studies and a selection of useful resources.

Fijian Government and the Sustainable Development Goals

Fiji's 5-Year & 20-Year National Development Plan is the apex document for mainstreaming SDGs and ensuring that implementation occurs throughout

all agencies of Government. Critical cross-cutting issues such as climate change, green growth, the environment, gender equality, disability and governance are mainstreamed in the NDP. Thus, the implementation of the SDGs is mainly driven through the national planning processes with Ministry of Economy taking the overall SDGs coordination and implementation role in Government.

As the first country to have ratified the Paris Agreement on climate change, Fiji fully recognises the need to take a proactive role in addressing climate risks through adaptation and investment in resilience. It is an inarguable truth that Fiji's progress in achieving the SDGs depend entirely on the global action to address climate change. Consequently, Fiji is one of the few countries in the world where the climate change division is embedded in a central agency—Ministry of Economy—that handles national development policy, budgeting and finance. This institutional realignment within the Fijian Government soon after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs in 2015 is the bedrock for promoting sustainable and climate resilient development through national policy and fiscal measures.

Another major institutional setup is the new Ministry of Waterways that has been established by the Government to address the growing threat that flooding poses to Fijian communities, a threat that is projected to worsen due to the effects of climate change. Fiji is proud to have assumed global leadership on two important SDGs - SDG 13 (climate action) and SDG 14 (life under water) as co-host of the United Nations Ocean Conference in 2017 and assuming the Presidency of the 23rd Conference of Parties (COP23) also in 2017, reflecting the climate-centered focus of the Fijian Government.

Judiciary as an Enabler of the Sustainable Development Goals

Rule of law is considered to be an enabler for the realisation of the other SDGs. Judicial intervention is anticipated in areas where the States will apply policy and legislative interventions to address challenges and where Agenda 2030 has directly placed on States the obligation to meet targets premised in the law. Therefore, as an enabler of sustainable development, the strength of rule of law is a direct measure of progress in achieving the SDGs.

In the Fijian context, the Judiciary upholds the vast array of rights enshrined in Fijian Constitution. Furthermore, the Judiciary is an equal opportunity

employer which recruits solely on the basis of merit. This policy has directly led to an increase in the number of female judicial officers and support staff.

The Fijian Judiciary's commitment to SDG 10 is demonstrated through its effort to decentralize its services. The Court regularly travels to rural and maritime areas to adjudicate upon matters. Apart from decentralisation, the Judiciary actively participates in community outreach programmes whereby staff attend to Tikina council, women's group and rural community meetings and educate people on the role of the Judiciary and the legal avenues available, including Domestic Violence Restraining Orders and the roles of the Small Claims Tribunal. Whenever environmental issues (climate change, oceans, forestry and biodiversity) are brought before the attention of the Court by way of civil applications or criminal charges, the matters are dealt with urgency.

As regards SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, the Fijian Judiciary strongly safeguards its independence and impartiality. Under the Fijian Constitution, not only is the Judiciary independent from the other arms of the State, it also has financial autonomy. As part of its own processes in order to provide an effective and efficient process, the Judiciary has implemented its own case management processes whereby Courts dispose of cases within a set time period. The Judicial officers and support staff actively participate in trainings both locally and abroad to broaden their skill-sets and promote the efficiency of the Courts in line with international standards. The Courts promote accessibility to Justice and in a bid to empower access by even the marginalised members of society all fees payable by Legal Aid represented litigants are waived. The Judiciary has also established a Mediation Centre whereby people have an opportunity to resolve their disputes through Alternative Dispute Resolution processes.

f) Structural Issues

The first and foremost challenge for project implementation are the severe impacts of climate change. Rising seas, worsening cyclones, and changing weather patterns all present serious threats to sustainable development. As a small island developing country, Fiji faces more extreme vulnerabilities than other countries. Climate impacts often derail progress and force countries into rebuild mode, affecting the implementation of projects. In 2016 when Fiji experienced category five tropical cyclone the entire Fijian economy was affected.

Given the major focus of the Fijian Government on infrastructure development, most infrastructure projects were delayed or put on hold given the massive rebuild efforts that had to be deployed to ensure essential services like health centres and educational facilities continue to operate.

A second challenges for sustainability, resilience and durability is the inability to identify sustainability concepts. This lends difficulty in incorporating these concepts into the overall project design. This is partly due to inadequate institutional capacity or trained personnel to plan and implement projects effectively.

The remoteness of islands and maritime communities poses development challenges as well.

Limited fiscal maneuvers, especially in relation to public sector projects, are a challenge. For instance, making a traditional infrastructure development project more climate resilient requires revisiting the overall project design and deploying resources and technology that is able to withstand climate adversities. Building back better after climate-induced natural disasters and investing in resilience is often a costly exercise and one that often results in debt accumulation for economies like Fiji that have a limited fiscal base.

Notwithstanding these challenges, significant efforts are underway in addressing the myriad development challenges. From developing innovative national policy instruments to exploring market-based financial solutions to improving service delivery of public institutions, the Fijian Government remains committed to transforming Fiji based on the aspirations of the NDP and in close collaboration with all stakeholders.

6

PROGRESS ON GOALS AND TARGETS



1 NO POVERTY



SDG 1: No Poverty

End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Overview

With a bold target of reducing Fiji's national incidence of poverty to 10 percent by 2036, uplifting lives of the country's poorest citizens is at the heart of Fiji's national development agenda.

Significant advancements have been made to reduce national poverty levels and create an inclusive and equitable Fijian society. This progress has been guided by our 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan.

In recent years, Fiji has experienced a steady decline in its national poverty rate, from 35 percent in 2002-2003 to 28.1 percent in 2013-2014. It is expected that improved standards of living, improved income equality and further reduction of poverty will be formally reflected in the country's upcoming 2019-2020 Household Income and Expenditure Survey.

In the meantime, many social indicators currently suggest that this momentum has continued in the years since, as more jobs have been created during a period of rapid economic growth. This reduction in Fiji's unemployment rate has been supplemented by an aggressive, government-led expansion of free health services and education, with holistic support in these areas for low-income families, in addition to the rising prevalence of a wide range of targeted social protection initiatives.

Inclusive Development and Employment Creation

The success of the Fijian economy, having entered into an unprecedented decade of consecutive growth, has been underpinned by transformative state-led investments in resilient infrastructure development, information, communication & technology, and the service sector, coupled with modern economic, legal and educational reforms aimed at creating greater opportunities and a more level playing field for all Fijians.

Job creation has been a hallmark of this sustained economic progress which have created new career paths, encouraged entrepreneurship, particularly among women and young people, and has mainstreamed technical and vocational learning.

As a result, national unemployment rate has been

Unemployment Rate (% of labour force, 15+)

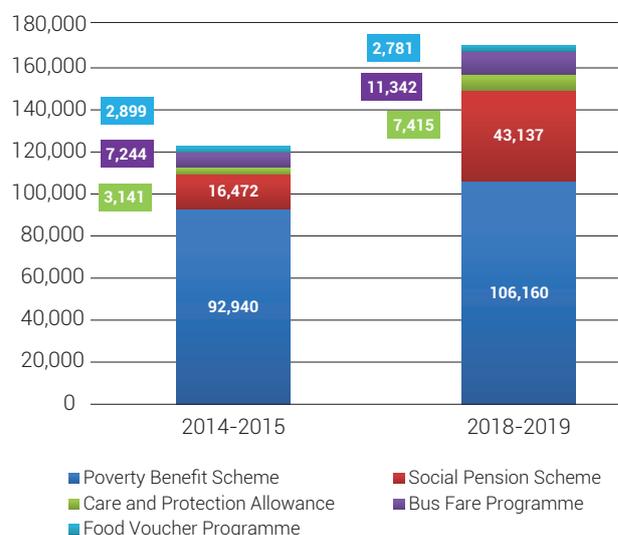


Source: National Population Census and Employment and Unemployment Survey

reduced from 8.6 percent in 2007 to 4.5 percent in 2017, the lowest level in 20 years. Income disparity has also declined in Fiji (one of few countries in the world where this is the case), indicating that the country's ongoing economic prosperity is being equitably spread throughout all corners of Fijian society.

The government has put heavy and wide-ranging support behind Fiji's small and medium-sized enterprises, offering millions of dollars in direct financial support via grant funding (including the innovative and recently-expanded Young Entrepreneurship Scheme), in addition

Core Social Assistance Programmes Coverage



Source: Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation

to advisory services and infrastructure support that have allowed existing businesses to thrive and new ones to take root.

Fiji has also overhauled its tax regime to provide relief to low-income households. The threshold for those exempt from paying any personal income tax has been increased by more than fourfold, from around \$8,000 in 2006 to \$30,000 today. The VAT rate has also been reduced from 15 percent to 9.0 percent. For the first time in history, Fiji also introduced a national minimum wage rate, which has been increased to \$2.68/hour from \$2.32/hour for all unskilled Fijian workers, in addition to 10 specific sectoral wages. All wages are currently undergoing another comprehensive review to determine responsible and well-informed adjustments.

Social Protection

To ensure that Fiji's national development is shared with the vulnerable and marginalised, comprehensive social assistance programmes are helping provide new protections to the poor and disadvantaged, particularly for those who have been affected by climate change, sea level rise, and other economic, social and environmental obstacles.

Fiji has introduced and expanded a wide array of targeted social assistance programmes in the country, including the Poverty Benefit Scheme (providing grant assistance to the poorest 10 percent of households), the Social Pension Scheme (providing grant assistance to senior citizens of ages 65 and above), the Care and Protection Allowance (providing grant for welfare of children living in vulnerable social circumstances), the Food Voucher Programme (providing grants to rural pregnant mothers), the Bus Fare Programme (providing subsidised bus fares for senior citizens and free bus service for Fijians living with disability), and Disability Allowance.

National Budget allocations for these social assistance programmes has drastically increased, rising from \$32.4 million in 2014-2015 to \$96.4 million in 2018-2019.

This proactive emphasis on enhancing social protection is complemented by a number of various welfare to workfare programmes. Administered by NGOs and development partners in collaboration with Government, these initiatives are aimed at preventing a culture of dependence on social welfare.

Access to Basic Services

A healthy and well-educated society paves the way for more Fijians to actively participate in the workforce, improve their standard of living, and contribute to national development. As such, over the past decade, Fiji has placed significant emphasis on improving affordability and accessibility of health and education services all throughout the country.

With the introduction of free universal education at the primary and secondary levels, in addition to new initiatives like free transportation to school and free textbooks, access to quality education in Fiji has undergone a revolution in recent years. All tertiary students also have access to government-funded scholarships and loans schemes that allow them to pursue further education. In all, Fiji invests around 6.0 percent of its GDP into education – more than many highly-developed countries around the world.

Substantial investments in access to basic services like roads, water and electricity has also empowered thousands of Fijians to engage in new income-generating opportunities to support themselves and their families. Low-income households are also eligible for free water and subsidised electricity.

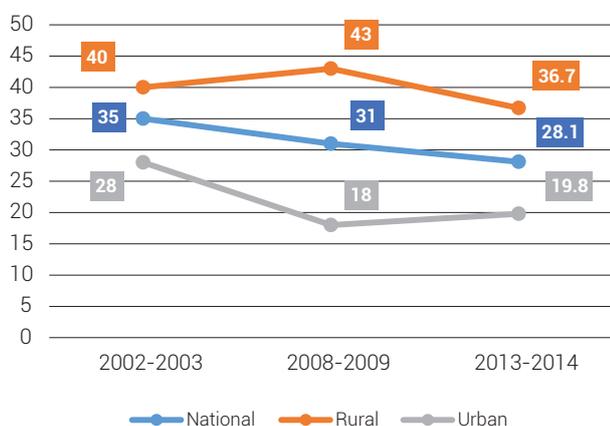
To promote first-time home ownership, the government has introduced a tiered grant structure to assist home buyers own their first home, and is undertaking a range of initiatives aimed at increasing the supply of affordable housing in Fiji.

Opportunities for Collaboration

To meet SDG 1, Fiji must continue on its path to inclusive and sustainable socioeconomic development - development that enables job creation, encourages entrepreneurship and promotes technical and vocational learning.

From a wider perspective, Fiji's continued national development relies on access to adequate levels

Fiji's National, Urban and Rural Poverty Rate



Source: Household Income and Expenditure Survey

of affordable, predictable, and sustainable finance from bilateral, multilateral, and international financial institutions. Innovative, blended funding solutions, constantly being sought out by the Fijian government, are critical not only for the country's infrastructure financing, but to expand access to essential services to every Fijian. Considering Fiji's immense vulnerability to natural disasters, access to concessional development finance from partners is essential.

The provision of adequate infrastructure support is important to entice the private sector to undertake new investments and expand their businesses. Private-sector-led growth is key to sustainable job creation and continued poverty reduction.

There are also significant opportunities in supporting SMEs as a conduit of poverty alleviation across Fiji. Apart from the financial support to nurture and grow these SMEs, the access to right skills and knowledge, advisory support, mentoring and efficient technology is needed.

Fiji recognises that poverty is a cross cutting matter that stems across all 17 SDGs. In this regard, our holistic approach to reducing poverty entails creating a conducive environment for economic growth and job creation, improving social welfare coverage to help vulnerable groups out of poverty, increasing access to health and education and providing access to water, sanitation, electricity, affordable housing and markets through strategic infrastructure investments. Progress on all these fronts are elaborated on in subsequent chapters of this report.

2 ZERO HUNGER



SDG 2: Zero Hunger

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Overview

The global indicator framework for SDGs outlines 8 Targets and 13 Indicators for SDG 2. The baseline data collected for SDGs in Fiji revealed many gaps in the availability of data. Highlights of Fiji's baseline status on nutrition are based on available data on undernourishment, stunting and malnutrition.

Every Fijian has the Constitutional Right to have access to adequate food of acceptable quality and nutritional value. To achieve food security in Fiji, greater emphasis is being placed on domestic agriculture and fisheries. A climate vulnerability assessment conducted in 2017 found that between 2001 and 2017, cyclones and floods resulted in a total of FJ\$791 million in damages and losses to the agriculture sector. Recognising that climate change is the single greatest threat to food security for a small island developing state like Fiji, the climate vulnerability assessment emphasised that an investment of about FJ\$34 million is required to strengthen the resilience of the agriculture and fisheries sectors in the next 10 years⁴.

The mobilisation of domestic finance for food security and nutrition through Fiji's annual national budgets has increased from FJ\$50.8 million in 2016-2017 to FJ\$117.9 million in 2017-2018 and FJ\$124.5 million in 2018-2019⁵. Similarly, the total amount of Official Development Assistance (ODA) for the agricultural sector has also increased from FJ\$2.06 million in 2000 to FJ\$17.1 million in 2016⁶.

The Fijian undernourished population is very minute; however, baseline assessments reveal that it will take Fiji several more years to fully realise SDG 2. Undernourishment cases had decreased from 5.2 per cent in 1997 to 4.2 per cent in 2006⁷, but the prevalence of undernourishment has been increasing since 2006, standing at 4.6 per cent in 2016. Data on overweight and wasted children under five years of age obtained from the National Food and Nutrition Centre also reveals a general decrease in the proportion of

malnourished children. Stunting is an indicator of underweight children and is measured by low height-for-age. Between 2004 and 2015, the proportion of stunted children under 5 years in Fiji fell from 7.5 per cent to 4.9 per cent.

Several indicators for SDG 2 are yet to be fully achieved, and to fill these gaps, the Fijian Government – committed to ensuring Fijians get adequate and nutritious foods – is investing resources in research and development in agriculture, fisheries and food security. While under-nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies continue to persist, prevalence of overweight and obese Fijians of all ages, and as a result, related non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are a nationwide epidemic. The World Health Organisation in 2016 revealed that 84 per cent of deaths in Fiji occurred due to NCDs. Fiji must reevaluate how malnutrition and obesity are addressed both in terms of planning and capacity implementation, while emphasising the interplay and key role of agriculture, health, education, trade and other sectors.

Through an aggressive marketing and branding initiative spearheaded by the Ministry of Industry, Trade & Tourism, Fiji is increasing efforts to promote local, "Fijian-Made" and "Fijian-Grown" produce. However, to achieve food security, there is a crucial need to improve efficiency at the farm level, which ultimately contributes to low commodity pricing in the market as well as the need to improve market arrangements for primary agriculture and fisheries produce. Other innovative industries, such as aquaculture, are being actively cultivated in Fiji's maritime communities.

Opportunities for Collaboration

Fiji's development plans provide several opportunities to address SDG 2. The development of a national food and nutrition security policy is currently underway, which will strengthen the enabling environment and provide a nexus for agriculture and nutrition. The policy will allow for joint periodic agriculture and fisheries censuses, and will strengthen statistics and information collection through the development of a Domestic Food Production Database (agriculture and fisheries) as well as through the existing Food Balance Sheet and

4 Climate Vulnerability Assessment, 2017

5 National Budget Supplements, 2016-2017, 2017-2018, 2018-2019

6 OECD-DAC database

7 Data sourced from World Bank Indicators Data Catalogue and National Food and Nutrition Center Fiji

National Nutrition Survey⁸.

Over the next five years, the agriculture sector has key interventions to increase production of commodities under bilateral quarantine agreements (such as eggplant, okra, pawpaw, chillies, and breadfruit), as well as rice, taro, cassava, fruits and vegetables, kava, organic products, livestock and dairy products. Mechanisation and new technologies will be adopted through government support and private sector partnerships, particularly for hydroponics, livestock and dairy, organic farming, and processing of agricultural products (e.g. ginger, rice, fresh fruits and vegetables and fruit drinks).

To improve food security in the fisheries sector, the Fijian Government plans to address existing development challenges such as falling fish stocks, slow growth in aquaculture, weak value-addition for fisheries resources, and the negative effects of climate change. The soon-to-be-completed National Fisheries Policy will guide the management and development of offshore, inshore/coastal and aquaculture activities, with a long-term focus on sustainable management of existing offshore and inshore/coastal resources while supporting further growth in aquaculture.

8 Fiji 5 Year and 20 Year National Development Plan.(2017-2036)



SDG 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Overview

The 2013 Constitution of the Republic of Fiji mandates that the Fijian Government works to realise the right to good health and well-being for every Fijian. The National Development Plan (NDP) has explicitly integrated a number of SDG 3 targets and indicators which include:

- reducing the maternal mortality ratio to less than 39.2 or less than 8 deaths by 2021;
- reducing the perinatal mortality rate to less than 9 per 1,000 total births by 2030;
- reducing the infant mortality rate to less than 8 per 1,000 live births by 2030;
- reducing the under 5 mortality rate to less than 8 per 1,000 live births by 2030;
- reducing the neonatal mortality to less than 5 by 2021;
- reducing the prevalence rate of tuberculosis to less than 77 per 100,000 population by 2021;
- reducing the total number of confirmed HIV cases to less than 900 by 2021;
- reducing premature mortality due to non-communicable diseases (NCDs) (<70 years) to less than 20% by 2030; and
- reducing the prevalence of diabetes to less than 30% by 2030.

The NDP proposes to achieve these targets through strengthening and implementing integrated programmes for maternal and child health, expanding the immunisation programme, strengthening the integrated management of childhood illnesses, and improving reproductive health.

At the sectoral level, the Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MoHMS) has developed a National Strategic Plan for 2016-2020. The Plan has two main strategic pillars. The first of which focuses on the delivery of health services to the population through reducing the

risks of NCDs, improving maternal/child health and reducing communicable diseases and the second, aims to strengthen systems to improve overall health sector performance by expanding access to primary health care, cultivating a more motivated health workforce to improve productivity, improving standards of evidence-based policy planning and implementation, developing health infrastructure, and securing sustainable financing. For some of the priority areas, MoHMS has developed targeted strategic plans, including a National Wellness Policy, the NCDs Strategic Plan, and the Climate Change and Health Strategic Action Plan.

Governance and Service Delivery

Fiji's health care services are delivered through a well-established health system, based on quality primary care. The three-tiered structure provides integrated services at primary, secondary and tertiary levels, and includes government, private and traditional care providers. The MoHMS is responsible for developing health policies and managing the overall system. Primary and public health are administered through four Divisional level offices, which in turn are broken down into 19 subdivisions. Actual health care services are provided through a hierarchy of nursing stations, health centres, sub-divisional hospitals, divisional hospitals and specialised hospitals. Divisional hospitals provide tertiary care and also function as national domestic referral centres.

Major Health Indicators

Maternal and Child Health

At the end of 2017, Fiji's maternal mortality ratio of 35.6 per 100,000 live births fell considerably under the global maternal mortality ratio of 90 per 100,000 live births. The maternal mortality ratio has reduced from 59.47 per 100,000 live births in 2012 to 35.6 in 2017. However, trends in recent years indicate that there remains a need to raise greater awareness on maternal child health care and tackling issues that would continue to help reduce maternal mortality.

Under 5 and Infant Mortality

Countries globally are aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least 25 per 1,000 live births and, in Fiji, significant progress has been made in recent years to prevent deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age. Nevertheless, statistics indicate the need for more progress to further improve the infant and under-5 mortality rates. Fiji's infant mortality rate stood at 16.4 per 1,000 live births in 2017 compared to 15.9 per 1,000 live births in 2012. The under-5 mortality rate stands at 20.8 per 1,000 live births in 2017 compared to 21.0 per 1,000 live births in 2012. Progress has been steady, but it must accelerate, through substantial improvements to the quality of antenatal and perinatal services.

Non-Communicable and Communicable Diseases

A growing concern contributing to the substantial share of disease and mortalities in Fiji is premature mortality resulting from NCDs. The burden of NCDs continues to place significant demand on health resources. The number of confirmed cardiovascular cases is on the rise. It should be noted that this increase is largely in part to improvements in diagnostics, referrals, and cardiovascular interventions such as angiograms. Admissions for cardiovascular diseases have increased from 35 per 1000 admissions in 2013 to 59 in 2017 and a leading cause for this is rheumatic heart disease. Mortality due to diabetes has decreased. However, cancer mortality has increased. Overall the rates of mortality relating to cardiovascular, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory disease has reduced from 4,455 in 2012 to 4,120 in 2017.

Diabetes continues to be one of the major factors in the increase in the number of patients seeking dialysis treatment. The Fijian Government has invested in purchasing dialysis machines for the three dialysis centers located at the main divisional hospitals: CWM-Suva, Lautoka and Labasa.

Poor nutrition is also a contributing factor in the increase in NCDs. Preventative measures are being undertaken to address the issue through advocacy for healthy eating habits, physical activity and other lifestyle changes.

In terms of communicable diseases, Pneumonia and Leptospirosis account for the greatest number of deaths in Fiji. TB case notifications have increased over the last 5 years from 201 in 2012 to 363 in 2017. This increase can be also attributed to improvements in the case detection rate and increased efforts in TB programs. The current incidence rate for Fiji is 49 per 100,000.

At the end of 2018, a total of 927 cases of HIV have been reported. The UNAIDS's Fiji Country snapshot report in 2016 found that only 259 people who were confirmed HIV cases were receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) treatment.

The incidence of Hepatitis B has reduced from 37.41 per 100,000 population in 2014 compared to 12.5 in 2017. In Fiji, Hepatitis B immunisations are part of the immunisation schedule for infants under 18 months which are free and available to all newborns in Fiji.

Frequent infectious disease outbreaks have been reported with some pathogens showing multi-drug resistance. This has limited access to effective antimicrobials treatment for patients. Fiji is also taking a holistic and multi-sectoral approach to address the emergence of multi-drug resistance to ensure the sustainable access of effective antimicrobials treatment for patients.

In terms of suicide, an average of 67 people committed suicide between 2012 and 2017. Family disputes and relationship problems are the most common contributing factors for individuals to attempt or commit suicide. The MoHMS in partnership with stakeholders and other organisations are working towards creating awareness on suicide prevention and mental health. For example, efforts are currently undertaken by the MoHMS and the World Health Organisation on primary health care and school-based support for mental health issues.

Opportunities for Collaboration

The epidemic of NCDs that has plagued the nation requires both curative treatment and preventive actions. This challenge needs to be overcome through actions that target all aspects of the health system, including governance, health workforce, health financing, essential medicines and technologies, health information system, as well as health delivery. Ultimately, the most viable option for combating NCDs is continuing to focus efforts on prevention and primary healthcare.

There are opportunities to reduce child mortality rate further by tackling the root causes relating to demographics, health system, health service delivery and patients' health seeking behaviours. A similar approach should be taken to deliver good quality sexual and reproductive health services throughout the country.

Some progress has been made over the years to increase the finances available for health. Government financing remains the dominant source of funds accounting for

approximately 64% of total Current Health Expenditure (CHE) in 2016. Large public investment in health means that out-of-pocket (OOP) expenditure for health remains relatively low at 21% of total CHE compared to 15% in 2015. Thus, to better track catastrophic health expenditure, the MoHMS in collaboration with the National Statistics Office and the World Health Organisation, will look into strategies to reduce the burden of out-of-pocket spending for households.

The Ministry's ability to fulfil its core functions largely depends on the extent to which their workforce (in terms of numbers, cadres, skill levels, distribution, and other metrics), meet the health needs of the population. The strategic objective is to have a productive, motivated health workforce with a focus on patient rights and customer satisfaction. A review for doctor's cadre was undertaken this year which was largely to better align doctor's positions to address the needs of the Ministry. While progress has been made on the recruitment of new doctors and nurses, the challenge is to ensure that health services for all patients are addressed at all health facilities. The health service coverage is extensive and free for all patients which signifies Fiji's commitment to prioritise equitable health outcomes and risk protection. There is greater accessibility of services for the poor, which is a priority in terms of service delivery. This issue has been further strengthened through a decentralization of services for general outpatients to the health centres in the subdivisions, which has brought services closer to peri-urban and rural populated areas thus improving accessibility.

In January 2019, the Fijian Government formalised a public private partnership agreement in its quest to increase private sector participation in improving the efficiency and level of health services made available in Fiji. Aspen Medical from Australia was the winning bidder under this new arrangement and will fully take over operations at the Lautoka and Ba hospitals by early 2020. The project will not only significantly improve access to specialist services available in the country but also reduce the cost of overseas patient referrals due to services such as clinical services, admitted acute care, non-admitted care, and emergency care.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



SDG 4: Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Overview

Fiji upholds access to affordable and high-quality education as the most effective pathway to empowering ordinary citizens in improving their quality of life and building healthy, productive and sustainable communities. Fiji's 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plans lay out specific benchmarks in expanding access to rigorous and relevant educational opportunities at all levels of Fijian society, in line with transitioning Fiji to become more knowledge-based society where all students embark on a level playing field, and merit and achievement are the sole determinants of success.

Fiji is in the midst of an education revolution following the introduction of free education at the primary and secondary levels, free textbooks, subsidised transportation and historic funding towards tertiary loans and scholarships. Fiji's agenda in education has led to especially momentous gains for women and girls in accessing education at all levels, from early childhood education to post-graduate studies.

Early Childhood Education

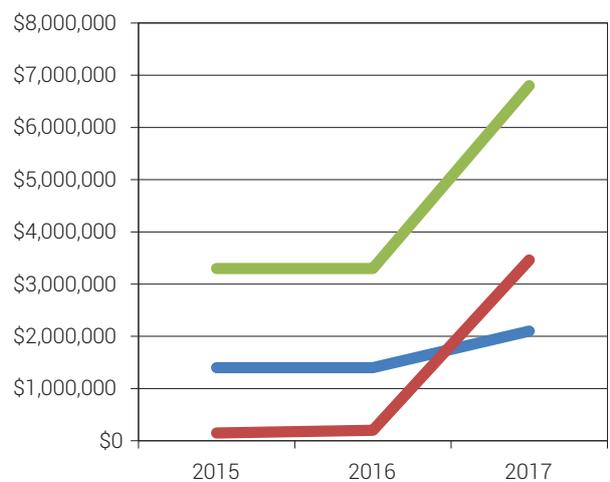
Fiji introduced an Early Childhood Care and Education

(ECCE) policy in 2007 with the aim of achieving universal access to early childhood education for every child in Fiji. Guided by that over-arching policy Fiji has achieved a nearly seven-fold increase in the retention and completion of pre-school education among students aged five years old, with net enrolment rising from 11.8 per cent in 2000 to nearly 80 per cent in 2015. Fiji currently aims to maintain a teacher to student ratio of 1:24 within ECCE institutions. This figure has steadily increased as a result of grants to ECCE centres, an ECCE building grant to construct high-quality facilities throughout the country and an ECCE teachers grant to recruit qualified teaching professionals.

Primary and Secondary Education

Fiji's concerted efforts in the education sector have achieved universal access to primary and secondary education. Current enrolment in primary schools stands at 99 per cent, with enrolment in secondary schools at 90 per cent. Given worsening climate impacts, the Fijian Government recently embarked on a national campaign to rebuild school facilities damaged or destroyed by severe weather events to higher, cyclone-resilient standards, thereby ensuring Fiji's progress in the education sector is protected from climatic events.

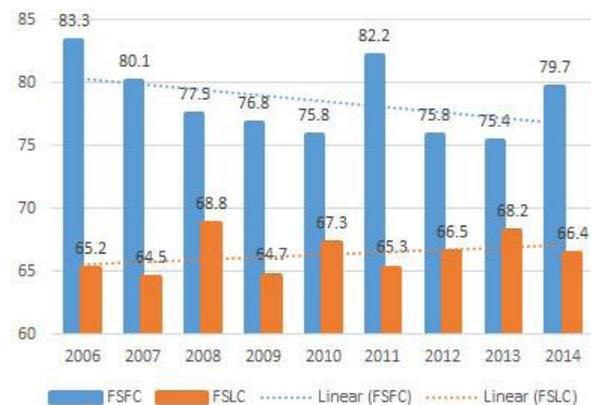
Early Childhood Education Grant Assistance



— ECCE Free Education Grant
 — ECCE Building Grant
— ECCE Teacher Salary Grant

Source: Ministry of Education Annual Report 2016-2017

Pass Rate for Year 2006-2014



Source: Ministry of Education, (various)

Fijian Year 5 and Year 7 students average reasonably proficient literacy and numeracy achievement, as guided and measured by the Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (LANA). Outside of assessments, LANA



provides feedback to students, parents and teachers on student's learning progress and facilitates intervention where necessary. Equally summative assessments also measure students' academic progress in years 10, 12 and 13.

Tertiary and Technical Education

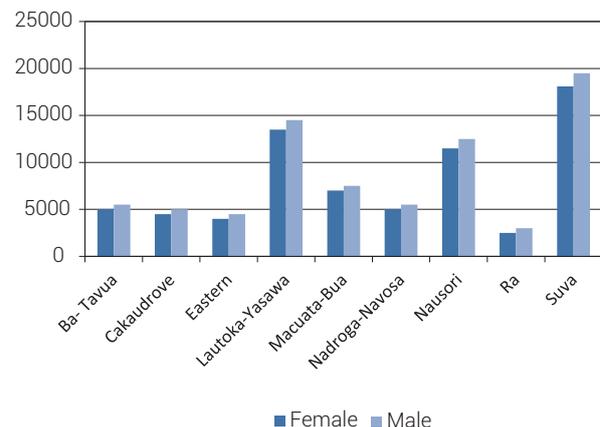
Tertiary enrolment in Fiji is estimated at around 30 per cent, up from 16 per cent from the period of 2003-2005. An expanding network of tertiary institutions has been accompanied by historic public funding towards tertiary loans and scholarships, putting dreams of higher education in reach for more Fijians of all ages. The Technical College of Fiji (TCF) in one such educational pathway which currently maintains a 1:10 teacher to student ratio. At TCF institutions, Fijians can contain relevant training in key sectors of the Fijian economy, instantly elevating their value in the job market and making for a more competitive overall Fijian workforce and economy and giving them a choice to go on to further education through one of our universities.

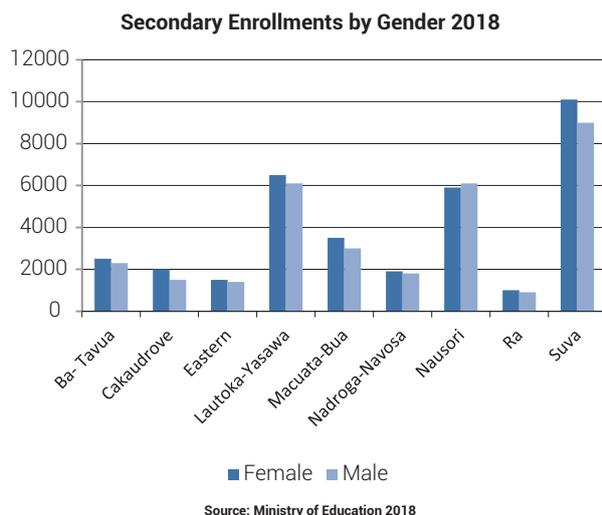
Inclusive Education

Increasing inclusivity with the education system is written into the Fijian Constitution and Fiji's NDP. To cater for students living with disabilities, Fiji currently hosts a network of speciality schools that serve the disabled, and is increasingly seeking to mainstream students living with disabilities into Fiji's traditional secondary institutions. There are currently 17 specialised, 67 mainstream secondary schools that are

servicing students living with disabilities, offering choices to parents on which educational path they would like their children to take to best suit their needs. Major institutions share the Fijian Government's commitment towards inclusive education. The University of the South Pacific currently runs a disability research centre that provide budgetary support, sign language interpreters and other services that foster inclusive learning environments and that cater to the specific needs of those living with disabilities. Government-funded partnerships with NGOs helps further this mission; for example, the Frank Hilton Special School offers early intervention, primary education as well as pre-vocational training in areas such as wood work and carpentry, as well as a wide range of extracurricular activities.

Primary Enrolments by Gender 2018





Historic inaccessibility and lack of affordability in Fiji's education sector has resulted in a gender gap in Fijian schools, with many young girls going without formal education. Steady funding to lift the cost burden on Fijian families is resulting in more girls being able to attend school. At the secondary level, women students are now better represented than their male peers. Private sector initiatives also support the aspirations of disadvantaged populations such as women and rural communities through targeted support. Initiatives such as the Westpac Women's Education Grant for university studies and the Katalyst Foundation's support to rural schools in Fiji's Northern Division, are examples of how private sector provides continuous support for education.

Civil society organisations have long supported the dreams of generations of Fijians for a better life through quality education. Community-run schools and schools operated by faith-based organisations both graduate thousands of Fijians each year. Fiji's Development partners were also integral, providing financial support towards the Fijian education sector of FJD \$350 million between 2010 and 2017.

Opportunities for Collaboration

Despite considerable progress in expanding access to early childhood education, around 20 per cent of pre-school aged children remain outside of the school system. In areas where ECCE is available, there is room to raise awareness among parents of the foundational importance of ECCE and the value of readying children for primary education.

The Fijian Government is currently expanding access to ECCE facilities, particularly in rural and maritime areas, to ensure that all Fijian students are equipped to perform to the best of their abilities once they enter

primary school. New school facilities are being built to strict building plans that are cyclone-resilient. Fiji is also attracting and retaining qualified ECCE teachers while some in the private sector are providing onsite ECCE facilities for their staff and their children.

Fiji has maintained secondary school enrolment at around 80 per cent. In order to achieve full enrolment among young people, Fiji is seeking new ways to engage with students outside of the school system, creating education opportunities that speak directly to these young people's career aspirations through an expansion in technical and vocational educational offerings. Fiji is pursuing a collaborative approach in designing these technical training opportunities to cater for new and existing segments of the local economy.

The divide in educational attainment between rural and urban regions is shrinking, but more can be done to ensure that all Fijian students enter the classroom on a level playing field. The remoteness of rural and maritime communities adds serious complexity to the delivery of quality educational services. Fiji is overcoming those geographical challenges through the development of a robust national network of telecommunications which allows for the efficient transfer of data that informs classroom curriculum and allows students to take part in national conversations. However, ensuring equal access to specialised facilities such as IT infrastructure, laboratories, libraries and sports facilities will require steady investment over the coming years.

The Fiji Education Management System has the potential to improve the monitoring and evaluation of education programs, but this system remains underutilised in some respects. There are many opportunities to improve the evaluation of the impact of education programs on student achievements. Better monitoring and evaluation systems could also identify new issues, and assist all education providers to fine-tune their programs and policies. The Ministry of Education will also integrate SDG 4 and the Pacific Regional Education Framework targets and indicators into its M&E framework.

The Ministry of Education must undertake constant reviews of the curriculum, currently benchmarked against Australia and New Zealand, to maintain and improve the competitiveness of Fiji's future workforce. There is serious commitment to adapt new technologies that maximise classroom efficiency and increase interest and abilities to utilise technology among the Fijian citizenry.

But progress cannot only be measured by future

economic prospects. Fiji's schools must also impart moral values and inspire national unity among the next generation of Fijians. They must produce students who pursue life-long learning and who share a moral foundation that embraces acceptance, respect and inclusiveness.





SDG 5: GENDER EQUALITY

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Overview

Fiji is working to create a society free from all forms of gender-based discrimination, where women and girls can fully participate as decision-makers in their homes and societies and contribute to and benefit from Fiji's development progress. To advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, the Fijian Government recognises gender equality as a key component of national development and economic growth. Within this framework, Fiji's 2013 Constitution, the 5 year and 20 Year National Development Plan ('NDP') and the National Gender Policy (NGP) 2014, guide the work of Government, which is aligned to the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Beijing Platform of Action.

Significant progress has been made through the adoption and implementation of various legislations, policies, national plans, legal frameworks, structures and strategic initiatives to accelerate and promote positive change for women and girls. This resulted in a shift of Fiji's ranking on the World Economic Forum's global gender gap from 2015, moving 15 places up from 121 to 106 out of 187 countries in 2018. Fiji is currently the only Pacific Island country to be ranked in the World Economic Forum Report.[1]

Women Plan of Action

The Women's Plan of Action ('WPA') 2010-2019 is well-aligned towards the Beijing Platform of Action, the Pacific Platform of Action and the Roadmap for Democracy and Sustainable Socio Economic Development. The WPA will be reviewed in the coming year where it will update on the progress for the past 10 years on women's formal employment and livelihoods, their equal participation in decision making, elimination of gender-based violence, improved access to basic services, and women and the law.

Women Participation in Leadership

As of 2018, women represent 20 per cent of parliamentary seats. Three (3) female parliamentarians are appointed to the cabinet as Ministers and two (2) female appointed as assistant ministers. The

Fiji parliament also welcomed in 2014 and 2018 the appointment of the country's first female speaker of the house. Progress SDG 5/5.5.1/5.5.2).

Women comprise of 29 per cent of leadership positions in the Civil Service; 24 per cent of Permanent Secretary Positions are female and women hold 30 per cent of the 55 diplomatic posts. The highest percentage of women in leadership positions in Civil Service is within the Office of the Prime Minister, where 62 per cent are female; Ministry of Industry, Trade & Tourism – 57 per cent female; Ministry of Health & Medical Services – 52 per cent female; Ministry of Defence & National Security – 50 per cent female; and the Ministry of Sugar with over 50 per cent of leadership positions held by women. Progress is also evident in the iTaukei traditional social structure where women are represented as leaders. Women hold 7 per cent village chief positions and 8 per cent of the landowning unit ("Mataqali") [2] (Progress SDG5/5.5.3).

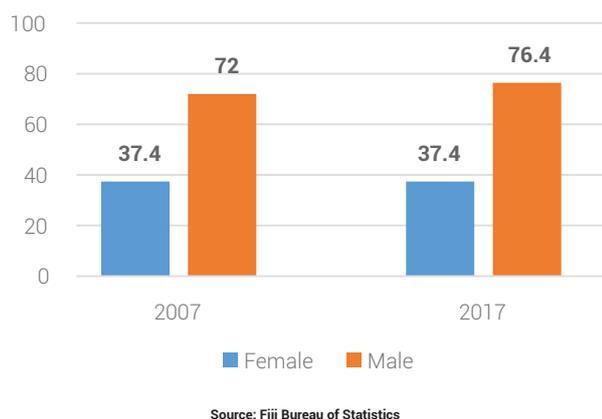
Formal Sector Employment and Livelihood

According to the Fiji Bureau of Statistics 2017 Household and Population Census, 37.4 per cent females are employed in the Fijian labour force compared to 76.4 per cent of males. Fiji continues to enhance the workforce participation of women, with the potential of contributing to greater growth of Fiji's economy.

In Fiji, Market vendors are predominantly women and market places offer important venues to positively impact social and economic change for women in Fiji. There are twelve (12) market vendors associations in Fiji with over 3500 members. Nine (9) of these associations are led by women. Furthermore, there has been an increase in the number of women entrepreneurs, with a total of 417, who participate in Fiji's Women's Expo. This event recognises and celebrates the talents of Fijian women artisans and improves their economic position at the national platform to showcase their products and connect them to available markets.

The Fijian Government recognises that empowering Fijian women artisans across handicrafts value chains presents a unique opportunity to create business value and strengthen women's economic empowerment. (Progress SDG5/5.a).

Labour Force Participation Rates by Gender, 2007 and 2017



Parenthood Assistance

In 2018, the Fijian Government introduced Parenthood Assistance Payments whereby mothers from families with a household income below \$30,000 are granted FJ \$1,000 up the birth of a child, whether it be the first, second, third or even tenth. Furthermore, the Government also increased paid maternity leave from 84 working days to 98 working days, adding another two weeks for mothers to take off from work in the preparation for the birth and the care of their child.

Institutional Legal Framework

Legal recognition is the first step towards effectively guaranteeing the rights of women and girls. Since 2015, the Fijian Government in partnership and support from various stakeholders including civil society, women's rights movement and faith-based organisations, has enacted, reviewed and introduced several key pieces of legislation, policies and strategic initiatives. These include the following:

- In 2016, a 24-hour toll-free Child Helpline was launched and dedicated to helping children to report abuse, domestic violence, bullying and parental negligence. (Progress SDG5/5.1.1);
- 2016 – the National Gender-Based Violence Sub-Cluster under the Safety & Protection Cluster, was formed to further improve national preparedness and response to GBV in emergencies. (Progress 5/5.1.1);
- In 2017, the National Climate Change Policy was adopted including COP23 Gender Action Plan, which aims to increase the participation and representation of women and girls in climate action (Progress 5/5.1.1);
- In 2018, the Employment Relations Act was amended to reaffirm and recognise the value of unpaid care and parental leave by including provisions to recognise 5

days of paternity leave, 5 days of family care leave and increased maternity leave from 84 to 98 days (Progress SDG5/5.1.1)

- In 2018, the Online Safety Act was passed in response to high levels of sexual exploitation of women and girls online. The Act protects women and girls from online exploitation across any electronic communication including and not limited to online mainstream media channels and websites (Progress SDG5/5.1.1)

In 2018, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act was enacted. The Act aims to protect the rights of both women and men with disabilities, establishing a National Council for Persons with Disabilities and setting out rights including the right to work and employment, non-discrimination, equal recognition before the law, freedom from exploitation, access to justice, health, participation in political life and adequate standard of living and social protection. In 2018, a 24 – hour toll-free Domestic Violence helpline was launched dedicated to helping women facing domestic violence to access counselling services offered by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation in partnership with the Fiji Women's Crisis Center.

Opportunities for Collaborations

Fiji aims to address the high prevalence of sexual violence against women and children through deepened collaboration between the Ministry of Women and other relevant stakeholders, including international donor partners. The Fiji Women's Rights Movement is undertaking a research in conjunction with the Fiji Police Force to identify ways to strengthen collaboration with stakeholders such as the Fiji Courts, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Ministry of Health to strengthen the procedures that apply to the collection and use of forensic evidence in violence against women and children cases.

Fiji at present is challenged with the lack of adequate gender data that is sex-disaggregated, and which considers age and other important characteristics. The Fijian Government is mindful of the importance of tracking progress on gender equality through the access of quality data and further support has been given to the Ministry of Women to establish a database system to address this issue.

In assessing Fiji's progress, current trends, challenges and opportunities, the Fijian Government through the Ministry of Women, Children & Poverty Alleviation in partnership with the relevant Ministries/Institutions or agencies is to continue the government's effort to promote gender equality and empowerment of



women and girls. The Ministry is the national women's machinery for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. It acts as a catalyst and advocates to coordinate gender mainstreaming across government. The Ministry is in the process of adopting a National Gender Policy 5-Year Strategic Implementation Framework (2020-2025) with a specific focus on six (6) thematic areas including:

1. Ending Violence Against Women & Girls
2. Women's Economic Empowerment
3. Strengthening Institutional Capacity & Structures on Gender Transforming Programming
4. Improving the availability, quality, analysis and use of gender data/statistics
5. Improving protection from and resilience to disaster and climate change risks for women and girls
6. Changing social norms and behaviours – working with men and boys

The Framework intends to outline key targets and indicators aligned to the National Development Plan (NDP) and the Sustainable Development Goals. Underpinning the effective implementation of the National Gender Policy is the promise of greater partnerships with a range of stakeholders to boost collective actions, accountability, sustainable results

and empowerment. Within this framework, priority actions include the development of the Fiji National Framework for the Primary Prevention on Violence Against Women and Girls, Prevalence Study on different forms of violence against women and girls, comprehensive institutional strengthening and capacity development, and undertaking a Country Gender Assessment.



SDG 6: CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Overview

Access to clean water is both a fundamental right of every Fijian, as enshrined in the Fijian Constitution (2013), and an essential component of sustainable development. Over 700,000 Fijians nationwide benefit from the current water supply scheme. Fiji's 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan articulate Government's focus on major investments in the water facilities to cater for long term water supply needs.

In 2009, Fiji reformed the Water and Sewerage Department (WSD) into the Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) with the aim of enhancing sustainable delivery of water and sewerage services to appropriate levels of service.

In 2017, 70.1 percent of households in Fiji had access to piped water for drinking, which is just under the global average of 71 percent. The remaining 30 percent of the

households continue to rely on groundwater sources such as boreholes, wells and spring water and rain harvesting through communal tanks for drinking and cleaning.

Several targets under SDG 6 have been explicitly integrated into Fiji's National Development Plan, including the achievement of 100 percent access to clean and safe water in adequate quantities, 60 percent access to central sewerage system by 2031 and also to reduce the amount of unaccounted water (leaks, theft, unmetered) to 32 percent by 2021.

Water and Sanitation

The Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) has undertaken numerous initiatives to develop and overcome access to piped water in rural Fiji. Furthermore, the Department of Water and Sewerage (DWS) works in conjunction with



WAF to monitor and formulate policies for the provision of sustainable water and wastewater services. This includes the formulation and implementation of a National Water Resource Management and Sanitation Policy (NWRSMPP) to govern the planning and the development of water resources while reviewing some of the existing policies and legislative processes on the provision of water and sanitation services to improve the overall standards of service delivery.

This exercise also ensures the engagement of relevant stakeholders and community awareness on water conservation practices and protection of traditional water sources. The Department continues to work on the establishment of a National Water Statistics database while managing the following initiatives; Water Conservation Programme; National Liquid Trade Waste Policy; Rural Water and Sanitation Policy and the Rural Water Supply Management Guideline.

In the rural areas where treated water cannot be supplied due to geographical remoteness and access, Ecological Purification Systems (EPS) are being installed that have benefitted over 26,000 Fijians.

In addition, WAF undertook a multimillion dollar investment in the Urban Water Supply and Waste Water Management Project in 2015 and is envisaged to be completed in 2025. This project will consist of the expansion and upgrading of water and wastewater infrastructure to the tune of FJ\$855 million. Ultimately, over 300,000 Fijians will benefit from this investment through reliable access to clean water with new advancements in wastewater management. The project also builds in climate resilience and sustainability by adhering to technical designs and developing infrastructure located further upstream the river system to avoid salinity.

treatment plant through sewer coverage improvement and construction of new treatment facilities.

Access to safe drinking water, basic sanitation and good hygiene practices is vital for the protection of health. Since 2016, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has supported the Fijian Ministry of Health and Medical Services in collaboration with other relevant government stakeholders on Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in developing the national SDG 6 targets and indicators. The focus areas are on targets 6.1 (Achieve access to safe and affordable drinking water), 6.2 (Achieve access to sanitation and hygiene and end open defecation) and 6.3, (Improve water quality, wastewater treatment and safe reuse). Despite the challenges, good progress has been made to capture improvements in relation to WASH. The Health Island Monitoring Framework for Fiji, the inclusion of WASH in the 2017 National Census questionnaire and the participation of Fiji in the GLAAS exercises – Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking Water are examples of how these targets are currently being monitored.

Opportunities for Collaboration

With a growing manufacturing sector and economy, the increase in demand for sewerage and water supply not only presents a challenge but also creates opportunities for investments and collaboration with key stakeholders. Through partnerships with NGOs and the private sector, a number of rural villages now have access to piped water and proper sanitation management. The Rotary Pacific Water for Life Foundation has supported a number of rural communities through the construction of solar groundwater supply systems including installation of solar pump, water storage tanks, distribution channels and the construction of gender segregated sanitation facilities.

Water and Waste Water Treatment statistics (WAF)

Year	Water Connections	Cover	Total Population	% Cover	Waste Water Connections	Cover	Total Population	% Cover
2015	138,628	679,277	837,271	81	25,428	124,597	837,271	15
2016	137,869	675,558	837,271	81	25,377	124,347	837,271	15
2017	132,388	648,701	837,271	77	25,138	123,176	837,271	15
2018	135,568	624,968	884,887	71	25,476	117,444	884,887	13

Water leakage will be reduced through meter replacement, early leakage detection and repairs where waste water management will be strengthened by upgrading and increasing the capacity of the Kinoya

Fiji has one of the lowest tariffs on the provision of clean treated water. There is a need to conserve water by introducing tariffs given that low cost accessibility can result in poor water management such as visible



leaks in taps, toilet cisterns and showers that are not fixed. In 2017, the WAF was allocated FJ\$307 million, increasing from FJ\$101.5 million in 2012 to support numerous capital projects and initiatives. A Technical Working Committee (TWC) has been established to work on the merger of the two policies and the development of the NWRSM. The TWC consists of members from all relevant stakeholders who oversee all matters pertaining to the water sector. This policy is a concerted effort to coordinate water sector activities in Fiji in a more integrated manner and to achieve national and global targets for the sector. A Water Statistics Database has been established and will be maintained to provide updated information to relevant stakeholders.

The data sharing agreements are already in place with relevant stakeholders and DWS has an AKVO FLOW or AKVO LUMEN Dashboard that would be used to centralise data on SDGs monitoring and evaluation. The AKVO Foundation has been engaged to support the Department to train, develop and implement an information system that will store WASH data from relevant WASH government agencies in a central database. WAF is continuously building capacity in-house and sending staff for external training in order

to foster a more knowledge-based water sector. There is a need for the education sector to address the skills gap that exists in specialised engineering fields such as SCADA, GIS, Water/Waste Water modelling, Utility Economics, Climate Change Adaptation for Utilities, Water and Waste Water Engineering.

Furthermore, there is a need to establish an administrative task force within WAF to improve the capacity in achieving data efficiency while meeting the regulatory targets on the field. Hence, Fiji is now transitioning more rapidly into environmental control of waste and pollution from hazardous chemicals and will continue to monitor this into the waterways to ensure that safe drinking water standards are maintained.



SDG 7: AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Overview

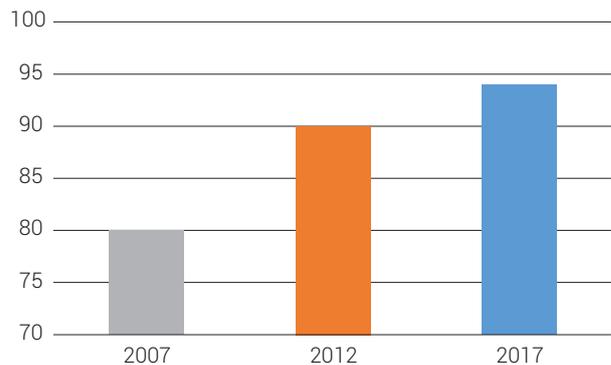
Access to electricity has widespread impacts on indicators of wellbeing, including health, education, food security, gender equality, livelihoods, and poverty reduction. Fiji remains committed to increasing access to affordable, reliable and modern energy from 90 percent of the population in 2015 to 100 percent by 2021, in line with its 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan. This is critical to ensure that all Fijians have access to basic needs as enshrined in the 2013 National Constitution and providing equal opportunities to excel in life.

The remaining 10 percent of the population without energy live largely in isolated settlements and maritime islands that do not have access to the national electricity grid operated by the sole electricity provider, Energy Fiji Limited ('EFL'). To address this, Fiji has progressively invested in rural electrification through grid extensions and the installation of Solar Home Systems with over FJ \$132.9 million allocated from 2016-2017 to 2018-2019. A total of 8,500 solar home systems have been installed to date. In true spirit of partnerships emphasised by the SDGs, the Fijian Government is also working with the private sector, development partners, philanthropic organisations and NGOs to deliver affordable, clean and reliable energy to more than 300 rural communities living without electricity throughout Fiji. This is being done through the newly established Fiji Rural Electrification Fund (FREF).

Moreover, to make electricity affordable for low income households, the Fijian Government has administered an electricity subsidy programme since 2015 for households with a combined income of FJ \$30,000 whereby the first 100 kilowatt hours of electricity per month is paid by the State. This has helped reduce the financial obligations of Fijian families in combination with other initiatives such as the free water subsidy programme.

These initiatives have had widespread positive impacts on improving universal access to electricity in Fiji. The 2017 National Census found that 94 percent of all households have access to some form of electricity of which 78 percent rely on the national electricity grid,

Percentage of Population with Access to Electricity



12.4 percent rely on solar energy and the remaining 3.6 percent rely on diesel generators and communal diesel and hydro plants.

Further to its Nationally Determined Contribution ('NDC') commitment to reduce 30 percent of its national greenhouse emissions through renewable investments in the energy sector and achieve 99 percent renewable energy generation by 2030, Fiji is cognisant of the fact that improving access to electricity for all Fijians must be coupled with green investments into existing and new electricity generation. Given that EFL owns the majority of Fiji's energy generation assets, it has committed itself to this national priority for a renewable and low carbon future through its Power Development Plan to 2026.

In 2017, Fiji's share of renewable energy generation stood at 51.26 percent of which 48.7 percent was from hydropower, 0.21 percent from wind power and 2.33 percent from independent power producers using biomass⁹. To improve Fiji's electricity generation mix, EFL is working with Government, development partners and the private sector to prepare for investments into hydro and solar power – two energy sources that have been found to have the greatest energy potential in Fiji. EFL is in the process of increasing its hydro power generation capacity through the upcoming Qaliwana/ Upper Wailoa Diversion Hydro Project which is envisaged to produce up to 44 megawatts of electricity subject to detailed feasibility studies. Moreover, EFL

⁹ Energy Fiji Limited (formerly Fiji Electricity Authority) Annual Report 2017, Available at <http://efl.com.fj/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/FEA-Annual-Report-2017.pdf>

has also identified land in the Western division of Fiji, an area with significant periods of sunshine for potential development of up to 25 megawatts of solar photovoltaic energy generation on Viti Levu, Fiji's largest and most populous island. Immediate plans are to establish a 5 megawatt solar farm in Nadi, which is Fiji's tourism hub.

Opportunities for Collaboration

Reduced dependence on fossil fuels

Mineral oil imports in 2017 were estimated to total FJ \$931.2 million, accounting for 19 percent of the total national import bill to which electricity generation is a significant contributor. Moreover, electricity generation contributes more than 16.2 percent to Fiji's total greenhouse emissions.

While Fiji continues to pursue a low carbon future in line with the 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan, the NDC Implementation Roadmap and the Low Emissions Development Strategy, access to affordable, adequate and predictable finance remains a challenge as the Fijian Government and EFL cannot bear the cost of maintaining and retrofitting existing energy assets and investing in new renewable energy assets on its own. Based on EFL's Power Development Plan, a sum of FJ \$2.5 billion is required to fund its future investments in line with projected increase in energy demand and the national renewable energy targets. EFL only has the capacity to fund FJ \$870 million while the rest will need

to be sourced from innovative financing solutions.

Improved Private Sector Investment

Private sector involvement in the electricity sector is currently low and would require a supportive regulatory environment, attractive feed in tariff rates and greater uptake of fiscal incentives available for renewable energy investments. However, it is positive to note the emergence of private solar providers offering innovative product financing solutions has catalysed a marked increase in the uptake of rooftop solar by the commercial companies.

Work is also underway to strengthen the regulatory and innovative capacity of the Department of Energy and the Fiji Competition and Consumer Commission in line with its responsibilities stipulated in the Fiji Electricity Act (2017). Flexible, progressive and solution oriented regulators will not only foster an increase in private sector involvement but also attract investments from bilateral and multilateral financiers.

Resilience of Fiji's Energy Sector

The adverse impacts of climate change continue to threaten the electricity sector. The category 5 Tropical Cyclone Winston in 2016 destroyed electricity assets amounting to FJ \$33 million¹⁰ and caused

¹⁰ Fiji Post Disaster Needs Assessment, May 2016.



losses associated with intermittent electricity supply amounting to FJ \$8.1 million. Since then cyclones Keni and Josie in 2018 and other periods of tropical depression have continued to damage overhead power lines and main transmission towers. As Fiji seeks to adapt to climate change, investments in the electricity sector to build resilience and longevity of assets is crucial. Investments in the electricity sector must also incorporate the incremental cost of making those investments climate resilient.

To maximise efficiency of both standalone solutions and grid connections, the Fijian Government is formulating a rural electrification masterplan with technical assistance from the Asian Development Bank. A national electrification plan will be integral to achieving 100% electrification especially for those in inaccessible regions.

Increasing Renewable Energy Uptake

While increasing access to electricity remains a development priority for Fiji, it will continue to review its priorities in tandem with its climate mitigation targets. Fiji's third largest island of Taveuni is currently electrified through hydro sources. However, there are some parts of the island which are yet to be electrified. In order to maintain 100% renewable energy sources on the island, the Fijian Government is partnering with the Global Green Growth Institute and the Korean International Cooperation Agency to install a 1.55 megawatt solar power plant on the island to supplement its hydro capacity and meet growing electricity demands with renewable energy.

Fiji's geothermal resources and power generation capacity is widely unknown at this stage. The Fiji National Determined Contribution Roadmap (2017-2030) outlines the need to carry out further investigation on the island of Vanua Levu to establish the feasibility of geothermal power generation. The Fijian Government, with assistance from the World Bank has recently engaged technical expertise to assess the geothermal potential of Vanua Levu, Fiji's second largest island. This is expected to determine Fiji's potential to diversify its electricity base and address the volatility in renewable energy production due to high dependence on hydropower.

Fiscal incentives for investments in renewable energy will need to be actively promoted amongst the private sector as well as the global energy solution providers. To foster continued research and development (R&D) of new, cleaner, renewable energy technologies within various sectors of its economy, a 250% tax deduction incentive on any expenditure

incurred by eligible companies investing in R&D within the renewable energy sector has been introduced in Fiji. Building expanded reliable access to electricity in Fiji is expected to promote employment, including home-based industries that offer increased opportunities for female employment, and increased productivity in the agriculture and service sectors. Fiji is a small open economy, highly vulnerable to volatility in global energy prices. The marginalised spend more of their income on fuel and energy, and the fiscal space to support subsidies to the poor is very limited. Diversification of generation toward indigenous (e.g. geothermal) and renewable energy resources will help reduce the need for electricity tariff increases in the longer term, reduce the cost of power subsidies, and make access to electricity more affordable. Renewable energy investment activity also lends itself to the creation of employment opportunities for women, improving their earning potential. Fiji will continue to invest in its electricity sector in a sustainable, inclusive and resilient manner.



SDG 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Overview

Achieving inclusive socio-economic development is a critical goal within the Fijian Government's 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan. Serious progress has already been made, as Fiji's 10 years of consecutive positive economic growth have improved employment prospects, bringing unemployment down to 4.5 percent, its lowest level in the past 20 years.

Investment levels remain strong on the back of consistent public infrastructure development and robust private sector activity. While the performance of primary industries are mixed, Fiji continues to develop its service and manufacturing sector by offering unique tourism products, back-office and ICT support services, niche garment production and bottled water exports.

Nearly 50 percent of the Fijian population is below the age of 27 years, requiring sustained investments and economic growth to further raise employment opportunities. The National Employment Policy encapsulates Government's commitment to fair employment opportunities for all.

Employment and Unemployment

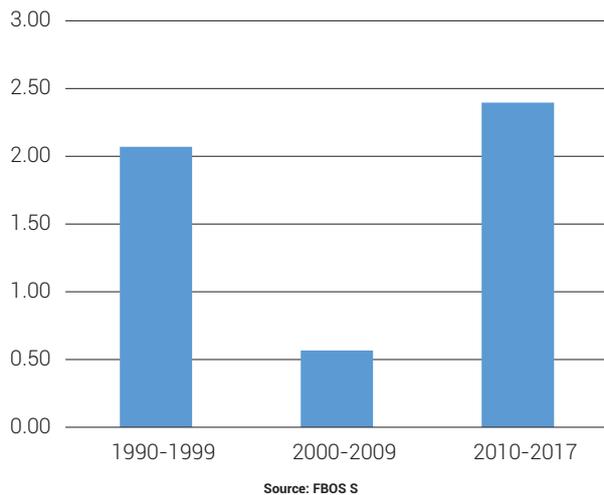
In line with the falling national unemployment rate, both the male and female unemployment rates have been steadily declining.

The unemployment rate for women declined from 13.0 percent in 2007 to 7.8 percent in 2017 and the unemployment rate for men declined from 6.5 percent to 3.0 percent in 2017.

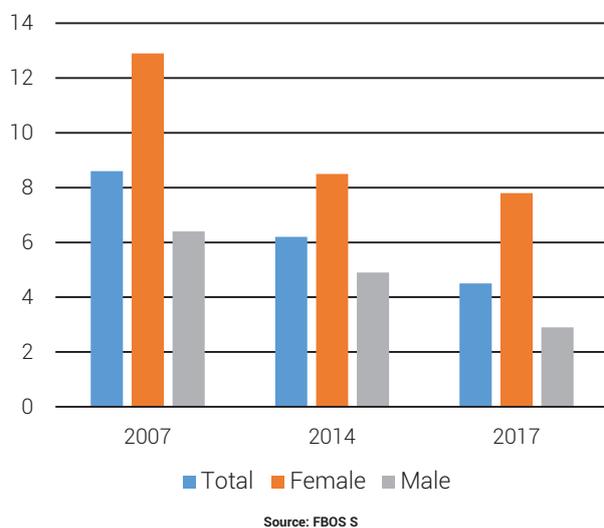
The number of new compulsory registrations with the Fiji National Provident Fund has also doubled in the last five years, clearly indicating that job growth has been strong and growth has been inclusive.

A growing young population and rapid urbanisation have shaped Fiji's policy decisions to rapidly increase youth employment through entrepreneurship and technical & vocational training, create jobs particularly in rural areas and reduce rapid urban migration, enhance gender-based economic opportunities and ultimately

GDP Per Capita Growth Rate (%), 1990 to 2017



Unemployment Rate (% of labour force, 15+)



continue to sustain consistent economic growth.

Shared Prosperity

Fiji recognizes that a growing economy does not necessitate equal outcomes and shared prosperity. Special efforts must be undertaken to ensure that economic progress is felt at all levels of society and that economic benefits are inclusive and equitably experienced by all Fijians.

Between 2010 and 2017, Fiji achieved an average GDP per capita growth of 9.5 percent annually, higher than the average of 3.5 percent and 6.9 percent annually it achieved between 2000-2010 and 1990-1999, respectively. This is noteworthy as Fiji has shown its economic resilience by maintaining growth despite devastating natural disasters in 2012 and 2016, with the latter, Cyclone Winston, wiping out one-third of Fiji's GDP overnight.

Moreover, Fiji's GDP per capita growth between 2010 and 2017 is higher than the Pacific Small Island Countries average of 2.0 percent annually and the world average of 1.8 percent annually. Thus a decade of positive economic growth has led to a reduction in unemployment rates from 8.6 percent in 2007 to 4.5 percent in 2017, in combination with reduced income inequality¹¹.

Minimum Wage

The minimum wage rate was introduced by the Fijian Government to entice formalised labour market participation and productivity. However, given the large number of Fijians working in the informal sector, the minimum wage rate has been maintained at responsible levels to sustain employment and prevent large spikes in the cost of living.

The Fijian Government has continued to gradually increase the minimum wage rate in a collaborative process that does not undermine the economic and business feasibility of wage increases. Fiji's national minimum wage for unskilled workers increased from FJ \$2.00 to FJ \$2.32 in 2015. In 2017, the national minimum wage was increased further to FJ \$2.68. The national minimum wage is currently being reviewed.

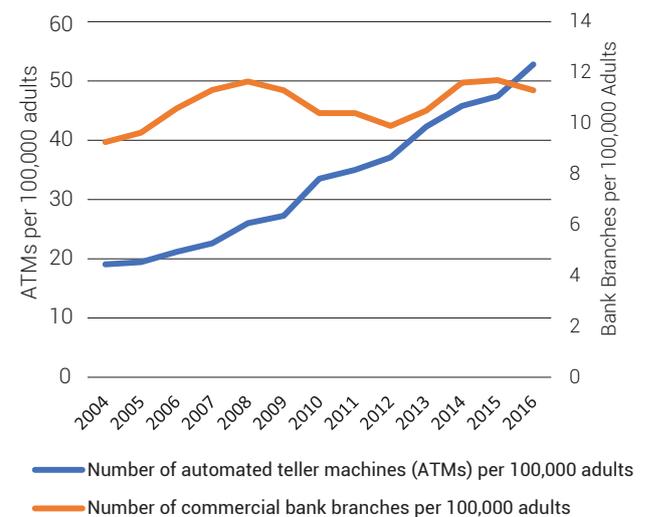
In addition to this, the Fijian Government also has specific minimum wages for the ten specialised sectors which are progressively higher than the national minimum wage.

Government Incentives

Government has played an important role in incentivising private sector investment which has been the key to improved economic growth and increased employment rates in the recent years. Expansionary fiscal and investment policies coupled with prudent monetary policies have proven to be successful in encouraging increased economic activities in Fiji. Steady investments in infrastructure, ICTs, the retail and service sectors, tourism development and the

¹¹ Fiji's latest Palma ratio based on the 2013/14 Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) is 1.62 compared to 2.28 recorded in the 2008/09 HIES indicating that the richest 10 per cent that used to make twice as much income as the poorest 40 per cent are now making less and indeed more incomes are flowing into the poorest 40 per cent segment.

Number of Commercial Bank Branches and ATMs (per 100,000 Adults)



Source: FBOS S

manufacturing sector have improved employment rates in the recent years.

Opportunities for collaboration

The Fijian economy is forecast to continue expanding in the years ahead, which is projected to create greater employment opportunities across all levels of Fijian society. To build on that momentum, Fiji will be working with development partners and the private sector to sustain and increase foreign direct investment to create more jobs in an increasingly diverse range of economic sectors, including new industries that generate higher income generating opportunities for the Fijian people.

Certain sectors have enormous growth potential. Tourism, for example, can grow its role within the economy in a sustainable way. The possibilities for economic growth and subsequent employment creation are endless; but this must be matched with an innovative flexible financial sector, responsive education system, enabling regulatory environment and seamless support from development partners and International Financial Institutions for financing needs and improved means of implementation.

State led employment creation and inclusion programmes such the Young Entrepreneurship Scheme and the Micro Small and Medium Enterprise Grants focusing on women must be contoured to be enhanced in collaboration with non-state stakeholders. Minimum wages must be progressively reviewed without causing harm to the business environment and a comprehensive and evolving Labour Market Information System must be developed and made accessible to policy makers, employers and the general public.



SDG 9: INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Build Resilient Infrastructure, Promote Inclusive and Sustainable, Industrialisation and Foster Innovation

Overview

Fiji recognises the importance of investment in infrastructure which includes transport, power and energy, irrigation, industrial facilities and ICTs. Infrastructure plays a vital role in linking key socio-economic sectors of the economy, including resource-based industries, education and health. Development and investments in infrastructure, sustainable industries and innovation are key indicators and drivers of economic growth in developing countries. Fiji, through its investment in infrastructure, industry and innovation sectors, aims to foster more inclusive, sustainable and resilient economic growth.

Fiji has integrated SDG 9 into many aspects of the 5-Year & 20-Year National Development Plan (NDP), in particular infrastructure, telecommunications and financial services. To achieve these goals set out in the NDP, Fiji aims to implement government led sector targeted programs.



Environmentally Sustainable Energy Sector

The strong involvement of Government in the power sector over the years has resulted in approximately 90 percent of Fiji's population having proper access to electricity. There has been an increase in the grid extension programme to reach the remaining 10 percent of the population that does not have access to electricity. Access to electricity increased from 69 percent in 2004 to 98 percent in 2016. As highlighted in the Fiji's NDP, over 60 percent of the electricity generated is from renewable energy sources including hydro, biomass, wind and solar energy from which 50 MW of renewable energy generation capacity has been added in the last 10 years.

Efficient and Sustainable Transport Network

Fiji's road network infrastructure is estimated to be worth nearly FJ\$11 billion, making it Fiji's most valuable asset. In transforming Fiji into a modern, safe and well-connected nation, road infrastructure is a necessity. Fiji has already embarked on modernising the infrastructure with substantial funding to improve roads, bridges, jetties, streetlights and footpaths over recent years. For example between 2013 and 2018, the government has allocated a total of more than FJ\$3 billion on restoring, upgrading and building new roads, bridges and jetties through the Rural Roads Programme. This has allowed Fijians to be more connected through ensuring access between communities and essential services like Health and Education.

Given the geographical dispersion of islands, Fiji is also improving inter-island sea transportation by increasing the number of available vessels and improving the frequency of services provided to maritime areas. Moreover, Shipping Services Subsidy (SSS) provides monthly subsidy to shipping service operators to encourage cost-effective shipping services to outer islands that are considered to be in uneconomical routes. Additionally, due to the remoteness of some outer islands and the limited access to medical services, Government has also purchased a medical vessel to

provide primary and secondary medical services and respond to medical emergencies in these areas. The Fijian Government is also working with the International Maritime Organisation to retrofit vessels servicing rural areas to reduce carbon emissions.

Universal Access to Information and Competitive Telecommunication Services

The 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan (NDP) clearly outlines the Goals, Policies and Strategies that lay the foundation for ICT efforts of the Fijian Government.

Efforts are continuing to transform Fiji into a regional hub for business, transport, communications and other services. Fiji has enabled efforts to adopt new and better technologies that have encouraged digital connectivity and improved productivity and service delivery. The Telecommunication sector has grown significantly since 2008, driven mainly by the deregulation of the telecommunication market which enabled the entry of private enterprises into the sector.

Fiji has relatively robust telecommunications infrastructure, and this has been matched with the continued growth in mobile phone ownership and use throughout the years. This increase in phone ownership has translated to greater investment in modern ICTs.

This can be seen in Fiji's local mobile phone companies' commitment to upgrading their networks to provide 4G technology. In 2013, Fiji pledged to work towards 100% mobile network coverage throughout the county. In 2016, 96% of the population in Fiji had access to at least a 3G network.

Building on Fiji's advancement in telecommunication infrastructure, the Government is providing tax incentives and dedicating economic development zones to stimulate ICT development. The Fijian Government has also implemented numerous initiatives to enable improved access to telecommunication services, including the "Free WiFi Zone" initiative, the continued expansion of e-Government services, the Community Telecentre project, the One Laptop per Child initiative, the Universal Service Access project, etc. These initiatives enhance connectivity of Fijians to the outside world.

Fiji has been working towards improving the enabling environment to attract investors, reduce the cost of doing business and support private sector investments in the country.

The government has been using tax incentives to encourage investment in priority areas within the tourism

and manufacturing sectors, such as the development of hotels and the development of renewable and energy efficient technologies, etc. In 2016, the government implemented the "Fijian Made – Buy Fijian" initiative to promote locally manufactured products, both within Fiji and internationally. Noting the importance of sustaining the environment and greening the country, Fiji continues to support the tourism and manufacturing sector which rely heavily on natural resources.

digitalFIJI is the Fijian Government's digital transformation programme, which looks at positioning key Government services online, for ease of access of all Fijians.

In November 2017, the Fijian Government partnered with the Singapore Government, through the Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE), which is an arm of the Singaporean Government to undertake a four-year digital Government Transformation programme. The objective of digitalFIJI is not only to implement digital solutions for efficient Government service delivery but also to learn from the Singapore experience in rapidly adapting and leveraging new technologies.

The vision for digitalFIJI is to provide 24 x 7, anywhere and anytime access to priority Government services for citizens. This vision is supported by a digital strategy of building a digitally inclusive society.

Promoting Entrepreneurial Culture through Sustainable Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) play a vital role in economic development in Fiji. MSMEs constitute approximately 97% of established businesses in Fiji, contribute to approximately 60% of employment, and account for around 12%-13% of Fiji's GDP (Reserve Bank of Fiji, 2018). Since 2008, key Government initiatives such as the Northern Development Programme, the Integrated Human Resources Development Programme and Micro and Small Business Grant have formalised over 40,900 MSMEs from all parts of Fiji. To improve MSME's access to finance, Government aims to increase the provision of finance available through Government funded programmes, such as the Micro and Small Business Grant, SME Credit Guarantee Scheme, Young Entrepreneurship Scheme and SME supporting assistance through the Fiji Development Bank. Through these initiatives more Fijians now have the opportunity to make their business aspirations and innovations a reality.

Opportunities for Collaboration

Fiji is looking to sustain its unprecedented economic

growth and strengthen and diversify its economic base, with a focus on increasing opportunities for low-income households, while building resilience to climate change impacts and natural disasters. Fiji faces vulnerabilities to external shocks given its considerable distance from markets, a population dispersed across a large archipelago, high concentration of economic activities and settlements in coastal areas and exposure to natural disasters which are further worsened by the impacts of climate change.

Furthermore, the country is still dependent on imported fossil fuels for electricity and transportation. Fiji has the potential to achieve green growth through increasing renewable energy generation capacity, moving towards sustainable transport systems, promoting eco-tourism and developing inclusive green towns and cities.

While the Government plans to support importation and use of fuel-efficient hybrid and electric vehicles to reduce fuel importation and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, it lacks an enabling environment for mobilizing investment. The Government can explore incentives and options for switching to less polluting options, while improving reliability, safety and accessibility. This requires an examination of the number of integrated planning and technology options in a short period of time, along with significant investment.

Despite considerable progress in extending infrastructure and services into rural communities, access to infrastructure in rural areas remains a national challenge. The 2017 census revealed that 44.1% of the population reside in rural areas which is a decrease of 5.2 percentage points from the 2007 census. Ongoing projects like the Rural Electrification, Upgrading of Rural Roads and Solar Home Systems aims to provide basic and important infrastructure to people in rural communities.

Climatic conditions and natural disasters have a detrimental impact on Fiji's infrastructure. According to an independent assessment conducted on bridges and crossings throughout Fiji, it was found that, out of the 524 bridges surveyed around the country, 31 were in need of immediate attention and repair. This issue is perpetuated by climate change and natural disasters, which continue to adversely affect road infrastructure. Fiji is also challenged with the financial constraints in maintaining transport infrastructure, which has increased costs for transport operators and users.

There is a need for the Fijian Government to determine an appropriate model for financing recurrent costs.

Additionally, there is ongoing support needed for developing sustainable transport plans policies and regulations to incentivize cleaner and inclusive transport and mobility options for Fiji.



SDG 10: REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Reduce inequality within and among countries



Reduced Overview

Reducing inequality in all its forms is a key focus of the 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan (NDP), which aims to spread the benefits of Fiji's economic prosperity as widely as possible to improve the well-being of all Fijians regardless of geographical location, gender, ethnicity, physical and intellectual capability and socio-economic status.

The NDP works to ensure equality for all Fijians through policies that focus on reducing unemployment, eradicating poverty, providing 100% access to clean water and reliable electricity, enhancing the quality of education and healthcare, and empowering women, among others. Equality for all Fijians is also safeguarded under the Fijian Constitution, which recognises all citizens as "Fijians" and accords each citizen equal status under the law and the same rights and privileges, while eliminating all forms of inequality and discrimination.

Sustaining Income Growth

Fiji experienced a reduction in income inequality from 2008 to 2013, according to World Bank estimates

derived from the two Household Income and Expenditure Surveys (HIES) conducted by the Fiji Bureau of Statistics (FBS) over the period. Based on HIES data, Fiji's Gini Index (a measure of income inequality) decreased from 40.4 in 2008 to 36.7 in 2013. Over the same period, the proportion of the population living in poverty fell from 31.0 percent to 28.0 percent.

The Palma ratio is a more intuitive way of understanding income inequality. It measures the ratio of the income share of the top 10 per cent to the bottom 40 per cent of a country's population. In more equal societies, this ratio will be 1 or below. Fiji's latest Palma ratio, based on the 2013/14 Household Income and Expenditure Survey is 1.62. This is a significant improvement from 2.28 recorded in the 2008/09 HIES, indicating that the richest 10 percent that used to make twice as much income as the poorest 40 percent are now making less; indeed, more income is now flowing into the poorest 40 percent of households.

Fostering Social, Economic and Political Inclusion

Increased spending on well targeted social welfare programmes provides a safety net for the most

vulnerable in our communities, our children, women and the elderly. Fiji's substantial investment towards free education and improving the nation's health care facilities, as well as increased connectivity through better infrastructure and utilities, has increased access to economic opportunities for all Fijians. To boost the productive capacity of our workforce, almost \$4 billion has been directed towards the education sector since 2010 towards policies that include free tuition for Year 1 to Year 13 students, hiring more teachers to improve the teacher-student ratio, free bus fares for students, free milk for Year 1 students and merit-based student loan and scholarship programmes for tertiary students. The intention of these policies is to provide all students, particularly those from low-income families, with the skills to secure gainful employment and earn steady incomes, which will help reduce income inequality in the long run.

Guaranteeing Equal Opportunities and Reducing Inequalities

The Fijian Civil Service has implemented an Open Merit Recruitment and Selection process for staff recruitment and selection which appoints people purely on their ability to do the job, assessed against objective selection criteria which does not discriminate against or give preference to any group or individual. Furthermore, the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy creates a fair working environment by working to eliminate all forms of discrimination in the workplace.

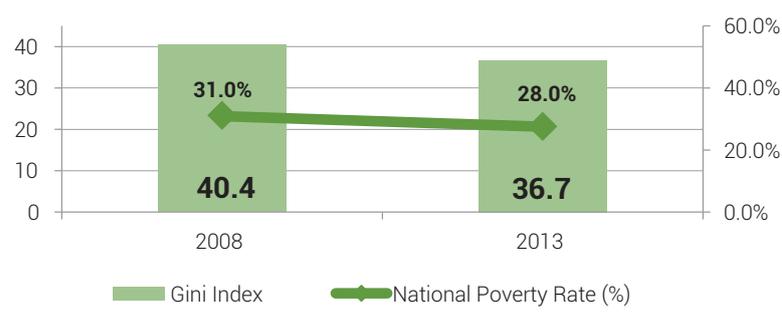
The Fiji National Disability Policy 2008-2018 provides a framework for developing a more inclusive society, creating greater awareness of the needs of people with disabilities and removing potential barriers that may hinder the full socio-economic participation of people with disabilities.

The Fiji National Gender Policy 2014 is evidence of Fiji's commitment to promoting gender equality in Fiji. This fundamental policy aims to improve the quality of life at all levels of society by promoting gender equity and equality, mainstreaming gender equality in all sectors and within civil society, and removing all forms of gender discrimination in Fiji.

Fiscal, Wage and Social Protection Policies for Greater Equality

The reduction in poverty and inequality in Fiji is partly attributed to the redistributive policies and progressive

Gini Index and National Poverty Rate, 2008- 2013



tax systems that have been implemented to lessen the tax burden on low-income families. Reforms to the taxation system, including a reduction in Value Added Tax (VAT) from 15% to 9% and an increase in the income tax threshold from FJ\$16,000 to FJ\$30,000 have reduced overall costs to disadvantaged Fijians, while significantly increasing the take-home pay for low-income earners. Likewise, a reduction in duty on essential items has increased the purchasing power of ordinary Fijians.

Fiji has also regulated its national minimum wage via the Employment Relations Regulation 2017, ensuring that all Fijians are able to benefit from this national right and are protected from exploitation at the hands of the employers. The National Minimum Wage Policy particularly provides protection for unskilled workers who are generally isolated by trade unions and do not have any bargaining power. There has been a steady growth in the National minimum wage from \$2.00 per/hour to \$2.32 per/hour in 2015 and further to \$2.68 per/hour in 2017.

Financial Inclusiveness

Financial Inclusion indicators captured by the Reserve Bank of Fiji (RBF), which can be defined as the proportion of the population that uses financial services, are an alternative measure of inequality, poverty and inclusive economic growth. The RBF measures financial inclusion in terms of access to and usage of financial services. Supply-side indicators show that the number of cash-in and cash-out access points grew significantly between 2010 and 2016 due to the proliferation of ATMs and EFTPOS terminals and the emergence of non-traditional mediums such as mobile money and microfinance institutions.

The Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme (PFIP), administered by the UN Capital Development Fund and the United Nations Development Programme through bilateral partner funding, has helped more than two million low-income Pacific Islanders gain access to formal financial services and financial education.

PFIP's objective is to empower more low-income Pacific Islanders to enter the formal financial sector by supporting financial service providers to innovate with products and services for mass market customers, working with governments to create an enabling policy environment for financial innovation, and raising awareness among consumers. PFIP has jointly funded projects with financial service providers who have innovated with technology and products, enrolling over two million customers in services such as agency banking, mobile wallets, micro insurance, micro loans, remittances and savings groups. Women account for 976,216 of the total clients enrolled, representing significant progress in reducing the gender gap that exists in the Pacific. At the same time, PFIP works with financial regulators in the region to develop an enabling environment for financial innovation.

on the margins of society.

Safe and Responsible Migration and Mobility of People

The Fiji National Employment Centre (NEC) continues to facilitate the movement of unskilled Fijian workers abroad. The NEC operates at a government to government level under the direction of signed MOUs that govern the implementation of the seasonal workers programmes. The NEC is also responsible for the Foreign Employment Service (FORES) which facilitates overseas employment (both seasonal and short-term) and circular migration.

Opportunities for Collaboration

There are several indicators under SDG 10 which make progress measurement quite difficult. For some indicators the data is already captured through surveys. However, data collection has historically been unreliable and inconsistent, with significant time lags between the latest available data and the current period. It is critical that present assessments of data on inequality do not heavily rely on past data. To predict and influence future rates of inequality, government must assess the levels of access to economic opportunities for citizens of all ages, across different geographical locations, and genders.

While traditional inequality is measured on the basis of income, it is equally important that inequality is viewed in a more holistic manner which addresses all the various forms of inequality. Thus, it is important to capitalise on the quality and coverage of existing infrastructure for IT, transportation, health services, electricity and education to reach the most remote regions of the country. Existing guiding policies and governing documentation pertaining to social security and welfare need to be strengthened in order to ensure that they address the most extreme vulnerabilities of those living



SDG 11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Overview

Sustainable cities and towns are important determinants of Fiji's overall standard of living due to their increasing role in economic growth, social well-being and environmental efficiency. Fiji's 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plans have identified sustainable cities and towns as a strategic priority area, and aims to deal with the issue of rapid urbanisation and the associated problems that have consequently emerged in recent times. Slightly more than half the population now lives in urban areas, a number that is projected to increase to around 56 percent by 2021.

In order to provide its citizens vibrant and sustainable urban centres, government is committed to endow efforts in better urban development strategies. There are also ongoing plans in the next 5 years for the identification and development of future growth centres and extension of town boundaries. In light of the high number of informal settlements, the government is also committed to upgrading and relocating informal settlements to cater for increasing housing needs and to safeguard Fijians from natural disasters, while at the same time providing better access to basic services.

Fiji's Urban Policy Action Plan has to some extent supported efficient, effective and

sustainable urban development that has contributed to Fiji's social, economic and environmental development. This Policy Action Plan of 2007 will be reviewed with a view to undertaking institutional reforms.

Affordable Housing

Purchasing a home is the single biggest financial commitment most Fijians make in their lifetimes. To improve accessibility to affordable housing, a Housing Facility has been set up with the objective to provide greater access to housing finance for low-income earners through the Housing Authority of Fiji, commercial banks, licenced credit institutions and the Fiji Development Bank. Additionally, a Housing Assistance program has been implemented to provide Fijians living in rural communities with housing assistance. The government has also provided tax incentives to encourage private sector investment in residential housing development. Moreover, the Government has introduced a First Home Owners Buyer Programme where a grant of FJ \$10,000 is accessible



to all Fijians who wish to purchase their first home.

For households living in poverty, Fiji has set up the Housing Assistance Relief Trust (HART) to provide financial assistance to accommodate families in low-cost housing settlements. For people living with disabilities, the government has provided funding to develop more inclusive and disability-friendly buildings to cater for their needs and ease accessibility. To tackle the issues associated with informal settlements, the government has implemented programs supporting the upgrade and redevelopment of informal settlements with basic utilities such as piped water supply, electricity, and proper sanitation and waste management facilities. In certain cases, where it was deemed necessary, the government has provided funding to assist with the relocation of people living in informal settlements.

Urban planning and management capacities have been strengthened through provisions of capital grant and town council support, and budget funding has been made available for numerous schemes that support rapid urban growth within the economy in the context of township development. This is being done to transform rural areas into townships that have similar opportunities and amenities as urban centres.

Waste Management

Waste generation has major implications for public health and the environment. It is estimated that of the 180 thousand tons of solid waste generated, only 70% is collected and the remaining 30% is illegally dumped. In the case of outer islands, for example, there are no waste collection services. In 2017, 97.6% of the waste collected in Fiji was land-filled, and less than 0.4% was recycled. The government has financed the construction of new landfill spaces and waste transfer stations. To address the issue of littering, the annual National Clean-up Campaign has been implemented to promote public awareness, alongside standardising roadside rubbish bins as well as establishing legal framework to encourage recycling of beverage containers.

Transportation

People in Fiji generally have convenient access to public transport. According to a 2009 report by Fiji Land Transport Authority, 95% of the population in Fiji have easy access to public transport. Private cars and taxis are also widely used means of transportation. In 2017, Fiji had 84,558 registered private cars, 10,019 taxis and rental cars, and 2,444 public buses. Over the last 3 years, the government has invested approximately \$1.4 billion into sustainable transportation, which includes improving road infrastructure, drainage systems

and footpaths to schools and hospitals, all of which considers people with disabilities.

Safe and Inclusive Communities

Violence against women and children is both intolerable and a huge barrier to the development of a nation. The Fijian Government has implemented a Zero Tolerance Violence Free Community programme to combat violence against women and children. This scheme aims to empower and educate the communities in taking action to stop violence. The government must maintain a collaborative approach and strengthen the relationships among stakeholders, faith-based organisations, men, women's groups and community members in combating violence.

Community buildings are an important contributor to and component of a community's quality of life. As such, recreational amenities have an important part to play in bolstering quality of life, retaining residents and businesses, and supporting rural economic development. In an effort to improve rural community life, the government is funding the building of Rural Sports Complexes. This and similar initiatives in future are expected to lower out-migration rates of young people.

Fiji, being an island nation surrounded by ocean, is particularly vulnerable to tsunamis, although most of the country's coastline is protected by coral reefs. The National Disaster Management Office has recently installed tsunami sirens in 13 locations around the capital city as part of its ongoing commitment towards improving its state of readiness for a potential tsunami event.

During the 2016 Tropical Cyclone Winston, damages in urban informal settlements were particularly severe. Increasing the resilience of informal urban settlements in Fiji, which are highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change and other disasters is a priority. Fiji's first Adaptation Fund project targets the 16 most vulnerable settlements, which have an estimated 1,249 dwellings and a total population of 6,242. This project is being implemented by the UN-Habitat and a local ministry. The project combines horizontally and vertically interrelated resilience strengthening of institutions, communities and physical, natural and social assets and ecosystems. The specific needs of women, indigenous people, people with disabilities and youth are being considered at all stages of the project.

Opportunities for Collaboration

While rapid urbanisation has the potential to improve

the well-being of societies, it also presents significant social, economic and environmental challenges for the government. Some of these challenges include conversion of open space and farmland for residential, commercial, office, or other developed land uses; inadequate infrastructures, in particular for informal settlements, including lack of power supply, inadequate water supply and sanitation, waste management, and some basic amenities; lack of affordable housing; increasing waste generation; and high unemployment and poverty in urban informal settlements.

On a positive note, the government remains committed to address urbanisation and its challenges through integrated planning, strengthening urban governance, balancing rural urban developments and scrapping local authorities. The government is currently working closely with the Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE) to create the Urban Master Plans for Fiji to guide the urban transformation. This will provide a road map to guide and coordinate future development decisions in the cities and towns by the various government agencies and Fiji's 13 municipal councils.

Despite considerable progress in provision of affordable housing, there is still a shortage of affordable, quality housing and housing lots for many families who wish to migrate into the urban areas – a situation that is likely to worsen as urbanisation increases. As a result, many low-income households live in poor conditions in informal settlements, which typically lack access to basic services such as electricity, water and sanitation, and are susceptible to various environment hazards and disasters. The government is tackling problems associated with informal settlements through various policies and programs aimed at improving living conditions. Efforts are underway to create an enabling environment for the people to find unique local solutions for their housing needs through a rights-based approach.

To increase the climate and disaster resilience of urban infrastructure, more effort is required to improve urban adaptation planning and to take into account long-term climate projections in urban planning processes. Structural integrity and climate- and disaster-proof designs will be key aspects of future projects, together with early-warning systems, disaster-response plans, inter-agency coordination and enhanced disaster-response capacity.

Fiji has the potential to develop a special Smart City Programme for Towns and Cities to ensure that the towns and cities adapt to global modern urban management

practices. Smart City is expected to see that town and city centres promote green growth initiatives including green energy, effective and environmentally friendly transport systems, security for inhabitants, green building construction, technology enhancement and new techniques for solid waste management.



SDG 12: SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Overview

Fiji has actively worked to ensure that the consumption and production of goods and services in the country is undertaken in a way that is responsible to both the Fijian people and the environment. This commitment is codified in its 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan (NDP), which outlines specific targets that will ensure the Fijian economy achieves a sustainable balance when considering both the consumption and production of goods and services.

Energy

As Fiji's growing economy has led to a growing demand for electricity, the government (alongside Energy Fiji Limited, the nation's state-owned power provider) has taken bold steps to achieve a responsible, affordable, and environmentally-conscious blend of energy generation that taps into the nation's geographic advantages through renewable sources, such as hydroelectric power and wind turbines.

Fiji's infrastructure development has incorporated numerous green initiatives, such as the installation of solar panels on public buildings and solar-powered street lights -- leadership that is being replicated by the private sector thanks to the reduction in import duty on solar products to 0%.

Through a mix of legislation, tax policies, and grassroots activism, Fijians are being encouraged to use more energy-efficient white goods and fuel-efficient vehicles. The nation's fuel quality has also improved, thereby reducing emissions, and is currently benchmarked to the Euro IV standard.

Food

Fiji has undertaken major initiatives to improve the domestic supply of food to Fijian consumers, encourage healthy eating habits, and bolster the nation's food security. Holistic infrastructure developments and holistic supplies, including rural roads upgrades,

municipal markets, chillers, and cyclone-resistant roadside stalls have all helped improve the supply of food to consumers, while empowering producers of all sizes to both preserve and distribute the fruits of their labour.

Water

Significant improvements have been made to provide safe and clean drinking water to all Fijians, a right that is enshrined in the nation's Constitution. The government has undertaken major investments in infrastructure to provide long-term water supply through the construction of new water treatment plants, reticulation systems and reservoirs, and digging boreholes in the country's most remote areas. Existing infrastructure also undergoes regular maintenance to reduce leakage and water loss. Through the Urban Water Supply and Wastewater Management Investment Program, the Fijian Government with the financial assistance from the Green Climate Fund and the Asian Development Bank, will provide improved access to a safe, piped water supply and environmentally friendly sewage systems to more than 300,000 Fijians.

Solid Waste

Attractive tax incentives have been provided in the 2019-2020 Budget to promote proper solid waste management. For example, companies that engage in waste recycling in Naboro are eligible for a tax holiday of five years, seven years or 10 years, depending on the level of capital investment. In addition, all raw materials, plant, machinery and equipment (including spare parts) required to establish the business will be exempt from import duty.

High-density plastic bags (less than 50 microns thick) will be banned from 1 January 2020 onwards, while the Environment and Climate Adaptation Levy (ECAL) on low-density plastic bags will be increased from 20 cents to 50 cents per bag -- an intentionally progressive and staggered approach that is meant to change behaviour

in a sustainable way. Furthermore, duty on paper/ bamboo straws, paper containers, cups and plates, and biodegradable kitchenware and tableware will be reduced to 0%.

10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns

In 2012, Fiji adopted the 10-Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP) on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Patterns during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). The 10YFP has been instrumental in providing overarching guidance on global action for SCP.

In aligning to the 10YFP, Fiji has incorporated the principles of SCP into its key national policies. Concepts such as resource efficiency and green economy are reflected in the Green Growth Framework for Fiji. This is further echoed in the NDP, which emphasises the need for environmentally-sustainable food production. The Fiji National Adaptation Plan (2018) also supports efforts to ensure SCP patterns through sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources

and improved waste management (including reducing waste generation).

International Commitments

There are four main international multilateral environment agreements on addressing hazardous waste, namely the Montreal Protocol, Basel Convention, Stockholm Convention and the Rotterdam Convention.

Fiji has ratified the Montreal Protocol and has since developed regulations (e.g. Ozone Depleting Substances Act 1998) to assist in achieving its commitment under this convention. In 2013, Fiji successfully reached its target of eliminating the production and consumption of ozone-depleting chemicals through improved cross-border control. The government remains committed to the protection of the environment through better protection of the ozone layer, and is working towards ratifying the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol.

Fiji ratified the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollution on 20 June 2001. More recently, in 2006, the Fijian Government has developed a 'National



Plan for Implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants in Fiji Islands' to help achieve its commitment under this convention.

Fiji is working towards ratifying the Basel Convention and the Rotterdam Convention.

Agricultural Production

Resilience to climatic conditions is relatively high for traditional crops and production systems; however, food production has become more vulnerable to climate variability (from severe weather devastation to inarable salinity levels to erosion), threatening food security over the last 16 years -- a period in which the agriculture sector has suffered about \$791 million in damages and losses due to cyclones and floods. Cyclones cause major disruption and destruction to crops, trees, farming and fishing infrastructure. For example, cassava, one of the main subsistence cash crops in Fiji, is highly sensitive to tropical cyclones. Floods also cause crop damage through inundation, resulting in food insecurity, low productivity and economic losses.

Climate change has also resulted in increased shoreline erosion and inundation and reduced surface water, which present major threats to long-term food

production in low-lying areas.

Opportunities for Collaboration

A key challenge for Fiji in implementing SDG12 is a need to raise public awareness on the importance of sustainable consumption and production practices. At the consumption end, there is a need for improved consumer awareness, building and shaping sustainable habits, and encouraging more sustainable choices. Monitoring and regulation of sustainable consumption and production patterns continue to be a challenge.

Illegal dumping and burning of waste have historically posed a problem in Fiji. Recent amendments to the Litter Decree 2010 have helped deter littering through the imposition of on-the-spot fines. The Fijian Government is actively working with development partners to strengthen the management of solid waste is to promote greater recycling efforts, particularly through the planned introduction of a container deposit scheme, which will help reduce the volume of recyclables that enter the landfill. These solutions are being forged despite Fiji lacking the economies of scale that enable efficient waste management in larger countries.





SDG 13: Climate Action

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Overview

As a small island country, Fiji is one of the most vulnerable countries to the impacts of climate change. Building resilience and adaptive capacity is, therefore, the first overriding priority when it comes to combatting climate change. The high exposure to multiple natural hazards, including tropical cyclones, storm surge, severe storm, flooding, landslide, drought and extreme temperatures not only causes widespread destruction and economic loss but places imminent stress on the country to recover from disaster events or even to cope with more lingering threats such as sea-level rise. According to the Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA), between 2000 and 2016, a total of 41 climate-related disasters occurred in Fiji, which has resulted in a total of 237 deaths, affected 1.6 million Fijians and caused a total loss of FJ \$3.2 billion. Moreover, Tropical cyclone and flood losses push an average of 25,700 Fijians into poverty every year (CVA, 2017). It is a matter of concern that climate change is expected to amplify these risks, threatening the development objectives of the country's Development Plan and affecting daily

livelihoods of the Fijian people.

Climate Action

Fiji's commitment to climate action is demonstrated through the ratification of many relevant international policies and conventions. Fiji was the first country to ratify the Paris Agreement and has been a signatory party to other relevant international conventions, such as the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, Convention for Biological Diversity, the Hyogo Framework for Action and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Fiji's COP23 Presidency and its Co-Presidency of the First United Nations Oceans Conference in 2017 marked an important stride in the endeavour to seek climate justice not only for Fijians, but for the Pacific as a whole. It has enabled Fiji to create awareness of the ocean and climate nexus, at the same time advocating the importance of healthy oceans for sustaining livelihoods in Small Island Developing States. Thus, the Ocean Pathway launched under the Fijian Presidency at COP23 calls for oceans to be an integral part of the UNFCCC process, recognising that oceans play a crucial role in regulating earth's climate



and emphasising the link between a healthy global ocean and its role in mitigating the impacts of climate change on already vulnerable Pacific Island countries.

Climate Change Adaptation

Recognising that climate change is perhaps the most perplexing developmental challenge of this era, Fiji has committed much effort in reforms, strategies and policy shifts to better understanding and mitigating the impacts of climate change and natural hazards. Fiji's 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan is aligned to the Paris Agreement and the Climate Change Convention and mainstream climate change in all areas of development. Moreover, Fiji realises that if Fiji is to achieve all the objectives and targets set out in its National Development Plan, it must adapt and safeguard all its sectors against the impacts of climate change. This also underscores the importance of achieving SDG 13 as a precursor to achieving the other SDGs.

In response to the national need to build a resilient Fiji, the Fijian Government has recently prepared a National Adaptation Plan (NAP). Through the NAP, Fiji has identified 160 adaptation measures to be prioritised over the five-year period of the NAP. The actions identified not only have benefits for climate resilience, but also offer additional benefits in terms of development outcomes—for example, developing climate-resilient jetties and landings on outer islands where needed as well as supporting road infrastructure. This prioritised

adaptation action ensures the safety and connectivity of Fijians, especially in times of natural disasters, and also provides opportunity for economic activities. Additionally, the government will save maintenance and repair costs if infrastructure is well protected against climate adversities.

Fiji has made significant efforts to reduce climate and disaster risks, better prepare for natural disasters, and respond to major shocks. The Fijian Government spending on investments to strengthen resilience has significantly increased, from 3.74 per cent of the total budget in 2013 to 9.85 per cent in the 2016-2017 fiscal years (CVA, 2017). This has been invested in the rehabilitating flood-retention dams, constructing protection barriers against coastal erosion, conducting environment impact assessments to mitigate flood risks, strengthening the early warning system and installing water-level and rainfall telemetry instruments in all hydrological stations to effectively monitor the river levels. Amid these different approaches, communities have also had to be relocated due to rising sea levels, with the first-ever relocation of an entire village occurring in 2014. Community relocation is a relatively new response to the effects of climate change for Fiji and is only considered as an option of last resort. About forty communities have been earmarked by the government for future relocation. Permanent relocation stands to preserve livelihoods, avoid tragedy, save lives and prevent social disruption as vulnerable communities continue to be threatened by sea-level rise,



inundation of tides, increased intensity of storm surges, and coastal erosion and extreme weather events such as cyclones. To ensure that relocation efforts are well guided, Fiji devised a Planned Relocation Guideline in 2018. This will enable the Fijian Government to effectively respond to climate-induced relocation

needs, ensuring that the well-being and rights of the vulnerable members of any community being relocated are also well protected.

To better understand the extent of Fiji's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and to better prepare and manage the associated risks, the Fijian Government conducted its Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) in 2017 and is in the process of developing a National Disaster Risk Reduction Plan.

Fiji has also partnered with the Asian Development Bank and the Green Climate Fund to fund an Urban Water Supply and Wastewater Management Investment Program benefiting more than 300,000 Fijians living in the Greater Suva Area. The project is expected to be completed in July 2025 with a total investment of US \$405 million. This project exemplifies the urgent need to boost the resilience of our water supply and wastewater infrastructure to withstand severe weather events. This is the largest climate investment project in Fiji and sets a promising tone for more blended-funding initiatives in the future.

The Fijian Government has also established a Ministry of Waterways and Environment to address the growing threat that flooding poses to Fijian communities, a threat that is projected to worsen due to the effects of climate change. The Ministry is responsible for the maintenance of drainage systems and management of waterways in Fiji, including creeks, tributaries and rivers. In its work to improve storm-water management, mitigate flooding and improve irrigation, the Ministry will also incorporate aspects of hydrological forecasting, drainage surveillance and realignment, waterway dredging and river-embankment management.

Climate Change Mitigation

Despite the fact that the country contributes a mere 0.006 per cent of global emissions, Fiji has shown its commitment to the Paris Agreement with an ambitious Nationally Determined Commitments (NDCs) of 30 per cent reduction in energy-sector emissions by 2030. Fiji's current Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) is specific to the energy sector. The overall mitigation target in the NDC is to reduce CO2 emissions by 30% from a BAU (Business As Usual) baseline scenario in 2030, 10% of which is unconditional and achieved through implementation of the Green Growth Framework for Fiji 2014, while 20% is conditional on external funding estimated at US\$ 500 million in 2015. The 30% emission target will be achieved by striving to reach 100% renewable-energy power generation and through economy-wide energy efficiency. Fiji



An aerial shot of the solar panels on the roof of the Coca-Cola Amatil Fiji's manufacturing facility. A great example of private sector initiative in Climate Action.

has also devised the NDC Implementation Roadmap with the support of the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) to operationalise Fiji's NDC commitment. The Fijian Government is currently working with the GGGI to develop bankable investment proposals for the interventions and investment needs outlined in the NDC Roadmap.

Recognising its promising renewable energy potential and ambitious renewable energy target, Fiji launched the Fiji Rural Electrification Fund (FREF) program in cooperation with the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation, the solar-energy company Sunergise, the Fiji Locally Managed Marine Area Network and Energy Fiji Limited. The fund is a non-profit and charitable organisation aimed at facilitating investments in renewable-energy-based power generation in Fiji, which will support the socio-economic development of the country and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Fiji. At present the fund has provided upfront capital to bring in clean and renewable energy to off-grid communities. Vio Island, just off the coast of Fiji's mainland Viti Levu, is the first community to be electrified under the FREF program.

Furthermore, Fiji has achieved one of its National Development Plan mitigation targets and its obligations under Article 4, paragraph 19, of the Paris Agreement by developing a mid-century, long-term low emission development strategy. The overall aim of Fiji's Low Emission Development Strategy is to enhance the Fijian Government's ability to plan for decarbonisation of its economy in the long-term. It provides a framework and a

pathway for a progressive revision and enhancement of targets under its NDC to reduce CO2 emissions to 2030 and beyond. The overall impact of the project is that Fiji will continue to take the lead in setting a pathway to a low-carbon future and will be able to effectively plan to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

An aerial shot of the solar panels on the roof of the Coca-Cola Amatil Fiji's manufacturing facility. A great example of private sector initiative in Climate Action.

Climate Finance

Fiji has completed a Climate Public Expenditure and Institutions Review (CPEIR) 2015, to examine how public and private expenditures related to climate change and disaster risk management are integrated into national budgetary processes and how this process can be improved to attract more climate finance from both domestic and international sources. This process has also shown how climate finance can be used effectively to address climate change in the context of sustainable development.

Fiji is also seeking to increase climate financing from both domestic and international sources. Domestically, Fiji has increased the rate of its Environment & Climate Adaptation Levy (ECAL) from 6 per cent to 10 per cent to mobilise more finance for climate change-related projects. The revenue from ECAL is deposited into a dedicated account and solely used to fund climate-adaptation and green projects. The participation of the



private sector in activities related to Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management has also been encouraged through both policy advocacy and tax incentives. For example, there is a 55 per cent tax incentive for any purchase of electric vehicles and, as a complementary measure, the minimum capital investment for setting up electric-vehicle charging stations has been reduced twofold to pave a pathway for a low-carbon future.

Fiji is also exploring new financing mechanisms for climate financing. In 2017, Fiji issued the Fiji Sovereign Green Bond, the first developing country green bond, raising FJ\$100 million for climate resilience actions. The proceeds from the bond have been used to finance climate projects such as the rural water supply programme, rainwater harvesting programme, rehabilitation and construction of schools damaged by Tropical Cyclone Winston, emergency works, the rural electrification programme and construction of landfill. Fiji's Green Bond is largely adaptation-focused, with 90.6% of spending on adaptation-centric projects and 9.4% of spending on mitigation-centric projects.

Fiji also acquired direct access to Green Climate Fund (GCF) financing through the accreditation of the Fiji Development Bank. This is the first development bank in the Pacific region to be a "direct access entity" for up to and including US\$10 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme. Currently, Fiji is developing three project proposals that would qualify for fund financing. Fiji also underwent a Legal Readiness for Climate Finance review, which was a major study supported by the Asian Development Bank to assess the barriers that exist in accessing global public finance and attracting private-sector finance in climate action. This will ultimately enable the country to better prepare to access and manage climate finance.

Opportunities for Collaboration

Fiji's mitigation actions would contribute very little to the effort to slow the rate of global warming because the country's carbon emissions are relatively insignificant in global terms. Yet Fiji also suffers disproportionately the negative effects of climate change, and climate-related disasters have already had a substantial impact on virtually all aspects of Fiji's social and economic development. Clearly, global collective actions are required to deal effectively with this ever-growing threat.

Fiji has made gradual progress by putting in place appropriate strategies for meeting its adaptation

needs and mitigation ambitions. However, significant challenges remain in mobilising the resources necessary to implement its planned adaptation and mitigation measures. As a small, developing island nation, Fiji has limited financial resources available for climate actions, a situation exacerbated by the significant economic losses Fiji has incurred due to natural disasters. For example, Fiji suffers average annual asset losses of FJ\$500 million from natural disasters, which is more than 5 per cent of the country's GDP, and disasters directly related to climate are likely to increase in intensity, and perhaps in frequency, in the future. Moreover, the Climate Vulnerability Assessment of the country reveals that the Fijian Government will require about FJ\$9.3 billion, in investment over the next 10 years to strengthen resilience, which is almost 100% of its annual GDP.

Consequently, there is no doubt that Fiji will have to seek climate finance from all potential sources and further explore blended financing options. While the government encourages the participation of private sector investment in adaptation and mitigation projects, prospects are currently limited due to the low returns and the high investment risks in these areas. Fiji must explore workable models and develop targeted policies for promoting private sector investment. It will be worthwhile to investigate innovative ways of making climate change projects bankable. This can involve accurately assessing risks, finding solutions to minimise these risks, and creating practical finance models for climate change projects. Similarly, it is important for Fiji to create an enabling environment to fully capitalise on carbon-market mechanisms, which can yield adaptation co-benefits such as sustaining livelihoods and supporting adaptation projects despite the fact that they are mitigation-centric.

Given the ongoing focus on building resilience, the Fijian Government has seen it fit to consider tapping into the disaster insurance market as a potential means of building capacity and developing contingencies for post-disaster financing. Preliminary consultations have been undertaken with the World Bank on a potential financing mix and appropriate modality. As a way forward, having an insurance cover could increase our financial resilience against natural disasters by improving our financial capacity to meet post-disaster funding needs (Green Growth Framework, 2015). Moreover, building capacity within the domestic insurance industry to provide catastrophe risk insurance for buildings will help to reduce the rebuilding cost faced by the government and private households, while providing incentives to ensure that building codes

are followed and assets are maintained to an insurable quality.

In addition to overcoming the financial constraints to implementing actions in the climate action plans and strategies, Fiji must also build appropriate implementing capacity. A country needs assessment to gauge Fiji's capacity and technology needs, identify gaps, and build capacity for climate action will be important in bridging the gap between policy and implementation on the ground.

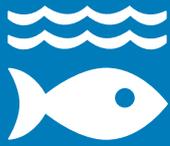
There is also a need to strengthen integration of climate actions into decision making at all levels of governance. Climate action cuts across many areas, which warrants the assimilation of climate change and disaster-risk management into government decision-making and planning processes. While the National Development Plan serves to mainstream climate change in all areas of development planning and identify the relevance of different government programmes to climate change and disaster management, there still exist opportunities to further strengthen monitoring, evaluation and tracking of on-the-ground implementation. This requires stronger inter-institutional coordination and technical capacity across all relevant stakeholders, which includes staff knowledge, training and experience, along with the systems in place required to operationalise climate-change policies and strategies.

Effectively improving institutional arrangements and technical capacity in relevant ministries and agencies will also improve data integrity, with key planning and development agencies having quality and reliable data readily available for informed decision making, disaster preparedness, and policy and strategy development. This further needs to be aligned to a robust and transparent bottom-up monitoring, reporting and verification system that evaluates whether national and international support provided for climate action in the country is adequate, identifying where more efforts are concentrated and where efforts are still lacking, and consequently identifying where resources are most needed and learning how to direct them appropriately.

Another key element in implementing climate action is empowering local communities for climate action. While some communities have been supported in terms of capacity and resilience building, there is still a need for outreach to empower more communities and mobilise their participation for climate actions.

In summary, Fiji continues to suffer significant economic losses from natural disasters because key sectors are still not well protected against a range of climate adversities, partly due to lack of capacity to implement appropriate adaptation and mitigation measures. Climate change presents new developmental complications that require drawing cross-sectorial links and strengthening institutional arrangements with all key players, who in turn require relevant technical knowledge and understanding, technology transfer and adequate systems in place to better address and implement solutions to climate change at all levels of governance.

Fiji's climate action environment reflects the seriousness of the challenges the most vulnerable Fijians face where climate change and disaster risk are concerned. At the same time, it forms a case for more urgent climate action from the developed world, the developing world and the economies in transition. Fiji's efforts as set out in key policy documents will be instrumental in guiding the process for climate-proofing the nation and making all Fijians more resilient to the present and future impacts of climate change. However, the key to reducing future climate impacts and their threat to our quality of life and even our survival still lies in the hands of the bigger and more industrialised nations.



SDG 14: LIFE BELOW WATER

Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Overview

The Fijian Government through the 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plans and the 2014 Green Growth Framework has explicitly set the target of achieving 30% Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by 2021, which exceeds the international commitment under Aichi Target 11 in the Convention on Biological Diversity. The government is further committed to maintaining “sustainable island and ocean resources” as a priority area in its Green Growth Framework, and has proposed to develop the sector with “sustainably managed fisheries resources” as part of Fiji’s National Development Plan.

Fiji has also emerged as a respected advocate on some of the greatest challenges facing humanity, including climate change, sustainable development and the preservation of oceans, including through its leadership of the Ocean Pathway Partnership. A total of 17 voluntary commitments have been registered with the United Nations towards the protection and sustainable management of the ocean.

Research and monitoring are key to the sustainability and preservation of marine ecosystems and resources. Research focusing on microplastics in marine species has been conducted in Fiji mainly through

the University of the South Pacific. Results from this study argued that micro-plastic, including plastic fibers, was found in the gut of many fish species as well as in other marine organisms, and that many marine organisms in the region could be subject to this source of contamination. To address this issue and reduce plastic pollution in general, Fiji has enforced a levy on plastic bags and will implement a complete ban on single-use plastic bags by 2020. With the ban coming in place, the informal sector is now transitioning into eco-friendly alternatives to plastic bags, to which the packaging industry in Fiji is making a neat transition.

The country is also increasing its scope in ocean



management to all of its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). According to the 2018 Protected Planet Report, there has been an increase from 10,952 km² of marine protected area in 2014 to 11,956 km² in 2019. In addition to formally-established MPAs, Fiji has community-managed areas within the iQoliqoli areas, more formally known as traditional fisheries-management areas.

Fiji’s Locally Managed Marine Area Network

The Fiji LMMA Network commits to empowering communities to scale up the voluntary commitments they made based on analysis at the 2017 Ocean Conference. Fiji’s plans call for an effectively managed and governed network of LMMAs in all Fijian communities covering 100% of Fiji’s customary marine areas by 2025. The LMMAs are developed and managed by local communities, working together with NGOs, government departments and academic institutions, to promote the preservation, protection and sustainable use of marine resources.

In some cases, private sector investors such as local tourism operators, working directly with local communities, have also engaged in protecting and conserving the marine resources by establishing MPAs through Marine Conservation Agreements (MCAs). In 2013, the Fiji Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMA) network included 415 tabu (protected) areas within 143

iQoliqoli, covering about 965km² of marine area. These efforts are complemented by the work of The Women in Fisheries Network – Fiji, whose mission is to facilitate the role of women in sustainable fisheries at all levels. Together with FLMMA, this mission ensures that all members of the community are engaged in management and decision-making in the fisheries sector.

Marine Biodiversity

Fiji's marine biodiversity is under constant stress from climate-related factors and human-induced activities. A number of marine species are now endangered. According to a 2015 biodiversity report from Fiji Parliament, 8 out of 12 marine mammal species, 3 out of 10 marine reptile species, 49 out of 1,198 marine fish species, and 2 out of 161 freshwater fish species are endangered. Fiji's coral reefs are also under stress from increased sediment and other land-based sources of pollution and natural disasters such as cyclones, as well as elevated sea temperatures.

Fisheries Management

In order to safeguard customary areas in Fiji from commercial fishermen, the Fisheries Act recognises the iTaukei customary fishing rights in traditional fishing grounds (qoliqoli), and allows the traditional owners to advise the District Commissioner and Fisheries Division as to which commercial fishermen shall be allowed to fish in their areas and to impose restrictions on commercial fishermen. Licences to fish in customary fishing rights areas are only issued to fishermen who have already obtained a permit from the head of the relevant ownership unit. Over 500 fishing licenses have been issued for the year 2018 and this continues to grow in various parts of Fiji.

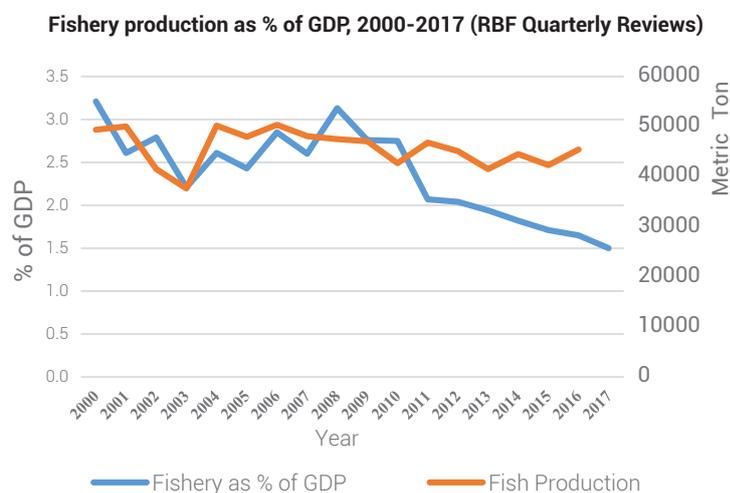
The Pacific tuna industry alone has a net value of over US\$400 million. In 2017, the fisheries industry



accounted for 1.5% of the total GDP, which declined from 3.2% in 2000. Fishery's share in Fiji's export has been declining as well.

According to a study by Gillett et al. (2018), of the 39 finfish groups that were assessed in Fiji, 10 are being or have been over exploited. Scientists from the Ministry of Fisheries, World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) assessed 16,404 fish from 180 species in another case study. Of the 29 most commonly caught and sold species, more than half had stocks that were less than what was needed to avoid long-term stock declines. Fourteen species were unlikely to have sufficient numbers to successfully reproduce to maintain natural populations. Regulation and revision of minimum size limits of fisheries and mesh sizes are urgently needed to restore these populations.

Some fish groups are even considered to be locally extinct. With support from the WWF and the New Zealand AID, tuna stocks are being managed under the scheme "Developing Sustainable and Responsible Tuna Longline Fisheries in Fiji," which employs over 3,800 of the fisheries' workforce.



Fiji is also committed to the Fisheries Doha Development Agenda. Equal and fair fisheries tariffs and trade policies are being negotiated at the World Trade Organisation to ensure international compliance and at the same time a level playing field for the Pacific. This would also prohibit certain fisheries subsidies and eliminate some forms of illegal, unidentified, and unreported (IUU) fishing.

Furthermore, effective policies are in place for most activities affecting the marine environments. The major pieces of legislation are the Fisheries Act 1942, Ports Authority of Fiji Act 1975, The Marine Spaces Act 1978, Marine Act 1986, Sea Ports Management Act 2005, Maritime Safety Authority Decree 2009, National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2017-2024, Offshore Fisheries Management Decree 2012, International Seabed Mineral Management Decree 2013, and the latest Tuna Management Plan (2010). Various other policies and documents are in development phase and include: the National Fisheries Policy (draft), the Fiji Aquaculture Strategy (draft), the Fiji Inshore Compliance Strategy (draft), the Inshore Fisheries Policy & Framework (draft), the Inshore Fisheries Data Sharing Policy (draft) and the Ocean Policy.

Ocean Finance

Currently, the total Official Development Assistance (ODA) for oceans from the year 2011-2018 is approximately FJ\$7,036,504, which is only about 1% of the total ODA received by Fiji (Pacific Ocean Finance Programme, 2018). The Ministry of Fisheries received about FJ\$4,580,100 for marine training and research. Capacity building was conducted through a government grant from August 2017 to July 2018 and a contribution of over US\$1.7M from the Marine Ecosystem Services Partnership (MACBIO, 2018).

Opportunities for Collaboration

Fiji and Sweden lead the Ocean Pathway Partnership, which is an international platform to further explore within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) ways to encourage greater action for oceans. This is another initiative that can help nations develop strategies to support more ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions and make improving ocean health an integral part of efforts to combat climate change and to find ways to finance actions to improve the state of the global ocean and the species it supports.

Addressing data and monitoring

The Pacific Community (SPC) has installed equipment to supply real-time wave buoy data, supported mooring

installed 15 temperature sensors and 3 pressure sensors, and provided coastal baseline data (Bathy-Topo) for the Coral Coast (60 km of coastline). It also installed the New Fiji Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) for precision positioning and the Continuously Operating Reference Station (CORS) to advance data and monitoring for Fiji waters. There is now an opportunity for a world-class research facility to monitor data over time and house many more monitoring toolkits that are currently not available in Fiji, including kits on ocean acidification and eutrophication.

The Ministry of Fisheries is also putting in place a program to deploy more coastal and offshore fish-aggregating devices (FADs) to encourage people to move seaward beyond the reef systems. Fishing around FADS is expected to relieve fishing pressure within the reef system and restore the damaged coral colonies and depleted reef systems.

Ocean Governance

Fiji is set to develop an Ocean Policy that integrates the principles of the UN Law of the Sea, including MPA's, other effective area-based management measures and coastal conservation. Finance for ocean activities has been increasing through the Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund and other bilateral and multilateral funding sources in the region. Enhancing conservation and the sustainable use of ocean-based resources through international law will also help mitigate some of the challenges facing our oceans. It is important that all stakeholders continue to work together in preserving our precious ocean, seas and marine resources.

For the tourism sector in Fiji, it is vital that government and private sector are equally committed to ensuring Environmental Impact Assessments are carried out before major tourism developments take place. Existing tourism businesses also must ensure compliance with minimum standards, which eventually contribute to the longer-term preservation of natural resources on which the sector depends. Economic benefits from the ocean, seas and marine resources would only be sustainable if current and future development is sustainable.

Fiji's ocean is part of the wider western and central Pacific Ocean, and further collaboration with the countries within the region is required in order to tackle the challenges of IUU fishing and overfishing on the high seas. The Japan International Cooperation Agency has invested in local training in this regard for the Ministry of Fisheries and is expanding technical expertise for the fisheries sector.

More regional collaboration can also raise Fiji's voice in

regional marine decision-making, encourage the sharing of common facilities, both physical and informational, and may inspire Fijian businesses to develop services for a wider market. Some of this can be also addressed with the current Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership for Fiji through research and capacity building.





SDG 15: LIFE ON LAND

Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Overview

A transformational and strategic approach has been taken to address SDG 15 in Fiji's 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan (NDP). The NDP commits to ensuring that the protection of Fiji's pristine natural environment is coupled with climate-resilient economic growth. The NDP has embedded environmental safeguards and best practices across all sectors of the economy that ensure Fiji upholds its environmental integrity. It is well-documented that certain economic activities, particularly the expansion of roads, town boundaries, agriculture, logging, mining and tourism, can directly affect life on land. However, for climate vulnerable countries such as Fiji, climate impacts represent by far and away the most serious threat to terrestrial life.

Fiji is a signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the United Nations Convention on Biodiversity (UNCBD) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and is required to report commitments made to the conventions. These conventions strive to address

the modern-day challenges faced in conserving terrestrial ecosystems. Fiji is currently in the process of developing a National Land Use Plan to improve land management to address desertification and reverse land degradation where present.

Forestry and Land Use

Fiji's forest coverage has been increasing in recent decades. In 2015, the total estimated hectares of forest were 1.1 million, covering 55.7 per cent of Fiji's total land area. This represents a 3.5 per cent increase since 1990. The total hectares of forest consist of 526,453 ha of native forest, 76,171 ha of pine forest and 54,000 ha of mahogany forest. Based on the trends between 1991 and 2010, the Global Forest Assessment Report (FRA) 2015 reported a 7,500 ha decrease in the area of closed forests, while an increase in 13,790 ha of open forests. The report forecasted that by 2015 the area of closed forests would increase to 524,476 ha compared to 483,634 ha of open forest area.



Activities in the forestry sector build up from the 1992 Forestry Act and the Forest Bill No. 13 of 2016. The Forest Bill No. 13 of 2016 was enforced to address and strengthen inconsistencies between the Forestry Decree and the Fiji Forest Policy Statement of 2007, the REDD+ Policy and administration of the forest sector further enforced provisions of the Fiji Forest Harvesting Code of Practice (FFHCOP). Fiji has committed to the World Bank's Emissions Reduction Programme (ERP). The ERP builds on the implementation of the long term decarbonisation strategy outlined in the Fiji Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS). It is a milestone achievement under the REDD+ programme to protect and enhance Fiji's forests and determine the value of carbon credits. The overall approach and design of the ERP work to address the drivers and underlying causes of forest loss and barriers to sustainable forest management, forest conservation and enhancement to build on and support the implementation of the current national and sub-national priorities. The ERP gives opportunities to the agroforestry sector to further enhance activities in the area of sustainable land management.

Fiji's "4 million trees in 4 years" initiative complements the afforestation goals under the ERP. This initiative particularly aligns to the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and supports the New York Declaration on Forests which aims to end natural forest loss by 2030. The initiative further amplifies afforestation activities under the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy.

Biodiversity

According to the Protected Planet Report 2018, Fiji currently has 146 protected areas (both territorial and marine), up from 142 in 2014. Protected territorial areas cover 1037 km² of terrestrial areas, accounting for 5.7 percent of Fiji's land area. The total terrestrial land protected has increased by 549 km² since 2007 and 189 km² since 2014¹². The national goal under Fiji's 2017- 2024 National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) is to achieve 17 percent of total protected terrestrial land.

Terrestrial land is home to a diverse range of species of plants and animals. Much of Fiji's biodiversity is unique to Fiji. There are 1,769 recorded native vascular plant species in Fiji of which 50 percent are endemic. Current best estimates suggest that the Fijian flora consists of 310 pteridophytes and at least 2,225 seed plants. Over 90 percent of some insect groups, such as cicadas and marine insects, are all endemic. Out of a total of 27 reptile

species, 12 are endemic. The baseline assessment on SDG's in Fiji revealed that of the 2,543 known plants species in Fiji, 281 plant species are endangered. Of the 68 bird species, 17 are endangered and of the 1,198 known marine fish species in Fiji, 49 species are endangered including both the species of amphibians in Fiji. Climate change and sudden-onset events such as severe Tropical Cyclone Winston exacerbates biodiversity and the natural environment loss¹³. Fiji's loss of biodiversity has thus been far more serious than the reported global average of 0.74 and the Pacific average of 0.79 in 2016. The Department of Environment has ensured that mining, tourism, ecotourism and development including the expansion of road and other infrastructure, undergo stringent Environment Impact Analysis (EIA) as per the Environment Management Act of 2005 to prevent further degradation of Fiji's natural ecosystems.

Opportunities for Collaboration

The development of the National Land Use Plan will inform the process of rural land and resources allocation and development. This move is of critical importance to ensure rationalised infrastructure development that considers the impacts on all land-based resources such as forest, agriculture, minerals, rivers and streams. The government continues to seek a balance between economic development and environment integrity through EIAs as well as the establishment of protected areas and project feasibility studies. Fiji's 5-year and 20-Year NDP emphasises that natural systems are critical for food and nutrition security, sustaining endemic flora and fauna, and maintaining natural balance across the Fijian ecosystem.

Irresponsible human attitudes and apathy are also major causes of stress for the natural environment. Discussions arising during SDG Task Force Meeting stressed that altering human behaviour is a critical pillar in the global campaign to preserve life on earth. Education and awareness are the key means by which behavioural changes take root in society. It has also been observed that legal protections have proven successful in incentivising responsible behaviour. In this regard, the government's decision to implement the Plastic Levy and the ban of single-use plastics by 2020 are commendable steps towards biodiversity preservation. Fiji's Environment Management Act of 2005 enforces non-EIA complaint development to severe fine and imprisonment terms.

Fiji has been receiving flows of financial support from

12 See Republic of Fiji National Adaptation Plan

13 See National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Fiji 2017-2024

a number of sources. However, to better complement bilateral and multilateral aid, the Fijian government has shown a commitment to using domestic financing vessels such as the Environmental and Climate Adaptation Levy (ECAL) and the Green Bonds to fund the REDD+ pilot projects. The 2014 Green Growth Framework and the NDP for Fiji further highlight the necessity of determining the value of carbon credits from forests, through relevant data, surveys and information. The finalisation of the Market Mechanisms under the Paris Agreement, will allow countries with high forest cover, such as Fiji, to engage in forest carbon trading. Incorporating the Agriculture Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector into the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement will also re-emphasise the critical resources to address sustainable and managed land and forests. However, this is only possible if capacity is further developed through training of relevant personnel on NDC implementation, the Article 6 matters and the enhanced transparency framework.



SDG 16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Overview

Fiji's system of governance is based on the principle that all Fijians are equal under the law. Preserving this system warrants a strong commitment to upholding the rule of law, national security and maintaining and strengthening public institutions that are effective, fair, inclusive and accountable to the Fijian people. Thus, the rule of law is considered to be both an enabler of the SDGs and an outcome of development in its own right. Through the lens of SDG 16, Fiji is committed to cultivating a peaceful and inclusive society that achieves sustainable development through the expansion of legal services to improve access to justice for all Fijians, provision of resources for legal aid services in all towns, cities and maritime areas (including court sittings in rural areas and outer islands), greater decentralisation of legal services, improvement of correctional facility infrastructure, and bolstering of anti-recidivism initiatives.

Reducing Violence

Fiji has made a highly concerted effort to tackle a culture of violence within the country's homes and communities, including violence against women and children, rape, or homicide cases. Working with relevant stakeholders, Fiji has maintained a relatively low homicide rate. The country has incorporated significant elements of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) into its laws and policies, and is currently implementing a wide-ranging National Gender Policy and Women's Plan of Action. Domestic violence legislation has been developed and enforced by the Fiji Police Force (FPF) and the courts as an overarching approach to reduce violence experienced by women and children.

The establishment of a 24-hour, toll-free helpline for the first time in Fiji — administered by the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre — provides survivors of domestic violence with free counselling, referrals, and avenues for redress. These Government-led initiatives, complemented by other measures being spearheaded by a variety of Fijian NGOs, are helping to not only curb violence, but to empower survivors and break the stigma of victimhood that is deeply-rooted in many Fijian communities.

Every Fijian child's right to live free from violence and to be protected from all forms of abuse and exploitation is enshrined in the Fijian Constitution. In addition to "the right to security of the person", which applies to every Fijian, children's rights are more explicitly defined as "to be protected from abuse, neglect, harmful cultural practices, any form of violence, inhumane treatment and punishment, and hazardous or exploitative labour". Fiji also for the very time established a 24-hour toll-free Child Helpline which allows all Fijians including children to report cases of violence against children and to seek information and counselling services in relation to child welfare cases.

Fiji has ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Child (UNCRC), Optional Protocol to the Convention on Rights of the Child (which covers child trafficking, prostitution and pornography), Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punishment of Child and the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime. The FPF has established a cell within its Internal Affairs Directorate to enact these Conventions using established national or agency frameworks and platforms.

As the agenda is cross-sectoral, the FPF draws assistance and collaborates with various Government agencies, UN agencies, a large number of civil society organisations, community and children/women support groups, faith-based organisations, municipal councils and the Fiji Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission for action, awareness, advocacy, enforcement, investigation and training of its own staff as well as those in the community, i.e. child victims/witnesses, parents, guardians and counsellors.

At the national level, children's right to care and protection has been addressed under a variety of national laws. For example, child abuse and exploitation have been dealt with in the Crimes Act 2009, Domestic Violence Act 2009, and the Juveniles Act 1974 (on child pornography). Child victims and witnesses in criminal proceedings are covered under the Juveniles Act 1974, Criminal Procedure Act 2009, Standard Operating Procedures for Handling Children in Contact

with the Law, and the Child Protection Guidelines for Public Prosecutors. Violence in school has been dealt with Policy on Child Protection in Schools 2015 and Guidelines Banning Corporal Punishment.

At the core of Fiji's child protection system are the services that children and families receive to reduce vulnerability to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation. The child protection system comprises of the Department of Social Welfare (DSW) under the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation (MWCPA), FPF, Judiciary and Government agencies dealing with children. DSW is the lead agency responsible for child and family welfare services in Fiji. It also supports and coordinates a range of awareness-raising and social mobilisation activities aimed at strengthening family responsibilities, improving parenting practices and reducing children's vulnerability to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation. As child protection cuts across the activities of many agencies, Fiji has established a National Coordinating Committee on Children (NCCC), which is mandated to monitor and coordinate the implementation of child-related laws, policies and programmes.

The FPF's Juvenile Bureau under the Sexual Offences Section investigates child trafficking and exploitation including child labour cases in Fiji, as well as across Fiji's borders. The FPF provides information/intelligence of any kind to the regional and international counterparts. The assistance from INTERPOL and the FPF's Cyber Crime Unit is specifically assigned to use sophisticated software and online applications for surveillance and investigation of child related cases, either probable, and/or on-going.

The FPF has strengthened its statistics section, adding greater scope and expertise to capture and analyse child-related data, enhance decision-making, and facilitate the dissemination of information to relevant stakeholders in the interest of promoting a society-wide approach to upholding the interests of Fijian children. Working with the Judiciary, the FPF safeguards the interests of child victims by ensuring that the testimonies are adduced in the private space of child in courtrooms. Even video conferencing and video recorded interviews of child victims may be presented as testimonies. Further, Fiji has established one dedicated Juvenile Court in Suva and the Magistrates Courts in other areas are declared Juvenile Courts when hearing children's matters.

Fiji's ratification of the United Nations Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (UNCAT) in 2016 and the journey to its implementation was an opportunity for Fiji to review existing procedures and overcome ineffective practices in law enforcement and detention sectors, in

line with SDG 16.

Since ratification, Fiji has embarked on a First Hour Procedure Project, in partnership with the United Kingdom, aimed at improving the overall efficiency and effectiveness within the law enforcement and detention sectors. The project seeks to substantially reduce the risk of torture and ill-treatment by imposing more stringent measures of accountability and improving remedial recourse against violations of detained persons' rights in the initial period.

Ending torture as an investigative tool and guaranteeing every person the right to a fair trial, requires reliable access to competent lawyers as early in the legal process as possible. The First Hour Procedure Project ensures the provision of counsel to every suspect at the police station within one hour of arrest, with a protocol guiding the conduct of both police and lawyers in relation to the implementation of this right. Besides providing access to counsel, under the First Hour Procedure project, Police Stations are also recording interviews of persons in custody. These new procedures and the various reforms undertaken by the FPF have not only reduced coercive forms of interrogation, they have also led to real efficiencies and attitudinal changes in the police force.

Government is also heavily investing in bolstering the FPF to deal with an evolving criminal landscape through increased and specialised personnel, including the regularisation of 995 special constables into the Force.

Equal Access to Justice

Around the world, those who cannot afford to pay for legal services are often vulnerable to being left behind by the justice system. Without guaranteed protection or access to a lawyer, these individuals can face systematic pre-trial detention, mistreatment, or forced confessions. Fiji's commitment to justice is mandated by the Fijian Constitution which enshrines the right to justice for all Fijians. Judicial services are increasingly becoming more accessible in recent years through a growing number of Judges and Magistrates, a higher frequency of court sittings in rural areas and outer islands, stronger efforts to build capacity through the upgrading and construction of court facilities, expanding access to services through the Internet, training programmes for judicial officers and the adoption of case management practices to improve efficiency.

Another mechanism to improve the access to justice for all Fijians is the Legal Aid Commission (LAC), which is established to provide legal services to members of the public who cannot afford the services of a private legal practitioner. The Fijian Constitution gives the Legal Aid Commission constitutional recognition, guarantees its operational independence, and ensures adequate

funding by the Government.

The LAC is guided by Fiji's commitments to international standards and guidelines. Principal amongst these are the UN Principles and Guidelines on Legal Aid in the Criminal Justice Systems and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. In the area of Criminal Law, the LAC provides legal advice, assistance and representation for persons detained, arrested or imprisoned, or who are suspected, accused or charged with a criminal offence. The LAC also caters for victims and witnesses in the criminal justice process by ensuring that all aspects of the criminal justice system are compliant with the Fijian Constitution and international standards. With 17 branches spread across the country (including outer islands), the LAC is the largest law firm in Fiji. The LAC's scheme and various services not only include litigation work and advice, but engagements in partnership projects and robust awareness programmes in order to enhance greater access to justice for all Fijians.

The Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion (REACH) for Rural and Urban Fijians Project – a partnership of government agencies and international organisations through cost, information and resource sharing – conducts awareness raising of the social, economic and legal rights enshrined in the Constitution. A mobile service delivery approach is undertaken to reach communities throughout Fiji with the focus to reach the furthest behind first. In 2018, the project set out a target of reaching 4,000 Fijians -- a target that was greatly

exceeded, expanding essential government services to 8,787 Fijians.

The achievement and success of the Legal Aid scheme in providing greater access to justice can be measured by the continuous numbers of new applications made every year to the Commission. For example, the total number of new applications received by LAC in 2017 was 16,418 and, in 2018, it totalled 20,504 – a 20 percent increase in new applications from the previous year.

The Fiji Access to Justice Project which is funded by the European Union and implemented by the UNDP Fiji office is another example of how donor agencies are acknowledging the importance of the LAC to empower vulnerable groups by ensuring their access to justice. The project supports access to justice for impoverished and vulnerable groups by empowering people to access legal rights and services through the relevant key justice institutions, in conjunction with strengthening those key justice institutions to improve service delivery. Some of the initiatives under the project include piloting online case management and e-filing systems.

Reducing Illicit Financial Flows

Fiji ratified the United Nation Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in 2017 and has since implemented a number of elements of the Convention prior to the accession through legislation, such as the Proceeds of Crime Act, Crimes Act 2009, Fiji Independent Commission against Corruption Act, Mutual Legal



Assistance in Criminal Matters Act, Extradition Act and Financial Transactions Reporting Act (FTRA). The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), (FPF), Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), and the Fiji Revenue and Customs Services (FRCS) are the agencies responsible for monitoring and detecting, investigating and prosecuting those responsible for illicit financial flows, money laundering and financing for terrorism cases within Fiji. The national coordination on anti-money laundering issues is handled through the National Anti-Money Laundering (AML) Council, comprising of the Reserve Bank of Fiji, FIU, Ministry of Justice, ODPP, FRCS and the FPF. The National AML Council conducted a Fiji Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism National Risk Assessment between 2014 and 2015. This assessment estimated the scale of different illicit financial activities and identified the risk for money laundering and terrorist financing in Fiji. This assessment enables Fiji to apply a risk-based approach (RBA) to ensure measures that prevent or mitigate money laundering and terrorist financing are commensurate with the risks identified.

FIU leads the anti-money laundering framework in Fiji and is responsible for implementing the FTRA, monitoring and detecting money laundering activities, and disseminating information on suspicious financial activities to relevant law enforcement agencies. A key function of the FIU is to analyse reports of financial transactions that it receives from financial institutions and other agencies in Fiji. FRCS is responsible for identifying tax evasion, customs fraud, and illicit cross-border trading activities. A number of initiatives have been implemented to improve the efficiency of FRCS and improve tax and custom compliance, including the gradual adoption of Customs Modernisation Approach, promoting online registration, electronic transaction systems, and online payments through a new National Tax Information System (NTIS), information sharing between FRCS and FIU, the development of annual Compliance Improvement Strategies and the Risk Management Framework including the launch of intelligence database. The FIU is also reviewing the Cash Transaction Reporting framework to possibly widen the type and threshold value of transactions that will allow it to more comprehensively monitor illicit financial flows, including tax evasion activities.

Combatting Corruption

In its efforts to eliminate corruption and bribery in all forms, the Fijian Government established the Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC). FICAC, as an independent legal institution established under the Fijian Constitution, is mandated to investigate, institute and conduct criminal proceedings to combat corruption and is guided by the standards established under the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Between 2007 and 2017, a total of 366 persons have been convicted of corruption related crimes and more than 67,000 complaints have been made to the FICAC, which has increased its collaboration with NGOs in fighting corruption in Fiji.

Aiming to instil anti-corruption values in the Fijian education system, Fiji has developed and implemented the National Anti-Corruption Curriculum for secondary school students in four subject areas: accounting, English, mathematics and social sciences. For primary school students, a "Good Kiddo" programme has been initiated that educates young children on anti-corruption practices. Participants are educated on the functions of FICAC and how to identify corruption and its effects. Participants are also educated on the "Good Kiddo" values of trust, honesty, obedience and respect.

Accountable and Inclusive Institutions

The Fijian Constitution lays down the fundamental principles and the framework for the separation of powers between the three arms of the State -- the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary -- allowing for checks and balances.

Participation in Institutions of Global Governance

In 2018, Fiji was elected to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system made up of 47 States responsible for the promotion and protection of all human rights around the globe. Fiji vied for a seat in the Asia Pacific category alongside the Philippines, India, Bahrain and Bangladesh, and received 187 votes -- indicating a strong global statement of confidence in Fiji. Fiji's membership on the UNHRC is for a period of three years beginning 1 January 2019. Fiji has also been appointed as one of four Vice Presidents of the Human Rights Council and is a member of the UNHCR Bureau. As such, Fiji is required to chair various meetings of the UNCHR, including Council sessions and Universal Periodic Review sessions.

Providing Reliable Legal Identities to All Fijians

Civil registration systems are government-administrated systems used to record vital events including live births, deaths, fetal deaths, marriages and divorces. These permanent records have two main uses. First, they are personal legal documents that confer individual rights of identity, property and status. Second, and most importantly from a demographic and epidemiological perspective, they provide data that have the potential to serve as national vital statistics.

In the quest to provide a legal identity to all Fijians, registration services for Births, Deaths and Marriages (BDM) have been decentralised and are now offered in

many locations across the four divisions of the country. Recognising the importance of birth registration, the Fijian Government announced amnesty for people who have not registered their births by waiving the standard fee for late registration. Consequently, many adults who have never had a birth certificate are becoming registered for the first time. Families have also been encouraged to come forward to report the deaths of any family members for whom death certificates had never been issued.

In 2019, the Fijian Government -- under its sweeping digitalFIJI initiative -- launched a birth registration application that allows citizens to initiate the birth registration process electronically from the hospital or at home as opposed to travelling to a BDM office. Once the birth is registered, an appointment can be made with the BDM office for collection without having to wait in long queues for BDM services.

Access to Information and Transparent Government

The transparency of Government agencies is underpinned by the disclosure and publication of annual plans, annual reports and audit reports. Inclusive and transparent policy dialogues have become regular occurrences in Fiji, as seen through the nationwide consultations held before formulating the 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan and Fiji's annual national budgets, which saw with members of the public, students, and business-owners (conducted both in-person and on social media) make contributions and express their views.

Through the digitalFIJI programme, Fiji is aiming to make more Government services available online and through mobile applications. The Information Act 2018 also facilitates the rights of a person to access information held by public agencies.

The work of Parliament is central to the transparency and accountability of the Fijian Government. Parliamentary sessions are broadcast live on free-to-air television and streamed online, and Hansard reports are publicly available on the Fijian Parliament website. The existence of the Public Service Commission and the Auditor-General add to the capacity of the Fijian Parliament and Fijian people to hold the Government accountable.

Opportunities for Collaboration

While Fiji has made many advances in promoting peace, justice and strong institutions, there remain challenges for relevant agencies in meeting the KPIs under the SDG indicators.

Efforts to improve access to justice and erase social

stigmas around the reporting of various crimes have seen a rapid increase in the number of court matters, resulting in back logs in civil and criminal court systems. While the capacity of the judicial system is increasing, this rate of expansion must increase in order to cater for the growing number of court matters.

Greater efforts must be made to raise awareness among the general public, particularly in rural and maritime areas, of Fiji's laws and legislation. Fiji's rapidly expanding ICT sector presents new opportunities to quickly and effectively disseminate such information across the country.

There remains a culturally-ingrained social stigma associated with sexual crimes that discourages victims from reporting sexual offences. This stigma, coupled with traditional attitudes of reconciliation outside of the justice system, present unique challenges to ensuring equal and timely access to justice. While a number of initiatives have been introduced to combat this stigma, greater grassroots efforts must be undertaken to encourage victims to take advantage of available resources and report sexual crimes.

The Fijian Government's progress in expanding digital services warrants the need for an upgraded cybersecurity framework. Much progress has already been made on this front, with new and ambitious services being rolled out in recent months and others in the pipeline. However, greater efforts to strengthen digital literacy measures must be taken to complement these infrastructural upgrades, including training and professional development for relevant staff to make responsible use of modern platforms.

Due to CSOs and other international agencies working in isolation, the lack of collaboration and co-ordination has also proven an obstacle to progress. To accomplish more effective service delivery and research, these silos must be broken down, and knowledge-sharing must be enhanced.

To ensure that we effectively meet SDG 16 targets, the collection of reliable data is essential. Therefore, a robust national analysis on access to justice and on the inclusiveness of societies for sustainable development must be urgently undertaken.

The Fijian Government will continue its efforts to further improve access to justice. Correctional services and rehabilitation of inmates for the re-integration of inmates into society will continue to grow, including robust support of the Yellow Ribbon Project – an initiative modelled after a successful programme in Singapore that helps reintegrate former inmates into society and live productive lives. This will help maintain the current low recidivism rate by providing inmates with opportunities to learn skills for income generation

and through other personal support. Allocation of more resources to the legal aid commission and also to the judiciary will boost legal aid services and help increase court sittings in rural and outer islands to clear a backlog of cases.

The FPF will be strengthened to ensure security and effective crime prevention. Resources will be channelled towards recruitment and training, provision of vehicles and equipment, and decentralisation of services for quick and effective response. Programmes will be established to promote community engagement and public awareness on laws and modern services. Border security will be further enhanced through improved coordination and ensuring the availability of adequate resources. Fiji will develop and ensure effective implementation of its National Security Strategy and support for UN Peacekeeping operations.



SDG 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Partnerships for the Goals – Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Overview

Fiji recognises the importance of its international, regional, domestic and non-state stakeholder partners as crucial to continued development. Fiji's increasingly open economy has led to expanded international trade and greater global economic engagement, which in turn has been partly responsible for continuous growth over the past nine years. Fiji's 5-Year & 20-Year National Development Plans have established crucial benchmarks for improving Fiji's overall trade performance through a more competitive economy, thereby establishing Fiji as the modern hub of the Pacific.

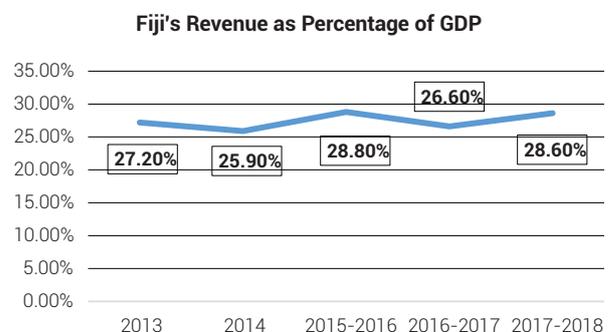
Fiji's economic growth over the past nine years, from 2010 to 2018, has been supported by its adherence to a number of international trade instruments, including the ratification of the World Trade Facilitation Agreement and other global commitments and trade agreements. These have helped provide efficient and effective access to regional and international markets, improved trade-related infrastructure and enhanced the sustainability, inclusiveness and resilience of Fiji's economy. Fiji's Trade Policy Framework (2015-2025) has been a key guiding factor in leveraging international trade engagements to address our economic productivity and growth.

Finance and Economic Growth

As exemplified in the graph below, Fiji's revenue stands at 28.6% in the 2017-2018 period, compared to 27.2% in the 2013 period, indicating that revenue collections have grown with GDP. Domestic taxes make up 87.3% of Fiji's revenue in the 2017-2018 period, a decline from 89.6% in 2013. This is largely due to Fiji's more diversified revenue portfolio, which is reflected in an increase in the share of non-tax revenue from government services and dividend returns from state-owned enterprises.

The Fiji Revenue and Customs Services is being allocated increased resources and given a legal

mandate to improve tax collections. The Tax Authority has been simplifying and modernising its tax and customs services and has implemented an income tax filing system that has relieved taxpayers of much of the burden of paperwork.



Through strategic institutional reforms, prudent public financial management and improved revenue collections, Fiji has managed to dramatically reduce its ratio of Operational Expenditures to Capital Expenditures. This reform has enabled Fiji to leverage financial support from development partners for numerous socio-economic programmes. Fiji is currently working closely with selected development partners on its Public Financial Management Reform programmes to develop a more robust financial reporting system that will ultimately enhance accountability and transparency and strengthen investor confidence. Fiji is also exploring options to integrate tracking systems into the reform process to better track its development progress and fund utilisation. Fiji is leading the Pacific to develop affordable, scalable and transparent climate-finance solutions for vulnerable segments of the society. However, such research and innovation needs technical and financial assistance from external financiers, particularly from private-sector actors such as investors, insurance and reinsurance companies.

Noting that Fiji is not an aid-dependent country, we are nonetheless grateful for the continued support from the various bilateral partners who have provided

assistance in critical areas of national interest such as education, agriculture, climate resilience, private-sector development, disaster management, capacity building and empowering women. Development assistance has also primarily financed the work and programmes of many civil society groups in Fiji, effectively enhancing public-policy discourse and has encouraged and influenced development-partner projects in Fiji and the region. For example, the Australian Humanitarian Partnership, which facilitates relationships between Fiji and Australian humanitarian non-governmental organisations to actively support disaster-risk resilience, has led to improved coordination at an international level.

Technology for Enhancing Economic Growth

As Fiji transforms itself into a modern nation and reaffirms its status as the hub of the Pacific, increased emphasis is being placed on bridging the technological divide between rural areas and urban centres, introducing state-of-the-art technology in the public and private sector to improve productivity, and using technology to reach development targets more quickly and efficiently. Fiji is perhaps the most connected nations in the South Pacific. Currently, there are efforts to improve access to ICT services and to develop ICT-based services, which will boost economic development, create ICT jobs, improve access to education and contribute towards national security.

To further improve ICT penetration on Fiji's second-largest island Vanua Levu, the Fijian Government is working with the World Bank to extend the Southern Cross Cable that will run from Fiji to Samoa (a great example of south-south partnerships) to the southern tip of Vanua Levu. The de-monopolisation of the ICT sector to introduce productive competition has allowed greater private-sector investments in communication infrastructure and introduced tailor-made IT services that never existed before. Moreover, through partnership with the Singapore Cooperation Enterprise, Fiji is implementing various ITC applications to create a more connected and smarter country. This drive for digital transformation has produced the launch of the Digital Fiji Programme.

Other technological advancements in Fiji include the introduction of digital television (Walesi), E-ticketing on buses to create a seamless public transportation system, and tax incentives and state-funded start-up capital for ICT businesses. While investments in technology are being rigorously pursued by Fiji, we are aware of the need for robust policies that prevent

cybercrime. Fiji is working to improve cybersecurity by fostering international cooperation through the Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Readiness Teams (CERT).

Trade and the International Spectrum

International trade plays a crucial role in promoting growth in a developing economy like Fiji's. Fiji continues to negotiate for fair and equitable trade agreements that take into account our unique challenges and constraints, as well as our comparative advantages in key strategic sectors. This strategy is necessary to protect the nation's interests and ensure that Fiji continues on a path of sustainable growth and development in the future. The Fijian Trade Policy Framework lays out a comprehensive course of action to boost trade performance. Furthermore, Fiji has entered into a number of trade agreements to reduce trade barriers, facilitate trade and simplify the flow of goods and services with its trading partners. Some examples of these treaties and agreements are the Melanesian Spearhead Group Trade Agreement (MSG), Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA), Interim Economic Partnership Agreement (IEPA), The South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement (SPARTECA) and the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER). Fiji uses these agreements to gain a competitive edge over global market players and to better establish the country's trading regime.

In January 2019, Fiji formalised the Public Private Partnership arrangement in its quest to improve the efficiency of national health services by increasing private-sector participation. Aspen Medical was selected to provide health services under this new arrangement. They will partner with the Fiji National Provident Fund to support Fiji's strategic objective to modernise the Fijian health system, particularly in the areas of primary and tertiary healthcare. The arrangement will involve developing, financing, upgrading, operating and maintaining the Lautoka Hospital, Fiji's second largest hospital, and the new Ba sub-divisional hospital, as well as offering more specialised health services to the population, including renal dialysis, chemotherapy, oncology, coronary care, intensive care and mainstream services such as emergency medicine, maternity services, neonatal and children's services, and operating theatres.

Capacity Building and Systematic Issues

The 5-Year & 20-Year National Development Plans

have aligned the strategic priorities for all ministries towards the attainment of the SDGs. However, there more emphasis needs to be placed on helping agencies implement the programmes necessary to reach those goals. For instance, we can further strengthen our ability to include the various stakeholders, such as civil society organisations and private sector partners, in planning, monitoring and implementing the programmes that support the SDGs. The private sector must be included to a much greater extent than at present and encouraged to better incorporate the SDGs into their priorities for corporate social responsibility. Comprehensive collection of national statistical data is vital for tracking the progress of the SDGs, and could be enhanced through innovative capacity-building programmes and other innovative approaches in the area of monitoring and evaluation.

Opportunities for Collaboration

The availability of quality, accessible, open, timely and disaggregated data is vital to plan, implement and track progress towards the SDGs and indicators that are key in driving economic growth for the country. There is an urgent need to improve data gathering, standardisation and dissemination in relation to Fiji's SDG indicators. While initiatives are underway in creating policy coherence and building institutional capacity to deliver on the SDGs, it is crucial that subnational governments and communities take ownership and understand the fundamental role they play in the successful implementation of the SDGs.

Fiji is yet to reach its full potential due to fundamental issues of limited fiscal resources. We look towards our development partners to drive progress in fundamental areas of national development and progress. Existing partnerships need to be significantly strengthened and new ones need to be actively pursued to ensure that Fiji accelerates towards its SDG targets. Fiji is mindful that national development ambitions will require substantial mobilisation of finance far beyond its current fiscal capacity. However, in true Fijian spirit of dedication and perseverance, we plan to mobilise domestic finance towards SDGs and climate change through targeted fiscal spending and utilising innovative financial solutions.

7

MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION



Finance for SDGs

To achieve SDG ambitions through the 5-Year and 20-Year NDP, Fiji requires significant mobilisation of both public and private sector finance. It is estimated that over FJ\$20 billion is required from Fiji's public and private sector during the period between 2016 and 2021 to implement the 5-Year NDP. To implement its 20-Year NDP it is estimated that around FJ\$50 billion is required from the Fijian Government alone, requiring the exploration of new and innovative development financing.

The current and future financial resources available to meet Fiji's financial demand for its development and achieving its SDG goals originate broadly from four sources:

- a) Domestic - private: domestic gross savings, as well as the increased credit from domestic financial market due to the deepening of the financial market;
- b) Domestic - public: tax revenues and other public revenues;
- c) International - private: remittance, foreign direct investment (FDI) and portfolio investment, philanthropic finance as well as borrowing from international capital markets; and
- d) International - public: Official Development Assistance (ODA), Other Official Flows (OOF) and South-South Cooperation (SSC).

The mobilization of these financial resources has been made possible through the public finance management system and the public policy influenced financial system. Through the public finance management, the government raises funds from both domestic and foreign sources and allocates them for economically and socially productive investments. The evolution of the main flows that have been utilised by Fiji from 2005 up to 2017. The four main flows constitute the financial flows that were available for Fiji's development between 2005 and 2017. It shows that these four categories of flows amounted to 50 - 60% of GDP since 2010.

Domestic public flows include mainly public revenue from domestic sources. Since 2005, Fiji has gradually improved its public revenue collection. The volume of domestic public revenue has increased from 23.9% of GDP in 2005 to 30.5% of GDP in 2017. This improvement has been achieved through a transformation into a broad based tax system, the modernization of tax and custom services, and improvements in compliance.

Fiji is implementing public sector reforms to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of public sector expenditure through reducing inefficiency in the public sector, including reducing subsidy and transfer to SOEs and improving SOE performance, better aligning with national development priorities, and improving public finance management. Fiji is also leveraging public finance to attract private sector investment, such as promoting PPP projects in providing public service and in reforming SOEs.

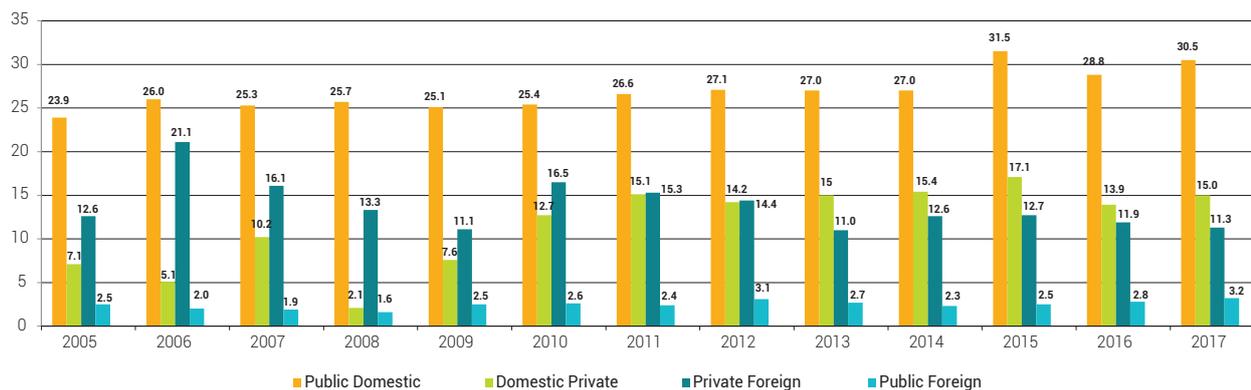
Domestic private flows include mainly domestic gross saving, which are mobilized through domestic financial sector for private sector investment. Since 2005, the volume of domestic private flows has been increasing as well. In 2017, gross domestic saving accounts for 15% of GDP in 2017, rising from 7.1% of GDP in 2005.

Compared globally, Fiji's gross domestic saving rate is still low, especially when compared with East Asia and upper middle income countries. A number of factors may contribute to the level of domestic saving, including the level and growth of the economy, financial stability, level of real interest rate, the depth of financial sector, financial inclusion, financial literacy, and coverage of social security. Policies are needed to encourage domestic saving and investment through financial inclusion and deepening of financial services that can initiate a virtuous growth-saving circle by fostering growth through fiscal consolidation, structural reform, financial liberalisation as well as the development of long-term saving instruments.

Foreign Private flows include remittance, FDI, Portfolio investment, and Impact Investments. This flow has witnessed some degree of decline since 2005. In 2017, the volume of foreign private flows amounted to 11.3% of GDP, dropping from 16.5% of GDP in 2010. This is mainly due to the decline in foreign investment in recent years, while the volume of remittance has been increasing. This flow represents the biggest opportunity for Fiji to increase its finance available for development from external sources. Fiji has already put in place tax incentives, established economic zones, and simplified business registration processes to encourage FDI and will be reviewing the foreign investment legislation to address barriers and encourage FDI. With initiatives in place to promote remittances, further work on policy and financial products space is required including the need to develop programs to utilise Fiji diaspora's human capital and business networks developed while working overseas.

Foreign Public flows include ODA and SSC. This flow has fluctuated around 3% of GDP, which may remain at this level in the short-term and may decline in the

Main Financial Sources for Development (as % of GDP), 2005-2017



Source: Ministry of Economy

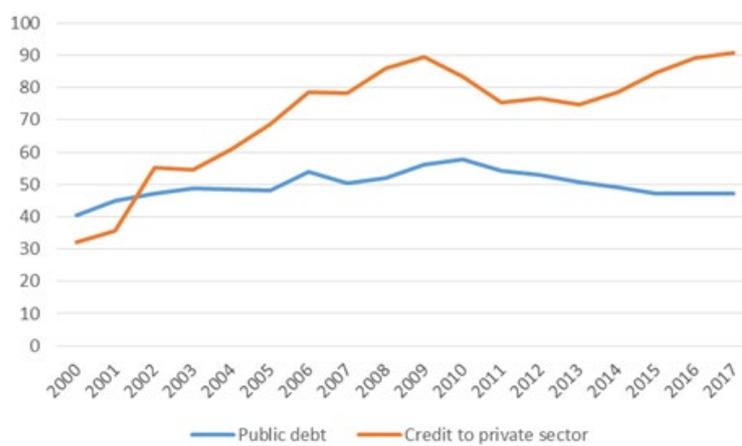
long-term as Fiji improves its economic development. The current ODA and SSC are in general fragmented and donor led, and around 50% of them are not on the budget. To improve the effectiveness of ODAs and SSCs, greater donor coordination and alignment with national development priorities is required. There is also a need to develop mechanisms to blend ODAs and SSCs with other types of finances to fund development projects when appropriate.

In addition to these four main categories of development finance flows, both the public sector and private sector can also seek finance from domestic and international financial markets, which also include multilateral or bilateral concessionary loans.

Public debt level will be maintained at 47% of GDP until 2021, where it will gradually be reduced to 45% by 2026, 40% by 2031, and 35% by 2036. As a result, Fiji may have to reduce its public debt level in the next 10-20 years, which leaves the Fijian Government little space to utilize debt generating financial instruments.

On the other hand, the depth of Fiji's financial sector is comparatively shallow. The ratio of Fiji's domestic credit to private sector to GDP is low when compared with upper middle income countries on average and OECD countries. In 2017, Fiji's ratio of domestic credit to private sector to GDP was 20 percentage points lower than the average in upper middle income countries. This indicates that domestic private financial resources are underutilized, which may represent opportunities for the private sector to utilize this resource more intensively and extensively by deepening the financial sector and improving financial sector performance, which will facilitate the allocation of resources to the areas where it can contribute the most.

Domestic Credits to Private Sector and Public debts (% of GDP), 2000-2017



Source: Ministry of Economy

Climate Finance

As a country on the frontlines of climate change, Fiji is well placed to explore the wider use of international climate finance for adaptation, resilience building and mitigation purposes. Assessing vulnerability to climate change therefore is important for defining the risks posed by climate change and provides information for identifying adaptation measures. It enables practitioners and decision-makers to identify the most vulnerable areas, sectors and social groups, meaning climate adaptation options targeted at specified contexts are developed and implemented.

Fiji's Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) developed with technical assistance from the World Bank highlights that the Fijian Government must make interventions in five key areas to reduce vulnerability. The CVA proposes an adaptation and resilience plan with cost estimates and a comprehensive list of interventions that can help connect the adaptation challenge to investment needs and financing options. The interventions are (i) Building inclusive and resilient towns and cities; (ii) Improving

infrastructure services; (iii) Climate smart agriculture and fisheries; (iv) Conserving ecosystems; and (v) Building socioeconomic resilience. These interventions require significant financial investment estimated at F\$9.3 billion over 10 years.

The CVA is particularly impressive in its use of innovative analyses and methodologies. For instance, it investigates the impact of natural disasters on poverty and inequality, so that the Fijian Government can make risk management decisions that are informed by poverty impacts and not just based on aggregate costs. Its analysis of the road network can help to ensure that available maintenance resources are concentrated on the most important bridges and road segments.

The CVA and other climate-specific domestic levers such as the National Adaptation Plan, Nationally Determined Contribution Roadmap and the Fiji Low Emission Development Strategy will be useful in developing bankable climate change programmes and projects targeted for the Green Climate Fund and other bilateral and multilateral partners. Fiji has already launched Green Bonds for financing climate action on the London Stock Exchange, but as a small, climate-vulnerable state the country needs to access and mobilise resources at a far greater scale and needs to act now to ensure that there is a paradigm shift in the development arena that enables easier, larger and faster access to grant and concessional development finance. The vulnerability of the country and the financial limitations affects its ability to achieve the development aspirations set out in the NDP and the SDGs. In this respect Fiji does not delink development from climate-centred development in the same way it does not delink development finance from climate finance.

8

CONCLUSION

Fiji made its commitment to the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs in 2015 and has since made significant progress towards achieving the SDGs through country ownership and localisation through the 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan. The Voluntary National Review is a review of Fiji's commitment to the sustainable development agenda and provides an opportunity for Fiji to take stock of the policies developed and actions taken in implementing SDGs, the achievements thus far, and the opportunities that exist, establish what works and what does not, and highlight the effectiveness of our governance systems and our institutions in facilitating the implementation of the SDGs. The Review was conducted through a collaborative and inclusive multi-stakeholder engagement process.

Achievements

The review has revealed that Fiji has successfully integrated the SDGs principles, goals, and targets into its mid-term and long term national development planning processes and has established an enabling environment for the implementation of SDGs through integration into national plans and sectoral policies, including the participation of multi-stakeholders in implementing the SDGs. Fiji is also reforming its public finance management system to improve public finance effectiveness and efficiency and is exploring new and innovative ways of financing the implementation of the SDGs.

Fiji has made progress towards achieving all 17 SDGs. The unprecedented economic growth of the last 10 years is a key indicator of success and development across the various thematic areas of the SDGs. In particular, Fiji has achieved political stability, ten consecutive years of economic growth, the unemployment rate has reached a 20-year low of 4.5 per cent, and there has been a reduction in the percentage of people living in poverty. Fiji has achieved universal primary education, a reduction in child and maternal mortalities, improved access to social welfare and improved access to other social and economic services. Advancement in domestic policy mechanisms to adapt to climate impacts and mitigate climate change, alongside Fiji's global leadership on climate change and oceans, are major achievements for a small climate-vulnerable country.

Challenges

A strengthening of the enabling environment for implementing SDGs, [CT1] and enhancing the dialogue among and collaboration with domestic, regional, and

international stakeholders in implementing SDGs is critical. This is particularly important for mobilising finance for achieving the SDGs and addressing capacity issues. It is equally important to maintain and accelerate economic growth that is sustainable, inclusive, and which generates jobs and contributes to building economic resilience.

Reaching the unreached and addressing last mile [CT2] challenges in a number of SDGs, such as in education, health, access to electricity and to improve the quality of these services is critical. Further challenges include dealing with emerging issues of non-communicable diseases and the issues associated with rapid urbanisation including climate change risks.

Addressing data paucity and SDGs monitoring and evaluation will enable effective assessment of the progress made in the implementation including the identification of gaps and opportunities for improvement.

Lessons Learned

The VNR reveals that the successful implementation of SDGs is a result of strong commitment from the Fijian Government for sustainable development both in terms of localising the global goals and establishing the enabling environment for SDG implementation that further enables prioritisation, financing and implementation of programmes geared towards the SDGs.

Dialogue with and collaboration of all stakeholders in implementing SDGs is the cornerstone of success. Dialogue and collaboration will ensure that the private sector, development partners, NGOs and CSOs have trust in government's decisions and actions which then enables them to mobilise their contributions toward SDGs implementation.

Fiji's strong economic growth has underpinned the achievements towards achieving SDGs. Achieving strong economic growth that is sustainable and inclusive is a SDG in itself. It is also the foundation for achieving a number of other SDGs, such as poverty and inequality reduction. Furthermore, strong economic growth also generates the public and private revenue necessary for the government to mobilize for development, in particular public and private sector investment.

Government programmes such as free education, poverty reduction benefits, improved access to social services and income-generating programmes have facilitated progress towards achieving SDGs and

have increased social and economic inclusion and reduced poverty. Development assistance has played an important role in complementing investments, particularly in social and health sectors, and providing technical assistance for capacity building.

Moving Forward

To maintain the momentum on sustainable development, Fiji will need to continue its investment in the enabling environment for SDG implementation and will need to increasingly bolster partnerships for the goals that allow for innovation and ingenuity. This is fundamental for mobilising both domestic and foreign financial resources and in building capacity to deliver on the transformative development agenda.



9

ANNEXES



Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere						
1	1.1.1 Proportion of population below the international poverty line of US\$1.90 per day	1.4	(2013)			WDI
2	1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line					
	National	28.4	(2013)			FBS HIES
	Urban	19.8	(2013)			FBS HIES
	Rural	36	(2013)			FBS HIES
3	1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, poor and non-poor					
	Proportion of Population covered by FNPF	45.2		46.1		FNPF Annual Report
	Proportion of households covered by poverty benefit scheme	11.9				MoWCPA Annual Report
	Proportion of population aged 65 and over covered by social pension scheme	36.9				MoWCPA Annual Report
	Proportion of households covered by Care and Protection Allowance program (for children in single parent households)	1.8				MoWCPA Annual Report
4	1.4.2 Proportion of total households with insecure tenure rights to land, with legally recognized documentation and who perceive their rights to land as secure					
	% of households with insecure land tenure			15.8		Census 2017
	Rural			3.5		Census 2017
	Urban			25.2		Census 2017
	% of households with traditional land ownership			27.6		Census 2017
	Rural			54.1		Census 2017
	Urban			7.2		Census 2017
5	1.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population					
	Number of people directly affected by disasters	67000				PDNA reports
6	1.5.2 Direct economic loss attributed to disasters in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP)					
	Direct economic loss attributed to disasters in relation to national gross domestic product (GDP)			29.2		PDNA reports
7	1.5.3 Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. (yes-1, no-0)	1				MoE Annual Report
8	1.a.1 Proportion of domestically generated resources allocated by the government directly to poverty reduction programmes					
	Government budget for Ministry of Women, Children, and Poverty Alleviation	35.394		66.024	112.794	MoE budget estimates
9	1.a.2 Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)	23.7		24.2		RBF Quarterly Review, MoE budget Estimate

Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
	Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture					
10	2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment	4.6	4.4			WDI, Fiji National Food and Nutrition Centre
11	2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)					
	Proportion of Food poverty living below the food poverty line	7.5 (2008)				FOBS HIES
12	2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting (height for age <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age	4.9				WDI, National Nutrition Survey from Fiji National Food and Nutrition Centre
13	2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting and overweight)					
	Wasting	5.3				WDI, National Nutrition Survey from Fiji National Food and Nutrition Centre
	Overweight	3.3 (2008)				WDI, National Nutrition Survey from Fiji National Food and Nutrition Centre
14	2.3.1 Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size					
	Total Crop Production (metric ton)	254714				Ministry of Agriculture statistics
	Total livestock production (metric ton)	30535				Ministry of Agriculture Statistics
15	2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status					
16	2.4.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture					
	Agricultural land as % of total land area	23.26				
17	2.5.1 Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities					
	Number of plant genetic resources	325 (2014)	328	328		FAO's World Information and Early Warning System on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Resources
18	2.5.2 Proportion of local breeds classified as being at risk, not-at-risk or at unknown level of risk of extinction				12 out of 12	FAO's Domestic Animal Diversity Information System
19	2.a.1 The agriculture orientation index for government expenditures (agriculture expenditure as % of government budget)	2.2	1.5	1.9		MoE Budget estimates
20	2.a.2 Total official flows (official development assistance plus other official flows) to the agriculture sector, million, FJD dollar	30.17	17.14			OECD-DAC
21	2.c.1 Indicator of food price anomalies					
	Annual change in Food Price Index	4.73	5.98	-2.12		FBOS CPI

Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
	Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages					
22	3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio, per 100,000 live births	29.3	20.9	35.6		MoHMS Health Status Report
23	3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel	99.9	99.24	99.92		MoHMS Health Status Report
24	3.2.1 Under-5 mortality rate, per 1000 live births	22.5	17.9	20.8		MoHMS Health Status Report
25	3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate, per 1000 live births	6.8	6.5	9.3		MoHMS Health Status Report
26	3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1000 uninfected population	7.96	6.23	10.49		MoHMS Health Status Report
27	3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence per 1000 population	41.7	36.5	41.1		MoHMS Health Status Report
28	3.3.4 Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population	36.63	12.5	12.5		MoHMS Health Status Report
29	3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease					
	Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease	33.9	36.2			MoHMS Health Status Report
	Mortality rate attributed to cancer	11	10.9			MoHMS Health Status Report
	Mortality rate attributed to diabetes	21.8	20.1			MoHMS Health Status Report
	Mortality rate attributed to chronic respiratory disease	5.2	5			MoHMS Health Status Report
30	3.4.2 Suicide mortality rate	13.8	11.3			MoHMS Health Status Report
31	3.5.2 Harmful use of alcohol, defined according to the national context as alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol					
	Alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of alcohol spirit	3.0	(2010)	3.3		FBOS
32	3.6.1 Death rate due to road traffic injuries	7.9	7.8			MoHMS Health Status Report
33	3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15–49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods	47.1	49.3	44.9		MoHMS Health Status Report
34	3.7.2 Adolescent birth rate (aged 15–19 years) per 1000 women in that age group	30.3	28.4			MoHMS Health Status Report
	Adolescent birth rate (aged 10–19 years) per 1000 women in that age group		14.1	16.1		MoHMS Health Status Report
35	3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services (defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions that include reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and service capacity and access, among the general and the most disadvantaged population)	0.66				WHO Global Health Observatory

Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
36	3.9.3 Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning	1.6	1.7			WHO Global Health Observatory
37	3.a.1 Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older		30.8			WHO Global Health Observatory
38	3.c.1 Health worker density and distribution					
	Number of dentists and technicians per 1000 people	0.27				MoHMS Health Status Report
	Number of nurses per 1000 people	2.938	3.45	4.1		MoHMS Health Status Report
	Number of pharmaceutical personnel per 1,000 population	0.106	0.09	0.15		MoHMS Health Status Report
	Number of doctors per 1000 people	0.837	0.62			MoHMS Health Status Report
39	3.d.1 International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness	98.2 (2014)				WHO Global Health Observatory
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all						
40	4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex					
	Net Enrolment rate for primary education (%)	97.6	97.2			MEHA annual report
	Net Enrolment rate for secondary education (%)	82				MEHA annual report
41	4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age)	80				MEHA annual report
42	4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months					
	Youth and Adult in education	11.6 (2007)				Census
	Youth in education	37.7 (2007)				Census
43	4.5.1 Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict-affected, as data become available) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated					
	Gender parity of primary education enrollment	0.92	0.93			MEHA annual report
	Gender parity of secondary education enrollment	1.05	1.08			MEHA annual report
	Gender parity of tertiary education enrollment	1.21				FHEC annual report
44	4.6.1 Proportion of population in 15-24 years of age achieving at least a fixed level of literacy and by sex					
	Y12 Exam Pass rate in English (% of sitting students)	65				MEHA annual report
	Y12 Exam Pass rate in Maths	37				MEHA annual report
45	4.b.1 Volume of official development assistance flows for scholarships, million FJD.dollar	13.16	10.28			OECD-DAC database
46	4.c.1 Proportion of teachers in: (a) pre-primary; (b) primary; (c) lower secondary; and (d) upper secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country					

Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
	Proportion of teachers in pre-primary	100	100	100		MEHA annual report
	Proportion of teachers in primary	100	100	100		MEHA annual report
	Proportion of teachers with university degrees in primary	21.7				MEHA annual report
	Proportion of teachers in secondary	100	100	100		MEHA
	Proportion of teachers with university degrees in secondary	57.7				MEHA annual report
Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls						
47	5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex, (yes-1, no-0)	1	1	1		Constitution 2013 & WPA
48	5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age	24 (2011)				2011 VAW report
49	5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence	31 (2011)	-			2011 VAW report
50	5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work (% of 24 hours), by sex, age and location					
	Female	16				FBOS Employment and Unemployment Survey
	Male	5.95				FBOS employment and Unemployment Survey
51	5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments	14	16	16	20	Fiji Parliament and Election Office
52	5.5.2 Proportion of women in managerial positions					
	proportion of women in managerial positions	39.2				FBOS employment and unemployment survey
	Proportion of Women sitting in the boards of listed companies			12.5	12.4	SPSE
	Proportion of Women sitting in the boards of SOEs		30			
53	5.a.2 Whether or not the legal framework guarantees women's equal rights to land ownership and/or control (yes-1, no-0)	1	1	1		
54	5.b.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone					
	Total			99.5		Census 2017
	Male			99.5		Census 2017
	Female			99.5		Census 2017

Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
	Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all					
55	6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services	78	78			WAF and NDP
	% of population having access to water supplied by WAF					Census 2017
	% of Households with access to piped water for drinking			70		
56	6.2.1 Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, including a hand-washing facility with soap and water					
	National			56		Census 2017
	Urban			68		Census 2018
	Rural			41		Census 2019
57	6.3.1 Proportion of wastewater safely treated					
	% of population having access to public sewage system (reticulated sewage system)	36%				ADB Project Document
58	6.4.1 Change in water-use efficiency overtime, the amount of unaccounted water (leaks, theft, unmetered, %)	51.49	45.39	47.85		NDP
59	6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0-100)					
	National integrated water resources management plans or equivalent are under development	1	1	1		
60	6.a.1 Amount of water- and sanitation-related official development assistance that is part of a government-coordinated spending plan					
	ODA on water and sanitation related activities (million FJD)	3.97	6.08			OECD DAC
61	6.b.1 Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management					
	Countries with a high level of users/communities participating in planning programs in drinking-water supply	1	1	1		UNSD SDG database
	Countries with clearly defined procedures in law or policy for participation by service users/communities in planning program in drinking-water supply	1	1	1		UNSD SDG database
	Countries with a high level of users/communities participating in planning programs in hygiene promotion	1	1	1		UNSD SDG database
	Countries with clearly defined procedures in law or policy for participation by service users/communities in planning program in hygiene promotion	1	1	1		UNSD SDG database
	Countries with a high level of users/communities participating in planning programs in sanitation	1	1	1		UNSD SDG database
	Countries with clearly defined procedures in law or policy for participation by service users/communities in planning program in sanitation	1	1	1		UNSD SDG database

Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
	Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all					
62	7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity					
	National	97.1	98.6	94.9		Census 2017
	Rural	95.3	98.0	91.7		Census 2017
	Urban	98.6	99.2	97.4		Census 2017
63	7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	39.2	39.6	52.8		Census 2017
64	7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption					
	share of Electricity Generated from Renewable Sources	46.15	54.04			EFL annual reports
	Renewable energy share in total energy consumption (%)	13				NDP
65	7.3.1 Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP					
	Megajoules per FJD constant 2011 GDP	2.89				NDP
66	7.a.1. International financial flows in support of clean energy research and development and renewable energy production, including in hybrid systems, million, Fijian dollar	11.07	0.39			OECD-DAC
	Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all					
67	8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita					
	Annual growth rate of real GDP	4.70	2.60	5.20		FBOS
	Annual growth rate of real GDP Per Capita	4.30	2.20	4.80		FBOS
68	8.3.1 Proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment					
	National	28.4				FBOS
	Female	28.7				FBOS
	Male	28.2				FBOS
69	8.4.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP					
	Material footprint per capita (metric ton)	7.07	7.05	7.04		UNEP Environment Live Database
	Material footprint (kg) per unit of GDP (FJD at 2011 price)	0.80	0.80	0.78		UNEP Environment Live Database
70	8.4.2 Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP					
	Domestic material consumption, thousand.tonne	5.81	5.65			UNEP Environment Live Database
	Domestic material consumption per capita, tonne	6.51	6.28			UNEP Environment Live Database
	Domestic material consumption per GDP, kg/million.FJD	0.74	0.71			UNEP Environment Live Database
71	8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of female and male employees (FJD/per hour)					
	Average hourly earnings of all employees	6.99				FBOS
	Average hourly earnings of female employees	6.91				FBOS
	Average hourly earnings of male employees	7.03				FBOS

Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015		2016		2017		2018		Sources
72	8.5.2 Unemployment rate									
	Total	5.5				4.5				FBOS
	Female	6.9				7.8				FBOS
	Male	4.8				2.9				FBOS
73	8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years) not in education, employment or training									
	National	20.9								FBOS
	Female	29.6								FBOS
	Male	10.8								FBOS
74	8.7.1 Proportion of children aged 5–17 years engaged in child labour									
	Proportion and number of children aged 5–14 years engaged in child labour	0.22	(2014)							FBOS
75	8.8.1 Frequency rates of fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries, by sex and migrant status									
	No. of new cases of occupational injury during the reference period	917	(2011)	1350	(2011)	1636				FBOS
	No. of new cases of occupational fatalities during the reference period	184	(2011)	173	(2011)					FBOS
76	8.9.1. Tourism direct GDP as a proportion of total GDP and in growth rate									
	Tourism direct GDP as a proportion of total GDP	13.7		14.5		14.4				FBOS
	Tourism direct GDP as a proportion of total GDP growth rate	3.8		-1.9						FBOS
77	8.10.1 Number of commercial bank branches per 100,000 adults and (b) number of automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults									
	Number of commercial bank branches per 100,000 adults	11.7		11.3						RBF Financial Inclusion Indicators
	Number of automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100,000 adults	47.4		52.8						RBF Financial Inclusion Indicators
78	8.10.2 Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider									
	Total	47.4		52.8		62.7				RBF Financial Inclusion Indicator and FBOS Census
	Female					68.5				RBF Financial Inclusion Indicator and FBOS Census
	Male					56.8				RBF Financial Inclusion Indicator and FBOS Census
79	8.a.1 Aid for Trade commitments and disbursements									
	Aid for trade Commitment	47.6		38.2						OECD DAC
	Aid for trade Disbursements	57.3		37.8						OECD DAC
80	8.b.1 Existence of a developed and operationalized national strategy for youth employment, as a distinct strategy or as part of a national employment strategy. (yes=1, no=0)	0		0		0		1		

Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
	Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable					
94	11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing					
	Home ownership (% of total households), total			75.8		Census 2017
	Home ownership (% of total households), urban			69.8		Census 2017
	Home ownership (% of total households), rural			90.2		Census 2017
	% of population with insecure land ownership			15.8		Census 2017
	% of population with insecure land ownership, urban			25.2		Census 2017
	% of population with insecure land ownership, rural			3.5		Census 2017
	% of population living in slum	7				
	% of urban population living in slum	16				
95	11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport	95				RTA (2009) Fiji Bus Industry Review
96	11.4.1. Total expenditure per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, million FJD					
	Government budget/expenditure for Department of Heritage and Art (million)	3.94				
97	11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters	67000	352327			MoE Budget Estimates
98	11.6.1 Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated	65.5	69.1	69.7		NDMO FBOS
99	11.6.2 Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted)					
	PM 2.5	6	10.5			UNEP Environment Live
100	11.b.1 Whether or not Fiji adopts and implements national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, (yes=1, no=0)	1	1	1		

Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
	Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns					
101	12.2.1 Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP					
	Material footprint per capita (metric ton)	7.07	7.05	7.04		UNEP Environment Live
	Material footprint per unit of GDP (kg per unit of GDP at 2011 price)	0.80	0.80	0.78		UNEP Environment Live
102	12.2.2 Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP		-			
	Domestic material consumption, million tonne	5.81	5.65	5.49		UNEP Environment Live
	Domestic material consumption per capita, tonne	6.51	6.28			UNEP Environment Live
	Domestic material consumption per GDP, kg/million.FJD	0.74	0.71			UNEP Environment Live
103	12.4.1 Number of parties to international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous waste, and other chemicals that meet their commitments and obligations in transmitting information as required by each relevant agreement					Conventions secretariat
	Number of conventions that Fiji is a party to	2	2	2		
	Compliance with the Basel Convention on hazardous waste and other chemicals	100.00				
	Compliance with the Stockholm Convention on hazardous waste and other chemicals	33.30				
104	12.5.1 National recycling rate, tons of material recycled					
	Solid Waste recycled (ton)	475.00	475.00	517		FBOS
	recycling rate (%)	0.42	0.39	0.41		FBOS
105	12.b.1. Whether or not sustainable tourism strategies or policies and action plans are implemented (yes-1, no-0)	1	1	1		
	Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts					
106	13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters	67000	352327			PDNA
107	13.1.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. (yes-1, no-0)	1	1	1		
108	13.2.1 Whether or not the establishment or operationalization of an integrated policy/strategy/plan have communicated which increases their ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production (yes-1, no-0)	1	1	1		

SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
Fiji	Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development				
“Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development”					
109	14.3.1 Average marine acidity (pH) measured at agreed suite of representative sampling stations			7.95 - 8.05	GOA-ON (Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network)
110	14.4.1 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels		10 of 39 finfish groups assessed		Fiji Fish resource profiles
111	14.5.1 Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas	0.85 (2014)	0.92		Protected planet report
112	14.7.1 Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP in small island developing States, least developed countries and all countries				
	Fishery as % of GDP	1.71	1.65		FBOS
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss					
113	15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area	55.68			NDP & Ministry of Forest
114	15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas	7.19	7.19		UNSD SDG indicator database
115	15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management				
	Proportion of forest area within legally established protected areas	5.51			FAO's Global Forest Resources Assessment
	Proportion of forest area with a long-term management plan	3			
116	15.3.1 Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area				
117	15.4.1 Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity	11.06	11.06		FAO's Global Forest Resources Assessment
118	15.5.1 Red List Index	0.68	0.67		
119	15.9.1 Proportion of countries adopting relevant national legislation and adequately resourcing the prevention or control of invasive alien species	1	1	1	
120	15.1 Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems, million FJD	5.31	7.23		OECD DAC
121	15.b.1 public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems				
	Government budget for Ministry of Forest	13.7	12.4	15.4	MoE budget estimates
“Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss”					

Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
	Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels					
122	16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population	3.47	2.67			FBOs and Fiji Police Force crime statistics
	Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population	31.00	24.00			FBOs and Fiji Police Force crime statistics
123	16.1.3 Proportion of population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months					
	Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence in the previous 12 months	26	(2011)			VAW survey
	Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence in their lifetime	71	(2011)			VAW survey
	number of crimes against women (reported)	3337	3132		2682	Fiji police force's Crime Statistics
	cases of rape, attempted rape, and sexual assault	351	411		282	Fiji police force's Crime Statistics
124	16.2.1 Proportion of children aged 1–17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month					
	Proportion of children aged 1–14 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month	72	(2008)			UNICEF Protect Me Report
	Number of crimes against children (reported)	1263	1226		1083	Fiji police force's Crime Statistics
125	16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking	13	5		6	US State Department
126	16.3.1 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms					
	Crime cases recorded	20819	19998		18128	Fiji police force's Crime Statistics
127	16.4.1 Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows					
	Illicit outflows (% of trade volume)	14.4	(2014)			GFI's Reports on Global Illicit Financial Flows
	Illicit inflows (% of trade volume)	3.3	(2014)			GFI's Reports on Global Illicit Financial Flows
	Total Illicit flows (% of trade volume)	17.7	(2014)			GFI's Reports on Global Illicit Financial Flows
128	16.4.2 Proportion of seized, found or surrendered arms whose illicit origin or context has been traced or established by a competent authority in line with international instruments					
	Number of Suspicious transaction reported	516	579			RBF FIU annual report
	Total value of suspicious transaction (million FJD)	82.7	74.7			RBF FIU annual report
	Number of Money Laundering crime	43	6		6	Fiji police force's Crime Statistics

Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
129	16.5.1 Proportion of the people observing corruption in public administration during the last 12 months					
	corruption Complainants made to FIACA	6365				FIACA Annual Report
	Investigated	120				FIACA Annual Report
	Charged	24				FIACA Annual Report
130	16.5.2 Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months	10.5 (2009)				WB Enterprise survey
131	16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget	111.8	84.0			MoE Budget estimates
132	16.6.2 Proportion of the population satisfied with the last service provided by the public service					
133	16.7.1 Proportions of positions in public institutions, by sex, age					
134	16.7.2 Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group					
	Voter turnout in general election	84.6 (2014)			72	Fiji Election Office
135	16.10.1 Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months	0	0	0		
136	16.10.2 Whether or not Fiji adopts and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information	0.5	0.5	0.5	1	
137	16.a.1 Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles. (yes-1, no-0)	1	1	1		Fiji Human Right Commission

Fiji	SDG INDICATOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	Sources
	Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development					
138	17.1.1 Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP	25.8	27.9	27.1		MoE Budget Supplement and RBF Quarterly Review
139	17.1.2 Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes	93.3	87.7	92.1		MoE Budget Supplement
140	17.3.1 Foreign direct investments, official development assistance as a proportion of total domestic budget					
	Foreign direct investment (% of GDP)	7.1	6.0	5.9		RBF & WDI
	ODA (% of GDP)	2.95	2.51	2.88		OECD DAC
141	17.3.2 Volume of remittances (in United States dollars) as a proportion of total GDP	5.37	5.54	5.10		RBF Quarterly Review
142	17.4.1 Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services	1.84	14.08	1.84		MoE Debt report
143	17.6.2 Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by speed					
	Fixed internet broadband Subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	1.43	1.37	1.45		TAF Country Report
	Wireless broadband Subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	6.02	6.00	5.93		TAF Country Report
144	17.8.1 Proportion of individuals using the Internet	42.5	46.5	45.0		Population Census
145	17.9.1 Dollar value of financial and technical assistance (including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation) committed to developing countries for capacity building and national planning					
	ODA	30.03	44.14			OECD DAC
146	17.11.1 Developing countries' and least developed countries' share of global exports					
	Export as % in GDP	49.6	47.2	48.4		FBOS
147	17.12.1 Average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States	11.96				WDI
148	17.18.2. Whether or not national statistical legislation complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (yes-1, no-0)	?	?	?		
149	17.18.3. (7)Whether or not a national statistical plan is fully funded and under implementation (yes-1, no-0)					
150	17.19.1 Dollar value of all resources made available to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries (Million FJD)	5,103	13,754	20,688		MoE Budget Estimate
151	17.19.2. Whether or not at least one population and housing census has been conducted in the last 10 years (yes-1, no-0)					
	a) at least one population and housing census has been conducted in the last 10 years	1	1	1		FBOS
	b) achieved 100 per cent birth registration and 80 per cent death registration	1	1	1		FBOS

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