



Ministry of Agriculture

# ANNUAL REPORT

August 1st 2017 - July 31st 2018



# CORPORATE PROFILE

## VISION

A Modernized Agriculture Sector providing food and income security for all Fijians

## MISSION STATEMENT

To excel in the provision of customer focused and market driven services in the agricultural sector

## VALUES

- |                   |                   |                  |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| • Good Governance | • Impartiality    | • Equity         |
| • Commitment      | • Professionalism | • Responsiveness |
| • Integrity       | • Courtesy        | • Responsibility |
| • Honesty         | • Partnership     | • Innovation     |

## THE FUNCTIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE INCLUDES;

- To accelerate agricultural product diversification into crops and livestock products where competitive advantage has been identified;
- To facilitate private sector development;
- To promote food security; and
- To ensure sustainable development in the non- sugar sector

## OUR CUSTOMERS

We take pride in serving our customers by implementing the 'Customer Service Charter' which sets out our commitment to providing high quality standards of services that is beyond customer expectations. Our customers include:

### Internal

- Farmers
- MoA Staff
- Rural Community Leaders
- Exporters
- Importers
- Processors
- MoA consultants

### External

- Ministries and Departments
- Members of the Public
- Private Sector
- Statutory Bodies
- Non- Governmental Organizations
- Diplomatic Missions
- International Organisations
- Unions and Employers
- Providers of Goods and Services
- Resource Owners
- Academic Institutions

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## MINISTERS FOREWORD



The 2017/2018 Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture highlights activities undertaken and achievements of each functional divisions against their annual targets.

Natural Disasters such as Tropical cyclones have always been a common challenge in Fiji's Agriculture Sector and most our annual planning is focus around rehabilitation work that responds appropriately to these phenomena. 2017 saw the continuation of rehabilitation work for TC Winston and this was scaled up again in early 2018 after back to back onslaught of TC Josie and TC Keni. During which, the Ministry rolled out the FARM CARE Program under the Care for Fiji Govt. Assistance in response to devastating impact of both cyclones.

Despite these challenges, the Ministry in the 3rd quarter of the Financial year hosted two [2] Regional Conference at Denarau, Nadi - The 27th Session of Asia Pacific Commission on Agriculture Statistics [19th-23rd March 2018] and the 34th Session of Asia Pacific Regional Conference [9th-13th April, 2018]. Both FAO conference are convened on a bi-annual basis and Fiji was honored to be given the opportunity and becoming the first South Pacific Island Country to host such meeting and our ability to do so stamps Fiji's significance in the Asia Pacific Region.

The Ministry continues to work towards achievement of all work targets and I'm grateful to Staff and Management for all their effort and commitment to ensuring that 2017/18 was a success.

Vinaka Vakalevu.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Inia B. Seruiratu'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a dotted line.

**Hon. Inia B. Seruiratu**  
**Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime Development**  
**and National Disaster Management**

## ASSISTANT MINISTER'S STATEMENT



This report documents Ministry's achievements from August 2017 to July 2018 showcasing divisional outputs submitted in the Financial Year Public Sector Investment Program (PSIP).

Despite TC Winston, and back to back cyclones in 2018 and the demand to host International Meetings, the Ministry continued to improve its performance to ensure that service delivery to Fijis Agriculture sector is not affected.

Despite limited resources and other constraints, the Ministry continued to enhance its approach in addressing issues affecting the development of the Sector while identifying and exploring opportunities that are available.

Therefore, I would like to express my gratitude for the contribution made by Management and staff of Ministry in achieving another milestone in terms of service delivery.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Viam Pillay', positioned above a dotted line.

.....  
**Hon. Viam Pillay**  
**Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Rural and Maritime**  
**Development and National Disaster Management**



## PERMANENT SECRETARY'S STATEMENT



2017/2018 financial year was a challenging one for the Ministry as we were still trying to recover from the devastating impact of TC Winston on Fiji's Agriculture sector.

However, with continuous support from our stakeholders and clients and endless commitment of management and staff of the Ministry, we were able to achieve our key mandated objectives for the financial year, despite back to back cyclone experienced in early 2018.

This year the Ministry hosted and chaired two (2) FAO Regional Conference which created a platform for high level consultation and deliberation on agricultural statistics, Fiji's pathway towards the 2030 agenda and addressing National Priorities.

Both conferences were held at Denarau in Nadi and welcomed experts, bi-lateral partners, regional country members and international observers to Fiji.

Through this report, the Ministry outlines its performance and achievements on implementation of divisional plan and highlight success stories that signifies the impact of our intervention.

On that note I wish to sincerely acknowledge output by my team and continued support from our Stakeholders that has enabled us to deliver in this financial year.

It gives me great pleasure to present the Ministry of Agriculture 2017-2018 Annual Report.

A stylized black ink signature of Mr. David Kolitagane.

.....  
**Mr David Kolitagane**  
**Permanent Secretary for Agriculture**

## 2017 – 2018 YEAR AT A GLANCE



*Ministry releases new guava variety - Green Pearl.*



*FAO workshop held in Nadi.*



*H.E. the President-Jioji Konusi Konrote officially opens the Western Agriculture at Koroivolu Park in Nadi.*



*Workshop on Coldchain and Logistics Management for Agri-food Products held at the Tanoa International Hotel in Nadi.*



*27th APCAS at Sheraton Denarau, Fiji.*



*His Excellency the President of Fiji and FAO Secretary General - Opening of the 34th Session of APRC.*



*MoA Senior Executive Management International visit to Haryana, India.*

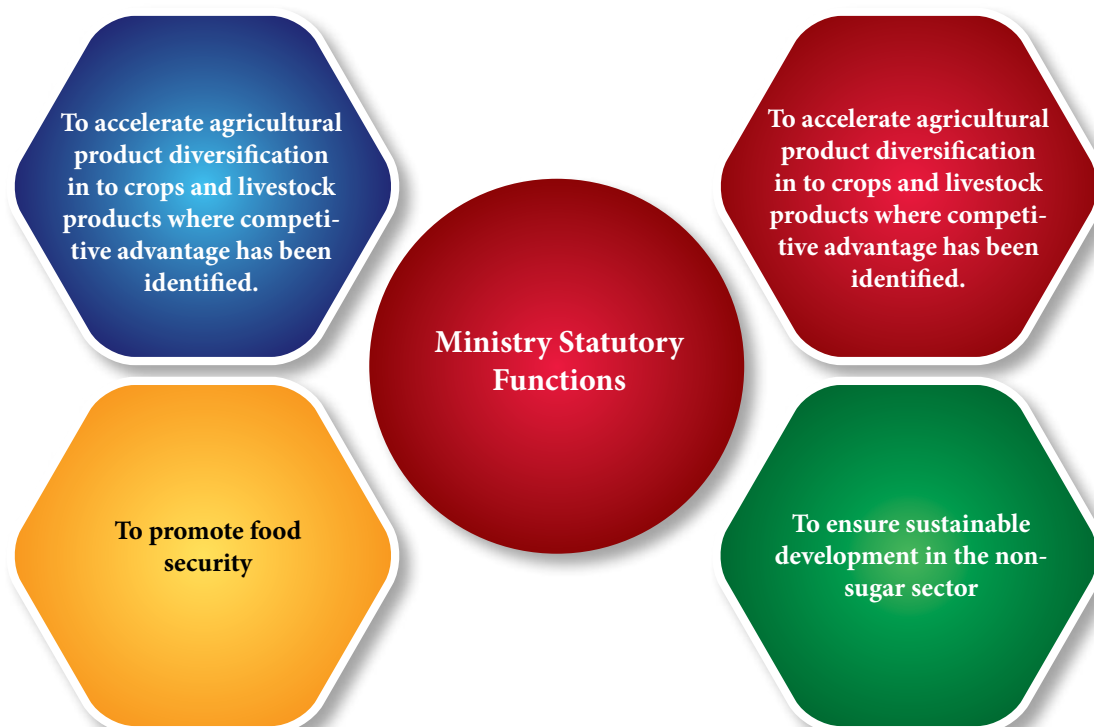


*ISTF Launching at Sigatoka.*



## LEGISLATED FUNCTIONS

The Ministry derived its core mandate from the Presidential decree 2007 and is currently responsible for about 28 pieces of legislations. It is envisaged that all the acts specified under the ministerial assignment must be reviewed and ensured that there is no conflict between policy interpretations of existing acts.



## MINISTRY'S LEGISLATIONS & REGULATIONS

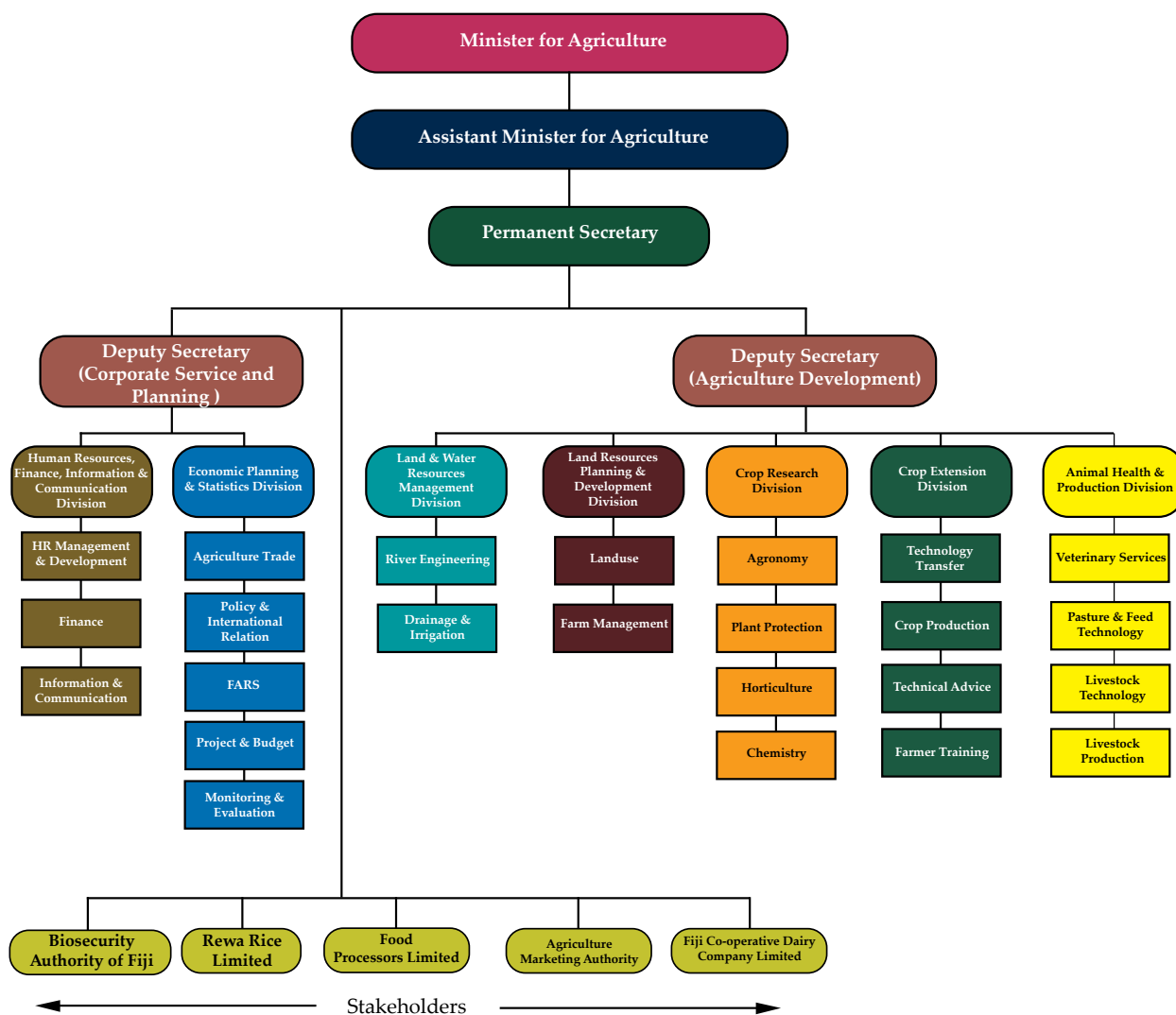
The Ministry of Agriculture is guided in its daily operations by the following legislations and regulations:

**Table 1: Legislations and Regulations of the Ministry**

1	Agricultural Land & Tenant Act (Cap.270)	15	Fruit Export and Marketing Act (Cap 154)
2	Agriculture Marketing Authority Act (2004)	16	Ginger Council of Fiji Act 1996
3	Animals (Control of Experiment) Act (Cap.161)	17	Goat (Ear marks) Act (Cap 164)
4	Banana Export and Marketing Act (Cap 155)	18	Irrigation Act (Cap 144 A)
5	Birds and Game Protection Act (Cap 170)	19	Land Conservation and Improvement Act (Cap 141)
6	Brands Act (Cap 163)	20	Meat Industry Act (Cap 137)
7	Coconut Industry Development Authority Act 1998	21	Pesticide Act (Cap 157)
8	Cooperative Dairy Companies Act (Cap 119)	22	Pound Act (Cap 165)
9	Copra Industry Loans Act (Cap 153)	23	Protection of Animals Act (Cap 169)
10	Crop Lients Act (Cap 226)	24	Rewa Rice Limited Decree 1991
11	Dairies Act (Cap 118)	25	Stock Improvement Act (Cap 162)
12	Dogs Act (Cap 168)	26	Trespass of Animal Act (Cap 166)
13	Drainage Act (Cap 143)	27	Veterinary Surgeons Act (Cap 257)
14	Fencing Act (Cap 167)	28	Promulgation of Biosecurity Act 2008



# ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



## LINKAGE TO THE PEOPLE'S CHARTER FOR CHANGE, PEACE AND PROGRESS PRIORITIES

This Annual Report presents the Ministry of Agriculture's achievements for the fiscal year of August 2017 to July, 2018. It reports on publicly committed strategies, key actions and performance measures as outlined in the Ministry of Agriculture Annual Corporate Plan for 2017/18. It also reflects progress and commitments to Government direction.

**Table 2: The Ministry's activities in 2017/18 were aligned to the following 5 Government's Key Pillars.**

Key Pillar(s) PCCPP Priorities	Targeted Outcome (Goal/ Policy Objective - RDSSD)	Outcome Performance Indicators or Measures (Key Performance Indicators-RDSSD)	Ministry's Outputs (list outputs related to indicators only)
<b>Pillar 4: Enhancing Public Sector Effectiveness and Service Delivery.</b>	Improved performance & efficiency Public Sector Reform	Wide implementation of Service Excellence Framework Reorganize training based on training needs assessment & addressing specific & position related skills development Database developed	Enhance service delivery Portfolio Leadership, policy advice and secretariat support
<b>Pillar 5: Achieving Higher Economic Growth while ensuring sustainability.</b>	A sustainable agriculture industry and community livelihood through competitive exports and food security	Increase Ministry of Agriculture's contribution to GDP from 7.6% to 10% Increase value of non-sugar agriculture exports from \$395m to \$410m by 2016. Value of Fruits and vegetables imports reduced from around \$92m to \$80m by 2016	Maintaining food security through the provision of extension and research services both for livestock and crops. Quick economic recovery through the implementation of Demand Driven Approach and other commodity projects.
<b>Pillars 6: Making more Land Available for productive and Social services.</b>	Proper land use planning and management to support economic development	Increase number of land sites for commodity purpose and are compliant to Sustainable Land Management farming practices/ concept.	Sustainable management of natural resources through flood protection programmes and other sustainable land management practices.
<b>Pillar 7: Developing an Integrated Development Structure at the Divisional Level.</b>	Rural & Outer Island communities to meet their basic needs, improve living standards and quality of life towards self-sufficiency	Improve provision of basic services to rural areas in terms of agriculture services	Rural & Outer Island communities to meet their basic needs, improve living standards through agriculture development
	Achievement of gender equality and empowerment of women through full participation in agriculture development	Increase percentage of women who are economically active in agriculture activities	Achievement of gender equality and empowerment of women through full participation in agriculture development
<b>Pillars 8: Reduce Poverty to a Negligible Level by 2015.</b>	Creating sustainable livelihoods through enterprise development	Increase the number of projects supporting young farmers.	Assist in poverty alleviation by building capacity of farmers to increase production.

## 2017/18 AGRICULTURE KEY NUMBERS

### MoA Total Budget



**\$99.3 million**

### MoA Actual Expenditure



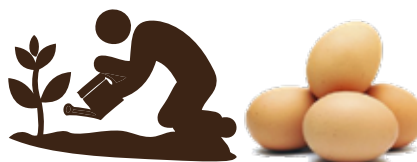
**\$87.5 million**

### Agriculture (Crop & Livestock) GDP



**\$500.8 million**

### Agriculture (Crop & Livestock) Production



**255,435 mt**

### Crop & Livestock Sector Export



**\$194 m**

### Crop & Livestock Sector Import



**\$645 m**

## MAJOR CROP COMMODITIES PERFORMANCE IN 2017/18



### **Dalo Production: 38,379 mt**

Total Export:

- Volume (6213.84mt)
- Value (\$22.16m FJD)

Top Export Destination: New Zealand (2,770mt)



### **Cassava Production: 63,677 mt**

Total Export:

- Volume (632.92 mt)
- Value (\$1.17m FJD)

Top Export Destination: New Zealand (389 mt)



### **Ginger Production: 6,548 mt**

Total Export:

- Volume (633.7 mt)
- Value (\$3.82m FJD)

Top Export Destination: United States (469 mt)



### **Pawpaw Production: 3,174 mt**

Total Export:

- Volume (272.33 mt)
- Value (\$1.17m FJD)

Top Export Destination: New Zealand (89 mt)



### **Yaqona Production: 7,595 mt**

Total Export:

- Volume (311.27mt)
- Value (\$19.65m FJD)

Top Export Destination: United States (93.5 mt)



### **Pineapple Production: 5,135 mt**

Total Export:

- Volume (1025 kg)
- Value (\$0.002m FJD)

Top Export Destination: New Zealand (347 kg)



## MAJOR LIVESTOCK COMMODITIES PERFORMANCE IN 2017/18



### **Pig Production: 864 mt**

Export of Pork (Fresh/Chilled/Frozen)

- Volume (3.879mt)
- Value (0.004m \$FJD)

Top Export Destination: Nauru is the only destination



### **Dairy Production: 14,172 mt**

Export of Milk

- Volume (91.922kg)
- Value (\$0.611m FJD)

Top Export Destination: Papua New Guinea



### **Poultry Production: Broiler (15,115 mt), Ducks (105 mt), Eggs (4,867 mt)**

Export of Poultry Meat Chicken/Duck/Turkey/etc. (Fresh/Chilled/Frozen)

- Volume (278.85mt)
- Value (\$1,928.66m FJD)

Top Export Destination: Vanuatu



### **Beef Production: 2,032 mt**

Export of Beef (Fresh/Chilled/Frozen):

- Volume (4.445 mt)
- Value (\$0.036m FJD)

Top Export Destination: Nauru & Tuvalu



### **Sheep Production: 80 mt**

Export of Sheep Meat (Lamb & Mutton- Fresh/Chilled/Frozen):

- Volume (0.2m)
- Value (\$0.01m FJD)

Top Export Destination: Vanuatu

## CROP EXTENSION DIVISION



*Flooding in the western division during TC Keni.*



## The key roles of the crop extension division include:

- Promotion of appropriate technologies for adoption.
- Provision of technical advice to farmers.
- To identify potential agriculture projects and prepare agriculture project plan.
- Facilitate implementation of agricultural project.
- Capacity building for farmers and Agriculture officials in the areas of farm business planning and farm business advisory services
- Monitoring of agriculture projects.

## ACHIEVEMENT SUMMARY: 1 AUGUST 2017 – 31 JULY 2018

### OUTPUT 1:

#### Maintaining Food Security Through the Provision of Extension and Research Services for Crops, Livestock and Veterinary Services;

The Crop Extension division contributed massively towards three main Sub – outputs to boost rehab program for TC Winston. The following key strategies and activities were achieved:

- 20 best farm practices and technology were widely disseminated and adopted
- 210 farmers were diversified to increase farm production. This was achieved through diversification of production packages such as agro inputs, project proposals, infrastructure support and technical support.
- 26 seeds and planting commodities that was distributed to farmers, this included Kumala, Vudi, Banana, Dalo, Yams, Tivoli, Coconut, Cocoa, Pineapple, Potato, Long bean, French bean, Okra, Maize, Capsicum, Chillies, Chinese cabbage, English cabbage, Eggplant, Tomatoes, Zucchini, Cauliflower, Cowpeas, Rice, Sweet corn and Lettuce.
- 16 farming machineries purchased to enhance and promote mechanization in rice and vegetable farming.
- 50 integrated programmes was assisted and implemented to provide relevant training to farmers to prepare and adopt to risk from Climate Change and Disaster.
- Through food security awareness programmes 112 farmers adopted to traditional techniques to enhanced food security and livelihoods.
- 35 farmers were assisted under Food Security program (FSP) which included 8 projects in total.
- 45 percentage of total staff was capacitated under capacity building, training and disaster response and preparedness.
- 12 awareness was also conducted on sustainable farming practices for Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation.

### OUTPUT 2:

#### Quick Economic Recovery Through the Implementation of Demand Driven Approach and other Commodity Projects Targeting the above focusing on 4 sub-outputs, the following was achieved by the Ministry:

- 300 farmers were trained under the strategy for capacity building at community level for commercial agriculture.
- 85 BQA farmers were capacitated through effective agriculture advisory services and coordination to promote export commodities.
- 62 joint awareness with lending institutes to farmers was achieved for an effective coordination and partnership between farmer and financial institution.
- 250 farm plans and agriculture commercial loan proposals was prepared and submitted to TLTB, FDB and Land Banks.
- 32 farmers were linked to local tourism industry such as catering and hotels services for a stable market.
- 12 awareness and trainings to farmers was conducted on increasing local production of imported agriculture products.

### OUTPUT 3:

#### Assist in Poverty Alleviation by Capacity Building of Farmers to Increase Production;

- The following strategies were implemented and practiced:
- Capacity building on subsistence farmers, 20 farmer training and field school was conducted.
- 6500 farm visit and advice to farmers was delivered.
- 15 subsistence farmers were progressed to semi-commercial level.
- To promote sufficiency at community level, 28 commodities clustering was formed.
- 9 clustered farmers profiling was also developed.

### OUTPUT 4:

#### Sustainable Management of Natural Resources through Flood Protection Programmes and other Sustainable Land Management Practices;

Under the Sub- output “Sustainable Land Management” effective land use management practices were implemented by achieving 12 land clearing for farmers for overall agriculture purposes.

### OUTPUT 5:

#### Ensuring Equal Access for Women in Agriculture Development;

In promoting “Participation of Women on Economic Activities”, cottage industry was strengthened creating employment through achieving 65 women group trained and assisted for progress in agriculture development.

**OUTPUT 6:****ROI Communities to Meet Basic Needs, Improve Living Standard through Agriculture Development**

Targeting to “Improve provision on basic services to rural and maritime areas in terms of agriculture services”. The following strategies was completed:

- 37 Agriculture projects was identified with project proposal submitted
- 15 consultations/meetings was conducted to increase market access on agriculture products and upgrading of infrastructure.
- This was achieved through coordination and implementation of Agriculture projects with stakeholders.



*Senior Extension Officials during the second quarter meeting in Levuka.*



## 2017/2018 DIVISIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



*Women cleaning dalo at Bens Trading Ltd in Navua.*



*Acting SAO Macuata Sujendra Prasad (left) hands over the farming equipment to farmer Chandar Deo (right) in Nakama Waiqe.*



*Rice Farmers gathered in Dreketi during the Co-operatives AGM.*



*Farmers planting potato.*



*PAO North Paula Tuione (sitting middle) with the facilitators and participants of the PHC training*



*Mr. Kalisu Uluitoga plants tomatoes at his backyard gardening at Wainibuku Hart with Minister for Agriculture Hon. Inia Seruiratu.*



*Rice farmers in Rakiraki during the rice field day.*



*Farmer Pushkar Charan of Malaqereqere, Sigatoka at his guava farm.*



### NOTHING BETTER THAN THE MOTHERLAND



*Ravindra Goundar cleans his harvest in the river.*

“Working 12-13 hours a day on a farm is not easy, especially when you are away from your family.”

These were the words of 48 year old Mr. Ravindra Goundar, who worked as a labourer in a fruit and dairy farm in Australia and New Zealand 10 years ago. Originally from Rakiraki, Mr. Goundar had a change of mind and made the decision to return to Fiji to start up a farm of his own when he was working in a dairy farm in New Zealand.

“Before I came back to Fiji in 2010, I used to work in a dairy farm in New Zealand where I used to wake up at 3am and start my work in the dairy farm from 4am-7pm daily and was paid \$100-150 a day,” he said. “I then changed my mind and thought that why not I work hard like this and start up my own farm in my country rather than working 13-15 hours back in a foreign country”. “Here, there are lot of resources available and the Government of the day is also assisting and helping farmers in many ways so I thought to come back and do something here in my motherland so that the money remains here and at the same time I can stay with my family and be my own boss,” said Mr. Goundar.

After experiencing what life had to offer overseas and the struggles he faced there, Mr. Goundar bought a piece of land and started up his own farm in Qalema, Rakiraki six years ago. “I bought three acres of land which was nothing but bush when I first bought it but with the help of my wife, we cleaned this up and started with short term crops which takes little time to harvest,” he shared.

“On the three acres of land I plant short term crops like coriander (*dhania*), cabbage, lettuce and tomatoes which give me good returns and I have been supplying vegetables all throughout Rakiraki, Tavua and Ba market daily and I earn about \$100-\$200 a day,” said Mr. Goundar. The 48 year old spends 12 hours per day on his farm and employs three labourers. Unfortunately for Ravindra, he lost all his crops during Tropical Cyclone Winston but he never lost hope and continued striving for the best for his farm.

“Before Tropical Cyclone Winston, my farm was full of vegetables which were almost ready for harvest but unfortunately I lost everything in my farm after Winston due to flooding as my farm is located on the river bank,” he said. He commended the Ministry of Agriculture and the Government of India for providing and assisting farmers after the widespread devastation on his farm.

“The Ministry of Agriculture helped me in land preparation to start up my farm again after Cyclone Winston and I also received some seeds from the Ministry of Agriculture which was given by the Indian Government. “I wish to thank the Ministry of Agriculture for supporting and encouraging us farmers especially the officers from the Ra office who visited us all the time and provided us with technical assistance in areas we lacked in and with their support and assistance I have managed to start up my own farm here in Qalema Rakiraki,” he said with a smile on his face.

Mr. Goundar plans to buy another five acres of land and extend his farm to plant other local crops in the near future. Agriculture Assistant, Morien Prasad said Ravindra Goundar was one of the hardworking farmers in the locality who never hesitated to do things on his own.

“Mr. Ravindra Goundar is one of our hardworking farmers who never gives up with his farming,” said Ms. Prasad.

“He is a full time farmer who started off with his farming career from zero assistance from Ministry of Agriculture but since then the Ministry has assisted him with vegetable seeds, fertilizer, chemicals and later with a water pump which he loaned to use on his farm to water his vegetables,” she said.

“Mr. Goundar is a main supplier of on and off season vegetables to Rakiraki and Tavua market,” said the Agriculture Assistant.

## THE SWEET WATERMELON BOYS OF BEMANA



(L- R) Lorima Lauwai, Nemani Ravouvou and Luke Taniuru during their trip to the Suva market to sell watermelon.

Four young men left the luxuries of urban life to experience the difference offered in toiling the land. Surrounded by the reedy hills in the interior of the Sigatoka Valley and a two-hour drive from Sigatoka Town is Bemana Village, adjacent to it is a 50 acres lake.

The lake which everyone refers to as the “tore” or “bay of luck” is home to the *Niloticus Oreocromis* or wild tilapia, the pride of those with maternal links to the village. It benefits the village in both seasons, during the wet rainy seasons it feeds the village with tilapia whereas during dry seasons, the lake dries up, allowing farmers the opportunity to farm and the cycle continues.

It was on the banks of this lake that Nemani Ravouvou, Luke Taniuru, Lorima Lauwai and Semi Tabaiwalu worked communally and planted watermelon at the beginning of the dry season. These young men, all beginners to the commercial aspect of farming and brimming with the willingness to prosper, banked the progress of their farming through the guidance of Nemani Ravouvou, who had once planted watermelon.

They grew up feeding the market with commodities they could gather like chillies and *karela* for a cent or two and assisted in the loading of *kakos* on horsebacks or bullock driven carts or on shoulders.

“Before planting, we sat and mapped out the goals each individual hoped to attain from this unity,” said Nemani. “Strictly working towards it is easy when everyone involved has an enthusiastic and positive spirit.” “Peer pressure in the village for youths is too strong and this is one way we could distract ourselves from getting involved and earning ourselves money and feeding our families,” added Nemani.

Of the total lake area of 50 acres, 20 acres of land is used by farmers who plant individually or in families, with the boys being the exception, a solo group. Through experimenting, the group’s first watermelon lines of eight cans were established in April.

Yet, with the downpour that followed shortly after, the farmers were left disappointed with their losses but with hope and faith they kept striving towards their goal. “We knew this situation at the lake will be such and in previous year’s farmers often lost interest once bitten by challenges and I applaud the boys in endeavoring to move further,” he said.

“With that faith and luck beside us, we purchased the next 17

packets at \$9.00 per packet and another 10 packets for our third phase planting.” “The boys had to go out of their own way to purchase seeds as there is no source of money and we were relying on the watermelon harvest in the execution of our next planting plan.”

“We chose watermelon because it is a short term commodity and a lot could be obtained from the sale and it is high in demand,” said Nemani. Through dedication, the group managed to build a temporary shelter and spent days and nights guarding their watermelon farm and using the nutrient rich *detritus algae* (tilapia waste) as organic manure.

“Turns are taken when it comes to the security of the watermelon; animals are a threat coming into feed,” said the leader of the group. Braving the cold nights, the scorching heat, transportation of watermelon across the river, human power and the added struggle of being first timers, the boys harvested their first harvest in October making the trip to the Capital City to market their produce.

“The first harvest was four tonnes and we thought to bring it to Suva for marketing as the population is high here in the Capital,” said Nemani. Dividends of tasks were once again shared as Nemani and Luke made the trip to Suva and spent four days in the market with the accomplice of Nemani’s wife Ulamila Qivi, their son Nemani Junior and Viliame Bokoi, while Lorima and Semi volunteered to remain with the second harvest.

“Our plan for the second harvest is to sell at the Ba market and this time the boys will all go so we can all taste the end result of farming and that is marketing and to harvest the fruit of our sweat.”

Expenses were paid for the meals of fellow villagers’ volunteering and transportation of the first harvest which cost the boys \$300 for their four tonnes and \$360 for a rented vehicle delivering the second lot of the first harvest as demand was high. “To think of the struggle we endured trying to get here, how far our village is from the capital and fighting for a spot mixed with the unfavorable weather, being a farmer and coming to market your produce is nothing to be ashamed of,” he encouraged.

“For youths, it is better to make use of the land and plant short term commodities instead of rolling cigarettes or awaiting the fall of night for grog, if going individual is hard, try forming groups and farm because there is money in the land.” “As inexperienced as we are, we took a daring step and decided to make a difference and accomplish our goals through farming, if we can, so can anybody else,” he challenged.

The watermelon boys with the sweet harvest they are reaping and with the lake filling up again are planning to further venture into other long term commodities and livestock and to also make use of idle land in the village. “This experience has really opened up our minds and eyes on farming and venturing into other opportunities.”

Agriculture Assistant Navosa Rupeni Rabici said the challenge the boys posed is something all young people should take into regard. “The main produce that Bemana produces is tobacco (*suki*) and watermelon and the boys have used their time well and taken heed of technical advice directed to them,” he said.

“These boys despite the lack of resources, managed to drive their goals into fruition with combined ideas viewing farming as a job that could accommodate their needs and wants.”



# **Animal Health & Production Division**





## Animal Health and Production Division

The Animal Health & Production Division is responsible in providing advice to government on the development of livestock sectorial policies and programs aimed at promoting the sustainable development of the livestock industry. Achievement Summary from 1 August 2017 - 31 July 2018.

### **OUTPUT 1:**

#### **Maintaining Food Security through the Provision of Extension And Research Services For Crops, Livestock And Veterinary Services;**

In alignment to the above output, the division was able to achieve the following;

- Twenty best farm practices and technology were widely disseminated and adapted by farmers.
- More than hundred farmers were advised to diversify into livestock production.
- In addition, twenty farmers were trained under the climate change and disaster, food security awareness program.
- The division also participated in the joint fund research programmes in collaboration with government stations and university researchers.
- Capacity building on disaster response and preparedness were also undertaken.

### **OUTPUT 2:**

#### **Quick Economic Recovery through the Implementation of Demand Driven Approach And Other Commodity Projects;**

With Economic Recovery through DDA and Commodity Projects the followings were achieved:

- Two industry profile and industry plans were completed for the strengthening of industry councils to coordinate commodity development
- Two hundred and thirty commercial farmers at community level were trained with two bi-annual training assessment.
- One Research assessment in partnership

with institutions were conducted along with two analysis report on joint awareness to farmers

- Coordination in linkages to Tourism Industry with the participation of six farmers were conducted

### **OUTPUT 3:**

#### **Assist In Poverty Alleviation by Capacity Building of Farmers to Increase Production;**

Targeting output 3, the division provided training to thirty subsistence farmers along with two hundred and fifty farm visits.

### **OUTPUT 5:**

#### **Ensuring Equal Access for Women In Agricultural Development;**

In ensuring equal access for women in agriculture development, seven women groups were trained and assisted to strengthen cottage for employment opportunity.

### **OUTPUT 6:**

#### **ROI Communities To Meet Basic Needs, Improve Living Standards Through Agriculture Development;**

A total of eleven agriculture projects were identified with project proposal submitted. Additionally, three consultations were conducted to increase market access on agriculture products and infrastructure upgrade.

### **OUTPUT 7:**

#### **Portfolio Leadership, Policy;**

In providing policy advice for the livestock sector, the following strategies was accomplished:

- One MoU and MoA were reviewed and developed for the division.
- One new Act, Legislation & Policy were formulated, along with one cabinet paper submitted to cabinet.
- Three Research Publication were published.

## 2017/2018 DIVISIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



*Women in poultry farming Nawairuku, Ra.*



*Bee man demonstration during the Agriculture Show in Nadi.*



*Livestock display is always one of the main attraction during the Agriculture Show*



*Meena Goundar with Assistant Minister for Agriculture Hon. Viam Pillay and livestock officer Anasa Rologaivau at her farm in Coqeloa, Labasa*



*Vilimone Matovore (middle) with livestock officer Vilive Seru (right) and FDB official (left) at his farm.*



*Participants during the Mastitis training at FCDCL conference room.*



*Assistant Minister for Hon. Viam Pillay receives feeds from the General Manager for Pacific Feeds Limited Mr. Anal Prasad.*



*Irshad Hussein's newly built goat and sheep shed.*



### IRSHAD'S FARMING: OPTING CHANGE FOR THE BETTER



*Irshad Hussein with Agriculture Technical Officer Ba Ms. Lisikoveni Gadai*

A decade ago, Irshad Hussein, a sugar-cane farmer, turned to livestock farming with one dozen goats and just one sheep to his name. The 45-year-old farmer of Namau, Ba described his beginnings as a livestock farmer as one of struggle laced with emotional strife as he worked to manage his new undertaking.

"It has been about 10 years now since I started my goat and sheep farm and it was quite a difficult journey for me as my stock was out in the open field which was difficult for me to control because I am doing it all alone with my wife and the number of stock was quite big," he said.

Showing his gratitude to the assistance provided to him from the Ministry of Agriculture was an emotional and proud moment for him, as his hard work over the years had now been recognised. "But now I am thankful to the Ministry of Agriculture for coming in and recognizing my efforts."

He started up his livestock farm through the support of his family, his wife and children, "Before I was doing cane farming, but a time came when I got alone and could not continue cane farming because of shortage of labour."

"With the help of the Ministry of Agriculture I then switched to goat and sheep farming because it does not require more man power compared to cane farming and the reason I opted to goat and sheep farming was because of the hilly and sloppy land I have here in Namau which is suitable for raising sheep and goat."

Hussein's journey since venturing into livestock farming in the year 2007 has not been easy, as he grew his farm together with his stock it became difficult for him to control as his livestock were left out in the open.

"When I started my farm I did not have the fence and it was very difficult to control the animals that were not fenced because at times they also damaged other people's crop while the risk of theft was always there."

Hussein's dedication towards farming was recognised by the Ministry of Agriculture in 2017 when he was assisted with materials for a goat and sheep shed, fencing materials and water tank under the Food Security Program in the 2016/2017 budget.

Hussein currently has 76 acres of land for both sheep and goat, now with stocks of more than 150 goats and more than 40 sheep. "My future plan is to increase the stock on my farm as now I have control on the animals as they are all in a fenced area. I also want to start up some vegetable farming here because the animals will no longer be left outside and the risk of damage will not be there compared to the past," he said.

Like most farmers, Hussein also suffered in 2016 after Tropical Cyclone Winston ravaged his farm, totalling a loss worth \$2,000 but Hussein never lost hope due to the motivation and encouragement provided by his supportive family to endure with the farm.

"More than a dozen goats died and some sheep also went missing after Tropical Cyclone Winston which I am still recovering from now," he said. "After all this happened I did not lose hope and I told myself that if I can start from nothing to something, than this should not be a problem to me," he said with a smile.

"Though it was tough, somehow I managed to move on after the devastation as I had the full support of my wife and my children," he said. "If you do any business there are profits and sometimes losses too and in farming there will always be ups and downs as in any other business," he added.

Hussein has experienced a lot of challenges and his advice to other farmers is to work hard and to always keep trying to achieve things in life. "I just want to advise all those farmers who are starting or who are trying to start up their farm is that you should keep trying, whatever you are doing, one day God will definitely help you," he said.

Hussein also thanked the Ministry of Agriculture for recognising him as a farmer and assisting him with the goat shed, water tank and fencing materials. "I would also like to thank the Ministry of Agriculture for coming in and assisting me. I would also like to thank the Agriculture Officers who always visit our farm and provide us with technical advice," he added.

Hussein currently sells his stock throughout the year at the farm gate with prices ranging from \$150-\$250.

### MOHEREIN'S SKIRMISH TO SUCCESS



*Moherein Lata with her Husband Rupendra Mohan with their newly purchased tractor and 2017 Northern Agriculture Show awards.*

Success is a dream every farmer nurtures in their daily toil and it is so much so for women in agriculture.

Treating farming as a business was an entirely new concept for 38-year-old Moherein Lata of Waiquele, Labasa who was unprepared for the changes married life had to offer her as she had no idea how her life after marriage would turn out. "Before getting married I used to work in a life insurance company and had never been into farming and I didn't know much about farming at that time," she said.

"I got married at the age of 21 and from then I used to go out in the field and help my husband and my in-laws in the farm and after I got married I accompanied my husband to sell vegetables in the Labasa market where I felt embarrassed.

"Later I realised that I was wrong and instead I should be proud of myself that I am working hard and helping my family," she smiled. Moherein, who is married to 39-year-old Rupendra Mohan, changed her mind set and decided to help her husband and her family in the farm and later at the age of 29, she took control of the farm allowing her in-laws to stay home as they grew old.

"The reason why I ventured into farming after my marriage is because my family was in this field so I thought to join and help my husband and my in-laws," she said. "My husband and I work full time in the farm and at times when there are a lot of vegetables on the ground than my children come and help," she said.

The 2017 Northern Division Female Farmer of the Year award winner has since had no regrets for taking over the farming business with her spouse as she had set her mind on taking their farm to newer heights. "It has been 10 years now since I have been doing farming here with my husband and it has now become our daily routine as we have to work seven days on our farm.

"There is no regret for me in joining farming with my husband after our marriage and if you see from another point, farming is

a business of your own where you are your own boss and you can also hire people to work for you," she said proudly.

"Yes in any business there are ups and down and if you look at farming as a business, this business will never let you down and it will continue to grow as the demand of vegetables will always be there in the local and export markets," she said. The farming couple who have a son and two daughters in secondary school, have managed to achieve a lot from farming and are looking forward to setting up a nursery and growing off season crops.

"In this 10 years we have achieved a lot from vegetable farming only. We have managed to buy a land where we are planting sugarcane and vegetables. We have also managed to buy a tractor and a car and are still paying from the sale of vegetables," she said. As is with any business venture, there are associated risks and Mrs Lata described natural disasters such as flooding as the major problem on their farm, which is situated on the banks of a river.

"We never gave up on farming, once we lost almost everything in the floods a few years ago but with the support of my family, my husband and I managed as we continued to put in the hard work and piled up our fields with the greens (vegetable)," she said with a smile.

"Anyone can lose hope in any situation but it all depends on how you manage it and the most important thing is that if you have the support of your family, then of course you will never lose hope but instead you will continue to strive for success," she encouraged. Moherein not only takes care of her farm but she continues to commit herself to her role as a wife, mother and daughter-in-law. "I have to take care of my children and my in-laws before going out in the farm because that is my part of who I am," she exclaimed.

Through all of this, she remains grounded and grateful to the continuous guidance and support of the Ministry of Agriculture towards their farm. "The Ministry of Agriculture has been very helpful to us where they have assisted us whenever we needed them. They have provided us with seeds and technical assistance," she said. "I thank the Ministry for supporting and working very closely with us farmers and with their support and guidance we have managed to achieve a lot of things on our farm. "I wish to also advise all women who are helping their family in the farm or who are farming on their own to be proud of yourselves, that you have the ability to do something on your own and not to be dependent on anyone because you are earning on your own," she said proudly.

Like many farmers, their only source of income is from their farm where they supply their vegetables two times per week on average with all expenses met by their farming exploits. They are content with their farming endeavour and have plans ahead of them because according to the Mohan's, they would not have it any other way but farming.



### THE AMBITIOUS FARMER OF NAVOSA



*Jone Madraiwiwi at his cattle farm on the Qalitawarau hilltops.*

The usual errand of herding and rounding up flock on the hills of Qalitawarau gave birth to an idea for a future in farming for young Jone Madraiwiwi back in 1982. The task delegated to him when he was 16 years old, motivated him to build a beef empire for himself on the Qalitawarau hilltops of his village of Korolevu in the district of Noikoro in Navosa.

“While growing up, my uncle Jiutasa Saumalumu delegated a task for me to round up the flock for the night. “I used to ponder upon the future and see myself having my own cattle farm and not having to round another’s stock,” he said.

This idea gathered momentum in 2013 when he became a member of the Navosa Livestock Cooperative Limited (NLCL), which was formed to assist beef farmers in Navosa excel in the breeding and marketing of beef to the market. “I hadn’t started my stock then but I was following the members around, attending meetings and field days to broaden my mind and knowledge,” he said.

He made up his mind in 2015 to establish his own beef farm as he had mustered enough confidence through his affiliation and by being a faithful member of the NLCL. Securing a lease from his Yavusa Koroivakabeka, he started his 400 acres beef farm, rearing 41 cattle on the ridges of Qalitawarau.

36 years down the line, the now 52-year-old Jone Madraiwiwi has fully accomplished his dreams of having his own beef farm and has handed down the reins to his son, Nasoni Tuigalaoa to manage the farm. “I have handed the management of the beef farm to my son to practically showcase his Commercial Agriculture studies.

Ironing out all minor details and with things in full operation, the Madraiwiwi family, with the inclusion of his four boys and a girl share all farm responsibilities. While Jone is on their second farm in Nanukunuku settlement in Draiba, where the family is leasing from the Mataqali Bitolevu in Draiba, his son

continues to run the beef farm. “All the documentation, the processing fees and the money for purchasing of the land was made possible through the revenue from the farm in Draiba,” said Mr. Madraiwiwi.

“My father purchased the 5 acres land and after the time of his passing, we handled the reins and continued planting cassava, watermelon, tobacco, pumpkin, maize, and yaqona. “Having the farm in Draiba is favorable as it lies along the main road and transportation to markets is easy and we supply to the Sigatoka, Suva, Nadi and Lautoka markets.”

“In a harvest, we can achieve total revenue of \$300-\$400 for vegetables and tobacco harvest could be approximately \$10,000 and all the money earned is dedicated to the cattle farm, the education of my children and my family’s well-being,” said the evergreen farmer.

Jone apart from being a farmer is also a chainsaw operator in the area, he uses his skills to assist people with the felling of trees for cash and in Navosa exchange of money for rendered services is sometimes difficult, payment comes in the form of livestock – cattle or horses. “I love helping them because of the fact that they are my own flesh and blood and money is not always available and development is scarce so any exchange is acceptable,” he said.

Like all other farmers in Navosa, he has had to endure the rough terrains and unfavorable road condition but he aims to purchase a 5 tonne truck in the near future to somewhat alleviate the severity of the conditions. “Since the farm is far from access roads, and the road condition is still a problem we are planning on purchasing the truck to enable us to load cattle closer to the farm and start breeding goats as well,” he said.

“Although we will still have to cross rivers and walk down kilometers of slopes, this will lighten our load and struggles a bit and I am hoping to increase my stock.” “In the past, I used to give my cattle for village functions hence the decrease in stock but now I have made up my mind to close the gates to allow the cattle to breed and increase my stock to a hundred,” he smiled.

He has dedicated his life to farming and has witnessed firsthand what farming had contributed to his life as he continuously encourages his children to take up farming, detailing its pros and cons. “I always encourage my children to venture into beef farming and to purchase their own in order for them to learn and to know the struggles that one has to endure, it’s a life lesson as no one will be spoon-fed,” said Jone.

His advice, “Always work towards your goals to achieve it because we rise and fall based on how hard we work,” words he has lived by and something which undoubtedly he will continue to do for the rest of his life.

## CROP RESEARCH DIVISION



*Director Research - Dr. Apaitia Macanawai presenting during the ISTF Symposium.*

The research activities mainly concentrated on developing economical agricultural technologies to increase local production and dissemination of research findings to stakeholders. Major commodities under the program were rice; dalo, cassava, kumala, yams, potato, papaya, pineapple, tomatoes, chilli, eggplant, capsicum, pulses, maize, coconuts & cocoa were the focus of research activities during the year. The activities were supported by the analysis of soil, foliar, animal feed, food products and water by the Fiji Agricultural Chemistry Laboratory and technical support & advisory services given by Plant Pathology, Entomology & Fruit Fly Research, Tropical Weed Research and Pesticide Registration from Plant Protection Section services.

### **Achievement summary from 1 August 2017 – 31 July 2018**

#### **OUTPUT 1:**

#### **Maintaining Food Security Through Provision of Extension And Research Services For Crops, Livestock And Veterinary Services;**

In targeting output 1, the division accomplished the following:

- Two best farm practises and technology was widely disseminated and adopted.
- Ten Pest's Management strategies developed to reduce the prevalence of target crop pests and disease.
- Two plants pest diagnostic & plant health clinics was conducted to inform farmers on common pests and plant health symptoms.
- Eight integrated programmes was assisted and implemented and farmers were provided with relevant training to prepare and adapt to risks from Climate Change and Disasters through the relevant programmes. This include adaptability assessment of introduced rice varieties of 7 high yielding, semi-dwarf wetland, 7 drought tolerant, 8 saline tolerant and 4 aromatic varieties from IRRI, Philippines.
- Three awareness conducted for farmers adopting and implementing traditional techniques to enhance food security and livelihoods.
- Twenty farm practices progressive research was conducted to inform farmers on best farm practices. A highlight was the release of two new dalo tolerant varieties to TLB (Tarova vula and Tarova loa) and a new kumala variety (Goleden Brown). It ensures that dalo farmers in Fiji access to tolerant varieties to TLB, a serious dalo disease in the Pacific region and a new kumala variety, which is orange flesh not only is high yielding, it is also nutritious to the diet.
- 2 new value-addition product was developed include ready to fry taro and pineapple-ginger juice.
- One new control measures and management programmes developed and implemented.
- Two quality programs in place, tests conducted and Lab machines purchased.
- Five joint fund research programmes between government stations and university researches.
- 35 Improvement of Research Service Delivery and Research infrastructure.
- 35 economic crop germplasm was conserved.
- 7 indigenous crops established. Process include domestication, promotion, planting materials availabilities and method of storage.
- Food analysis section conducted 4701 tests on the 1018 samples received.
- The Agricultural Chemistry Section, comprising of the soil, plant, feed and other agricultural samples, handled 2173 samples and involving 13971 tests.



**Figure 1: Ready to fry taro trials**



**OUTPUT 2:****Quick Economic Recovery Through The Implementation Of Demand Driven Approach And Other Commodity Projects;**

- Seven research activities on DDA
- An awareness and training done to stakeholders on CODEX requirement.

**OUTPUT 3:****Assist In Poverty Alleviation by Capacity Building of Farmers to Increase Production;**

In order to increase production, 42 farm visit and advice to farmers was undertaken by the research team in order to assist with poverty alleviation.

**OUTPUT 5:****Ensuring Equal Access For Women In Agricultural Development;**

Whilst ensuring equal access in agricultural development, 3 women groups were trained and assisted in Agriculture development.

**OUTPUT 6:****ROI Communities To Meet Basic Needs, Improve Living Standards Through Agriculture Development;**

Targeting rural and outer island communities, 3 Awareness sessions was carried out to rural and maritime staffs on new farming technologies. This will ensure that best practises and new technologies are translated to farmers in the rural and outer islands. These trainings include Plant health Clinics which teach participants to describe symptoms, make diagnosis to identify the causal agent and providing management prescriptions of any sick plant suffered by biotic, abiotic or unknown factors, how to establish

and manage clinics, keeping records, and how to prepare samples for diagnosis.

**OUTPUT 7:****Portfolio Leadership, Policy Focusing on portfolio leadership, policy, the following was achieved;**

- 13 Research Publication was published.
- 1 Fiji Agricultural Journal Published.
- 67 extension officers trained on technical aspects of farming technologies.

**OTHER SERVICES:**

The laboratory also provides practical attachment opportunities for tertiary students who wanted to have some hands-on experiences and training in the laboratory.

**The stats are as follows;**

Fifteen students from the Fiji National University.

- Two students from the University of South Pacific.
- One student from Technical College of Fiji.

**During this financial year, thirteen schools on educational visit to the laboratory;**

- Two Primary Schools include Marist Primary, and Beacon Media Learning Centre.
- Eight secondary schools including Yasawa North Secondary School, Suva Adventist School, Delana Methodist, Rewa Secondary, Tavua College.
- Three Tertiary Schools such as FNU, USP and Padjadjaran University
- Three Ministry departments such as MOFA, MOIT and Labour.

**Seed production in 2017-2018.**

Crops	Variety	Target	Quantity produced
Pigeon pea	Bharpur	400kg	500kg
Cowpea	Mana		
Tara	800kg	400kg	700kg
Urd	Kiran	50kg	60 kg
Mung	Jyoti	45kg	50kg
Peanut	Local Spanish	900kg	1000kg

Seed production remains as one of the main activities especially in the production of BQA seeds

Crop	Target	Produced	Supply
(Aug- July)			
Maize	3000kg	2580kg	1944kg
Chilli	30kg	29.1kg	29.1kg
Tomato	40kg	11.2kg	6.32kg
Eggplant	60kg	59.45kg	55.65kg
Sweetcorn	100kg	Plot established	

Fruit seedlings supplied from the research station nurseries:

Crops	Target	Production	Amount Supplied
Papaya	20,000	13,561	18,364
Pineapple	250,000	210,000	157,800
Grafted plants	4000	4263	659
Assorted Fruit Seedlings	3000	6353	2476

Table 1: Fiji Agricultural Chemistry Laboratory Samples and tests by Sections

Section	No of samples	No of tests
Soil	1167	7946
Plant	388	1707
Feed	438	3278
Other Ags	180	1040
Sub-Total	2173	13971
Food	1018	4701
<b>Total</b>	<b>3191</b>	<b>18672</b>

Figure 1: Distribution of samples by sections

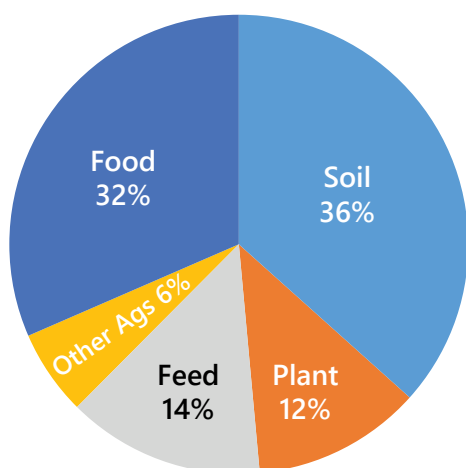
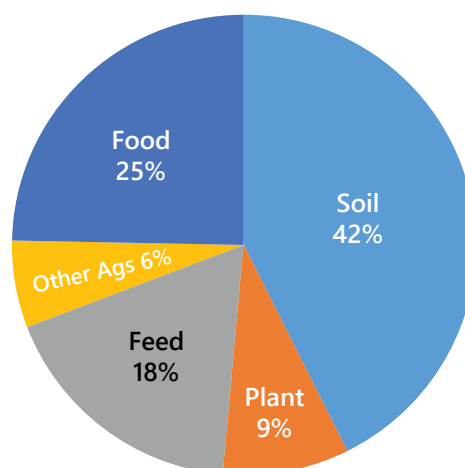


Figure 2: Distribution of tests by sections





About 15 crops were produced at the research stations and supplied to farmers through the Extension Division.

Crops	Amount supplied
Taro – traditional & hybrids	2,500 suckers
Sweet potato	15,650 cuttings
Cassava	15,600 cuttings
Rice	23,755kg
Cocoa	3,279 seedlings
Pulses	205.5kg
Maize	2019 kg
Chilli	32.7 kg
Tomato	31.9 kg
Eggplant	39.58 kg
Sweet corn	19.16 kg
Papaya seedlings	20,000
Pineapple plantlets	30,000
Assorted fruit seedlings	814 seedlings
Rehab seedlings	61,750 seedlings (1,235 trays)



*International Symposium on Tropical Fruits delegates after submission of proposed recommendations.*



*Delegates of the International Symposium on Tropical Fruits Touring the TTM Facility in Nacocolevu.*



*Release of new guava variety - Green Pearl.*



*Plant Protection Lab staff at work.*



*KRS Librarian briefing visitors who were touring the library.*



*Seed extraction training.*



*Plant Health Clinic Awareness.*



*Plant Health Clinic farmer training.*



## LAND RESOURCES PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DIVISION



*Assistance Minister closes Sustainable Land Management Training in Qelewaqa, Labasa.*



Achievement summary from 1 August 2017 – 31 July 2018

### OUTPUT 1:

**Maintaining Food Security Through The Provision of Extension And Research Services For Crops, Livestock And Veterinary Services;**

Key performance indicators targeted and achieved for the division include:

- 23 land use and farm plans incorporating best farm practices and technology that are disseminated and adopted by farmers
- 14 integrated programmes as assisted and implemented % of farmers provided with relevant training to prepare and adapt to risks from Climate Change and Disasters through the relevant programmes.
- 5 agriculture promotional activities and materials
- 4 school gardens established
- 2 backyard gardens established
- 4 conservation farms established
- 4 demo plots established and nurseries maintained
- 100 NFT's & Hedgegrows planting materials distributed
- 3 soil conservation measures and soil health management materials to address DRM and Climate Change

### OUTPUT 2:

**Quick Economic Recovery Through The Implementation of Demand Driven Approach and other Commodity Projects;**

- 4 farm plans and agriculture commercial loan proposals prepared

### OUTPUT 3:

**Assist In Poverty Alleviation by Capacity Building of Farmers to Increase Production;**

- 100 farm visit and advice to farmers
- 16 farmers implemented SLM/FM Training

### OUTPUT 4:

**Sustainable Management of Natural Resources Through Flood Protection Programmes and other Sustainable Land Management Practices;**

- 2 Tikina based baseline biophysical reports provided to stakeholders and land users
- 5 Land care group established and adopting SLM technology and further developed into cluster
- 32 land use plan and farm plan implemented and distributed to farmers
- 2 Effective waste management report on impact of consultation with stakeholders on better land utilization Govt, NGOs and Churches
- 1 impact assessment on the FM Manual from stakeholders conducted
- 2 SLM/FM Training of trainers for Extension officers

### OUTPUT 5:

**Ensuring Equal Access For Women In Agricultural Development;**

- 9 women groups trained/assisted and progressed in Agriculture development to Strengthened cottage industry to create employment.

### OUTPUT 7:

**Portfolio Leadership, Policy;**

- An MoU and MoA was developed and a new act, legislation and policies formulated.





## 2017/2018 DIVISIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



*Namarai Demo Plot 2.*



*Delegates from FAO with Minister for Agriculture Hon. Inia Seruratu and Permanent Secretary for Agriculture Mr. Jitendra Singh*



*CB2/CCD Project inception workshop.*



*SLM Posters prepared for distribution.*



*LUC field verification.*



*Farmers during a Yam Show.*

## ECONOMIC PLANNING & STATISTICS DIVISION



*Ministry hosted Asia Pacific Commission on Agriculture Statistics Conference in Nadi.*



The mission of the division is to excel in the provision of sound economic planning and policy advice for the development of Fiji's agriculture sector. This is achieved by the Policy, Fiji Rural Statistics, Project and Budget, Agriculture trade and Monitoring and Evaluation sections.

## Achievement Summary from 1 August 2017 – 31 July 2018.

### **OUTPUT 2: Quick Economic Recovery Through The Implementation Of Demand Driven Approach And Other Commodity Projects;**

In achieving its targeted output 2, the following sector driven strategies was achieved;

- Two newsletters were published to highlight their achievements through-out the year.
- To Strengthen the industry councils to spearhead and co-ordinate commodity development; 3 consultations with stakeholders were held.
- The Ministry also managed to conduct one local market promotion through the Hotel and Tourism Exhibition Show.
- Co-ordinate and monitor Compliance of CODEX requirements; 1 training was done to stakeholders on CODEX requirement.
- 4 divisional quarterly report on compilation and analysis of agriculture production and trade statistics
- 5 consultation with global stakeholders – united nations global initiative to improve agricultural statistics
- To Coordinate linkage with local tourism industry, 1 food demand survey was conducted.
- 117 Economic Demand Driven Approach Projects and coordinated a Technical Working Group Meeting with National

Steering Committee Meeting for approval of the identified potential projects. 17 projects were part of the Export Promotion Programmes.

- Monitoring of Demand Driven Approach (DDA) Programs including Coconut Development Program, Rice Revitalization Program and Dairy Industry Support Program was conducted.

### **OUTPUT 3:**

#### **Assist In Poverty Alleviation by Capacity Building of Farmers to Increase Production;**

- The Fiji Agricultural Statistics Section submitted 1 Gender Aggregated Data Report
- 1 Report on New Survey Methodology and Survey Solution Software
- Complete Review of Farmers Listing, Establish Fiji Farmers Listing Database and Finalization of Fiji Agriculture Survey Frame.

### **OUTPUT 7:**

#### **Portfolio, Leadership, Policy Advice and Secretariat Support;**

In achieving Portfolio Leadership, Policy Advice and Secretariat Support, the following sector driven strategies was achieved:

- Review and develop 20 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- A total of 9 Cabinet Papers were submitted and approved this year from Cabinet.
- An Agribusiness Development unit was established within the Ministry.
- Capacity building and training was carried out on 150 subsistence farmers for Agribusiness Development.
- 1 consultation was done to develop advance skills and resources required to drive the agri business development process.

## 2017/2018 DIVISIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



*34th APARC Meeting hosted by Government through MoA in Nadi.*



*MoA Officials who were Usseerettes of the 27th Asia Pacific Commission on Agriculture Statistics Meeting welcoming Delegates at the Nadi International Airport.*



*Fiji Agriculture Farmers Listing Review and Data Collection Exercises*



*Workshop on Cold chain and Logistics Management for Agri-food Products.*



*Ministry launches COP Document.*



*FAO Workshop held in Nadi.*



## HUMAN RESOURCE, FINANCE & INFORMATION DIVISION



*The Ministry of Agriculture, as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility, hosted the students of Gospel School for the Deaf to a Fiji Day "fun-day" at the Ministry's headquarters in Raiwaqa on Wednesday, 11 October whereby students, teachers, parents and staff of the Ministry participated in scheduled games and activities.*



The Human Resource, Finance and Information division facilitated all administrative activities of the ministry including maintenance and development of its human and capital resources, media coverage, information dissemination, and financial aspects of the Ministry.

### **Achievement Summary from 1 August 2017 – 31 July 2018.**

#### **OUTPUT 7:**

##### **Portfolio Leadership, Policy Advice and Secretariat Support;**

- The Information and Communication Unit has provided exclusive media coverage on agriculture promotion activities. This year, 4 quarterly reports on impact of

agricultural promotion activities and 568 publications including press releases and major highlights of significant events were released to enhance the Ministry's corporate image.

- For increased coverage through telecommunication services to rural areas, 6 agriculture stations accessed to telecommunication, govnet and linked to intranet. This allowed the staff for easy access to accurate, timely and useful information.
- To improve productivity & performance of staff, a total of 47 trainings were conducted by the Ministry. This included 29 local trainings and 18 overseas trainings to enhance and develop the required skills for the staff.





## 2017/2018 DIVISIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



*Agriculture Show promotion and awareness.*



*PM visits newly opened office in Lekutu, Bua.*



*Senior Management visit to Mua Station.*



*Gospel School of Deaf enjoying their Fiji Fun Day hosted by the Ministry at Raiwaqa.*



*PS Agriculture Mr. David Kolitagane (middle) with the senior management and three officers that went for the training.*



*The Permanent Secretary for Agriculture together with the Principal Tutu Training Centre – Father Michael McVerry and the graduates.*

## OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

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File: 351

24 May 2019

The Honourable Mahendra Reddy  
Minister for Agriculture  
Hugh Robinson Complex  
Grantham Road  
**RAIWAQA**

Dear Honourable Reddy

### MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

### AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDIT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

The audited financial statements for the Ministry of Agriculture for the year ended 31 July 2018 together with my audit report on them are enclosed.

Particulars of the errors and omission arising from the audit have been forwarded to the management of the Ministry for necessary action.

Yours sincerely

Ajay Nand  
**AUDITOR-GENERAL**

cc: Mr. David Kolutagane, The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture.

Encl.





**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

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### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

I have audited the financial statements of the Ministry of Agriculture, which comprise the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure, Appropriation Statement, Consolidated Activity Trading Account, Consolidated Trading Activity Profit and Loss Account, Consolidated Trading Activity Balance Sheet, Trust Fund Account Statement of Receipts and Payments and Statement of Losses for the financial year ended 31 July 2018, and the notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Financial Management Act, Finance Instructions 2010 and the Finance (Amendment) Instructions 2016.

#### Basis for Opinion

I have conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA). My responsibilities under those standards are described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities* paragraph of my report. I am independent of the Ministry in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Fiji and I have fulfilled my other responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

#### Other Matter

Internal controls over payroll expenses, procurement processes and management of inventory for Trading Activity were generally found to be weak and if not addressed promptly may result in material misstatements and possible financial losses in the future.

#### Management's Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The management of the Ministry are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Financial Management Act, Finance Instructions 2010 and Finance (Amendment) Instructions 2016, and for such internal control as the management determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISA will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud and error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.



As part of an audit in accordance with ISA, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Ministry of Agriculture's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and related disclosures made by the Ministry of Agriculture.

I communicate with the Ministry of Agriculture regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Ajay Nand  
AUDITOR-GENERAL



Suva, Fiji  
24 May 2019

**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**

**MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018**

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We certify that these financial statements:

- a) fairly reflect the financial operations and performance of the Ministry of Agriculture for the year ended 31 July 2018; and
- b) have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Financial Management Act, Finance Instructions 2010 and the Finance (Amendment) Instructions 2016.



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David Kolitagane  
Permanent Secretary for Agriculture

Date: 23/5/19.



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Sikeli N. Baleisuva  
Principal Accountant

Date: 23/5/19

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

	Notes	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Agricultural produce & Inspection Fees		1,478	339
License		35,035	41,075
Meat Inspection		15,427	19,280
Veterinary and animal quarantine		27,961	12,327
Sale of sheep and wool		8,385	30,126
Rest house		4,598	9,234
Rental for quarters		52,080	61,084
Registration		4,984	6,943
Commission		20,898	24,227
Sale of farm produce		47,334	32,227
Clearance of previous year's trust		-	41,476
Miscellaneous revenue		678,239	280,751
Overpayment recoveries		40,412	77,745
Board Member fees		5,208	-
Pound keeping		4,239	-
Sale of animals by auction		850	-
Water charges		329	661
Rural electrification		343	718
Total Receipts	3 (a)	947,800	638,213
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Established staff		12,040,455	12,431,521
Government wage earners		4,951,495	5,444,014
Travel and communication		780,664	774,032
Maintenance & operations		2,029,814	2,113,395
Purchase of goods and services		593,641	624,846
Operating grants and transfers	3 (b)	3,635,078	3,169,595
Special expenditures	3 (c)	3,743,734	2,289,910
Total Operating Expenditure		27,774,681	26,847,313
Capital construction	3 (d)	14,916,823	17,474,568
Capital purchase	3 (e)	1,239,252	1,078,114
Capital grants and transfers	3 (f)	41,564,300	8,596,684
Total Capital Expenditure		57,720,375	27,149,366
Value Added Tax		2,006,370	2,144,617
Total Expenditure		87,501,626	56,141,296



# MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

## APPROPRIATION STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

SEG	Item	Budget Estimate \$	Changes (Note 4) \$	Revised Budget \$	Actual Expenditure \$	Carry- Over \$	Lapsed Appropriation (Note 5) \$
	<b>Operating Expenditure</b>						
1	Established Staff	14,442,544	-	14,442,544	12,040,455	-	2,402,089
2	Government Wage Earners	5,297,593	-	5,297,593	4,951,495	-	346,098
3	Travel & Communications	730,400	57,314	787,714	780,664	-	7,050
4	Maintenance & Operations	2,170,881	(10,859)	2,160,022	2,029,814	-	130,208
5	Purchase Of Goods & Services	773,203	(46,455)	726,748	593,641	-	133,107
6	Operating Grants & Transfers	4,214,671	(500,000)	3,714,671	3,635,078	-	79,593
7	Special Expenditure	4,764,000	(636,945)	4,127,055	3,743,734	-	383,321
	<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>32,393,292</b>	<b>(1,136,945)</b>	<b>31,256,347</b>	<b>27,771,881</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,481,466</b>
	<b>Capital Expenditure</b>						
8	Capital Construction	27,097,000	(8,131,843)	18,965,157	14,916,823	-	4,048,334
9	Capital Purchase	3,540,000	(1,249,693)	2,290,307	1,239,252	-	1,051,055
10	Capital Grants & Transfer	19,791,938	24,490,240	44,282,178	41,564,300	-	2,717,878
	<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>50,428,938</b>	<b>15,108,704</b>	<b>65,537,642</b>	<b>57,720,375</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,817,267</b>
13	Value Added Tax	3,516,800	(971,759)	2,545,041	2,006,370	-	538,671
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>86,339,030</b>	<b>13,000,000</b>	<b>99,339,030</b>	<b>87,501,626</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,837,404</b>

# MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

## CONSOLIDATED TRADING ACCOUNT - COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKING FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

	Note	2018 (\$)	2017 Restated (\$)
TRADING ACCOUNT			
Sales		1,369,248	1,605,040
Opening stock	6	775,608	1,331,426
Add: Purchases		697,287	1,184,767
Add: Direct Labour		5,507	7,207
		<u>1,478,402</u>	<u>2,523,400</u>
Less: Closing stock	6	592,672	775,608
Cost of finished goods sold		<u>885,730</u>	<u>1,747,792</u>
Gross Profit/(Loss)		<u>483,518</u>	<u>(142,752)</u>

# MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

## CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT - COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKING FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

	2018	2017
	(\$)	Restated (\$)
<b>INCOME</b>		
Gross Profit/(Loss) transferred from Trading A/C	483,518	(142,752)
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>483,518</u>	<u>(142,752)</u>
 <b>EXPENSE</b>		
Travelling & Communication Expenses	3,147	14,895
Maintenance & Operation	345,470	220,435
Other Expenses	27,571	20,469
Loss of Inventory	1,147	4,507
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>377,335</u>	<u>260,306</u>
 <b>Net Profit/(Loss)</b>	<u>106,183</u>	<u>(403,058)</u>



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET - COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKING  
AS AT 31 JULY 2018

	Notes	2018 (\$)	2017 Restated (\$)
<b>LIABILITY</b>			
Deposits & Retention		(22,113)	(22,113)
<b>Total Liability</b>		<u>(22,113)</u>	<u>(22,113)</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
<b>TMA Surplus</b>			
Opening balance		(349,644)	(484,768)
Remittance		(156,794)	(359,372)
Adjustment		-	494,496
Closing Balance		<u>(506,433)</u>	<u>(349,644)</u>
<b>TMA Accumulated Surplus</b>			
Opening balance	6	1,504,897	1,903,448
Net Profit/(Loss)		106,183	(403,058)
Write off		1,147	4,507
Closing Balance		<u>1,612,227</u>	<u>1,504,897</u>
<b>Total Equity</b>		<u>1,105,789</u>	<u>1,155,253</u>
<b>Total Liability and Equities</b>		<u>1,083,676</u>	<u>1,133,140</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash		490,255	319,766
Accounts receivable		739	739
Finished goods	6	592,672	812,635
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>1,083,676</u>	<u>1,133,140</u>

# MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

## TRUST ACCOUNT STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS LAND WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND LAND RESETTLEMENT PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

	Note	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
RECEIPTS			
Retention Money		1,326	870,709
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>1,326</b>	<b>870,709</b>
PAYMENTS			
Retention Money		818,684	737,513
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>818,684</b>	<b>737,513</b>
(Deficit) Surplus		(817,358)	133,196
Opening Balance at 1 August		817,358	684,162
Closing Balance as at 31 July	7	-	817,358

## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

### STATEMENT OF LOSSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

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#### Loss of Money

There was no loss of money recorded for the year ended 31 July 2018.

#### Loss of Revenue

There was no loss of revenue for the year ended 31 July 2018.

#### Loss of Assets

There was no reported loss (other than money) recorded for the year ended 31 July 2018. The Board of Survey was conducted by the Ministry and the following items worth \$71,444 were recommended for write off:

Category	Cost (\$)
Computer hardware	26,600
Office equipment	32,780
Furniture and fittings	2,364
Laboratory equipment	7,000
Motor vehicles	2,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,444</b>

The motor vehicles are valued based on the reserved value (for auction) as recommended by the Board of Survey Committee.

#### Loss of Assets (Livestock)

There was loss of livestock resulted from death of sheep, goat and chickens for the year ended 31 July 2018.

Description	Cost (\$)
Sheep	16,432
Pigs	1,613
Cattles	9,716
Goat	10,483
Chicken	1,095
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,339</b>



## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

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#### NOTE 1: REPORTING ENTITY

The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for supporting the livelihoods of ordinary Fijians who rely on farming (outside of sugarcane) by providing technical crop and livestock extension services and conducting research to develop innovative solutions for Fiji's agriculture sector. The Ministry has gradually moved from a Government led – or “top-down” – approach to a demand driven – or “bottom-up” – approach by listening and responding to the needs of farmers and capitalising on new market opportunities. The Ministry of Agriculture is also promoting farming as a business as opposed to farming as just a way of life. Farming has become a highly specialised skill, and the Ministry is working to pass proper training and assistance on to farmers to achieve results and be competitive in the market.

#### NOTE 2: STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### a) Basis of Accounting/Presentation

In accordance with Government accounting policies, the financial statements of the Ministry of Agriculture is prepared on cash basis of accounting. All payments related to purchases of fixed assets have been expensed.

The financial statements are presented in accordance with the Financial Management Act and the requirements of Section 71 (1) of the Finance Instruction 2010. The preparation and presentation of a Statement of Assets and Liabilities is not required under the current Government policies, except for that of the Trade and Manufacturing Accounts.

##### b) Accounting for Value Added Tax (VAT)

All income is inclusive of VAT while the expenses are VAT exclusive. The Ministry on a monthly basis takes out VAT output on total money budgeted for their expenditure. VAT input on the other hand is claimed on payments made to the suppliers and sub-contractors for expenses incurred.

The VAT payment as per the Statement of Receipts and Expenditures relates to the VAT input claimed on payments made to the suppliers and sub-contractors for expenses incurred and VAT payments to Fiji Revenue and Customs Services. Actual amount paid to Fiji Revenue and Customs Services during the year represents the difference between VAT Output and VAT Input.

##### c) Comparative Figures

The financial year end for Government was changed from 31 December to 31 July in accordance with the Financial Management (Amendment) Act 2016.

The financial statements for the year ended 2017 and the financial statements for the year ended 2018 are both for a twelve months period.

## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued...) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

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#### NOTE 2: STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued...)

##### d) Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised when the actual cash is received by the Ministry. The major sources of revenue for the Ministry of Agriculture are the Sale of agricultural produce, License and Inspection Fees, Veterinary and animal quarantine, Rental for quarters, Overpayment recoveries and cash contribution from farmers assisted through various projects which is recorded under miscellaneous revenue.

#### NOTE 3: SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS

- a) The total revenue collected increased by \$309,587 or 49% in 2018 compared to 2017. This is attributed to the increase in receipt of farmers' deposits on the various land preparation facility projects.
- b) The operating grant and transfer expenditures increased by \$ 465,483 or 15% in 2018 compared to 2017 due to the increase in operating grant paid to the Agriculture Marketing Authority.
- c) The special expenditures increased by \$1,453,824 or 640% due to the hosting of the 34<sup>th</sup> FAO Regional Conference for the Asia and the Pacific in 2018 and the increase in IT operational support expenses for the Information Section.
- d) The capital construction expenditures decreased by \$2,557,745 or 15% in 2018 compared to 2017. The decrease is attributed to the Ministry diverting some of its capital program funding to the Farm Care Initiative that was announced by Government in May 2018. The funding for major capital programs including the Land, Drainage and Flood Protection and Watershed management that were previously budgeted under the Ministry in 2017 are now budgeted under the Ministry of Waterways.
- e) The capital purchase expenditures increased by \$161,138 or 15% in 2018 due to the implementation of the Stray Animal Control Campaign in the Central, Western and Northern Division. The Ministry also incurred funds for the purchase of equipment for the Agricultural Chemistry Lab during the year.
- f) The capital grant and transfer expenditures increased by \$32,967,616 or 384% in 2018 compared to 2017. The increase is mainly attributed to the implementation of the Farm Care Initiative to assist those that were affected by Tropical Cyclone Josie and Tropical Cyclone Keni. In addition, the capital grant paid to the Agriculture Marketing Authority increased by \$1.6million and the Ministry had also facilitated the payments of the Committee on Better Utilisation of Land in 2018.



# MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued...) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

### NOTE 4: DETAILS OF APPROPRIATION CHANGES

The following virements were approved by the Minister of Economy to cater for the Farm Care programme.

Virement No.	From	Amount (\$)	To	Amount (\$)
001/2018	SEG 8	256,639	SEG 10	538,224
	SEG 9	190,229		
	SEG 10	91,356		
002/2018	SEG 7	331,962	SEG 10	402,057
	SEG 13	70,095		
003 / 2018	SEG 7	169,725	SEG 10	6,325,517
	SEG 8	4,998,863		
	SEG 9	596,298		
	SEG 10	560,631		
004 / 2018	SEG 13	511,919	SEG 10	511,919
005 /2018	SEG 6	500,000	SEG 10	2,333,569
	SEG 8	1,688,191		
	SEG 9	103,666		
	SEG 10	41,712		
006 /2018	SEG 7	82,300	SEG 10	1,354,358
	SEG 8	932,700		
	SEG 9	239,358		
	SEG 10	100,000		
007 /2018	SEG 13	238,282	SEG 10	238,282
008 /2018	SEG 13	112,892	SEG 10	112,892
009 /2018	SEG 7	52,958	SEG 10	428,550
	SEG 8	255,450		
	SEG 9	120,142		
010 /2018	SEG 13	38,570	SEG 10	38,570

The following virements were approved by the Permanent Secretary under delegation of Authority from the Minister of Economy

Virement No.	From	Amount (\$)	To	Amount (\$)
DV 001/ 18	SEG 4	65,500	SEG 3	57,314
	SEG 5	46,455	SEG 4	54,641
	SEG 13	8,483	SEG 13	8,483

In addition, a total of \$13,000,000 was redeployed from Ministry of Economy (Head 50) to Ministry of Agriculture for the Farm Care Programme.



# MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

## NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued...) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

### NOTE 5: SIGNIFICANT SAVINGS

Significant Savings for the financial year ended 31 July 2018 are as follows:

No.	Expenditure	Revised Budget (\$)	Actual Expenditure (\$)	Savings (\$)	Percentage Savings (%)
a)	Established staff	14,442,544	12,040,455	2,402,089	17
b)	Capital construction	18,965,157	14,916,823	4,048,334	21
c)	Capital Purchase	2,290,307	1,239,252	1,051,055	46

- The savings in established staff is due to the vacant positions within the Ministry due to resignations and retirement of officers.
- The savings in capital construction is due to the delay in the tender process, vetting/finalization of contract documents and requisition to incur funds (RIE) applications therefore resulting in the delay in the implementation of capital projects that were planned and budgeted for to be carried out during the year. These includes projects funds allocated for under the Farm Access Road, Construction of Office & Staff Quarters, Export Promotion Programme, Fiji Agricultural Partnership Project and the Construction of Agronomy Building which was not implemented in the 2018 financial year.
- The savings in capital purchase is attributed to the non-implementation of the Farm Mechanisation programme due to the significant delay in the tender process and getting the tender approval.

### NOTE 6: PRIOR YEAR ERROR ADJUSTMENTS

Veterinary drugs totalling \$139,890 were found to have expired as at balance date, out of which \$138,743 or 99% of the total expired drugs have expired in prior years. Therefore, the financial statement has been retrospectively restated to correctly reflect the loss of inventory expense in the Profit and Loss Statement. The effect of the restatement in the prior year's financial statements is summarised below.

Effect on TMA Profit and Loss	Effect on 2017
Increase in total expenses	4,507
Effect in Net Loss	4,507
Effect on TMA Balance Sheet	Effect on 2017
Decrease in Asset	(134,236)
Effect on Total Asset	(134,236)
Decrease in Equity	(134,236)
Effect on Total Equity	(134,236)

## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (*Continued...*) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2018

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#### NOTE 7: MAIN TRUST FUND ACCOUNT

Trust money is to be accounted for separately from public money and other money. Trust money is to be kept in a separate bank account pending its withdrawal for use.

This trust fund account is used to maintain retention funds for Land and Water Resources Management (LWRM) projects as per the conditions on the agreement. The funds will be paid out to contractors when certificate of completion is submitted and all conditions of the contract are met. This account is now closed and has been transferred to the Ministry of Waterways.





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