

**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION**  
**THURSDAY, 19 APRIL 2018**

**151/2018 Hon. Ro Kiniviliame Kiliraki to ask the Minister for Industry, Trade, Tourism, Lands and Mineral Resources – Can the Minister explain how effective is the Northern Development Programme?**

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1. Madam Speaker, I thank the Hon. Member for the question.
2. Since the commencement of the Northern Development Programme (“NDP”) in January 2008, 2,160 projects have been funded and a total of 6,480 jobs have been created mainly in the agriculture and fishing sectors.
3. The types of employment include farmers, farm workers, fisherman, fishing crews, cane cutters and market vendors.
4. In terms of livelihood support, the NDP has directly impacted 32,400 individuals. In other words, the NDP has made an impact on the lives of 25 percent of the total population of Vanua Levu.
5. Impact assessment results reveal that all NDP projects have increased their asset base. These MSMEs have acquired assets such as farm machinery, tools, fibre glass boats and outboard engines, livestock and farm house materials.
6. In terms of income levels, all NDP projects have increased their income level from as low as \$3,000 to over \$30,000.
7. One of the core product of NDP is business training as well. To date, a total of 7,847 entrepreneurs have been trained in competency-based economy for entrepreneurship (CEFE) and financial literacy, including provision of technical advice in partnership with key government agencies.

8. The success rate of the NDP since its inception in 2008 is close to 84 percent. Essentially, this means 84 percent of NDP projects are still operating and generating income.

## FACT SHEET

### NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

1. The aim of the Northern Development Programme (“**NDP**”) is to enhance the livelihoods of the people in the Northern Division through the development of micro, small and medium enterprises (“**MSMEs**”).
2. The objectives of the NDP are to:
  - a) increase the participation of the people of the Northern Division in economic development;
  - b) support the development of MSMEs;
  - c) raise the level of investment and economic production;
  - d) increase the volume and value of trade;
  - e) generate increased employment opportunities; and
  - f) facilitate demand based business and technical training.

### 3. **Summary of NDP**

<b>Number of Projects Funded</b>	<b>2,160</b>
Total Grant Component (Government)	\$8.7 Million
Loan Component	\$10.1 Million
Total Value of Grant and Loan	\$18.8 Million

<b>Training</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Total Participants</b>
CEFE (New Business Creation Course) (Competency based Economy for Entrepreneur-CEFE)	136	3,254
Financial Literacy (FLET)	136	3,254
Technical Training	92	1,339
<b>Total</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>7,847</b>