

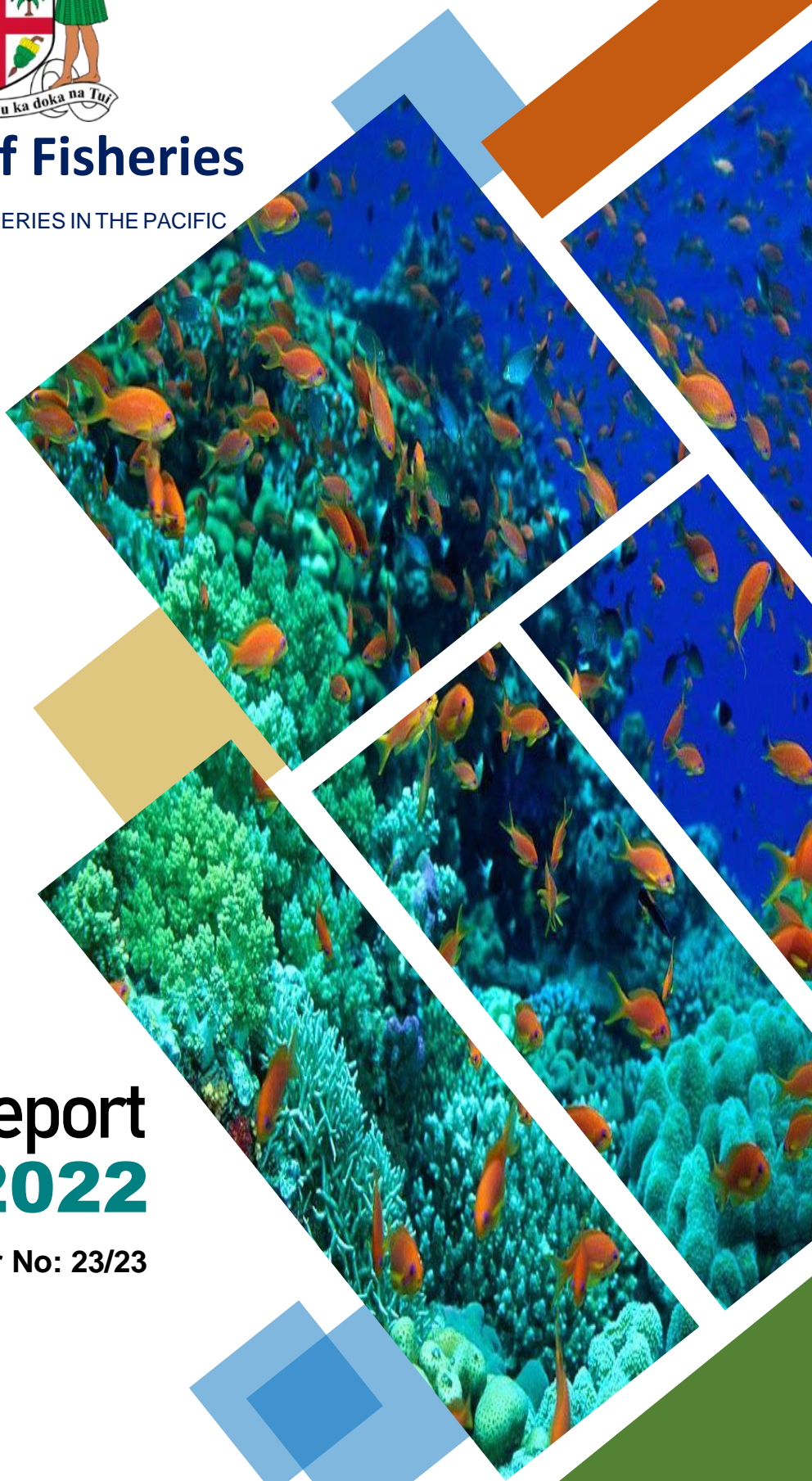


Ministry of Fisheries

TO HAVE THE BEST FISHERIES IN THE PACIFIC

Annual Report **2021 - 2022**

Parliamentary Paper No: 23/23





Ministry of Fisheries

TO HAVE THE BEST FISHERIES IN THE PACIFIC

Annual Report 2021 - 2022



Referral Letter

Honourable Kalaveti Vodo Ravu
Minister for Fisheries and Forestry
Takayawa Building
Suva

Dear Sir,

I am pleased to present to you the Annual Report of the Ministry of Fisheries for the period 1st August 2021 to 31st July 2022, for presentation to Parliament in accordance with the requirements of the Financial Management Act 2004 and the Financial (Amendment) Act 2021.

For the reporting period, the Ministry was committed to implementing Fiji's national fishing and aquaculture programs outlines in the 3-year economic recovery plan to ensure food security through sustainable marine resource management and improved its facilitative role for Fiji's private sector to help grow the economy.

Equally important, the Ministry received from the Auditor-General an unqualified audit opinion for this reporting period making it the third consecutive year for it to have a clean accounting record.

The staff and I look forward to continue aligning our Ministry's work efforts to ensure that we strengthen our efforts towards the sustainable management of Fiji's fisheries resources and to contribute meaningfully to our people's food security, economic and social needs, and the need to protect our resources to also cater for our future generations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AR', written over a light blue grid background.

.....
Mrs. Atelaite Rokosuka
Acting Permanent Secretary for Fisheries and Forestry

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Acronyms

FBOS	Fiji Bureau of Statistics
Real GDP	Real Gross Domestic Product
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
FFA	Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency
WCPFC IWG	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Intersessional Working Group
MCS	Monitoring, control, and surveillance
UNFAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
PSMA	Port State Measures Agreement
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
CPUE	Catch Per Unit
ABNJ	Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction
OFMD	Offshore Fisheries Management Division
IFMD	Inshore Fisheries Management Division
SPC	The Pacific Community
PEUMP	Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
WWF	World Wildlife Fund
SPREP	Pacific Regional Environment Programme
ACIAR	Australian Center for International Agriculture Research
OFCE	Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation of Japan
FAD	fish aggregation devices
WFH	work-from-home
WFO	work-from-office
EM	Executive Management
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding



Permanent Secretary's Foreword



I am pleased to present the annual report for the Ministry of Fisheries for the financial year beginning 1st August 2021 to 31st July 2022.

The Ministry received a total budget of \$13.5 million. In comparison to 2020 - 2021, this was a decline of \$1.9 million (12%). The Ministry utilised \$111.4 million (85%) for the implementation of the Ministry's programmes and projects and achieved 77.6% of its deliverables in the Annual Operational Plan with a staffing strength of 89%. Ministry's personnel and vehicles were redeployed during the 1st quarter to support the whole-of-Government COVID-19 containment measures. Some key events and achievements are highlighted below:

- Receiving an unqualified audit opinion from the Auditor-General, making this the third consecutive year in the Ministry's history to have a clean financial record. It is a benchmark we intend to maintain moving forward;
- The fisheries sector contributed \$149.8 million in export earnings given the magnitude of the adverse socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic that crippled the global economy;
- Contributed \$3.5 million to the state revenue through fisheries vessel registration, fishing license, sale of fish and ice, and offshore fisheries fees.
- Ensured the resilience and recovery of the fishing industry and fishers through the COVID-19 lockdown.
- \$600 million in funding was successfully negotiated for the next licensing period under the United States Multilateral Treaty;
- This was made possible through Fiji's chairmanship in the fisheries space to the following meetings:
 - Forum Fisheries Council and the plethora of Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency meetings at both the official and ministerial levels.
 - Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Intersessional Working Group on Albacore Tuna.
 - Monitoring, control, and surveillance Working Group
 - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Port State Measures Agreement meeting
- Distribution of solar freezers, boats and engines, and Fish Aggregating Devices in communities across the country to support food security and economic needs;
- Promotion of the Commercial Shrimp Aquaculture and Food Security Program to also assist with food security and economic growth needs;

I commend the commitment of the entire Ministry staff and the fisheries stakeholders especially in elevating the level of collaboration to help meet Fiji's food security needs and grow the national economy from the fisheries sector while ensuring the sustainable management of our fisheries resources.

.....
Mrs. Atelaite Rokosuka
 Acting Permanent Secretary for Fisheries and Forestry

Overview of the Fisheries Sector in Fiji

Fiji covers about 1.3 million square kilometers of the South Pacific Ocean. The fisheries sector comprises three key sub-sectors: offshore fisheries, inshore or coastal fisheries; inclusive of commercial and subsistence fishery, and fresh and brackish water Aquaculture.

The Major Categories of Fishing

The offshore fisheries mainly involve the use of longline gear targeting tuna (mainly albacore, yellowfin, and bigeye) for export markets, but a wide variety of species are caught for both local and overseas consumption. The amount of catch in offshore fisheries is determined by several factors, including the number of active vessels, oceanographic conditions, and the movement of fish.

The coastal commercial fisheries of Fiji involve fishing in lagoons, reefs, deep slopes, and in nearby open ocean waters. Most boats involved in these fisheries are less than nine metres in length, but some of the fishing does not make use of a vessel. Coastal fisheries use many different kinds of gear (for example lines, nets, spears, traps) to harvest a very diverse range of finfish, invertebrates, and algae.

Estimating the amount of catch in Fiji's coastal fisheries is extremely difficult due to hundreds of landing sites and thousands of fishers, but it is thought to be about 11,000 tonnes per year. Most of the landings are for the domestic markets, but some high-value species, such as snappers and lobsters, are exported. The domestic flow of the coastal commercial catch around the country is considerable; a recent study showed that 70% of the coastal fish from northern Vanua Levu is marketed in Suva. A major issue in the management of Fiji's coastal commercial fisheries is the extreme difficulty of controlling the amount of fishing effort,

especially on high-value species and in areas close to urban Centres.

The coastal subsistence fisheries of Fiji as the name implies, are focused on the production of food for home use. Significant amounts of fish are, however, given away to friends and relatives. Often attempts are made to market any valuable species captured if a market exists (e.g., lobster to a resort). Subsistence fishery landings occur at coastal villages throughout the coastal areas of the country, roughly in proportion to the distribution of the population.

Estimating the amount of catch in Fiji's coastal subsistence fisheries is fiendishly difficult. Nevertheless, various assessments have been made over the year, with a recent estimate being about 16,000 tonnes per year. A major issue in the management of Fiji's coastal subsistence fisheries is identifying means to provide assistance to Fiji's 850 coastal communities to ensure the sustainability of their fishery resources.

The freshwater fisheries of Fiji are relatively small compared to the other fishery sub-sectors. Harvests of freshwater finfish and invertebrates in Fiji consist mainly of freshwater clams ("kai"), eels, various species of freshwater crustaceans, and introduced fish, such as tilapia and carp. Of these, the freshwater clams are by far the most important and fishing for this species occurs in all major river systems in Fiji.

The harvest of all freshwater species has been estimated to be about 3,700 tonnes annually. Although there is little active management of freshwater fisheries in the country. A general principle is that management measures are positive for freshwater resources (for example erosion control) and are usually favorable for freshwater fisheries.

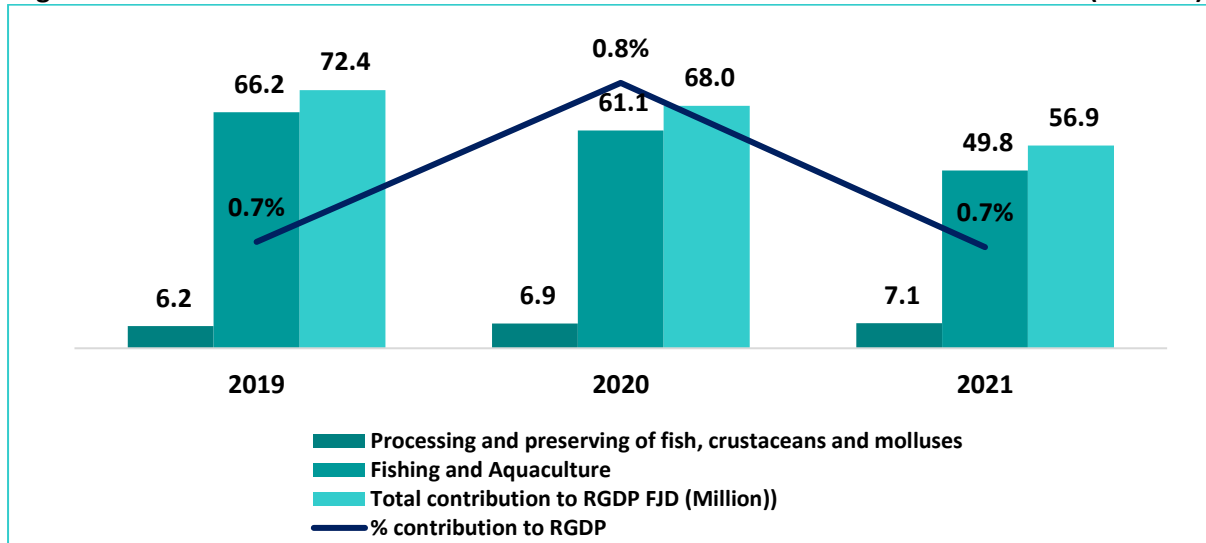


Fisheries Sector Contribution to Fiji's Economy

Contribution to Fiji's Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

The official statistics published by the Fiji Bureau of Statistics (FBOS) showed that fishing and aquaculture contributed FJD 49.8 million to Fiji's real gross domestic product (Real GDP) in 2021, a decline of FJD 11.3 million (-18.5%) in comparison to the 2020 contribution of FJD 61.1 million. The sector also contributed FJD 7.1 million to real GDP growth in the manufacturing industry in 2021, an increase of FJD 83,596 (1.2%). The combined fisheries-related activities within the fisheries sector contributed FJD 56.9 million (0.7%) to the national real GDP in 2021.

Figure:1 Fisheries Sector Contribution to Real Gross Domestic Product 2019 – 2021 - FJD (Millions)

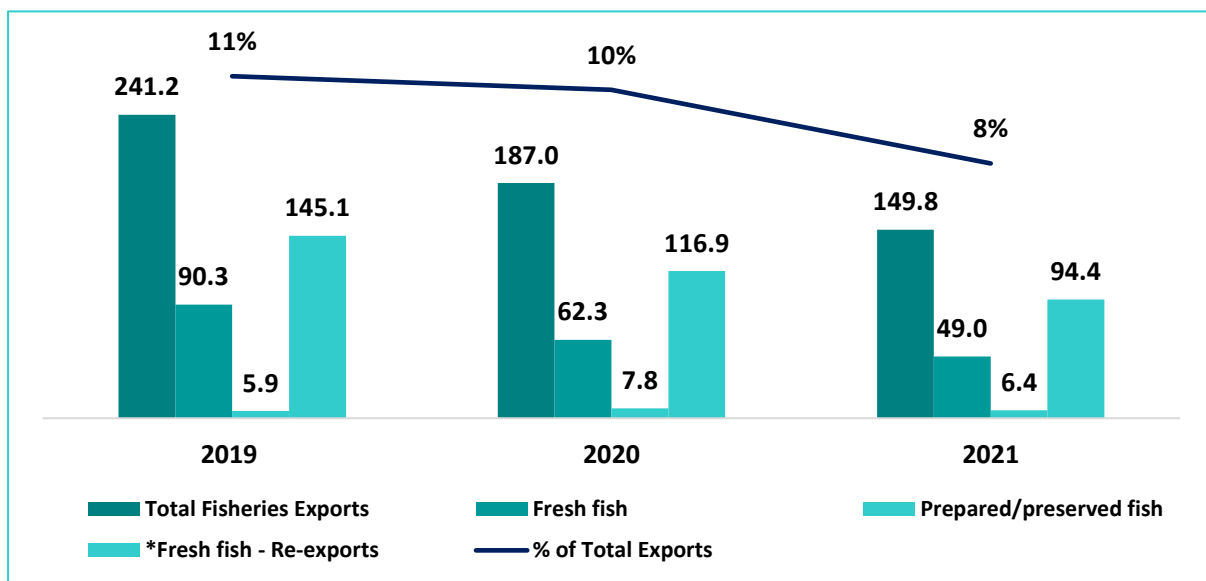


Source: Fiji Bureau of Statistics

Fish Exports by Standard International Trade Classification

The fisheries sector contributed FJD 149.8 million (8%) to the national export earnings in 2021. A sharp decline of FJD 37.2 million (-19.9%) was seen as the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in comparison to the 2020 export earnings of FJD 187 million.

Figure:2 Fish Exports by Standard International Trade Classification 2019 – 2021 - FJD (Millions)

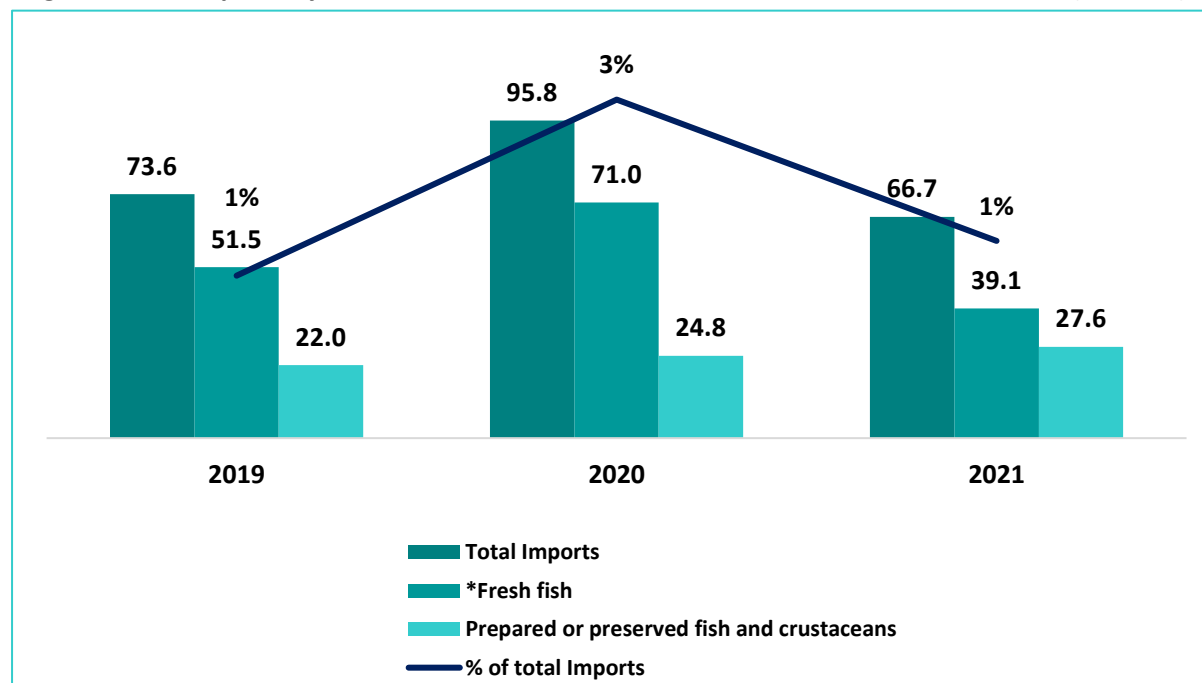


Source: Fiji Bureau of Statistics

Fish Imports by Standard International Trade Classification

The fisheries sector imports amounted to FJD 66.7 million in 2020. A massive decrease of FJD 29.1 million (30.4%) was seen due to a change in consumer preference toward prepared and preserved fish and crustaceans during the COVID-19 pandemic and the Ministry's economic recovery targets of import substitution.

Figure: 3 Fish Imports by Standard International Trade Classification 2019 – 2021 - FJD (Millions)



Source: Fiji Bureau of Statistics

Employment in the Fisheries Sector

Findings of the FBOS 2019, Annual Employment Survey showed an estimate of 180, 106 employees for the registered establishments as of June 2019 in Fiji. 1,048 employees were directly employed in the fishing sector the 5,745 employees were employed within the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing industries. The employment breakdown according to the main economic activity is highlighted in Table 1.

Table 1: 2019 Formal Employment in Fisheries

Economic Activity	2018	2019
Marine Fishing on commercial	1,173	881
Gathering of Marine organisms and material	77	
Gathering of freshwater animals		78
Gathering of marine organisms and material	24	19
Marine aquaculture	41	39
Freshwater	34	31
Total Employees	1,349	1,048

Source: Fiji Bureau of Statistics

Agency Overview

Our Core Business

We are a public sector agency responsible for the national regulatory & policy framework of/for fishing, conservation, management, and development of fisheries resources in Fiji's fisheries waters & corresponding services delivery for sustainable fisheries management through the following functions;

- Portfolio leadership and policy advice;
- Formulate, review, administer, and enforce the national fisheries legislations and regulations;
- Formulate, align, review, Implement, monitor, and evaluate policies, strategies, plans, programs, and projects;
- Deliver extension advisory services through effective training, communication, awareness, and support fisheries infrastructure;
- Undertake applied research for sustainable fisheries resource management practices, commodity development, and marine resource conservation;
- Promote fisheries commodity development, utilization, and value-adding for food security and income generation;
- Strengthen global, regional, and national collaborative public and private sector, community, and industry partnerships on sustainable fisheries management and development and marine biodiversity and marine resource conservation; and
- Maintain and comply with international bilateral and multilateral commitments.

Corporate Profile



"To have the best Fisheries in the Pacific Region"

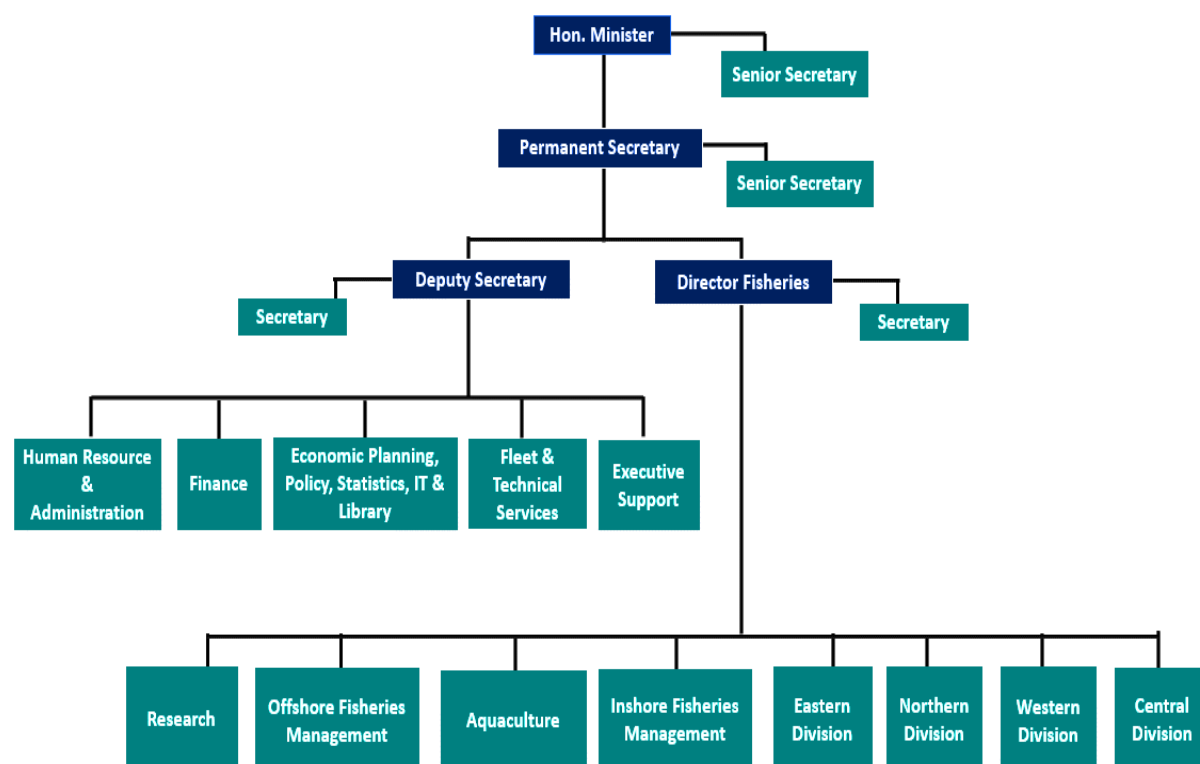


"To Sustain, to Manage and to Protect Fiji's Fisheries"



- **Excellence** – we will strive for high-quality outcomes and deliver excellent services in all operations
- **Integrity** – we will follow through on our commitments and be open and transparent in our dealings with all stakeholders
- **Innovation** – we will continuously improve our service and take the initiative to maximize the use and value of our fisheries
- **Inclusiveness** – we will be recognized for our collaborative approaches, working in partnership with communities and all stakeholders
- **Professionalism** – we will be focused, tackle challenges directly, manage our operation efficiently and always seek to develop our people
- **Accountability** – we recognize the critical nature of our role on behalf of the Fijian people and we will take responsibility for our decisions and our outcomes while demonstrating leadership in all we do

Organizational Structure



Human Resources

For the 2021/2022 financial year, the Ministry had a total of 356 positions as per the staff established. As of 31 July 2022, the Ministry had a total of 317 staff on the ground and 39 vacancies. The breakdown of staff categories is given in Table 2. During the year, thirty-two (32) positions were processed, one hundred and eleven (111) contracts were renewed, six (6) transfers were facilitated, six (6) officers retired, sixteen (16) staff resigned whilst three (3) proceeded on leave without pay, one (1) for secondment to The Pacific Community and two (2) took leave abroad.

Table: 2 Staffing of the Ministry of Fisheries

	Aug 2020/ Jul 2021				Aug 2021/ Jul 2022		
	Established Officers	Government Wage Earners	Project Officers		Established Officers	Government Wage Earners	Project Officers
Approved staff - 361	192	107	62	Approved staff - 356	189	105	62
Strength – 337 (Manpower on the ground)	176	102	59	Strength – 317 (Manpower on the ground)	170	94	53
Weaknesses – 24 (Vacancies)	16	5	3	Weaknesses – 39 (Vacancies)	19	11	9

Source: Human Resources Division of the Ministry of Fisheries

Vehicles

For the 2020/2021 financial year, the Ministry had a total of 38 vehicles in operation. The breakdown of the vehicle distribution by division is tabulated in Table 3.

Table: 3 Vehicle distribution by division for Aug 2021/ Jul 2022

Division	Lease	Non-lease	S/Total
Executive Office	2	1	3
Headquarters	2	0	2
Northern	3	2	5
Central	2	1	3
Eastern	5	1	6
Western	4	0	4
Research	0	1	1
Technical Service	1	3	4
Aquaculture	4	2	6
Offshore	1	1	2
Inshore	2	0	2
Total	26	12	38

Source: Human Resources Division of the Ministry of Fisheries

Vessels

For the 2020/2021 financial year, the Ministry had a total of 19 vessels. The status of the vessel distribution by the station is tabulated in Table 4.

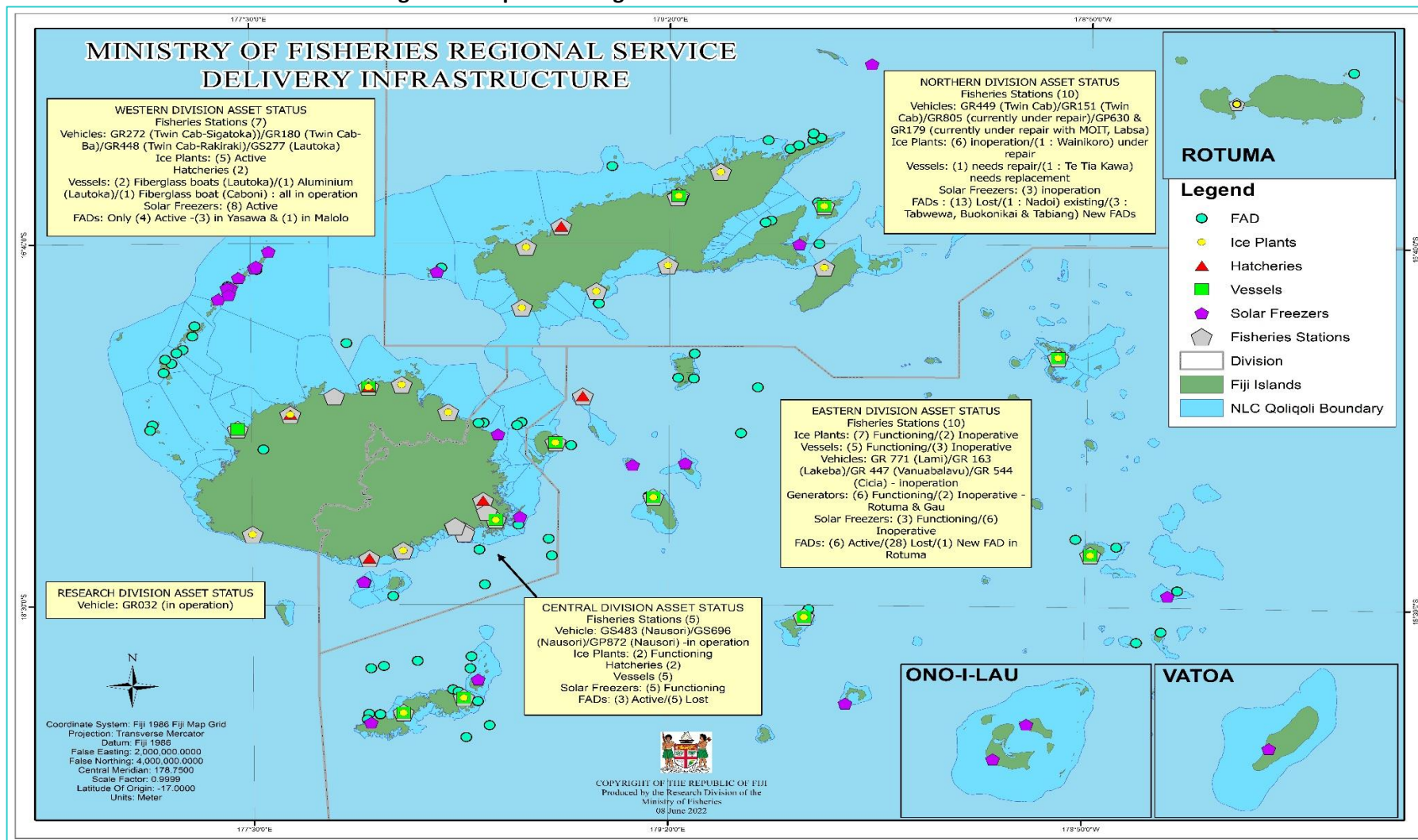
Table: 4 Vessel distribution by the station for Aug 2021/ Jul 2022

No.	Vessel Name	Year	Station	Remarks
1	Cevaninubu	2016	Central- Wainibokasi	In Operation
2	Bull Shark	2016	Central- Wainibokasi Korean Aid	Not operational, waiting for repair
3	MV Dua Lei Ranimia	2020	Lautoka	Operational
4	FV Sabutukula	2016	Namarai	Engine returned for return job with Asco.
5	FV Busa	2016	Lautoka	Requested for a re-quote with Asco - \$4785.65
6	FV Sabutu	2016	Lautoka	25 Hp. The engine was repaired by Mala (Wainikoro), though awaiting its return from Lami to Lautoka.
7	FV Volaca	2016	Lautoka	Quotes for repair by companies- Hon. Minister's directive to be handed over to Drauniivi Scheme after repair works
8	Qari	2019	Kavala, Kadavu	23ft with 60HP outboard engine
9	Regurawa	2019	Vunisea, Kadavu	23ft with 60HP outboard engine
10	Saqa	2019	Naroi, Moala	23ft with 60HP outboard engine
11	Donu	2019	Natokalau, Cicia	23ft with 60HP outboard engine
12	MV Jobfish	2020	Levuka	New boat - 25ft vessel
13	Lakeba	2009	Lakeba	Boat was given for Seaweed project in Namukailau in 2009 and later transferred to Lakeba Fisheries
14	Lumiboso	2015	Gau	23ft with 60HP outboard engine
15	Bai Ni Vualiku	2019	Labasa	In Operation
16	Onaga	2016	Labasa	Not operation, waiting for repair
17	Civa Loa	2016	Labasa	Not in Operation, waiting for repair
18	Long Tom	2016	Labasa	Boat fully repaired, but waiting for Engine
19	Tesia Akawa	2016	Rabi	In operation in Rabi

Source: Human Resources Division of the Ministry of Fisheries

Distribution of Assets, Services, and Products

Figure: 4 Map illustrating the Distribution of Our services Nationwide.



Source: Ministry of Fisheries

2021 – 2022 Key Highlights



BUDGET ALLOCATED - \$13.5 Million
BUDGET UTILISED - \$11.4 Million
UTILISATION RATE – 85%
AUDITOR GENERAL - unqualified audit opinion

APPROVED STAFF - 356
MANPOWER ON THE GROUND - 317
VACANCIES - 39
STAFFING STRENGTH – 89%



BUSINESS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION
STRATEGIC PRIORITIES – 14
KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS – 281
ACHIEVEMENT RATE – 77.6%

1. Portfolio Leadership, Policy Advice & Secretariat Support – 73.3%
2. Education & Training – 80.0%
3. Public Awareness & Promotion – 83.6%
4. Sustainable Investment and Trade – 75.0%
5. Value Adding & Down Stream Processing – 75.5%
6. Research & Development – 75.2%
7. Fisheries Law Enforcement- Licensing, Compliance & Monitoring – 77.5%
8. Food Security & Income Generation – 91.3%
9. Strengthen Global/ Regional/National/ Sector/ Public & Private Sector Partnerships – 76.4%
10. Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation & Resilience – 60.0%
11. Promote Gender Equality, Women & Youth in Development – 66.7%

EXPORTS 2021
FRESH FISH EXPORTS – \$49 Million
PREPARED / PRESERVED FISH EXPORTS - \$6.4 Million
FRESH FISH RE-EXPORTS - \$94.4 Million
TOTAL EXPORTS - \$149.8 Million



Summary of 2021 – 2022 Business Plan Achievement

Mindful of the following national and sector plans including;

- Fiji's 20-year National Development Plan 2017-2036 maps the way forward for Fiji and all Fijians to realize our full potential as a nation under the national vision of "Transforming Fiji"
- the Ministry's 2019 – 2029 10-Year Strategic Plan &
- the Ministry's 3-Year 2021 – 2024 Operations Plan

The aim of the 2021 - 2022 Annual Business Plan was as follows;

- To outline the Ministry's corporate profile and operating environment
- To detail the Ministry's key programs and projects, anticipated outputs, and outcomes of the Ministry for the financial year Aug 2021 – July 2022.

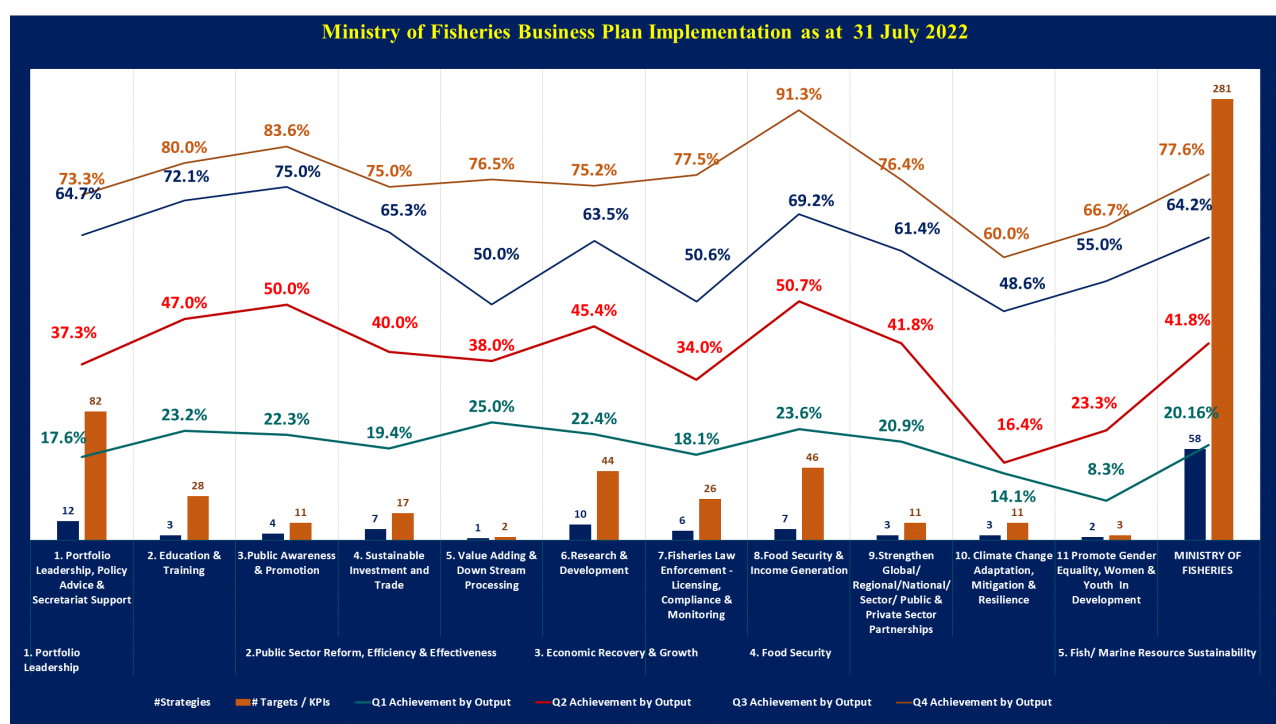
Table: 5 Summary of Outcome and Outputs for 2021 – 2022 Business Plan

Outcomes	Outputs
Portfolio Leadership	1. Portfolio Leadership, Policy Advice & Secretariat Support
	2. Education & Training
	3. Public Awareness & Promotion
Public Sector Reform, Efficiency & Effectiveness	4. Sustainable Investment and Trade
	5. Value Adding & Down Stream Processing
Economic Recovery & Growth	6. Research & Development
	7. Fisheries Law Enforcement - Licensing, Compliance & Monitoring
Food Security	8. Food Security & Income Generation
	9. Strengthen Global/ Regional/National/ Sector/ Public & Private Sector Partnerships
Fish/ Marine Resource Sustainability	10. Climate Change Adaptation, Mitigation & Resilience
	11. Promote Gender Equality, Women & Youth In Development

Source: Ministry of Fisheries

Figure 5 below illustrates the Ministry operational plan implementation from quarter one (1) to quarter four (4) of the financial year.

Figure: 5 Ministry of Fisheries Business Plan Implementation as at 30 July 2022



Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Economic Planning, Policy, Statistics, and IT Division

2021 – 2022 Capital Projects Achievement

The Ministry was allocated a capital budget of \$3.74 million. As at 31st July 2022 the capital budget utilized was \$3.52 million with a utilization rate of 94%.

Table: 6 2021 - 2022 Capital Projects Summary

Table: 6 2021 - 2022 Capital Projects Summary			
Budgetary Provision	Amount Utilized	Achievement	Objectives
COMMODITY RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND CONSERVATION			
1. FISHERIES RESEARCH & CONSERVATION PROGRAMME			* Promoting sustainable fisheries management and the replenishment of fish stock.
\$ 180,000.00	\$ 176,272.00	FIA Completed - Nabouwalu - Uduya Point - Victoria Marine - Charan Katonivere Holdings R2R Completed - Tuva Catchment, Nadroga Mangrove Oyster Trial - Waikona, Tavua - Kaba, Waicoka & Daku, Tailevu - Nuku, Rewa MPA Completed - Yakawe - Nukubati	
2. PEARL OYSTER RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT			
\$ 180,000.00	\$ 178,129.00	Mabe Pearl - Navatudua Womens Group SPAT Collector Harvested - Nawaikama, Gau - 312 (6 Lines) - Sawaieke, Gau - 72 (6 Lines) - Ravita Women’s group - 252 (2 Lines) - Mahana Pearl - 1916 (14 Lines)	* Carrying out Fisheries assessment survey to manage inshore fisheries. * Empowering communities through sustainable resource management and development initiatives.
3. MAKOGAI MARICULTURE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE			
\$ 177,000.00	\$ 173,870.00	Spawning of Giant Clams - T.deresa - 120,000 Reseeding completed - Wakaya Island - 50 - Mamanuca Island - 50 - Gai Island - 50 - Makadra Island - 50 - Tavarua Island - 200 - Makogai Island - 7,269 (Land tank), 744 (Ocean nursery) - Moturiki Island - 200	
INSHORE/ COASTAL FISHERIES COMMODITY DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT			
4. COASTAL FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT			* Developing and implementing a coherent approach to optimal and sustained fisheries development. * Promoting sustainable fisheries management
\$ 501,800.00	\$ 489,258.00	Training Completed - 2 Package Training (Ovalau & Rotuma) - 3 Fish Warden Training (Vanuabalavu, Dreketi & Wailevu) Mangrove Planting completed - Vanuabalavu - 550 seedlings - Moala - 200 seedlings - Levuka - 200 seedlings Coral Planting completed - Vanuabalavu - 2,100 pieces MCS carried out - 13 Sea Patrol - 19 Land Patrol FAD Deployed around Fiji - 2 Deployed in the Ovalau waters - 2 Deployed in Rotuma	

Budgetary Provision	Amount Utilized	Achievement	Objectives
		- 1 Deployed in Vanuabalavu - 4 Deployed in the Rabi waters	*Empowering of Community based through integrated sustainable resource management and development initiatives. * Improving our service efficiency through technology.
5. CYCLONE REHAB - SEAWEED DEVELOP PROGRAMME			
\$ 150,000.00	\$ 148,789.00	Total Seaweed Produced - 27,710.5 Kg Planting Sites North - 2 Sites - Dama, Bua - Dakuniba, Cakaudrove Central - 5 Sites - Navulivatu Village, Serua - Kumi Village, Verata - Sawakasa Village, Tailevu - Vatani Village, Kaba - Vutia Village, Rewa West - 3 Sites - Namuaimada Village - Togovere Village - Malake Village	
6. ELECTRONIC MONITORING SYSTEM			
\$ 380,000.00	\$ 229,699.00	EMS Installed Vessel - 50 Vessels Equipment Serviced - 13 Vessels	
AQUACULTURE			
7. FRESHWATER AQUACULTURE PROGRAMME			* Support small-scale farmers and community-based Aquaculture production for food and nutrition security livelihood. * Support Commercial development of Aquaculture Industries including existing and potential commodities. * Ensuring Aquaculture farmers and producers have access to quality technical advice to improve on productivity yields. * Food security and economic growth.
\$ 200,000.00	\$ 199,588.00	Tilapia Frys Produced - 1,616,391 - Dreketi Hatchery - 313,893 - NRS Hatchery - 1,302,498 Tilapia Frys distributed to 353 Farmers - 65 Aquaculture Farmers in the North - 288 Aquaculture Farmers in the Central Farm Development activities - 1,119 - Site Survey carried out - 68 - Pond Construction supervision - 76 - Sampling completed - 75 - Extension Services - 276 - Farm Revival completed - 50 - Consultation with Farmers - 574	
8. BRACKISH WATER DEVELOPMENT			
\$ 266,000.00	\$ 252,617.00	Sandfish Culturing - 220 Broodstock collected from Serua - Cultured 27,700 - 11,700 restocked to Serua MPA - 16,000 grow out for future brooders Shrimp Culturing - 15,340 PLs for future brooders Tilapia Fry production - 70,000 Fry produced - Distributed to 20 Farmers in Namosi	
9. FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM - AQUACULTURE			
\$ 500,000.00	\$ 453,234.00	Total FSP recipients this Year - 51 Farmers - North - 17 Farmers - Central - 24 Farmers - West - 10 Farmers Total FSP Segregated Data - 1,172 Farmers - North - 389 (50.1% Male; 49.9% Female)	

Budgetary Provision	Amount Utilized	Achievement	Objectives
		- Central - 357 (22% Male; 78% Female) - West - 426 (51% Male; 49% Female)	
10. ASSISTANCE TO COMMERCIAL AQUA FARMERS			
\$ 175,000.00	\$ 155,042.00	Farmers assisted through this grant - 2 Farmers	
MINISTRY SERVICE DELIVERY INFRASTRUCTURE & VESSEL			
11. UPGRADING OF FISH INSTITU- OFFICE & QUARTERS			* Improving the standard of Government Offices and premises.
\$ 390,000.00	\$ 144,696.00	Fisheries Institutional Quarters maintained - 2 Quarters renovated	
12. CONSTRUCTION/ESTABLISHMENT OF MULTI-SPECIES HATCHERY			* Support small-scale farmers and community-based aquaculture production for food and nutrition security and livelihood.
\$ 417,766.00	\$ 140,310.00	100% Completed	

Source: Ministry of Fisheries



The giant clams reared at the hatchery have been distributed to many of Fiji's marine protected areas (MPAs) which are managed by the local communities and hotels.

Achievements from Functional Division

Offshore Fisheries Management Division

The Offshore Fisheries Management Division or annotated by and usually referred to as OFMD, is the advisory arm of the Ministry on matters relating to the Fijis pelagic fisheries in the Archipelagic Waters, Territorial Seas, EEZ waters, the High Seas, and for vessels fishing in other jurisdictions.

The goals of the division are to harness the great potential of our fisheries, support our industry stakeholders, grow the economy, and ensure the equitable distribution of wealth and benefits. All the while strengthening our efforts in ensuring the sustainable management of our fisheries resources. With the mission to create value, the Ministry has adopted a five-pronged strategy:

To aid the industry to allow for a well-controlled and efficient fishery, the Ministry's first strategy is to promote the modernisation of the national fleet. This will also allow for the fleet to venture and fish in the tuna-rich waters noting that we are geographically located outside these waters.

Secondly, is to invest in new technology to enhance the existing MCS tools. We see real-time satellite imagery access or even long-range drones as examples of platforms that we see that will enhance our monitoring capabilities. We are also very interested in other technology that will also enhance our catch documentation and "hook to plate" traceability systems.

We also envisage improving the naval capabilities, as the lead maritime security agency, to police and monitor our seas. We are blessed to have in place collaborative programs to improve in this area such as ship rider programs with the US and only recently with the Government of the UK. Our continued presence and attaining high visibility in the vast ocean spaces would only be possible with the opportunities for more surveillance assets and technology.

Fourthly, as an economic sector, our role is to provide full support, within the ambits of our laws, to the industry stakeholders. Fiji has one of the largest domestic industries within the region and it is important that in our efforts to ensure the long-term sustainability of the fisheries resources, we are cognizant of the needs of the industry and prioritize the support that we provide to them to ensure their long-term viability and a thriving sector.

Lastly, the regular updating of our laws allows the Ministry to accommodate current changes in the fisheries sector including at the operational level, and also cover any cross-sectoral gaps that may exist.

Achievements:

Portfolio leadership, policy advice, and secretariat support

The division's responsibilities at the national level are at the policy levels, within the Ministry, and equally with our government agencies, development partners, academic institutions, and friends and at the operational levels with the sector stakeholders. Throughout the year, the division was able to churn out meeting briefs, technical advice, parliamentary briefs, and speeches for the Ministry.

Key achievements for the period:

- Legal reforms: Licence tenure extended to 20 years and changes to affect the ease of doing business;
- Resilience and recovery of the industry through COVID-19.
- Continued functioning despite COVID-19 lockdowns
- Introduction of fees payment through electronic platforms EFTPOS and M-Paisa
- Active participation in cyclone and COVID-19 operations
- Successful annual Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) audit and continuation of certification
- Trials on e-reporting for vessel captains and observers.
- Submission of draft Crewing Policy and Tuna Management Plan

Due to the highly migratory nature of tuna and its high value, the division's responsibilities extend to the regional and international levels. The division is responsible to ensure Fiji's obligations under treaties and other

legally binding arrangements that look into the harvesting and management of the highly migratory fish stocks such as tuna, are fully met. The following milestone achievements were realized in this reporting period:

- Chairing of the Forum Fisheries Council and the plethora of Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) meetings at both the official and ministerial levels.
- Successful negotiation of the \$600M for the next licensing period under the United States Multilateral Treaty.
- Chair of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission Intersessional Working Group (WCPFC IWG) on Albacore Tuna
- Chair of the Monitoring, control, and surveillance (MCS) Working Group
- Chair of the Observer
- Chair of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UNFAO) Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) meeting

Fish resource sustainable management Fleet Structure

Table: 7 Fiji National Fleet Structure, 2017 – 2021.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
< 21	9	13	14	14	6
21m – 30m	45	37	34	28	30
>31 m	30	46	45	44	31
TOTAL	84	96	93	86	67

Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Offshore Fisheries Management Division

Fishing Effort Distribution

The fleet actively fishing for 2021 consisted of 67 Fiji national vessels; of which 4 vessels are chartered foreign-flagged vessels. The remaining 63 vessels are Fiji flagged and fished in Fiji's Archipelagic waters, Territorial Seas, Fiji's Exclusive Economic Zone [EEZ], other EEZs, and high seas within the WCPO.

Figure: 6 a & b: Fiji Flagged Fleet Catch in WCPFC Convention Area for 2020 and 2021

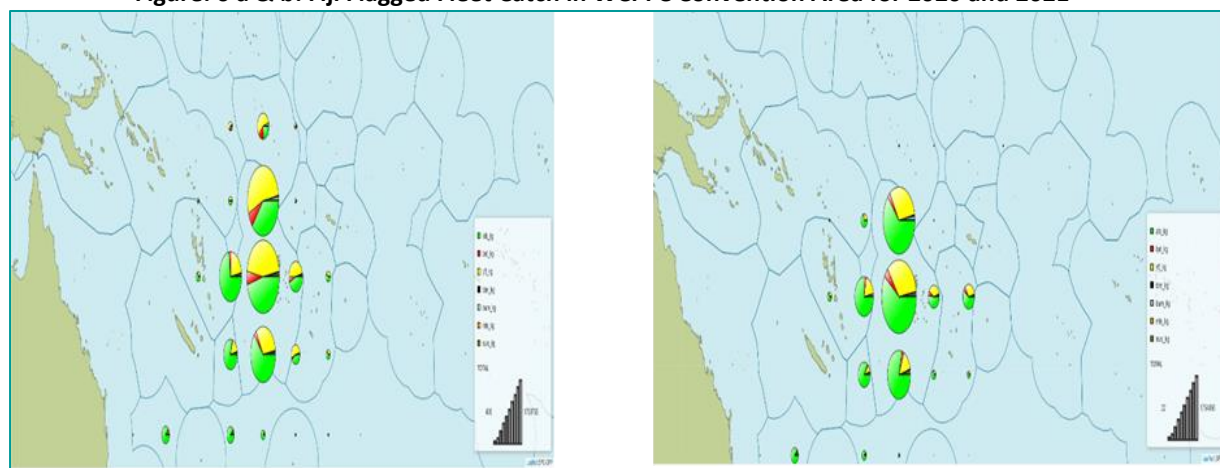


Figure:6a-2020

Figure:6b-2021

Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Offshore Fisheries Management Division

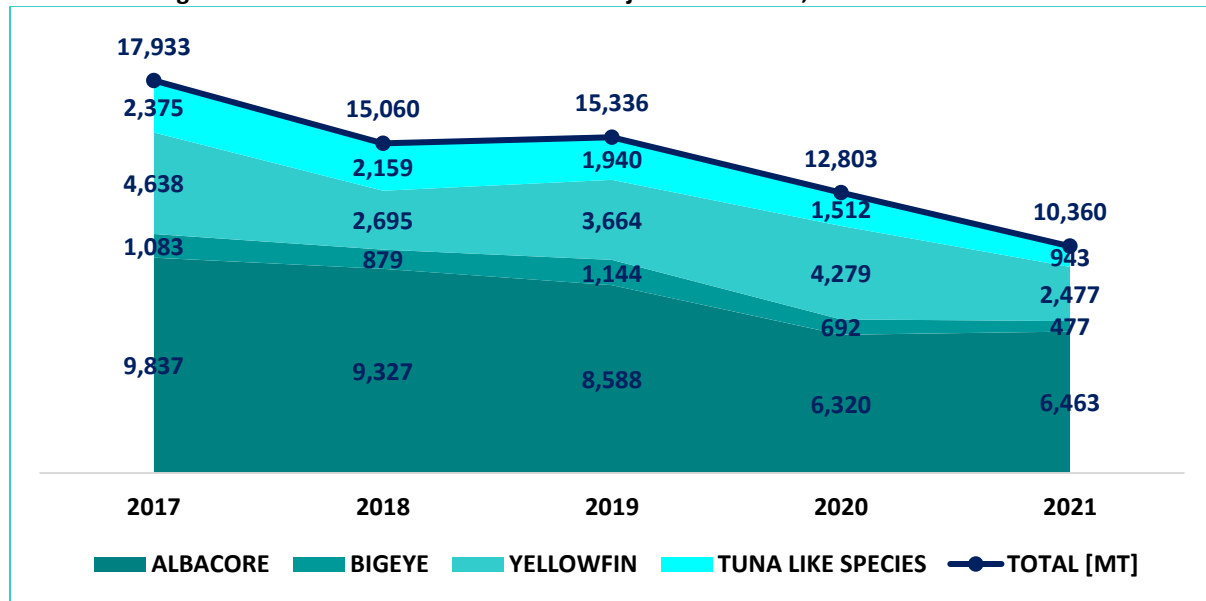
Figures: 6a and 6b are snapshots of Fiji's National Fleet catches for the 3 tuna species and billfish in 2020 and 2021 respectively. Both snapshots show that much of the catch is caught in Fiji's EEZ with certain portions in other EEZs, where the vessels are licensed to fish and in the high seas.

In 2021, around 69% of Fiji's longline fishing effort took place within Fiji's EEZ, compared to 64% in 2020. Approximately 13% of the total national catch was caught within the high seas whilst the remaining 18% of the catches were from other EEZ our vessels were licensed to fish in 2021.

Annual Catch

Figure 7 below shows the catches by Fiji's Longline fleet in the Fiji EEZ, High Seas, and neighboring EEZs which some of the vessels are also licensed.

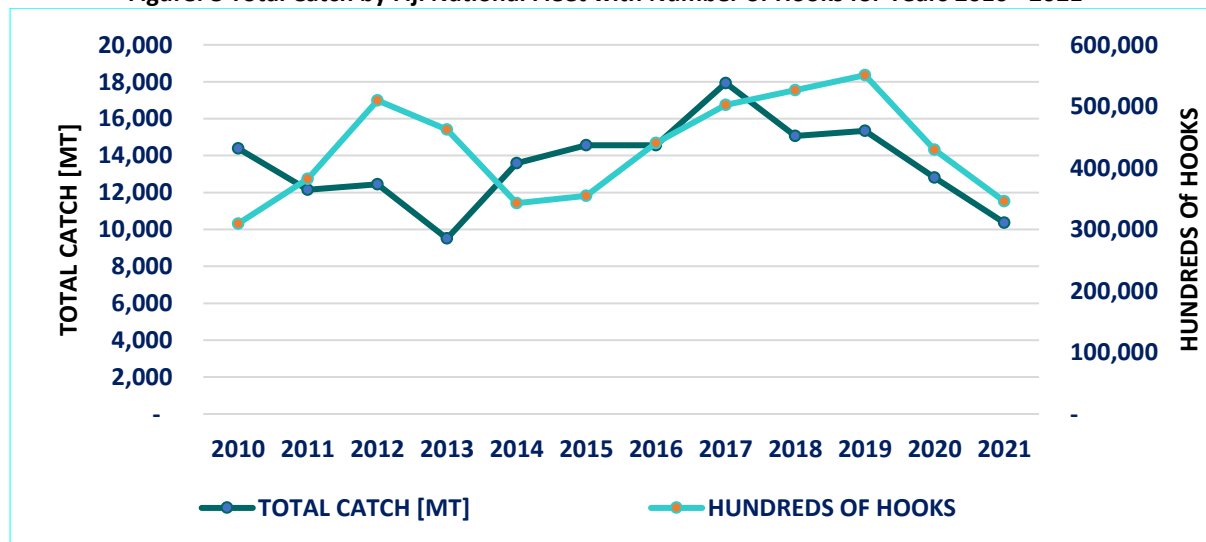
Figure: 7 Annual Catch estimates for the Fiji National Fleet, 2017– 2021



Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Offshore Fisheries Management Division

The total provisional catch by the domestic longline fleet (catches inside and outside Fiji EEZ) for 2021 was 10,360 mt, 91% of which is comprised of Tuna catches (9,417 mt). Despite the slight plateau in catches in 2018 and 2019 at around 15,000 mt average, 2020 showed a significant drop in catch to 12,803 mt followed by a further drop in the catch in 2021 (Figures 7 and 8) because of the Covid-19 pandemic over the past two years where most of the vessels that specifically targeted for the fresh tuna markets were either fishing at its lowest efforts or not at all. This was due to border closures, decreased flights and thus having an impact on exports particularly to the USA, resulting in the overall decline of catches for all species in 2020 and 2021.

Figure: 8 Total Catch by Fiji National Fleet with Number of Hooks for Years 2010 - 2021

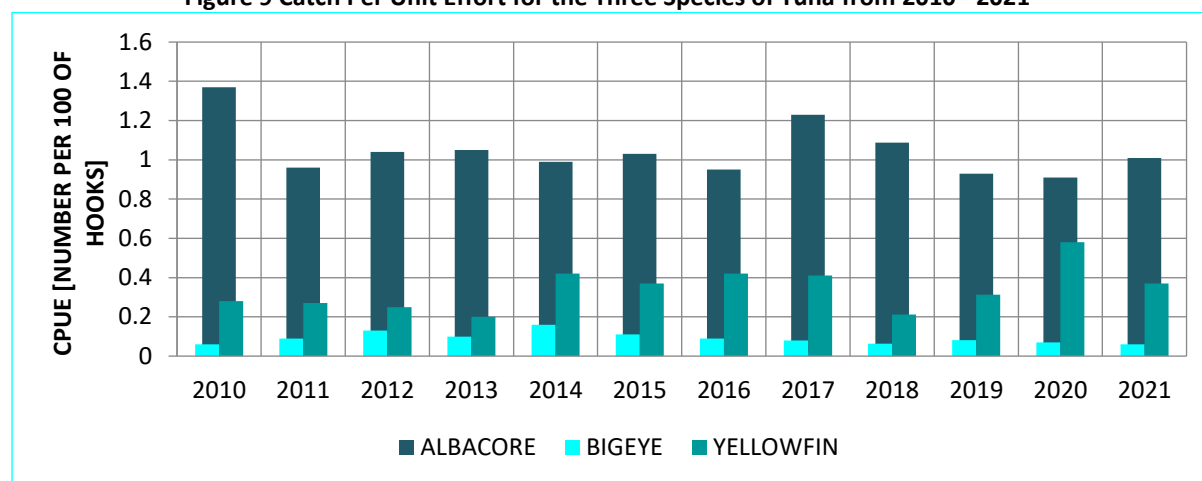


Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Offshore Fisheries Management Division

Trends in nominal CPUE are sometimes used as an indicator of abundance but must be considered in association with other direct (for example targeting strategy, patterns of effort, size composition of the catch, recruitment, etc.) and indirect (for example environmental) factors affecting the fishery. Figure 9 shows the trends in tuna nominal catch per unit (CPUE) for the Fiji longline fleet. In the last five years, the nominal CPUE

for albacore increased steadily from 0.95 in 2016 to 1.23 in 2017 and at 1.01 in 2021. Bigeye nominal CPUE appears relatively stable over the time series with a slight drop in 2018 and increases again in 2019 at 0.08 then a drop in 2021 at 0.06 but overall, steady. Yellowfin nominal CPUE remained consistent and around 0.40 in the past years and slightly dropping to 0.37 fish per 100 hooks in 2021.

Figure 9 Catch Per Unit Effort for the Three Species of Tuna from 2010 - 2021



Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Offshore Fisheries Management Division

Effort Controls: Licensing and Permitting

Fiji has a licence cap of 60 vessels allowed to fish in Fiji's fisheries waters. For the period a total of 8 fishing licences were issued, 4 of which qualified for the 20-year license under the new legislative reform for 100% owned and operated vessels. Table 8 shows the number of permits, licenses, catch certificates, and statistical documents issued for the period are presented as follows:

Table: 8 Number of permits, licences, statistical documents and catch certificates issued for the period.

Permits and Certificates	Numbers Issued
Landing	1207
Transshipment At Sea	113
Export	966
Import	436
Transshipment In Port	33
Fresh Export	100
Provisioning In Port	39
Provisioning At Sea	5
Bunkering	34
The International Commission for The Conservation of Atlantic Tuna's Certification (ICCAT)	257
Marine Stewardship Council Certification (MSC)	183
Fiji Catch Certificate (FCC)	150
European Union Catch Certification (EUCC)	15
Entry And Use of Ports	101
Record Of Vessels Using Fiji's Ports	153
Record Of Offshore Fishing Companies	31
Fiji Fisheries Waters (FFW) License	8
Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)	2
TOTAL	3,833

Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Offshore Fisheries Management Division



Fisheries Assistant, Navoniani Turaga (with reflector) conducting departure clearance onboard Fiji flagged and Fiji licenced FV Winfull 36. Fisheries Assistant, Pauliasi Nawaqa (far right) is currently serving on board the vessel as an observer.

Monitoring Observer Programme Placement

The Fiji National Observer coverage for 2021 was 16.30% compared to 2020 which was at 23.10 %, a noticeable drop due to the lockdown caused by the pandemic. However, it continues to remain within the 5 % minimum observer coverage standard requirement by WCPFC. Fiji observers are placed on board Fiji National Fleet covering areas within Fiji's national jurisdiction, and beyond (ABNJ). Fiji also contributes its observers to sub-regional observer programs such as the US Multilateral Treaty. However, despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the Fiji Observer Programme [National and regional observers] continued engagement in national placements on Fiji vessels fishing within Fiji's national jurisdiction and beyond (ABNJ), within approved national COVID-19 protocol and guidelines.

De-briefing

Fiji Observers are de-briefed at the end of every trip to ensure data reporting quality is maintained. A total of 77 trips were de-briefed, registered, and processed. Fiji maintains a minimum 98% accuracy debriefing standards on observer placement trip reports.

Port Sampling

Fiji's port sampling program is carried out on Fiji's national fleet at Suva Port. In 2021 a total of 81 port samplings were achieved with a total of 33,179 fish sampled. A target of 144 Port sampling is set for each year, however, due to the pandemic and the closure of ports, the number of samplings was reduced.

Biological Sampling

A total of 56 biological samplings were conducted by Fiji observers with samples sent to SPC for diet, sex, and growth analyses.

Electronic Monitoring System

A total of 381 sets were reviewed and analyzed during the period. The service provider, SATLINK, conducted a training for the analysts on the new SVM 4.0 analysis tool from 16th-20th May 2022.

Industry Support

The industry and trade unit continues to bridge the gap with stakeholders by providing accurate and timely services and advice on industry and trade issues. The unit provides a supporting role and has organized two





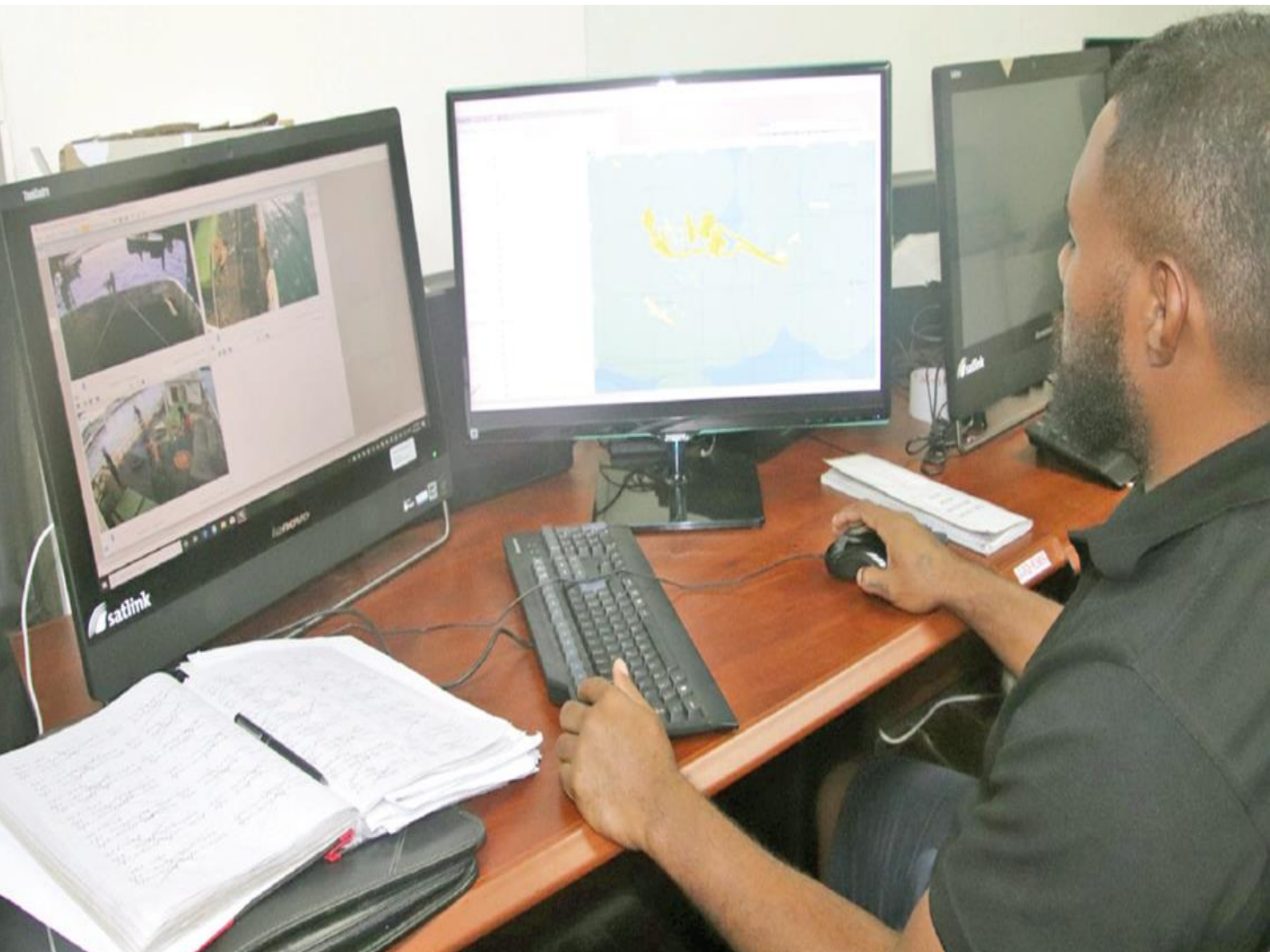
virtual industry-wide stakeholder consultations with executive management to discuss the draft OFMDP, draft Crewing Policy, and other issues, in doing so, provided timely submission of industry feedback on draft OFMDP, Crewing Policy, and other support to Executive Management. The unit has engaged with stakeholders formally on six occasions covering issues under market access and certification, operational issues, and initiatives to mitigate the MPA30 by 30 processes.

Work completed between 2021 and 2022 identified areas for improvement in terms of timely service and advice provided to industry stakeholders on policy decisions made by the MoF. Furthermore, the line ministry participation is crucial to the unit's work, and there is a potential to collaborate with other Government ministries that may have expertise in areas of improvement such as forensic accounting, communications for advice to industry stakeholders, and improved and efficient services.

To improve support towards industry stakeholders would be through increased consultations with the industry stakeholders and utilizing a wider scope of Government expertise through line ministry engagement to improve service delivery and promote sustainable profitable operations for the tuna long line industry in Fiji.

Economic Recovery and Growth

The Ministry had set an annual export target of FJ\$139M for the 2021-2022 fiscal year taking into account the effects of COVID-19 on the fishery. As the situation gradually improved in the latter half of the fiscal year, the exports steadily increased and eventually surpassed the target to an estimated FJ\$184, mainly through the frozen re-exports.



The EMS program and the Observer Program are maintained and complement each other in terms of coverage on fishing vessels. They not only capture fine-scale stock assessment data but importantly to also address IUU fishing



The Ministry aims to further grow Fiji's fisheries sector during and after this pandemic through strengthening of the services provided to all stakeholders

Inshore Fisheries Management Division

The Inshore Fisheries Management Division (IFMD) has the key role of developing inshore fisheries policy initiatives that support the sustainable development and management of the inshore fisheries sector.

Data Analysis and Management Unit

The re-establishment of the Data Collection program has been a major achievement of the Division, with the recruitment of 12 data collectors strategically placed in the geographic divisions. A robust methodology has been developed to ensure standardized data collection across all our major fish markets. During the current fiscal year, the data collection officers have logged 1013 surveys and have recorded 281 different commercial food finfish species through our 13 major fish markets around Fiji. This data provides valuable information that informs effective monitoring and policy development. Table 9 shows the number of market surveys undertaken in each of the 13 major fish markets. This fiscal year the team had begun collecting data on non-fish as well. Under the JICA small-scale project, the team began collecting data on non-fish in January 2022. The team has conducted 300 market surveys for non-fish and recorded 25 species traded through the markets.

Table: 9 Number of market Surveys Conducted at major fish markets

Division	Market	Market Survey Conducted
Central	Suva Municipal Market	111
	Bailey bridge Municipal Market	111
	Nokonoko Market	72
	Laqere Market	119
	Nausori Municipal Market	118
Western	Lautoka Fishermen Market	236
	Lautoka Municipal Market	42
	Ba Municipal Market	35
Northern	Labasa Fish Market	117
	Savusavu Municipal Market	34
	Savusavu Fish Market	8
	Nuku Fish Market	10
	Nabouwalu Fishermen Association	3
Total		1016

Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Inshore Fisheries Management Division



10 below shows the top ten species of fish in terms of price per kilogram that were recorded through the surveyed markets.

Table: 10 Top ten species of most valuable fish nationally

Species	Common Name	Price (\$) / kg
<i>Variola albimarginata</i>	White-edged lyretail	\$21.03
<i>Cephalopholis miniata</i>	Coral hind	\$17.55
<i>Hemigymnus melapterus</i>	Blackeye thick lip	\$17.36
<i>Epinephelus fasciatus</i>	Blacktip grouper	\$17.24
<i>Etelis radius</i>	Pale snapper	\$17.02
<i>Plectropomus leopardus</i>	Leopard coral grouper	\$16.77
<i>Epinephelus retouti</i>	Red-tipped grouper	\$16.67
<i>Epinephelus polyphekadion</i>	Camouflage grouper	\$16.16
<i>Epinephelus areolatus</i>	Areolate grouper	\$15.37
<i>Variola louti</i>	Yellow-edged lyretail	\$15.05

Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Inshore Fisheries Management Division

A total of 64324.92 kilograms of Fin Fish with a total estimated value of \$613,209 was sold at the 13 fish markets within the Central, Northern, and Western divisions.

Table: 11 Volume (kilograms) and Value (FJ\$) of total Fin Fish Surveyed 2021 – 2022

Division	Central		Northern		Western		Grand Total	
	Volume (Kg)	Value (FJ\$)	Volume (Kg)	Value (FJ\$)	Volume (Kg)	Value (FJ\$)	Volume (Kg)	Value (FJ\$)
August			140.8	\$ 1,182			140.8	\$ 1,182
September	116.72	\$ 1,070	250.22	\$ 1,875	321.4	\$ 3,084	688.34	\$ 6,029
October	3274.3	\$ 33,770	1369.29	\$ 10,655	1996.66	\$ 20,716	6640.25	\$ 65,140
November	2430.04	\$ 24,301	1609.52	\$ 11,737	1012.98	\$ 9,425	5052.54	\$ 45,463
December	1754.8	\$ 18,110	2118.94	\$ 18,322	1828.9	\$ 14,420	5702.64	\$ 50,851
January	1323.34	\$ 14,555	643.49	\$ 5,982	1507	\$ 12,495	3473.83	\$ 33,032
February	2481.73	\$ 24,966	720.9	\$ 6,242	1338.4	\$ 11,047	4541.03	\$ 42,255
March	3767.57	\$ 34,158	1400.37	\$ 11,606	2073.25	\$ 17,665	7241.19	\$ 63,429
April	3117.81	\$ 31,239	2510.86	\$ 21,365	2649.61	\$ 24,251	8278.28	\$ 76,855
May	4033.9	\$ 42,897	1683.78	\$ 12,484	2396.32	\$ 22,050	8114.01	\$ 77,431
June	3030.27	\$ 32,000	2104.77	\$ 16,400	2142.59	\$ 21,874	7277.63	\$ 70,274
July	2857.87	\$ 37,071	1247.31	\$ 10,567	3069.2	\$ 33,629	7174.38	\$ 81,267
Total	28188.35	\$ 294,137	15800.25	\$ 128,417	20336.31	\$ 190,655	64324.92	\$ 613,209

Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Inshore Fisheries Management Division

A total of 531 market surveys were undertaken in the Central Division at the 5 major fish markets. The total fin fish count was 38, 277.

Table: 12 Top Ten Species by Value for Central Division

Species	Common Name	Value (\$)
<i>Lethrinus olivaceus</i>	Longface emperor	\$10,455.00
<i>Epinephelus fuscoguttatus</i>	Brown-marbled grouper	\$7,340.00
<i>Naso unicornis</i>	Bluespine unicornfish	\$6,050.00
<i>Caranx papuensis</i>	Brassy trevally	\$5,940.00
<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>	Mangrove red snapper	\$5,388.00
<i>Lethrinus xanthurus</i>	Yellowlip emperor	\$4,675.00
<i>Lethrinus nebulosus</i>	Spangled emperor	\$4,630.00
<i>Chlorurus microrhinos</i>	Steephead parrots	\$4,240.00
<i>Lutjanus bohar</i>	Two-spot red snapper	\$4,205.00
<i>Caranx ignobilis</i>	Giant trevally	\$3,480.00

Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Inshore Fisheries Management Division

A total of 172 market surveys were undertaken in the Northern Division in the 2 major fish markets. The total finfish count was 25,598.

Table: 13 Top Ten Species by Value for Northern Division

Species	Common Name	Value (\$)
<i>Caranx papuensis</i>	Brassy trevally	\$5,351.35
<i>Naso unicornis</i>	Bluespine unicornfish	\$4,822.44
<i>Lethrinus olivaceus</i>	Longface emperor	\$3,835.17
<i>Caranx melampygus</i>	Bluefin trevally	\$2,719.73
<i>Lethrinus xanthurus</i>	Yellowlip emperor	\$2,493.54
<i>Lethrinus nebulosus</i>	Spangled emperor	\$2,383.40
<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>	Mangrove red snapper	\$2,303.59
<i>Lutjanus gibbus</i>	Humpback red snapper	\$2,145.51
<i>Lutjanus bohar</i>	Two-spot red snapper	\$2,093.91
<i>Crenimugil crenilabis</i>	Fringelip mullet	\$2,018.65

Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Inshore Fisheries Management Division

A total of 313 market surveys were undertaken in the Western Division in the 3 major fish markets. The total finfish count was 27,847.

Table: 14 Top Ten Species by Value for Western Division

Species	Common Name	Value (\$)
<i>Lethrinus olivaceus</i>	Longface emperor	\$8,900.00
<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>	Mangrove red snapper	\$6,910.00
<i>Plectropomus leopardus</i>	Leopard coral grouper	\$6,440.00
<i>Sphyrna qenie</i>	Blackfin barracuda	\$6,385.00
	Narrow-barred Spanish	
<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>	mackerel	\$5,653.20
<i>Epinephelus coioides</i>	Orange-spotted grouper	\$4,250.00
<i>Caranx ignobilis</i>	Giant trevally	\$4,180.00
<i>Naso unicornis</i>	Bluespine unicornfish	\$4,139.00
<i>Gnathanodon speciosus</i>	Golden trevally	\$3,665.00
<i>Plectropomus areolatus</i>	Squaretail coral grouper	\$3,482.30

Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Inshore Fisheries Management Division

Limitations

- There were only 134 market surveys conducted in the first three months of the Fiscal Year. This was due to covid restrictions.
- For the last month of the fiscal year, BDM was temporarily opened for harvest. This caused a drop in the fish supply and data collected from the markets was reduced.
- The data from the Eastern division is not reflected in the national data as there are no Data Collection officers present and no identified market for continuous data collection.

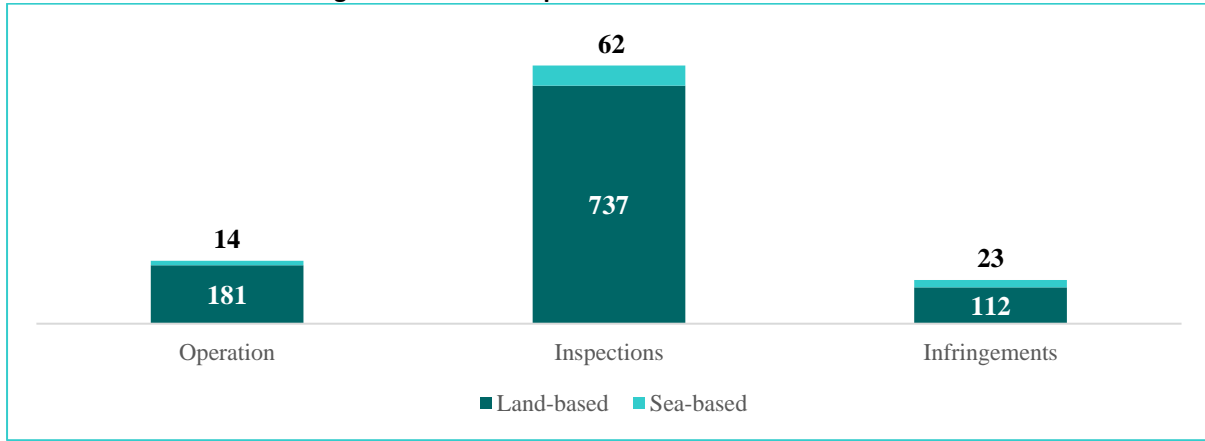
Data assumptions

- Sampling Bias - Not every single bundle that moves through the market is sampled, only surveyed are all the fish that are on display at the time of the survey.
- Response Bias - Some response by the vendors may be exaggerated and need to be taken as such
- Non-responsive Bias - Not all vendors choose to share information or allow us to survey.

Compliance Unit

The compliance unit within the Inshore Fisheries Management Division was incepted in May, 2019 with the task of enforcing fisheries legislations within the inshore fisheries areas. This section provides an insight into the work that has been carried out by the compliance unit in August, 2021 to July, 2022. The unit continues to ensure that the fisheries legislations in Fiji are adhered to and complied with. The unit conducted a total of 195 operations comprising 799 inspections. As illustrated in Figure 10, 181 operations which consisted of 737 inspections were land-based and conducted at various fish shops, companies, municipal markets and roadside fish stalls. 14 sea-based patrols comprising of 62 boarding and inspections were conducted across the country during this period. During the inspections conducted both on land and at sea, 135 infringements were identified. The national compliance rate is 85% and the non-compliance rate is 15%.

Figure: 10 Basic Compliance Statistics for 2021-2022



Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Inshore Fisheries Management Division

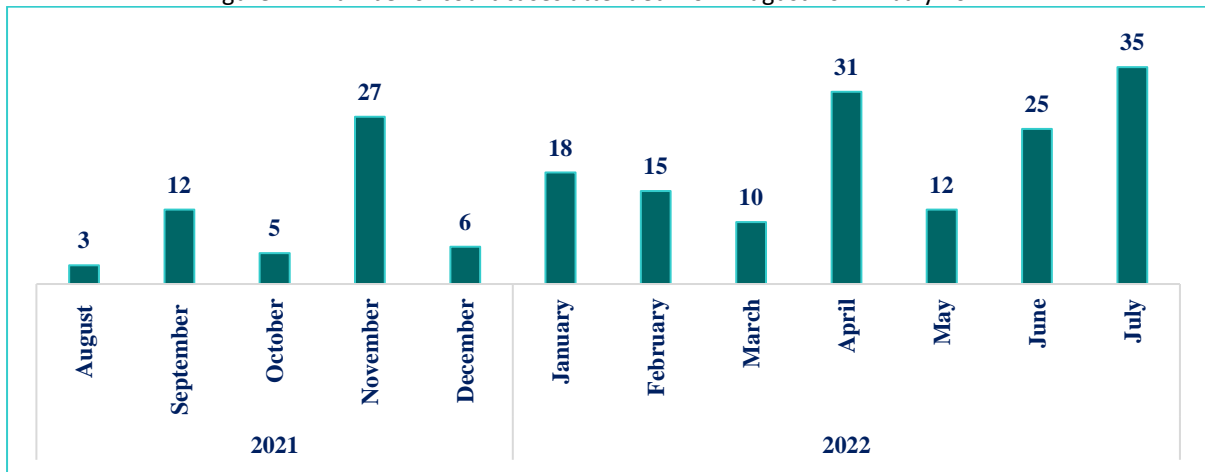
Table 15 shows the types of infringements that were identified during the compliance operations conducted in 2021-2022. As shown in the table the most common infringement identified is the harvesting, selling or exposing for sale of prohibited and restricted species regulated under Regulation 4 of the Offshore Fisheries Management Regulations (OFMR) 2014.

Table 15 Types of Infringements 2021 - 2022

Infringement Identified	2021					2022							Total
	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	
Regulation 19, Fisheries Act CAP 158	1	1	12	1	1	6	4	1	2		1	1	31
Regulation 4 - OFMR 2014	1	2	1	12	2	1	11	1		3		27	61
Regulation 5 - OFMR 2014	1			4		4	1	1	1	1		2	15
Schedule 6, Regulation 18 - Fisheries Act CAP 158			1		1	1			3	1		1	8
Section 5 - Fisheries Act CAP 158	7		5	1	1						3		17
Section 9, Fisheries Act CAP 158 - Legal Notice 17 of 1997					3								3
Total	10	3	19	18	8	12	16	3	6	5	4	31	135

Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Inshore Fisheries Management Division

Figure 11: Number of court cases attended from August 2021 – July 2022.



Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Inshore Fisheries Management Division

Aquaculture Division

The Aquaculture division supports the freshwater and brackish water aquaculture farm development within the Central, Eastern, Northern, and Western divisions. The division manages and maintains six (6) Hatcheries nationwide.

For the financial year, the aquaculture division had the following achievements:

- Cultured 1,600,00 tilapia fry.
- Distributed 1,070,000 fingerlings to 353 tilapia farms.
- 212.83 metric tonnes of tilapia were harvested from farms with an estimated value of FJ\$1.435 million.
- Cultured and distributed 210,000 prawn post larvae with an estimated value of \$31,500.00
- 4.095 metric tonnes of prawns were harvested from farms with an estimated value of FJ\$143,325.00
- Cultured and distributed 251,200 shrimp post larvae with an estimated value of \$37,680.00.
- 1692 aquaculture farm development activities were undertaken.
- Cultured 27,700 sandfish with an estimated value of \$11,350.00
- Aquaculture staff attended the following trainings:
 - Tilapia Market Analysis training funded through The Pacific Community (SPC)
 - Value Chain Analysis training for Tilapia conducted under the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (c) project
 - INFOFISH Virtual Training on Marine Fish Hatchery Operations and Farm Management.
- Tilapia Feed Research trials in collaboration with SPC: Completion of 1st phase – Comparison of the Pacific Feed Pellet, Pacific Maleya Pellet, and Floating Feed. The 2nd phase was postponed due to a delay in feed shipping and the availability of the Feed Machine Specialist.
- Tilapia Tank Grow-out: 1st trial completed, 2nd trial will commence in 2022-2023 following which the results will be published.
- Tilapia, shrimp, and prawn Genetic works commenced in consultation with The Pacific Community (SPC), WorldFish, and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)



The Ministry is keen on rapidly growing the aquaculture sector and hopes that more farmers around the country will show their interest in this fishery



Mabe pearl harvested at the Viani Youth Farm, Cakaudrove

Research Division

The Research Division coordinates and assists with various research and development projects in Fiji waters mainly concentrating on inshore areas of Fiji though not limited to it. There are several projects under the division targeted at enhancing the conservation and sustainable development of different marine species and the associated environment.

For the financial year, the research division had the following achievements:

- Through collaboration work with Partners World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the Ministry of Environment developed the non-detrimental finding (NDF) survey report of Giant Clam and formulated a draft Giant Clam Management and Conservation Plan.
- Completed the Cabinet Memorandum submission on the “Gazette of Tavarua Island MPA, Vanua Malolo, Nadroga Navosa.
- Completed the Cabinet Memorandum submission on fisheries resource management: Lobster Resource Interim Size Limit and Harvesting Strategy cabinet paper submission
- Undertook collaborative research with the following development partners:
 - Australian Center for International Agriculture Research (ACIAR) on the development of the Pearl Oyster Research & Development Livelihood Project in Fiji;
 - The Pacific Community (SPC) FAME and ACIAR on the mangrove oyster research & development in Fiji.
 - SPC FAME Coastal on the fisheries resource assessment, training and education of staff and technical advice.
- Completed the Landing Survey Training and the use of the IKASAVEA Application and Database conducted by SPC FAME Coastal Scientist: Training was virtually conducted with practical undertaken in Veisari Landing Site, Lami.
- Completed the Moci fishery profile report and Moci Post Harvest and Value Adding Training in Rewa province. Trained 17 harvesters from nine (9) villages in four (4) districts (Rewa, Noco, Dreketi, Burebasaga).
- Completed the Kaikoso (Andara violacea) Market Survey: 18 Harvesters interviewed within Suva – Nausori Market.
- Established three (3) Spat Collection Farm:
 - Naigani Island, Verata, Tailevu (new trial site)
 - Nasawana Community Farm, Nadi, Bua (new site established)
 - Sawani Community Farm, Bua (new site established)



Table: 16 Spat (Juvenile oyster) Production

Farm	Number of Lines	Number of Blacklip oyster	Number of Penguin oyster
Dromumalua Women's Farm, Cakaudrove	6	606	245
Nabouwalu, Women's Farm, Bua	5	255	51
Navunievu Community Farm	8	510	580
Nasavu Community Farm, Bua	10	4272	559
Nawaikama Women's Farm, Gau, Lomaiviti	6	312	5
Sawaieke Women's Farm, Gau, Lomaiviti	6	72	0

Table: 17 Oyster sales

Farm	Number of Oysters	Revenue collected	Market
Nasavu Farm, Bua	1215	\$2,750	USP (40 oysters @ \$400 Civa Fiji (1175 oysters @ \$2350
Nabouwalu Farm, Bua	815	\$1630	Civa Fiji
Raviravi Farm, Macuata	40	\$400	USP
Naocobau Farm, Ra	109	\$500	FNU
Navunievu Farm, Bua	510	\$1020	Civa Fiji

Table: 18 Mabe Production

Farm	Number of shells harvested	Revenue
Viani Youth Farm, Cakaudrove	287	\$4,305.00

Table: 19 Mabe Farm Established & Existing Site Implanted

Farm	Number of shells on mainline	Estimated Revenue
Ravita Women's Farm, Cakaudrove	645	\$9765
Nasavu Community Farm, Bua	559	\$8385
Navunievu Community Farm (new)	580	\$8700

- Attended more than 20 meetings with stakeholders, communities and partners to discuss fisheries research issues.
- Two (2) Fisheries Resource Inventory Survey undertaken:
 - Tuva Catchment Area survey, Nadroga Navosa
 - Vanua Naviti Customary Fishing Ground survey, Yasawa, Ba
- Five (5) Fisheries Impact Assessment Survey Reports produced:
 - Nabouwalu Town Extension, Vanua Raviravi CFRA, Bua
 - Navoli Resort & Spa, Vanua Nakaria CFRA, Nadroga Navosa
 - Charan Katonivere Limited, Vanua Labasa CFRA, Macuata
 - Victoria Marine Limited, Vanua Navakavu CFRA, Rewa
 - Castle Property, Vanua Navakavu CFRA, Rewa
- Mariculture Research
 - Giant Clam Production: 180 000 T,gigas
 - Ten (10) MPA reseeded (Levuka, Taviya, Yaravudi, Toki, Natokalaus in Ovalau, Gau Island, Toberua Island, Motoriki Island, Vanua Balavu and Wakaya Island)
 - 1,000 giant clams reseeded.
 - Expansion of mangrove oyster farming in Viti Levu: establishment of Two (2) new trial sites
 - Waikona, Tavua (West)
 - Mau, Tailevu (Central)
 - Monitoring and expansion of existing site at Vutia Farm, Rewa.
- Inshore Fisheries Marine Species Research – Ten (10) habitat maps produced.
- Aquaculture Research - Research on hatchery grow out culturing of rabbit fish/coral:
 - Twenty (20) grouper brooders caught and taken to Caboni Hatchery for trial spawning.
 - Report on trial compiled
- Establishment of 1 marine protected area: Nukubati Island, Macuata.

Technical Services Division

2021 – 2022 activities completed to ensure 100% operation of ice plants:

- Due to the Covid restrictions during the 1st Quarter technical services staff worked from home and worked with the COVID team to assist in COVID duties.
- The Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation of Japan (OFCF) Vunisea project was completed during the 2nd quarter.
- The Overseas Fishery Cooperation Foundation of Japan (OFCF) Nabouwalu, Gau, and Savusavu Projects were completed during the 3rd quarter.
- At the end of the financial year the Ba project was at 88% completion with full completion expected by October 2022.
- The Covid restrictions, bad weather conditions, increases in fuel and material costs, and aged ice machines were some of the constraints faced by the division during the financial year.

Table: 20 Ice Plant Status at 30 July 2022

No:	Service Centre	Status of the Ice machines 95%	Remarks
CENTRAL REGION: 100% operational			
1	Wainibokasi	Operating normally	No breakdown recorded
2	Navua	Operating normally	No breakdown recorded
WESTERN REGION: 100% operational			
3	Ba	The machine is operating normally	Frequent Breakdown – Downtime - 1 week
4	Rakiraki	Operating normally	No breakdown recorded
5	Lautoka	Machine # 1 machine now operating normally Machine # 2 machine now operating normally Machines # 3 operating at full capacity	Frequent Breakdown because of the Age of the Machine – Downtime - 3 days
6	Sigatoka	Non-Operational	Major breakdown – need change of Ice Plates
7	Namarai	The machine is operating normally	No Major breakdown Recorded
EASTERN REGION: 88 % operational			
8	Lakeba	Machines running normally.	
9	Vanuabalavu	Operational	The ice Plant servicing is overdue due to Covid lockdown
10	Kavala	The machine is running normally with the Vunisea standby generator	The ice Plant servicing is overdue due to Covid lockdown
11	Levuka	Machine Operating normally	The ice Plant servicing is overdue due to Covid lockdown
12	Vunisea		OFCF project replacing the Ice Plant 5 Ton with a new 3 Ton Ice Plant
13	Gau	Both machines now operating normally	The major breakdown was due to Ice Plates defects
14	Moala	Both machines are operating normally	Fully operational
15	Cicia	Machine Operating normally	The major breakdown was due to Generator defects
16	Rotuma	Operational	Change Ice Plates – One Major breakdown
NORTHERN: 90% operational			
17	Lekutu	The machine is operating normally now	No major Breakdown
18	Nabouwalu	Operational	Change Ice Plates
19	Savusavu	Machine running normally	OFCF project replace Ice Plant with a 1.5 Ton Ice Machine –
20	Labasa	MaMachine1 is operating normally	
21	Wainikoro	Machine #1 is operating normally Machine #2 is operating normally	The major breakdown was due to a corroded condenser
22	Taveuni	Operational	The major breakdown was due to Generator defects
23	Rabi	Operational	Installation of the generator completed
24	Kubulau	Operational (Generator)	The major breakdown was due to Generator defects

Source: Ministry of Fisheries, Technical Services Division



Sawakasa women are all smiles after another successful seaweed harvest in Tailevu

Achievements from Regional Divisions

Fisheries Support offices and Service Centers are in majority locations in the four (4) regional divisions – Central, Western, Eastern, and Northern Technical Services Division

Central Division:

The Central Division provides fisheries administrative and development services to the four (4) provinces (Tailevu, Rewa, Naitasiri, Serua/Namosi). There are three (3) Service Centers in the division (Nausori Service Center at Level 1 River House, Nausori, Wainibokasi Service Center, Wainibokasi and Navua Service Center, main street Navua Town)

For the financial year, the Central division had the following achievements:

- 644 Inshore fishing licenses were issued.
- 13 deepwater snapper fishing licenses were issued.
- 165 beche-de-mer licenses were issued in 2022, following the lifting of the ban.
- 4 beche-de-mer processing companies were based out of the division namely, Flysha, Gold Hold, Soluk, and Huayi Brothers.
- 27 aquaculture farmers were approved for assistance from the division for 2021 – 2022. There are a total of 291 farmers in the division (Tailevu - 103, Naitasiri - 134, Serua - 18, Namosi – 26, and Rewa - 10).
- 1156.68 metric tonnes of ice were sold in the division with a revenue of \$67,753.15



- Officers in the division attended meetings for all the Bose in Yasana (Tailevu, Naitasiri, Rewa, Serua, and Namosi) and Bose ni Tikina and raised awareness on fisheries development programs for the communities. This was requested through the Commissioner Central's office and provincial offices.
- Officers in the division contributed to the 5-year Central Division Development Plan with the Commissioner Central planning team, highlighting our current and future fisheries development projects and plans.
- Officers in the division and divisional assets were assigned to assist the Ministry of Health as part of the Covid-19 WOG response work in the Suva, Nausori, and Navua Containment Zones. Staff and resources were deployed at the frontline for awareness, screening, and vaccination drives. Navua, Nausori, and Wainibokasi staff reported to the office and worked within their respective office bubbles. Some of our staff were also rostered as per the work-from-home (WFH) and work-from-office (WFO) guidelines given by executive management (EM).
- By 29/10/21, all 21 central staff were fully vaccinated.
- To assist the Fishermen and communities during the lockdown period, the Commercial and Subsistence fishing pass protocols were developed by executive management, managers and line agencies in June 2021. Regional Manager Central was appointed the focal point for the Central division to coordinate fishing passes for the fishers. A fishing pass template was developed by the team for the fishers to apply for and get approval for fishing during the lockdown period. This was one of the main achievements for Team Central as this arrangement allowed the fishers and communities to continue fishing for their food and livelihoods during the lockdowns and restrictions due to Covid -19 790 passes facilitated for the Central region till 19/11/21.
- Completed 22 sea and 20 land patrols during the financial year, with an aim to enforce fisheries laws and regulation on fish harvest and sales. Sometimes these patrols were combined with our seaweed monitoring, FAD monitoring and coastal fisheries project monitoring programs. No sea and land patrols were conducted during the covid lockdown period.
- Honorable Ministers Central division community assistance programs:
 - Handing over of 8 Feet 818 Liter Chest Freezer to the Nakalawaca Womens Group, Namara, Tailevu on Friday 22/04/2022
 - 23-Footer fiberglass boat and 60HP Outboard Engine handover for the Kumi Women's Seaweed project on Friday 28/04/2022 at the Sawakasa village
- Seaweed project –the lockdown and restrictions period further disrupted our field work during late 2021. This was a major setback for seaweed production, however, the project team working with farmers and divisional staff continued to revive the planting program as soon as restrictions were lifted. In spite of the challenges, 29.021 metric tons of seaweed were produced.



Fisherfolk from Gunu Village, District of Naviti bring their bundles of fish to be sold to Mohammed Shazil on board the Government Vessel, Bai Ni Takali.



The provision of solar freezers to the rural and maritime islands will boost production in terms of freshness of fish for food security and also for economic development where catches are being transported through franchise vessels to the urban

Eastern Division:

The Eastern Division provides fisheries administrative and development services to the four (4) provinces (Kadavu, Lau, Lomaiviti, and Rotuma). There are nine (9) Service Centers in the division (Eastern Division Lami Office, Levuka, Vanuabalavu, Cicia, Kavala, Vunisea, Gau, Moala and Lakeba).

For the financial year, the Eastern division had the following achievements:

- 6 fish aggregation devices (FAD) were deployed (2 in Levuka, 2 in Rotuma and 2 in Vanuabalavu).
- 1 community training was conducted in Rotuma which included: Post-harvest, Deep Sea fishing techniques, FAD fishing training, and FAD deployment.
- 2 post-harvest trainings were conducted in Cicia.
- 20 land patrols and 15 sea patrols were conducted.
- 652 inshore fishing license was issued.
- 2 Fish Warden Trainings conducted
 - Vanuabalavu – 25 fish wardens were appointed
 - Levuka – 12 fish wardens were appointed
- Mangrove Planting – 900 seedlings were planted in Ovalau, Moala & Vanuabalavu.
- 400 giant clams were reseeded in Ovalau marine protected areas and 30 giant clams were reseeded in Gau.
- 2,200 pieces of coral were planted in Vanuabalavu.
- 239.8 metric tons of ice were produced with a value of \$42,907.49.



Northern Division:

The Northern Division provides fisheries administrative and development services to the three (3) provinces (Cakaudrove, Bua, and Macuata). There are nine (9) Service Centers in the division (2 in Labasa, Lekutu, Nabouwalu, Kubulau, Savusavu, Rabi, Taveuni, Wainikoro).

For the financial year, the Northern division had the following achievements:

- Northern division staff attended 140 inter-agency pieces of training, awareness programs, and meetings.
- 176,140 Tilapia fries and 230,267 freshwater prawn post-larvae were produced at the Dreketi Hatchery.
- A Pearl Nursery Farm was constructed for Mahana Company Kio Island Fiji.
- 6.63 metric tonnes of seaweed were produced in the division.
- Seaweed nurseries were setup in Naividamu, Salevukoso /Namuka and Dakuniba.
- 674 beche-de-mer licenses were issued in 2022, following the lifting of the ban.
- 2,258 inshore fishing licenses were issued.
- 9 deepwater snapper fishing licenses were issued.
- 65 land patrols and 2 sea patrols were conducted.
- Seaweed 3 days hands-on training was conducted at Navidamu 08- 10/09/21.
- Post-Harvest Training and Fish handling Technique was conducted at Nadavaci Village, Natewa 26-28/04/ 2022
- Fish Warden Training was conducted in collaboration with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) at Urata Village 11 – 13/05/2022.
- Division staff attended the inshore fisheries database training at Nabouwalu 21 – 23/03/2022.
- 2 divisional staff attended Freshwater Aquaculture under MOF-USP-JICA Project: Pacific Islands Capacity Enhancement for Achieving SDG-14
- 5 divisional staff attended Post Harvest Training project under MOF-USP-JICA Project: Pacific Islands Capacity Enhancement for Achieving SDG-14
- 2 divisional staff attended Fisheries Resource Conservation Training for Offshore Division project under MOF-USP-JICA Project: Pacific Islands Capacity Enhancement for Achieving SDG-14
- 1035.81 metric tons of ice were produced with a value of \$153,733.21.
- Technical advice was provided to 42 fishers for the Covid Response Economic Recovery Loan Program for Fiji Development Bank (FDB). 26 Technical Appraisal reports and support letters for Fishers was submitted as requested for FDB loan scheme.
- 6 Fishers Associations registered in the division (Cawaro Youth Fishers Cooperative, Duvata Fishers Association, Rabi Fishers Association, Senivutu Fishers Cooperative, Udu Fishers Association and Namuka Fishers Association).
- 3 fish aggregation devices (FAD) were deployed (Kia, Tavea and Yadua).



Mud-crabs are a huge income earner for the villagers of Vunuku who are often seen on a weekly basis with their wares at the Suva and Nausori markets



Chief Executive Officer for Redox Refinery-Sea & Soil, Rohini Hamid receives her Fijian Made certification from the Permanent Secretary for Commerce, Trade, Tourism and Transport Shaheen Ali.

Western Division:

The Western Division provides fisheries administrative and development services to the four (4) provinces (Nadroga, Ba, Tavua and Ra). There are seven (7) Service Centers in the division (Sigatoka, Nadi, Lautoka Port, Ba, Tavua, Rakiraki and Namarai).

For the financial year, the Western division had the following achievements:

- A total of 341 export permits were issued within the financial year with revenue of \$3,860.83 from permit fees only. Since late March, data on export value have been collated from the exporters' invoice to quantify the export value of fish which add up to \$1,305,355.13 at the end of July.
- From the 341 permits issued, 123 were issued to 7 companies 218 were issued to individuals. The 7 companies include Paradise Ocean Pte Ltd., Saiyad's Import & Export General Merchant, Shakeel and Shareen Enterprise Ltd., Millenium Group of Companies, Tropical Aquarium Fish Fiji Ltd., Walt Smith International Ltd. and Yaloyalo Production Ltd. Tropical Aquarium Fish Fiji Ltd. and Walt Smith International Ltd. export aquarium fish, ornamental invertebrates and manmade rocks while the other 5 companies export reef fishes. Total of 563,029.06kg of fish exported whereby 95% were aquarium fishes and 5% reef fishes
- A total of 121 import permits issued within the financial year with a total revenue of \$6,544.10 generated from permit fees only. There were 13 importers recorded in the western division that consistently imported throughout the 12 months. These importers include Ape Agriculture, Best Foods, Five Star Foods Fiji Ltd., Heifeng Imports & Export Trade Pte Ltd., New World Pte Ltd., Orion Distribution Services Pte. Ltd., PMeghji Ltd., Paradise Cove Resort Ltd., Robert G Penn, Smart Chef Fiji Ltd., Tide Aquaculture Co. Ltd., Victus Ltd and Yees Cold Storage Ltd.
- 1,296 inshore fishing licenses were issued. 138 of this was issued to women.
- 1490.01 metric tons of ice were produced with a value of \$210,221.25.
- 4 registered Cooperatives were assisted with the solar freezers (Teci, Vatukarakarawa, Yasawa-i-rara and Lomati). In addition, Teci, Vatukarakarawa, Yasawa-i-rara and the proposed Natawarau Cooperatives were provided with a post-harvest training, post-harvest items and a FAD each by FAO. The post-harvest items handed over to Teci, Vatukarakarawa and Yasawa-i-rara include the drum smoker, fish drying rack, fish processing table, kitchen knives, chopper, cutting boards, 20ltr bucket, Jar, scrubbing brush, containers, basins, knife file, rolling pin and board, cooking spoon, table spoons, pan and fish scrapper worth \$1,572.00. Each of the 3 Cooperatives received one set each. The post-harvest items handed over to Natawarau Cooperative include the drum smoker, fish drying rack, hair nets, hand sanitizer, soap, kitchen knives, chopper, cutting board, 10ltr & 20ltr buckets, jar, hand towels, fabric material, scrubbing brush, containers, basins, knife file, rolling pin, table spoons, pan, cooking spoon and fish scrapper worth \$387.00. The other 4 proposed Cooperatives (Wayalevu, Vuaki, Gunu and Naisisili) in Yasawa also received a solar freezer each.
- 6 fish aggregation devices (FAD) were deployed (Teci, Bukama, Yasawa-i-rara, Natawarau and 2 in Malolo). 4 FADs were funded by FAO and 2 by the Ministry.
- 3,168.5kgs of Tilapia were harvested from farms at a value of \$24,090.49.
- 247.5kgs of prawn was harvested from farms at a value of \$9,537.50
- 422kgs of Shrimp was harvested from farms at a value of \$19,771.00



The header and footer of the document are decorated with a repeating diamond-shaped pattern. Each diamond contains a different underwater scene, including schools of orange fish, coral reefs, and deep blue water. The pattern is arranged in a staggered, overlapping fashion.

**MINISTRY OF FISHERIES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022**

OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Promoting Public Sector Accountability and Sustainability through our Audits



Level 1, Modyl Plaza
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Website: www.oag.gov.fj



File: 436

20 February 2023

The Honourable Kalaveti Ravu
Minister for Fisheries
Takayawa Building
Toorak Road
SUVA

Dear Honourable Ravu

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

Audited financial statements for Ministry of Fisheries for the year ended 31 July 2022 together with my audit report on them are enclosed.

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

Sairusi Dukuno
ACTING AUDITOR-GENERAL

cc: Mrs. Atelaite Rokosuka, The Acting Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries.

Encl.



**MINISTRY OF FISHERIES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Ministry of Fisheries

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

I have audited the financial statements of the Ministry of Fisheries ("the *Ministry*") which comprises the Statement of Revenue and Expenditure, Appropriation Statement, Statement of Losses, and Trust Fund Account Statement of Receipts and Payments for the financial year ended 31 July 2022, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements of the Ministry are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2004 and Finance Instructions 2010 and 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 further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Ministry in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Fiji and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibility of the Management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

The Management of the Ministry of Fisheries are responsible for the preparation and fair presentations of these financial statements in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2004, the Finance Instructions 2010 and the 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 misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Management are responsible for overseeing the Ministry's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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 or 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.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (con't)

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's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Management of Ministry.
- Evaluate the overall presentations, structure and content of the financial statements including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentations.

I communicate with those charged with governance 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.



Sairusi Dukuno
ACTING AUDITOR-GENERAL



Suva, Fiji
20 February 2023



**MINISTRY OF FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022**

We certify that these financial statements:

- (a) fairly reflect the financial operations and performance of the Ministry of Fisheries for the financial year ended 31 July 2022; and
- (b) have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Financial Management Act 2004 and Finance Instructions 2010.



Atelaite Rokosuka
Acting Permanent Secretary

Date: 20/02/23



Taniela Naulu
Principal Accounts Officer

Date: 20/02/23

**MINISTRY OF FISHERIES
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022**

	Notes	2022 (\$)	2021 (\$)
RECEIPTS			
State Revenue			
Vessel Registration		408	12,367
Fishing Licence		1,131	23,396
Sale of Fish & Ice		430,606	469,727
Offshore Fisheries Management Fees		463,699	495,956
Offshore Fisheries Access Fees		328,461	391,288
Offshore Fisheries Application Fees		26,128	37,220
Offshore Fisheries Fees		95,404	111,456
Offshore Fisheries Related Activity Fees		71,509	89,515
Offshore Fisheries Miscellaneous Fees		20,351	32,568
Offshore Fisheries Permitting Fees		142,757	162,284
Offshore Fisheries Authorisation to Charter		1,297	2,508
Offshore Fisheries Record Fees		62,524	75,497
Total State Revenue	3 (a)	1,644,275	1,903,782
Agency Revenue			
Miscellaneous Revenue		9,440	4,530
Total Agency Revenue	3 (b)	9,440	4,530
TOTAL RECEIPTS		1,653,715	1,908,312
EXPENDITURE			
Operating Expenditure			
Established Staff	3 (c)	4,953,547	5,188,295
Government Wage Earners	3 (d)	1,397,680	1,294,541
Travel & Communications	3 (e)	281,715	386,087
Maintenance & Operations	3 (f)	1,425,231	2,015,346
Purchase of Goods & Services	3 (g)	90,791	192,158
Operating Grants & Transfers		9,891	9,593
Special Expenditure	3 (h)	480,672	818,887
Total Operating Expenditure		8,639,527	9,904,907
Capital Expenditure			
Capital Construction		2,544,671	3,488,190
Total Capital Expenditure	3 (i)	2,544,671	3,488,190
Value Added Tax		272,731	394,320
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		11,456,929	13,787,417

**MINISTRY OF FISHERIES
APPROPRIATION STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022**

SEG	Item	Budget Estimate (\$)	Appropriation Changes (\$) (Note 4)	Revised Estimate (\$) a	Actual Expenditure (\$) b	Lapsed Appropriation (\$) (a-b)
	Operating Expenditure					
1	Established Staff	5,763,449	-	5,763,449	4,953,547	809,902
2	Government Wage Earners	1,547,774	-	1,547,774	1,397,680	150,094
3	Travel & Communications	286,000	-	286,000	281,715	4,285
4	Maintenance & Operations	1,466,450	-	1,466,450	1,425,231	41,219
5	Purchase of Goods & Services	106,519	-	106,519	90,791	15,728
6	Operating Grants & Transfers	10,000	-	10,000	9,891	109
7	Special Expenditure	651,756	-	651,756	480,672	171,084
	Total Operation Expenditure	9,831,948	-	9,831,948	8,639,527	1,192,422
	Capital Expenditure					
8	Capital Construction	3,187,566	-	3,187,566	2,544,671	642,895
	Total Capital Expenditure	3,187,566	-	3,187,566	2,544,671	642,895
	Value Added Tax	725,020	-	512,930	272,731	240,199
13	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	13,532,444	-	13,532,444	11,456,929	2,075,517



**MINISTRY OF FISHERIES
STATEMENT OF LOSSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022**

Loss of Money

There was no loss of money recorded for the financial year ended 31 July 2022.

Loss of Revenue

There was no loss of revenue recorded for the financial year ended 31 July 2022.

Loss of Assets (other than money)

Following the 2021 – 2022 Board of Survey, items worth \$174,624 were written off as approved by the Permanent Secretary for Economy.

Asset	2022 (\$)
Motor vehicles, Outboard motor vessels and Engines	47,094
Office Equipment	76,857
Furniture and Fittings	50,673
Total	174,624

**MINISTRY OF FISHERIES
TRUST FUND ACCOUNT - STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022**

	Note	2022 (\$)	2021 (\$)
OPENING BALANCE		262,472	262,209
RECEIPTS			
Interest earned		218	263
Total Receipts		218	263
PAYMENTS			
Payment to Consolidated Fund account		262,690	-
Total Payments		262,690	-
Closing Balance	5	-	262,472



MINISTRY OF FISHERIES
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

NOTE 1 REPORTING ENTITY

The Ministry of Fisheries is a regulatory and service organisation responsible for the national fisheries management through the following functions:

- Formulate, align, review and implement policies, strategies, plans, programmes and projects;
- Provide and administer the regulatory function under the respective Departments legislation and regulations;
- Monitor and evaluate the current strategies, policies and deliverables;
- Develop and promote effective training, communication and awareness and extension advisory services;
- Strengthen community and industry networks and support infrastructure;
- Maintain international bilateral and multilateral commitments; and
- Undertake applied research for sustainable fisheries resource management practices and product development.

NOTE 2 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of Accounting

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

The financial statements are presented in accordance with the requirements of Section 71(1) of the Finance Instructions 2010 and Financial Management Act 2004. The preparation and presentation of a Statement of Assets and Liabilities is not required under the current government policies.

b) Accounting for Value Added Tax (VAT)

All expenses are VAT exclusive. The Ministry on a monthly basis takes out VAT output on total money received for expenditure from Ministry of Economy. 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 Service (FRCS). Actual amount paid to FRCS during the year represents the difference between VAT Output and VAT Input.

c) Comparative Figure

Where necessary, amounts relating to prior years have been reclassified to facilitate comparison and achieve consistency in disclosure with current year amounts.





MINISTRY OF FISHERIES
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

d) Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised when the actual cash is received by the Ministry.

NOTE 3: SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS

- a) There is a decrease in state revenue by \$259,507 or 14% due to the non-payment of Inshore Fishing Licenses for Vessel registration and Fishing License as per the Ministry of Economy 2021-2022 Budget announcement in Parliament. Also, COVID-19 pandemic restrictions impacting our major centres of operations.
- b) An increase of \$4,910 was recorded for the Miscellaneous Revenue due to the increase in commissions receive from various agents for facilitating the payroll deductions.
- c) There were reductions in expenditures for SEG 1 by \$234,748 or 5% due to the vacancies and realignment of the Ministry Person to Post for Established staffs and also the FNPF contributions that dropped from 8% to 6%.
- d) There was an increase in expenditure for SEG 2 by \$103,139 or 8% due to the increase in working hours of watchmen from 44 hours to 57 and 62 hours on weekends. The Ministry also have the realignment of Person to Post for Government Wage Earners staff.
- e) Travel and communication expenditure decreased by \$104,372 or 27% due to the COVID 19 restrictions for the period.
- f) Maintenance and operation expenditure decreased by \$590,115 or 29% due to the reduced activities as a result of the at the COVID 19 restrictions for the period.
- g) Purchases of goods and services expenditure decreased by \$101,367 or 53% due to the reduced activities as a result of the at the COVID 19 restrictions for the period.
- h) Special Expenditure decreased by \$338,215 or 41% due to the Electronic Monitoring System (EMS) project for the offshore Fisheries management division not being able to progress activities on the ground as a result of some technical contractual issues.
- i) Capital Expenditure decreased by \$943,519 or 27% due to reduced budgetary provision by \$904,155 in 2021-2022.

NOTE 4: DETAILS OF APPROPRIATION

There was no transfer of funds during the financial year ended 31 July 2022.

NOTE 5: Trust Fund Account

The Ministry close the Ministry of Fisheries True Trust Fund Account maintained at Westpac Bank Corporation as advised by Ministry of Economy in accordance with Act No. 13 of 2022 issued on 25/03/2022 on the transfer of long pending unclaimed money to Consolidated Fund Account. A total of \$262,690 was transferred from Ministry of Fisheries to Ministry of Economy for the financial year ended 31 July 2022.





Ministry of Fisheries

TO HAVE THE BEST FISHERIES IN THE PACIFIC

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