



Ministry of Housing &  
Community Development

housing@govnet.gov.fj

# Annual Report 2018-2019



**Ministry Of Housing and Community  
Development**

## Head Office

Korobasaga House  
33 Gorrie Street  
Suva, FIJI.  
P.O. Box 2130, Government Buildings,  
Suva.

### Business Hours:

Monday – Thursday - 8:00am - 4:30pm  
Friday - 8:00am - 4:00pm

**Phone:** 3309918

### Follow us:

 Housingfiji

 FijianMHCD

 Fijian Ministry of Housing  
& Community Development

Or  FijianMHCD

**Website:** [www.housing.gov.fj](http://www.housing.gov.fj)

**Email:** [infohousing@govnet.gov.fj](mailto:infohousing@govnet.gov.fj)

# About this Report

The Ministry of Housing and Community Development (“Ministry”) Annual Report for 2018-2019 is a summary of our operation and financial performance during the 2018-2019 Financial Year. It explains how we work to improve lives and strengthen communities through provision of affordable and adequate housing and quality housing services.

The 2018-2019 Annual Report (“Report”) is a measure of our performance in the last 12 months as a new Ministry and helps us assess how well the Ministry is performing and where we need to improve.

The Report has been prepared in accordance with the Financial Management Act and Section 14 of the Amendment of the Public Service Act 1999. It includes the programmes and initiatives introduced during the financial year, highlights the achievements by the Ministry and Audited Financial Statement for the period ending 31 July 2019.

# Table of Contents

|  | Page No. |
|--|----------|
| Vision, Mission and Values.                | 3        |
| Referral Letter                            | 4        |
| Statement by the Permanent Secretary       | 5        |
| About the Ministry                         | 6-7      |
| Our Structure                              | 8        |
| National Housing Policy                    | 9        |
| Affordable Housing                         |          |
| Increasing Home Ownership through Grants   | 11       |
| Debt Relief Assistance                     | 12       |
| Regularizing Land Ownership                | 12       |
| Housing Accessibility                      |          |
| Recognizing Informal Settlements           | 14       |
| Informal Settlement Upgrading Projects     | 15       |
| Rural and Maritime Housing                 |          |
| Transfer of Rural Housing Assistance       | 17       |
| Social Housing Assistance                  |          |
| Subsidies- for Public Rental Housing       | 19       |
| Supporting Vulnerable Families             | 20       |
| Leaving No One Behind                      |          |
| Ensuring Accessibility for All             | 21       |
| Disaster and Resilience                    |          |
| Rebuilding Homes                           | 23       |
| Climate Resilience in Informal Settlements | 23-24    |
| Capacity Building                          | 25       |
| Corporate Services                         |          |
| Human Resources                            | 26       |
| Finance                                    | 26-28    |
| Audited Financial Statements               |          |



## Vision

Accessible and Affordable  
Housing for All

## Mission

Provide Affordable and Safe  
Housing for All Fijians.

## Values

We are committed towards creating and maintaining a high-level value culture and services defined by the following values:

- ❖ Accountability
  - We take full responsibility of our actions, decisions and mistakes.
- ❖ Excellence
  - The quality of our service delivery is reflected by the pride we take in what we and how we deliver.
- ❖ Inclusiveness
  - We ensure the involvement and empowerment of all, where the inherent worth and dignity of all people are recognized along with their talents, beliefs, backgrounds and culture.
- ❖ Integrity
  - We take accountability of our actions and will remain transparent, ethical and fair.
- ❖ Professionalism
  - We embody the highest standards of behavior, presentation, competence and ethics that we must hold ourselves to at all times.
- ❖ Trust
  - We build trust by doing the right thing all the time.
- ❖ Innovation
  - We continue to innovate with a view to staying in line or ahead of global developments.

# *Referral Letter from the Permanent Secretary*



## MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

---

06 June 2023

Honourable Minister  
Ministry of Housing and Community Development  
Korobasaga House  
33 Gorrie Street  
Suva

Dear Honourable Minister

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2018/2019**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Public Service Act 1999 and the Financial Management Act 2004 requirements, I am honoured to submit the performance report of the Ministry of Housing and Community Development for the period from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019.

The report provides the Ministry activities and achievements for the Financial Year 2018-2019.

Yours sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Manasa Lesuma.

Manasa Lesuma [Mr.]

Permanent Secretary for Housing and Community Development

# Statement by the Permanent Secretary



*It is indeed an honour to present the Annual Report for the Ministry of Housing & Community Development for the financial Year 2018-2019.*

*As a newly established Ministry, the year in review focused mostly in the transferring of all urban and rural housing programmes that were previously overseen by Department of Housing under Ministry of Local Government and Ministry of Rural and Maritime to be managed under one roof. The Ministry continued with completion of activities from previous Ministries to ensure no backlog remained.*

*All programmes continue to align with Governments priorities set out in the National Development Plan of ensuring accessible and adequate housing for all. The Government grants to social housing providers such as Public Rental Board, Housing Assistance Relief Trust (HART) and Housing Authority were provided for subsidising rental charges, maintenance of housing infrastructures and debt relief.*

*The Ministry continued with the First Home Ownership Initiative that provides a platform for housing affordability. This financial year, the grant was expanded under the First Home Purchase to include households that were earning above \$50,001 but less than \$100,000 and introduced the First Land Purchase Programme to assist households with a combined annual income of \$50,000 and below. The payable grant also increased up to \$15,000. Under the Initiative, a total of 342 households were assisted to own their first home at a total payout of \$3.425 million. A total of 190 households were assisted to purchasing their first residential home at a total payout of \$1.85 million.*

*Providing accessible housing is a key component of the Ministry in ensuring people living with disability have easy access in their home. The Ministry continued with supporting this initiative in collaboration with Habitat of Humanity Fiji. The Ministry assisted households that had their homes destroyed by accidental fires with a payable grant of \$5000 to rebuild their homes. In addition, the Ministry have also looked into providing grants to Fijians to have their residential land surveyed that will expedite the process of a registered title that provides security of tenureship.*

*Formalisation of Informal Settlements continues to be undertaken. This programme responses to the increasing urbanisation that our urban and semi-urban areas face with the migration from the rural areas. The Ministry continues to progressively plan for upgrades of informal settlements that we have development leases for.*

*Furthermore, the Ministry had also initiated the review of the National Housing Policy and will work in collaboration with the Policy Advisor engaged and funded by New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The Ministry is grateful for this support and looks forward to the review and implementation of the National Housing Policy which will provide the strategic guidance for all stakeholders in the housing sector.*

*I also wish to convey my utmost appreciation to the hardworking staffs who have supported the transition and establishment of the Ministry. The Ministry will continue to strive to serve the people of our beautiful nation in pursuit to owning their dream homes.*

***Vinaka Vakalevu!***



# About the Ministry

*The Ministry is responsible for strategy, policy, funding assistance, monitoring and regulation of Fiji's housing system.*

The Ministry of Housing and Community Development is a community housing provider established in 2018 following Government announcement in the 2018-2019 National Budget bringing all the functions of Department of Housing under Ministry of Local Government and Rural Housing Unit from Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development. The Ministry was mandated to increase the home ownership rate to meet the growing demand in Fiji for quality and reasonable housing at affordable prices.

We play a lead role in promoting and facilitating the provision of accessible and adequate housing for low- and middle-income households and people living in informal settlements. We directly manage core programmes that is aligned with Fiji National Development Plan and aim to provide all Fijians with adequate, affordable and accessible housing through our housing programmes.

## Our Strategy

Our operations are strategically aligned with Fiji's commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development supporting Sustainable Development Goal 11 "Making Cities and Human Settlement Inclusive; Safe; Resilient and Sustainable" with a target "ensuring access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade informal settlements by 2030".

Our programmes aims to improve housing conditions for Fijians by supporting the progressive achievement of the right to accessible and adequate housing, as enshrined in the Constitution of Fiji (2013) Sec. 35 and the Fijian Government's vision of "Accessible and adequate housing for All" and further outlined in Fiji's national Development Plan to increase affordable and quality housing to low and middle income households, those living in informal settlements and the further exploration of well-structured solutions to housing issues.

KOROBASAGA  
HOUSE

**Fiji Constitution 2013**

*“right to accessible and adequate housing”*

**SDG Goal 11**

*Making Cities and Human Settlements Inclusive; Safe; Resilient and Sustainable*

**National Development Plan**

*” Accessible and Adequate Housing for All”*

**Provide affordable and safe housing to especially low income earners**

**Upgrade Informal Settlements**

**Strengthen Government-NGO partnership in the provision of housing and land for the poor**

**The First Home Ownership Initiative**



**Informal Settlement Upgrade & Formalization**



**Our Partners**



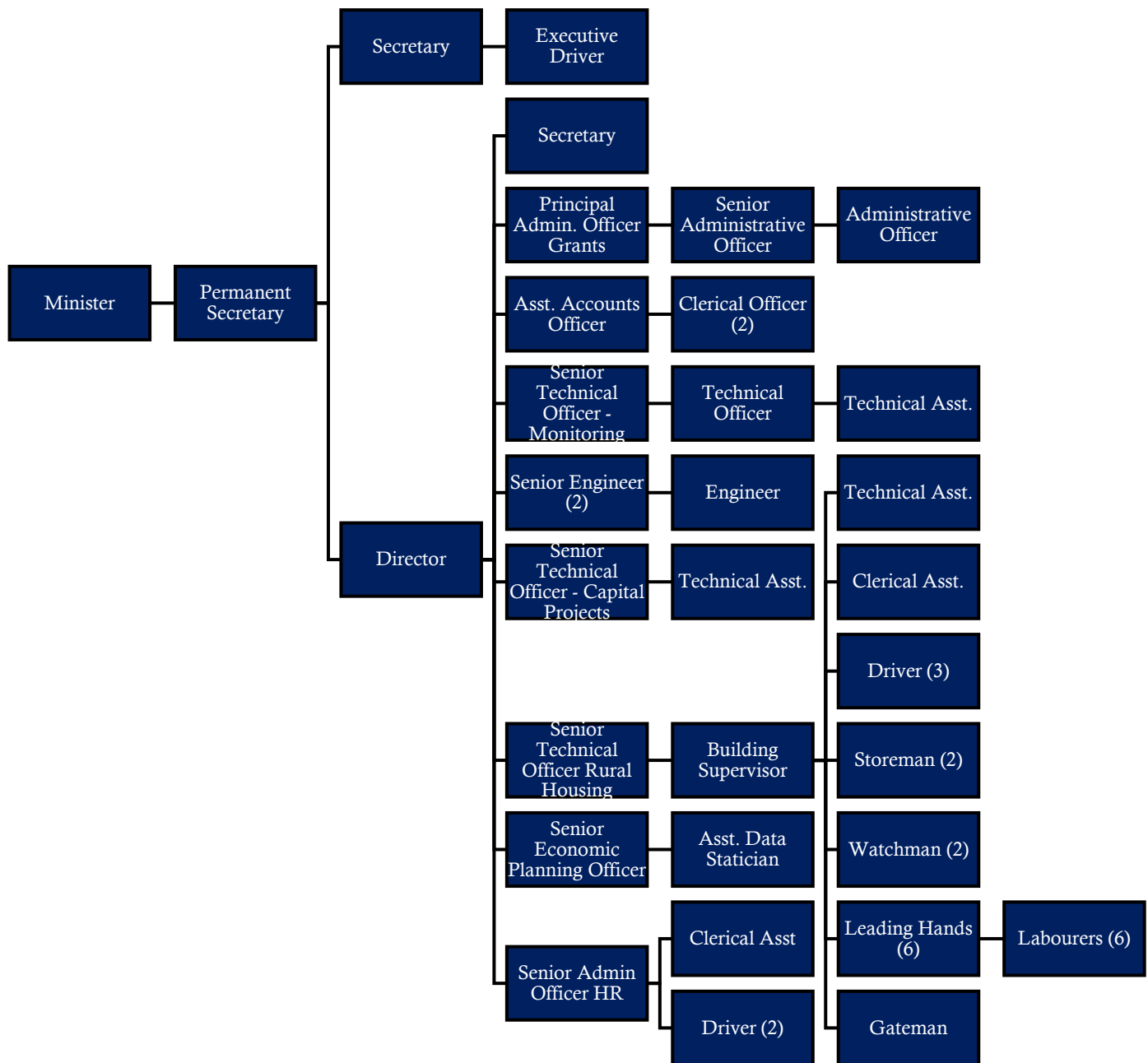
**Rural and Social Housing**



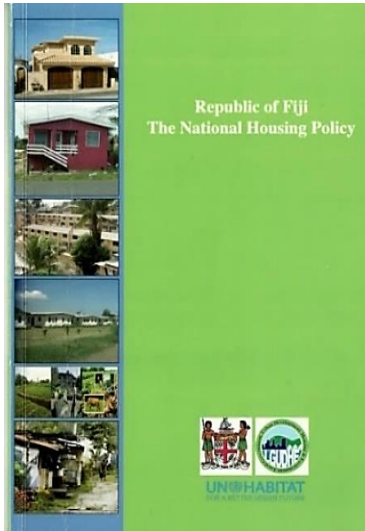


# Our Structure

Each unit of the Ministry has primary responsibility and ownership of critical success factors. We work together to fulfil our services and meet our objectives.

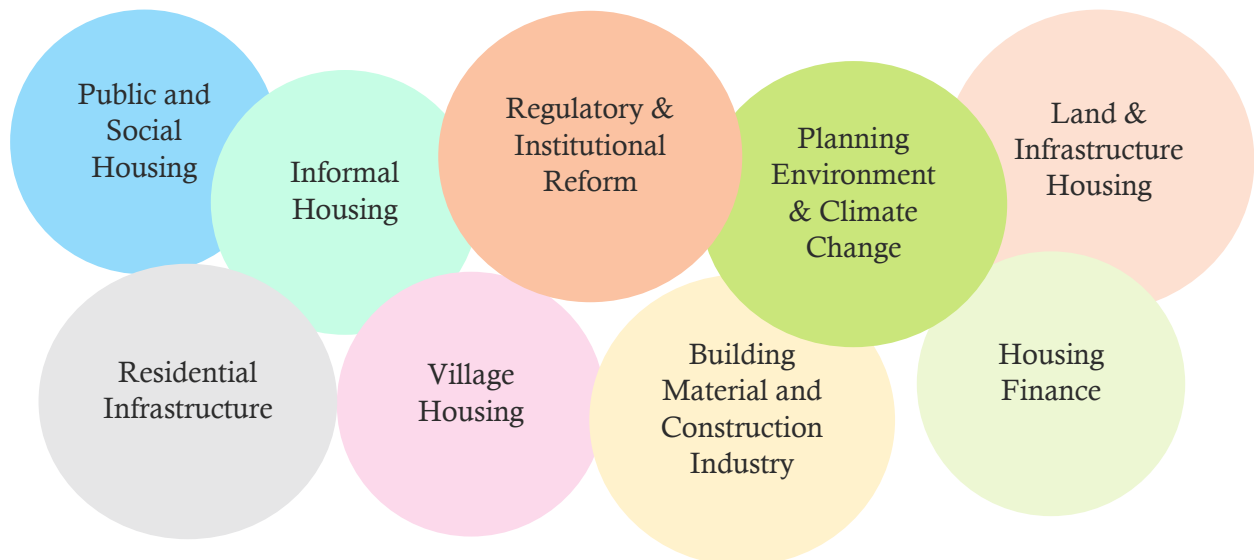


# National Housing Policy



The National Housing Policy [“NHP”] was first adopted in 2011 setting a vision of “Accessible and Affordable Housing for All”. The NHP was an attempt to cohesively address the fragmented approach to housing policy and supply that existed at the time and provide an enabling approach to assist all stakeholders in the housing sector to collectively perform more effectively.

The policy outlined problems and issues in the housing sector at that time and addressed them with a total of 161 interventions across dimensions of the housing sector which included:



Our housing assistance programme are guided through policies derived from the NHP which allows the Ministry to strive in our core role of providing accessible and affordable housing for Low and Middle-income households in this 2018-2019 financial year.

The NHP 2011 is earmarked for review which will identify the intervention targets that have been met and those that had challenges. The planned review is timely given the increasing demand and complexities arising in the housing sector. It will enable the Ministry to develop an updated strategic vision for the housing sector in Fiji, adopt new approaches to the way we deliver our services to create a positive impact on all Fijian lives and grow our portfolio to increase the supply of social and affordable housings for people in need.



# Affordable Housing



## Increasing Home Ownership through Grants

The First Home Ownership Initiative was introduced to increase home ownership opportunities for low and middle income earning Fijians. The programme began in 2014 with a \$10,000 assistance to Fijians constructing their first homes and have an annual household income of \$50,000 or below. Since the inception in 2014, this initiative has assisted 1,569 Fijian households with a total payout of \$12,475,000.

The Ministry continued to provide affordable quality homes to Fijians throughout the 2018-19 financial year. The programme was further expanded by increasing the First Home Grant up to \$15,000 and introducing the First Land Purchase Grant of \$10,000 for Fijian Households purchasing their first residential land.

Category 1: Households with Annual Income of \$50,000 and below can apply for either:

- Grant assistance of \$15,000 to purchase first home OR
- Grant assistance of \$30,000 to construct first home

Category 2: Households with Annual income between \$50,001 and \$100,000 can apply for either:

- Grant assistance of \$5,000 to Purchase first home OR
- Grant assistance of \$20,000 to Construct first home

### Key Highlights:

- ❖ The Ministry received and assessed 347 applications out of which only 342 qualified under the First Home Purchase Programme.
- ❖ From the 342 Fijian households assisted through the programme,
  - Category 1 had 263 households at a total payout of \$2,800,000.00; and
  - Category 2 had 79 households assisted at a total payout of \$550,000.00.
- ❖ 178 of the households assisted were constructing their first home and the balance of 164 were purchasing their first home.
- ❖ With the introduction of the First Land grant, 190 Fijian households were assisted with a total payout of \$1,853,728.32 to purchase their first residential land.

## Debt Relief Assistance

The Housing Authority ['HA'] was established under the Housing Act 1955 to provide decent quality and affordable lots and housing units and complemented by the provision of mortgage financing for low income earning customers.

The HA Debt Relief Assistance programme is targeted towards customers who have paid more than one (1) time the principle amount and yet continue to face genuine financial difficulties to repay their loans. Customers assisted under this programme are assessed according to the eligibility criteria in place.

### Key Highlights:

- ❖ HAF was able to assist 8 households through the Debt Relief Assistance programme with Government Grant of 46% amounting to \$69,860.37 and HAF Funds with 54% amounting to \$81,131.65 paid making a total payout of \$150,992.02.

## Regularizing Land Ownership

It was identified that Fijians found difficulty to conduct survey necessary to transition their lease agreement into fully fledged, registered lease on either iTaukei or State land. The Government recognized number of financial hurdles in realizing land and home ownership of Fijians and introduced grants to assist in speeding up the process towards regularization and helping to give more Fijians the security, financial empowerment for long term tenure.



### Key Highlights:

Ministry received a total allocation of \$750,000 under this programme to assist Fijians receive registered land title.

This year, Ministry signed a grant agreement with registered surveyors.

Received Waiver of tender from Government Tender Board (GTB). and

Received approval by Fiji Procurement Office for advance payments.

# Housing Accessibility







## Recognizing Informal Settlements

Access to adequate housing remains a challenge dating back at least 40 years as informal settlements has been a main feature of the Fijian urban life. Households that live in informal settlements are exposed to precarious conditions which pose a threat to their health, safety and security.

The Ministry's Informal Settlement Upgrading Programme (ISUP) is an in-situ capital program targeted towards improving the livelihoods of informal settlers. This programme improves the livelihoods of informal settlers by providing access to basic utilities such as water, sewerage, drainage, roads, electricity and securing long term tenureship with 99 years lease title.

ISUP is undertaken in two phases, preparatory and construction. The preparatory phase involves topographic surveys, environmental impact assessment (EIA) consultations, geo-tech survey, scheme and engineering plans. Once all the necessary approvals have been attained through the preparatory phase, construction phase commences with upgrades to water, sewerage, footpaths, roads and drainage.

### Key Highlights:

- ❖ Ministry received a total allocation of \$10.5 million under this programme and utilised \$3.2 million to facilitate the completion of the Squatter Upgrading and Resettlement Programme to enhance living conditions with a properly developed physical environment and regularized incorporated under the existing local government or statutory authority's jurisdiction.
- ❖ This year, 3 capital projects are in progress with a total 451 households benefitting upon its completion.

| 2018-2019FY ISUP    | Informal Settlement   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>Construction</b> | Ledrusasa, Waidamudamu, Cuvu  |
| <b>Planning</b>     | Sakoca, Tavela, Field 4, Tore, Lovu Seaside, Nabare, Delaisaweni, Valequwayaya, Vuniika, Caubati, Wakanisila, Sasawira, Nadonumai, Tauvegavega, Tukutora, Vunivau A and Vunivau B |

|            | SETTLEMENT                          | LOCALITY |
|------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>NO.</b> | <b>Northern Division</b>            |          |
| 1          | Vunitivi                            | Labasa   |
| 2          | Natabucola (Solove A)               | Labasa   |
| 3          | Solove                              | Labasa   |
| 4          | Siberia Vatia, Balivaliva, Banisucu | Labasa   |
| 5          | Siberia Batinikama                  | Labasa   |
| 6          | Siberia Emily                       | Labasa   |
| 7          | Qawaira                             | Labasa   |
| 8          | Vunika                              | Labasa   |
| 9          | Vunivau A                           | Labasa   |
| 10         | Vunivau B                           | Labasa   |
| 11         | Napoidi                             | Labasa   |
|            | <b>Western Division</b>             |          |
| 12         | Valewaquyaya                        | Ba       |
| 13         | Tauvegavega                         | Ba       |
| 14         | Field 4                             | Lautoka  |
| 15         | Tore                                | Lautoka  |
| 16         | Lovu Sea Side                       | Lautoka  |
| 17         | Delaisaweni                         | Lautoka  |
| 18         | Nabare                              | Lautoka  |
| 19         | Tukutora                            | Lautoka  |
| 20         | Tore Stage II                       | Lautoka  |
| 21         | Delainamasiasi                      | Lautoka  |
| 22         | Tukutora II                         | Lautoka  |
| 23         | Tomuka                              | Lautoka  |
| 24         | Varavu (aka Sauyaro)                | Lautoka  |
| 25         | Lauwaki                             | Lautoka  |
| 26         | Togabalavu (Tovilavila)             | Lautoka  |
| 27         | Ledrusasa                           | Nadi     |
| 28         | Tavela                              | Nadi     |
| 29         | Vunarewa                            | Nadi     |
| 30         | Cuvu                                | Sigatoka |
| 31         | Uluisila-Sanasana                   | Sigatoka |
|            | <b>Central Division</b>             |          |
| 32         | Nadonumai                           | Lami     |
| 33         | Qauia                               | Lami     |
| 34         | Osonabukete                         | Lami     |
| 35         | Sakoca                              | Nasinu   |
| 36         | Wakanisila                          | Nasinu   |
| 37         | Caubati- Mama's Place               | Nasinu   |
| 38         | Veivauceva,                         | Nasinu   |
| 39         | Nasoqele                            | Nasinu   |
| 40         | Waidamudamu                         | Nausori  |
| 41         | Sasawira                            | Nausori  |
| 42         | Millenium                           | Nausori  |
| 43         | River Road                          | Nausori  |

## Informal Settlement Upgrading Projects

In response to the rising informal settlement that has resulted from urbanisation, upgrading has become the mainstream solution. However, just like any development that is carried out, consent is sought, especially development on land boundaries.

The Informal Settlement Upgrade Programme involves upgrading settlements that have been established mostly through Vaka-vanua arrangements.

Therefore, in upgrading settlements, the Ministry attained consents to develop through a Development Lease. The Development lease assures the Ministry to carry out upgrade with minimum disturbance to the day-to-day lives of residents.

The Ministry continues to recognize the need for investments in this programme to improve the housing conditions of Fijians living in Informal settlements around the country.

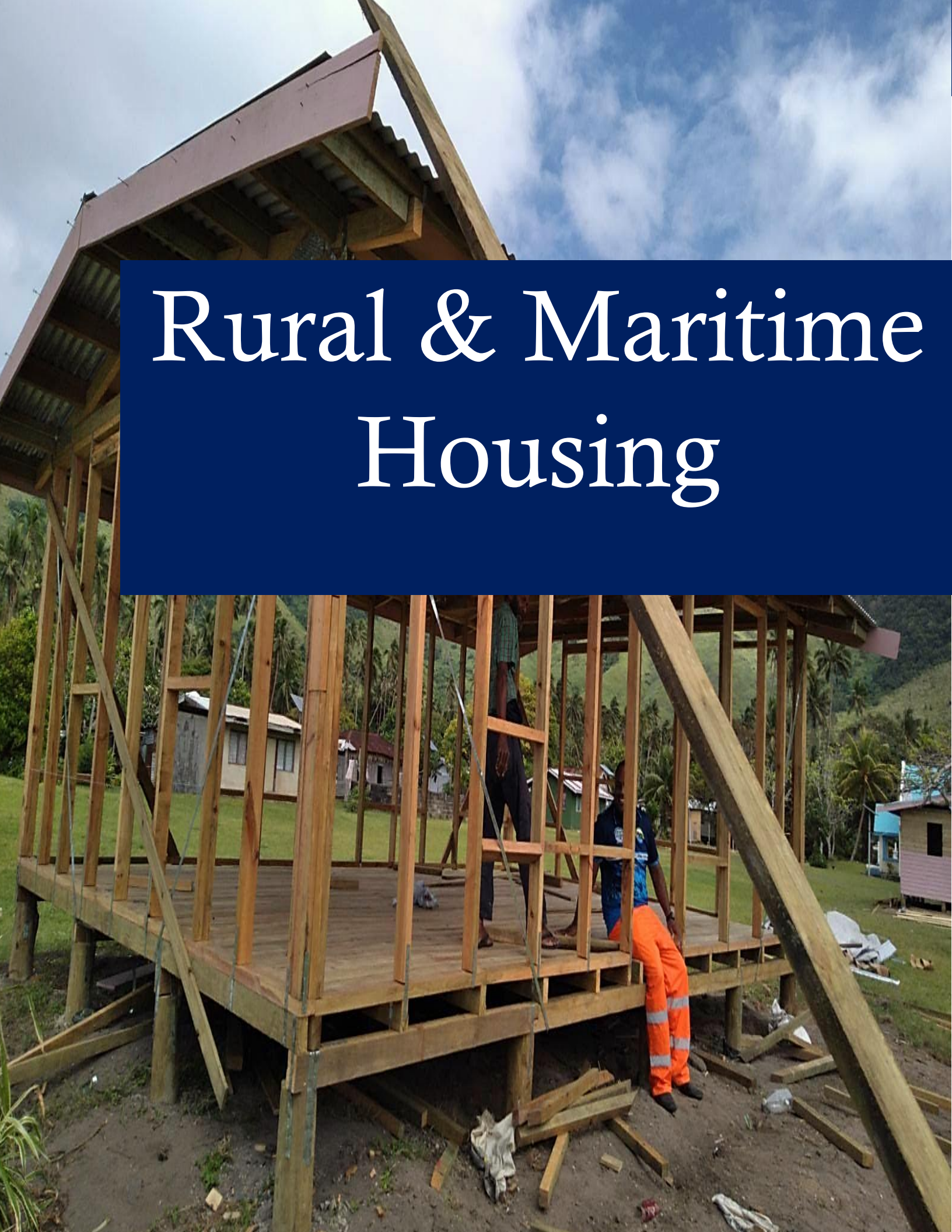
### Key Highlights:

The Ministry currently have 43 informal settlement upgrading projects out of which 39 are situated on iTaukei Land acquired through iTLTB and 4 settlements located on State Land with consent obtained through Ministry of Lands





# Rural & Maritime Housing







## Transfer of Rural Housing Assistance

Nearly half of Fiji's population live in rural and maritime areas. According to the 2017 census, over 83,000 housing structures accounted have 46% being of poor quality and 42% are made of tin and corrugated iron.

The Housing assistance programme for rural and maritime areas was previously managed by the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development (MRMD). In this financial year, this programme was transferred to the Ministry of Housing and Community Development to consolidate all housing programmes under one Ministry.

In this financial year, the Ministry focused on the transfer of the programme as well assessing and clearing of backlog applications from MRMD which was based on the current assistance programme. Fijian households with annual household income of \$15,000 or below qualified for this assistance.

The current programme was offered in two types of assistance consisting of:

- (i) **Scheme One:** the applicant pays for the total cost of materials and the Ministry procures and delivers the materials. The applicant benefits from the Government Tender Pricing and free delivery which is a substantial cost component for maritime applicants.
- (ii) **Scheme Two:** the applicant pays one-third of the material cost, and the Ministry assists with the two-third balance of the material cost, procurement, and delivery of materials.

### Key Highlights:

- ❖ The transfer of the rural housing programme was conducted in this financial year which also included 24 positions and a total funds of \$0.76 million.



# Social Housing Assistance

## Subsidies for Public Rental housing

Public Rental housing in Fiji is managed by the Public Rental Board (PRB) since its establishment in 1989. This form of housing aims to provide affordable, quality and adequate rental housing units to low income earning Fijian households with annual income of less than \$13,000 or below \$250 Weekly gross income (WGI).

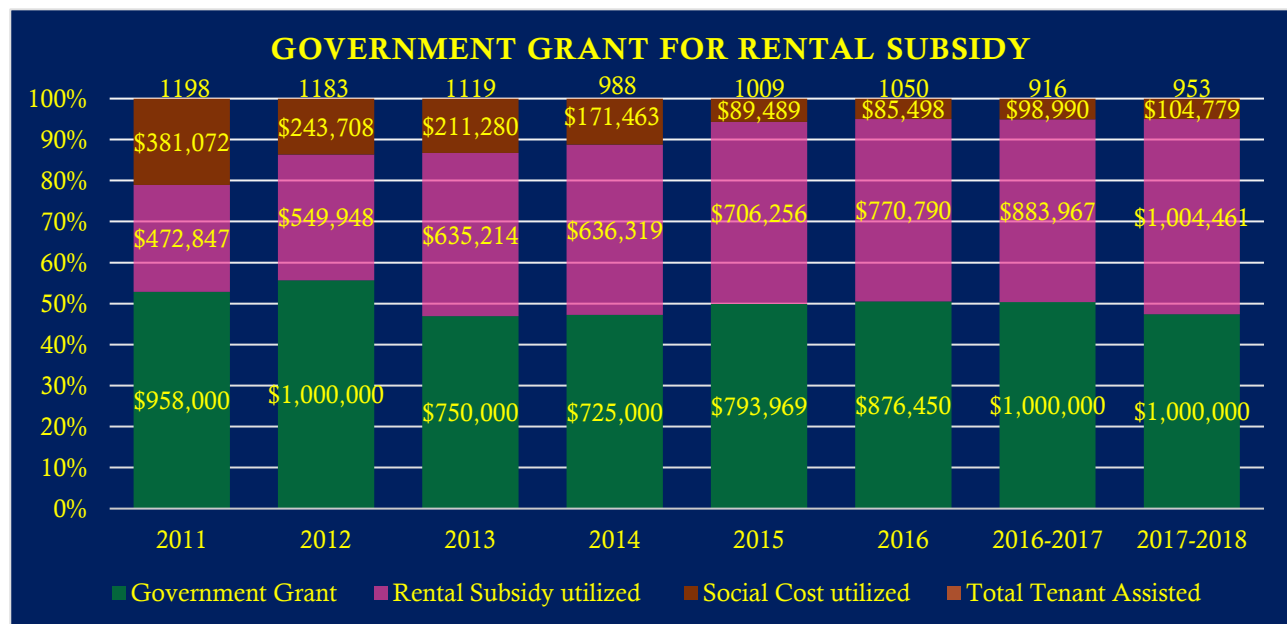
PRB provides 1636 rental flats in 21 estates across Fiji with 11 in the Central Division, 6 in the Western Division and 4 in the Northern Division. Through these public rental flats, PRB receives grants from the Fijian Government for rental and social subsidies.

- (i) Rental Subsidy – is allocated according to the 2016 subsidy criteria based on the tenant's WGI.

| HH Weekly Gross Income Range | Criteria       | Comments  |
|------------------------------|----------------|---|
| \$0 – \$100 less 8% FNPF     | 5% of Income   | Tenant Contribution = 5% of WGI or \$5 as minimum |
| \$101 – \$125 less 8% FNPF   | 8% of Income   | Tenant Contribution = 8% of WGI                   |
| \$126 – \$150 less 8% FNPF   | 11% of Income  | Tenant Contribution = 11% of WGI                  |
| \$151 – \$175 less 8% FNPF   | 14% of Income  | Tenant Contribution = 14% of WGI                  |
| \$176 – \$200 less 8% FNPF   | 17% of Income  | Tenant Contribution = 17% of WGI                  |
| \$201 – \$250 less 8% FNPF   | 20 % of Income | Tenant Contribution = 20% of WGI                  |

- (ii) Social Cost Subsidy – is the difference between the market rent and PRB maximum rent of \$50. If the rent is more than \$50, the tenant is qualified to receiving social subsidy.

Since 2011, the Fijian Government has allocated a total grant in excess of \$7 million. Out of the total allocation made, \$5.6 million was utilized for rental subsidies and nearly \$1.4 million for Social Cost subsidy.





## Key Highlights:

- ❖ In this financial year, PRB received a total grant of \$1.3 million for 1,186 tenants.
- ❖ 912 tenants received rental subsidy in total of \$1,136,348.00.
- ❖ 274 tenants received social cost subsidy at a total of \$193,709.00.

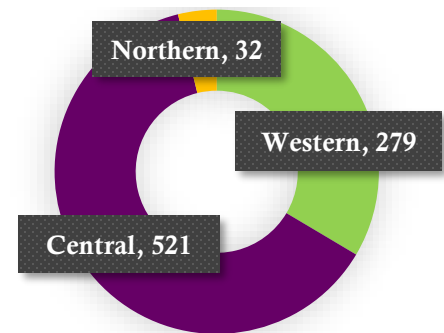
## Supporting Vulnerable Families

The Housing Assistance and Relief Trust ['HART'] is a charitable organization that was established in 1970 and managed by the Fiji Council of Churches.

The Fijian Government has assisted HART since 1976 and today the organization provides other support and services annually to 832 families of mainly women and children who have little or no regular source of income and rely on the department of Social Welfare for financial assistance.

The services provided are designed to empower individuals to become resourceful and productive to secure a better life.

Government grant assistance provided to HART is to assist in General Maintenance Works, Capital Works and Operational Costs and subsidized rental.



**No. of Families Assisted**

## Key Highlights:

- ❖ In this financial year, HART was provided a total grant of \$311,250 which facilitates the reconstruction of 44 Blocks at Lovu HART in Lautoka and the general maintenance for 21 HART Villages.



# Leaving No One Behind

## Ensuring Accessibility for All

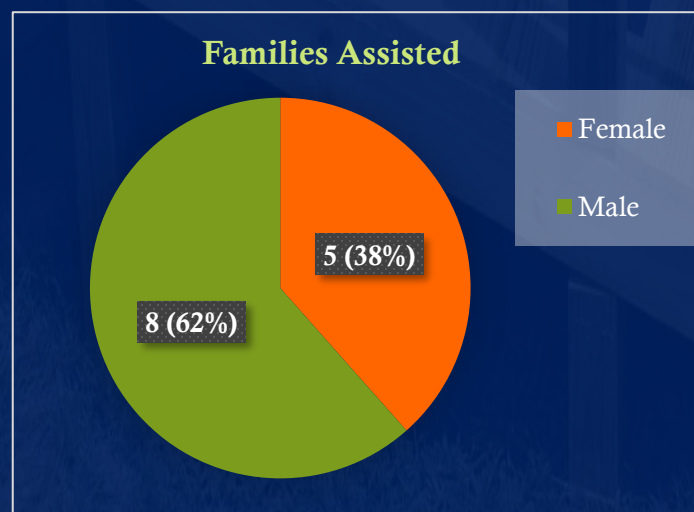
With our commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we work to end discrimination and exclusion and reduce the inequalities and vulnerabilities that leave people behind and undermining the potential of individual and humanity as a whole.

The Habitat for Humanity Fiji (HFHF) began in 1991. Since then, Habitat has helped over 70,000 people to build homes through partnerships with governments, bilateral and non-profit organizations and international volunteers.

HFHF works on a range of projects throughout the country including disaster response and recovery through repairs and temporary housing when needed, construction or improvement of water and sanitation systems in rural and remote areas, and housing project for accessibility for people with disabilities.

### Key Highlights:

- ❖ In February 2019, a grant agreement was signed between the Ministry and HFHF to facilitate the needs of persons with disabilities for accessibility in their homes through upgrades and retrofitting of existing housing facilities.
- ❖ In this financial year, Habitat of Humanity assisted 13 families with a total grant of \$214,820.00.







# Disaster & Resilience



## Rebuilding Homes

---

Homes destroyed by accidental fires are unforeseen and considered a crisis that can be detrimental psychologically to household members. To assist low income families overcome this devastating disaster of losing a home, the Housing Assistance to Fire Victims was introduced in 2015 to rebuild their homes.

Families with annual household income of \$50,000 and below were assisted with a grant up to \$5,000. To qualify for this assistance, the applicants will need to provide evidence to support the ownership of the destroyed property, is residing in the same property, the house is not insured and submit a Police and National Fire Authority report confirming that the fire was accidental.

### Key Highlights:

- ❖ This financial year, the Ministry received a total of 55 applications which were carefully assessed, and 27 applicants qualified for assistance and the total payout made was \$135,000.

## Climate Resilience in Informal Settlements

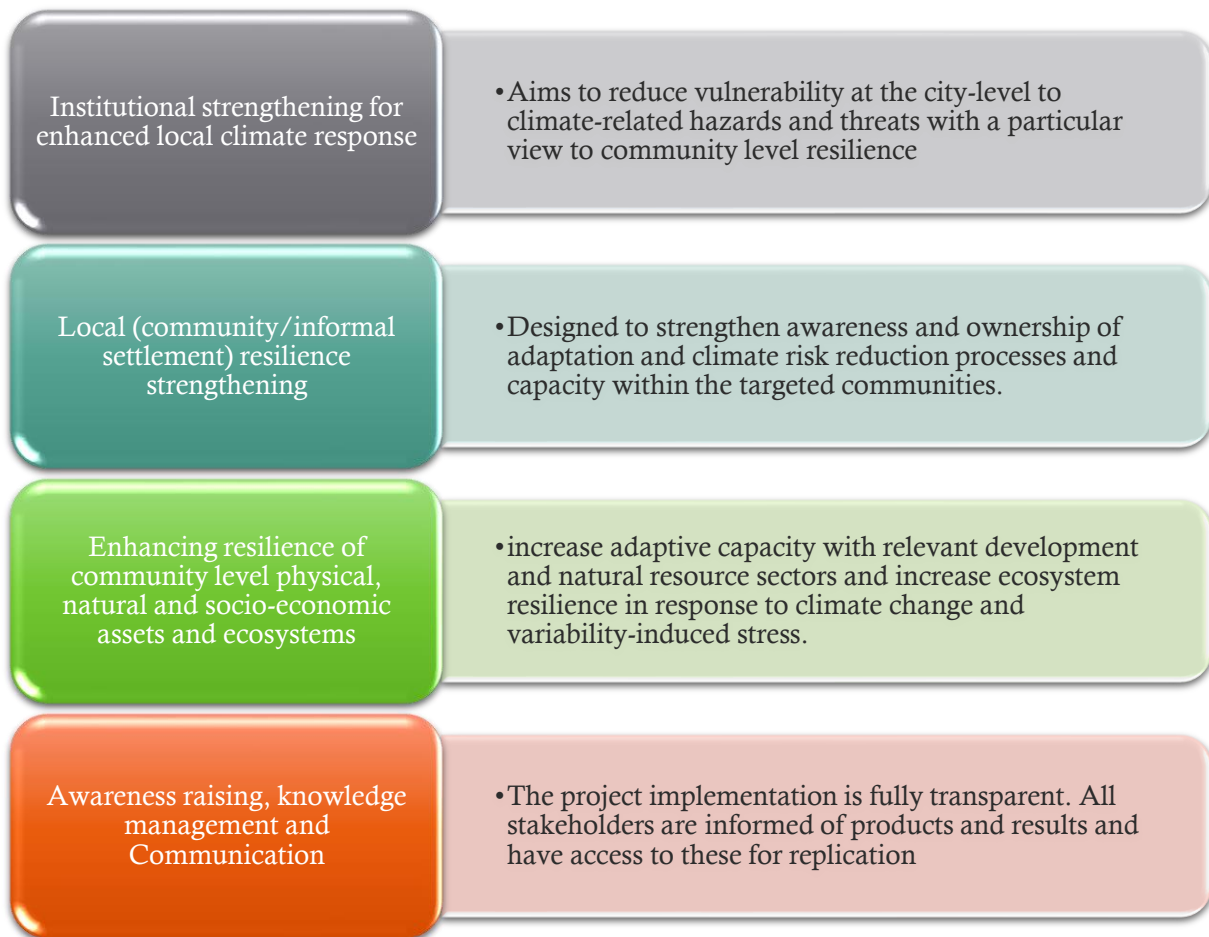
---

The Ministry in collaboration with UN-Habitat promoted the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in particular Goal 11 of “making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”.

As part of the collaboration focusing on ensuring climate resilience and improving the living standards for informal settlements in Fiji, the ***Fiji Resilient Informal Settlement (FRIS) Programme*** was endorsed in August 2018 by Cabinet with a total funding of US\$4.2million from the International Adaptation Fund.

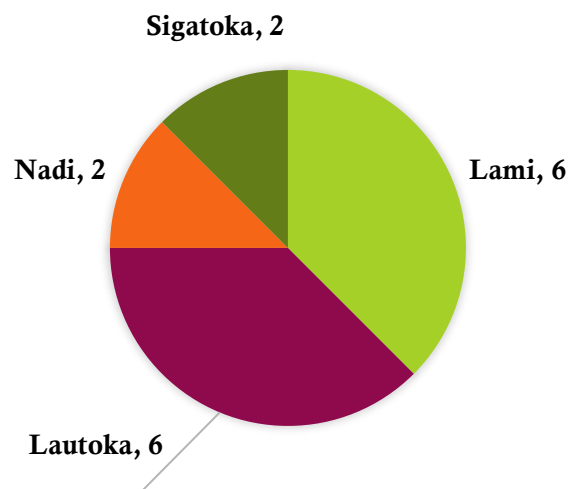
The FRIS Programme aims to increase resilience of informal urban settlements in Fiji that are highly vulnerable to climate change and disaster risks. The implementation of the programme is aligned with 4 project components.





## Key Highlights:

- ❖ The FRIS programme is implemented in 16 informal urban settlements in 4 different municipalities, Nadi, Lautoka, Sigatoka and Lami. The settlements are characterized by a high exposure to multiple climate hazards, especially cyclones and floods.



## Capacity Building

In addition to the FRIS Programme, the Ministry and UN-Habitat is also collaborating in the implementation of the *Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme*. The overall goal of PSUP is directly linked to SDG target 11.1 which is to “ensure access for all towards an adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums”.

It is aligned with the Fijian Government’s existing policy and strategic direction with regards to upgrading informal settlements as established in the National Housing Policy 2011 and the current National Development Plan 2017.

### Key Highlights:

- ❖ PSUP Phases 1 and 2 have been completed prior to 2018/2019 financial year, however, implementation of the programme continued beyond the 2018/2019 financial year.
- ❖ Phase 1 aimed to identify the most pressing needs at all levels, spotting regulatory, legal, institutional, and financial gaps.
- ❖ Phase 2 was to undertake the first assessment on the overall informal settlement situation on Fiji and develop adequate planning tools and realistic mobilization strategies.
- ❖ Phase 3 is yet to be implemented and it aims to strengthen global partnerships and policy dialogue for participatory slum upgrading and prevention.



### Phase 1 Outcomes were:

- 3 Urban profiles for the cities of suva, Nadi and Lautoka as well as the National Urban Profile
- Preliminary study to review the housing provisions in legislations of Fiji to assist with the formulation of a Fiji Housing Act
- Training of Ministry and council officials on participatory slum upgrading strategies and policies



### Phase 2 Outcomes were:

- Fiji Informal Settlement Situation Analysis;
- Fiji Citywide Informal Settlement Upgrading Strategy – Concept Notes;
- Fiji Island Citywide Informal Settlements Upgrading Strategy - 2016-2025;
- Policy and Regulatory Framework; and
- Resource Mobilisation Strategy.





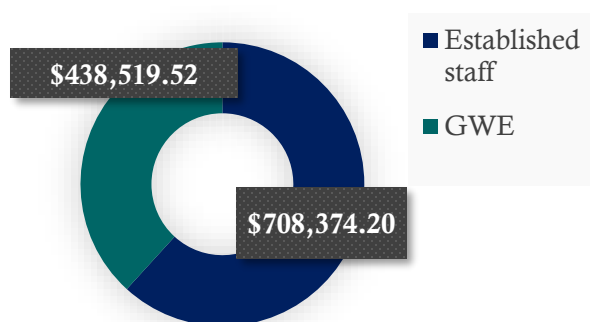
# Corporate Services

## Human Resources

In this 2018-2019 financial year, Ministry received a total budget allocation of \$1,146,893.72 for the staff management. Out of the total allocation:

- ❖ \$438,519.52 was for Twenty-eight (28) GWE positions; and
- ❖ \$708,374.20 for Twenty (20) Established Staff positions.
- ❖ Two (2) GWE positions and Seven (7) Established positions remained vacant as at 31 July 2019.

**Budget Allocation**



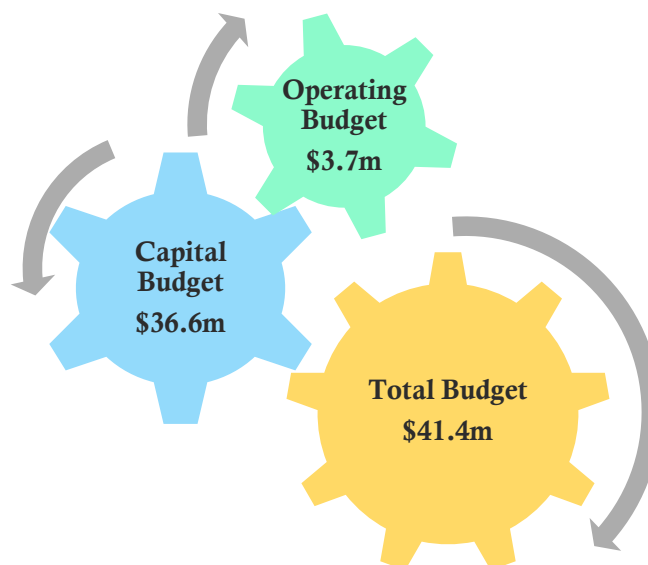
**Gender Breakdown**



## Finance

With the establishment of the new Ministry, a separate Finance Unit was also established to ensure improved compliance, governance, and reporting. The Finance Unit provides financial support services to the Ministry and its Statutory Organisations. This includes sound financial advice and information to assist in strategic decision making.

The Unit is also responsible for managing the Ministry's cash flow, timely financial reporting and preparation of budgetary submissions. The Ministry was allocated \$41.4 million in the 2018-2019 National Budget.



**Allocated Budget FY 2018-19**

## Utilization of Budget FY 2018-19



From the allocated Budget, the Ministry utilized 27% through Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) and Cheque payments. A total of 659 EFT and 176 Cheque payments were made in this reporting year.

| <i>Month 2018/2019</i> | <b>Monthly Expenditure (\$)</b> | <b>EFT</b>    | <b>Cheque</b> |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <i>Aug-18</i>          | 45,282.10                       | 36.00         | 11.00         |
| <i>Sep-18</i>          | 874,862.18                      | 37.00         | 19.00         |
| <i>Oct-18</i>          | 1,111,561.08                    | 38.00         | 18.00         |
| <i>Nov-18</i>          | 76,621.35                       | 34.00         | 11.00         |
| <i>Dec-18</i>          | 1,652,321.81                    | 35.00         | 13.00         |
| <i>Jan-19</i>          | 2,184,824.36                    | 49.00         | 19.00         |
| <i>Feb-19</i>          | 1,020,674.98                    | 59.00         | 18.00         |
| <i>Mar-19</i>          | 961,385.03                      | 39.00         | 7.00          |
| <i>Apr-19</i>          | 850,196.70                      | 36.00         | 8.00          |
| <i>May-19</i>          | 1,036,468.47                    | 43.00         | 10.00         |
| <i>Jun-19</i>          | 65,977.43                       | 43.00         | 6.00          |
| <i>Jul-19</i>          | 1,366,139.05                    | 110.00        | 7.00          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>11,246,314.54</b>            | <b>559.00</b> | <b>147.00</b> |