

# MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES







# 2021-2022

01 August 2021 - 31 July 2022

# Annual Report +

For the year ending 31 July 2022

www.lands.gov.fj



**MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES** 

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# Letter to the Minister



4th March 2024

Hon. Jone Usamate Minister for Lands & Mineral Resources iTaukei Trust Fund Board Complex SUVA.

I am honoured to present to you the 2021/2022 Annual Report covering the work of the Ministry of Lands & Mineral Resources for the financial year ending July 31st, 2022.

The report highlights the Ministry's performance in delivering services to the people of Fiji as well as its contribution to its targeted outcomes set by Government. The report is in line with the Financial Management Act 2004.

Clearly illustrated in this report are the efforts, commitment and achievements of the Ministry's programmes and activities.

We remain steadfast towards achieving Government's national vision and expectations towards the sustainable management of our lands, mineral and groundwater resources.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Raijeli Taga (Mrs.) Permanent Secretary



# **Permanent Secretary's Overview**

As the Permanent Secretary for the Ministry for Lands and Mineral Resources I am pleased to present the Annual Report for my Ministry for the financial year 2021/2022.

To think that only a year ago the country was at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic and the future seemed uncertain. I am delighted to be writing this report at a time when the Ministry, and the country was on the path of recovery from the impacts of the pandemic.

The journey in this financial year was not easy as it required us to reset our plans few times, but in the end the ministry came out triumphant as we adopted COVID 19 measures/precautions into our daily duties and managed to achieve our targets and maintain our regulatory functions and roles.



To reach and serve its lessees, the Ministry ventured to technology to address the challenges faced by the pandemic which was done through the development of online My Lease Info app.

Some of the highlights for the the financial year include:

- Registration of three (3) surveyors
- Handing over of the Savusavu and Nausori Town Valuation Roll
- Valuation conference
- Attending the National Stakeholder Consultation workshop to discuss and finalize Fiji's country level action. This was the support rendered to the support to the FGIMC (Fiji Geospatial Information Management Council) and the UNGGIM (United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management)
- Representation at the international meetings and conferences, International Seminar United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management etc.

Due to the perseverance and diligence of the staff, their commitment made all the difference in ensuring minimal disruptions to the ministry's services.

On behalf of the Executive Management, I acknowledge you for another successful year.



# MINISTRY'S VISION, MISSION & VALUES





#### VISION

Lands and Minerals for Life



#### MISSION

To effectively administer and regulate the land and mineral sector through sustainable and transformative legislations and policies



# OUR VALUES

In addition to the Civil Service Values contained in the Public Service Act 1999, the Ministry aspires to achieve the following values:

- Honesty & Integrity
- Responsiveness
- Commitment
- Transparency and Accountability
- Inclusivity



# **Ministry's Overview**



The Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources administers all state lands and regulates all mineral resources and groundwater resources in Fiji through its two major departments: the Department for Lands and the Mineral Resources Department.

The ministry is governed by several legislations, regulations, and policies which it is accountable to and ensures that they are being followed. They include:



#### Legislations, Regulations & Policies

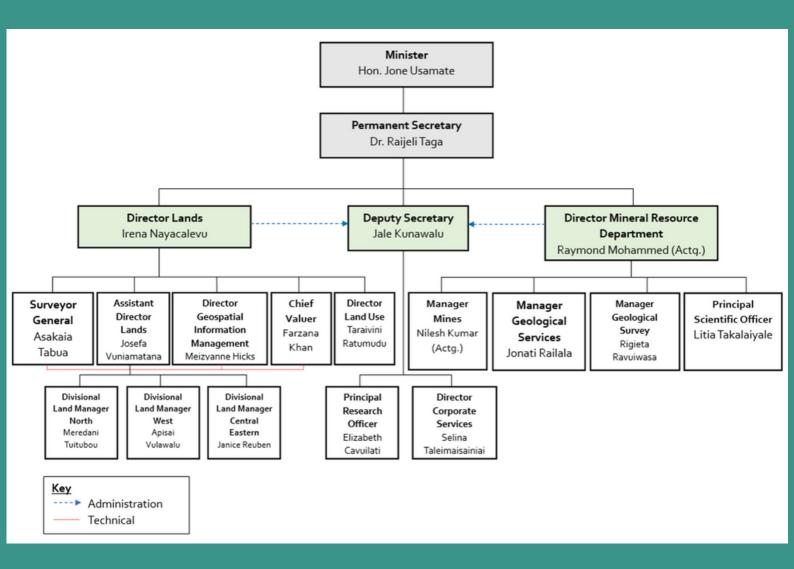
sustainability and social equity.

State Lands Act	Mining Act
River and Streams Act	Continent Shelf Act
State Acquisition of Lands Act	Quarries Act
Land Use Act	Explosive Act
Both the departments implement	Fair Share of Mineral Royalties Act
their activities and programs in a manner to foster and balance development, environment	Petroleum Act

In summary, this report gives the reader a bird's eye view on how the state lands and mineral resources were administered and managed with its financial undertakings of all projects work and activities in the financial year.



# **MINISTRY'S ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**







# **Lands Department**

**Performance Snapshot Achievement** 

#### **Land Administration Division**



**Registration of Land Tenure** 



**License Offered** 



**Transmission of State** Schedule A&B Land



**Ministerial Consent** 



**Consent to Transfer** 



**Advertisement of Available** 

#### **Survey Division**



**Survey Plans Approved** 



Modernising of Geodetic Datum 10 Government stations



**Development of State Land** 1 Subdivision **Approved** 



**Survey Equipment Calibrations 60 Calibrations** 



**Survey of Mahogany** 

**6 Lots surveyed** 



**Maintenance of Exisiting** Subdivision 100% Access Road completed

#### **Valuation Division**



**Land Acquisition** 



**Special Valuation** 



**Other Land Acquisition** 



Administration of iTaukei **Leases to State** 



Maintenance of Valuation 203 Lots



**Rental Reassessment** 

#### **Geospatial Information Division**



**Customized Maps** 861



**Drone Missions** 



Digitalized Surveyed 3049



**Projecting Mapping** 



**Expire State Lease Update** 

**Designated Land** 

**Developed** 



**Revenue - Sales of Maps** \$262,317.03

#### **Land Use Division**



**Enhancement of LUD Administration & Monitoring** 464



100%



Consultations/ Awareness 226



**Execution of Leases and** Conveyancing



**Identification of Viable** iTaukei Land 890 acres



**Land Parcels** designated 100%

#### LAND ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

#### **Overview**

The Division ensures that all state lands are utilized to its full potential ensuring equal land opportunities to all, and further generate revenue for the State in accordance with the State Lands Act.

The Division administers state lands through the facilitation of land conveying from the initial receipt of an application to the preparation and registration of lease. The Division also deals with all consents to transfers, mortgages, caveats etc...with the inclusion of the preparation, stamping, and registration of state land leases.

The administration and management of state leases include:

- Preparation of legal documents.
- Stamping and Registration of leases/licenses and other related documents.
- Ministerial Consent to Dealings.
- Director's Consent to Land Dealings.
- Issuance of Foreshore Development leases which also include conducting awareness for Climate Change Adaption through public consultations on Foreshore Developments (Waiver of Fishing Rights);
- Transmission of Schedule A & B Land; and
- Preparation of the State Land Master Plan that would be a guiding document to assist the Ministry in managing and controlling allocation of land in a sustainable manner.

#### **Staff Structure**

Assistant Director Lands

Divisional Land Manager West Divisional Land Manager Central Eastern

Divisional Land Manager North

The Assistant Director Lands heads both the Lands section (HQ) and the 3 divisional offices. The Lands section (HQ) consists of 1 Principal Lands Officers (PLO), 1 Senior Lands Officer (SLO), 4 Lands Officers (LO) and 2 Executive Officer (EO Foreshore).

There are 4 sections within the division:

- · Stamping/Registration and Land Dealing unit;
- · Foreshore Development unit;
- · Sustainable Land Use & Development unit; and
- Schedule A & B unit.

#### **LAND ADMINISTRATION DIVISION**

# **Achievements**

	ASSIGNED ACTIVITIES	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT
1.	Registration of Land Tenure	500	1258
2.	Ministerial Consent	50	73
3.	License Offered	50	62
4.	Consent to Transfer, Mortgage, Subletting, Caveat, Subdivision, Build, Legal Proceedings, Evict, Connect Water Meter, Connect Electricity, Rezoning – Target	1180	2158
5.	Awareness for Climate Change Adaptation through Public Consultations on Foreshore Developments (Waiver of Fishing Rights)	23	59
6.	Advertisement of available lots and its allocation	50	23
7.	Transmission of State Schedule A & B Land	60	32

# **Challenges and Way Forward**

NO	CHALLENGES	WAY FORWARD
1.	Encounters during the Covid19 Period.	Smart Maintenance of Processes upon completion.
2.	Staff Capacity Building.	Encourage multi-skilled workforce, Staff Rotation, and Relative Exposures as initiatives.
3.	Illegal sand/gravel extraction.	Enact a law on illegal sand/gravel extraction so that heavy penalty is issued.
4.	External Factors.	Continuing network improvements with relevant stakeholders.

#### **LAND ADMINISTRATION DIVISION**

## **Activities**



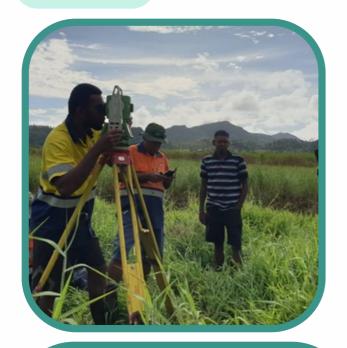
MLMR SITE VISIT - SSA/SSB YAUCAI RA (known as Nagigi) NLC REDEFINITION SURVEY



1st FIELD BRIEF - SSA/SSB YAUCA I RA (known as Nagigi) NLC REDEFINITION SURVEY

## **LANDS ADMINISTRATION DIVISION**

# **Activities**





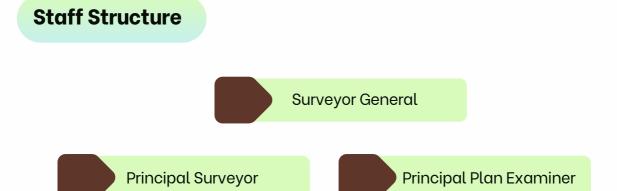




FIELD TEAM - SSA/SSB YAUCA I RA (known as Nagigi) NLC REDEFINITION SURVEY

#### **Overview**

The Survey Division provides land survey services and is responsible for regulating and checking all land surveys in accordance with the Surveyors Act and Regulations. Extensive field work is required in land surveying exercise. Due to Covid-19, some of the target set out in the work plan were not achieved as the team couldn't go out to the field. However, the division re-prioritized their resources to areas of need and assisted other units in clearing outstanding works.



The division is headed by the Surveyor General with two principals and five Senior Surveyors and one senior geospatial officer that oversee the work of the division. Overall, there are 50 staffs within the ministry.



Survey Team carrying out survey work at Sawakasa Mahogany Lease



OBJECTIVES	TARGET OUTPUT		ACHIEVEMENT/PROGRESS
Survey Plans Approved as to Survey	240		838
Modernising of Geodetic Datum	Installation of sol and back up batt Infrastructure Maintenance		<ol> <li>Data Release Report was drafted, endorsed by PSLMR and published.</li> <li>Requested for transformation of new datum was sent to Geoscience Australia as developed partner who will assist Fiji in this area.</li> <li>Geoscience Australia accepted the request and preparatory work had begun.</li> <li>Maintenance work completed for the following:         <ul> <li>Labasa - Vaturekuka Govt. Station</li> <li>Nabouwalu - Nabouwalu Govt. Station</li> <li>Taveuni - Waiyevo Govt. Station Kadavu - Vunisea Govt. Station Kadavu - Vunisea Govt. Station</li> <li>Lakeba - Tubou Village</li> <li>Rotuma - Ahau Govt. Station</li> <li>Ono i Lau Island - Matokana Village</li> <li>Suva - Mead Road, Nabua</li> <li>Lautoka - FSC Mill Compounds, Drasa Avenue</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
Survey of Mahogan	Sawakasa	Lot 11	Field work 100% and survey plan SO 9906 was lodged.
		Lot 13	Field work 100% and work in progress for the survey plan drawing. The survey plan will be lodged for approval on March 2023.
	Nukurua	Lot 7	50% complete. Work was affected due to the adverse rainy conditions that was experienced this financial year. Survey on this site to continue for the 2022/2023 financial year.
		Lot 24	100% completed. Survey plan SO 9816 was lodged for assessment and approval.
		Lot 25	100 % completed. Survey plan SO 9800 was lodged for assessment and approval.
		Lot 28	100% completed. Survey plan SO 9824 was lodged for assessment and approval.

OBJECTIVES	TARGET OUTPUT	ACHIEVEMENT/PROGRESS	
Maintenance of Existing Subdivision	Lagere Subdivision Construction of Access Road DSS 2088B	Maintenance work for the site was 100% completed	
	Upgrade 350m long and 3m wide Access Road at Naqoro Subdivision (BDSW 1412)	Upgrade work 100% completed	
	Existing Access Road M1750 (PT OF) SL 1176, T1670 & DP7197	100% completed	
Development of State Land	Vakamasisuasua Subdivision	<ul> <li>Endorsement of contract document</li> <li>Construction works commenced</li> <li>Setting out survey for road alignment</li> <li>Removal of existing kerbs, footpath and cest pot and culvert</li> <li>Formation cul de sac extension</li> <li>Balkan beam and sand circle test</li> <li>Approval of Revise scheme and Engineering plan</li> </ul>	
Survey Equipment Calibration	45 calibrations	60 calibrations	
Ad – Hoc Survey Works	Land Title Survey for Waidamudamu Informal Settlement	Completed	
	Periphery redefinition survey of Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Suva	Completed	
	Periphery redefinition survey of Nursing Station, Waivaka, Namosi	Completed	
	Periphery redefinition survey Nasinu Correction Centre (FTG), Wainibuku, Naitasiri	Completed	
	Periphery redefinition survey Nasinu Cemetery, Wainibuku, Naitasiri	Completed	
Exemption of Coordinates	A total of five (5) requests were assessed and completed		



OBJECTIVES	TARGET OUTPUT	ACHIEVEMENT/PROGRESS
Survey Plan	Survey Plan Approval	DLOCE  SO 9236, SO 8010, DP 11705, SO 9298, DP 11854, SO 7944, SO 8392, DP 11478, SO 8817, SO 9631, SO 9681, SO 9344, SO 9826, SO 9185  DLOW  SO 8486 - Vunisamaloa & Rarawai, Ba SO 9676 - Tavarau (pt. of), Ba DP 11913 - Nadarivatu, Tavua SO 9622 - Nakoke, Nadi SO 9509 - Solowaru & Enamanu, Nadi SO 9568 - Rarawai & Vunisamaloa, Ba SO 9397 - Mamanuca-i-cake SO 7288 - Volivoli, Rakiraki SO 2450 - Volivoli, Rakiraki DP 11448 - Waqaliqali, Sigatoka  DLON  SO 9678 - Vuniwai, Labasa DP 10793 - Bulileka, Labasa CONTROL  SO 9350 - Navua Town to Nabukavesi Village SO 8133 - Dromuninuku Village to Tacilevu Village SO 8193 - Tacilevu Village to Bagasau Village SO 8507 - Talenaua Village to Navua Town SO 7055 - Mataqali Nagasau, Viwa Island, Yasawa SO 7058 - Mataqali Nalotawa, Viwa Island, Yasawa SO 6988 - Mataqali Nalotawa, Viwa Island, Yasawa SO 6988 - Mataqali Nalotawa, Viwa Island, Yasawa SO 6988 - Mataqali Nalotawa, Viwa Island, Yasawa SO 7059 - Nabukavesi to Korovou Prison SO 7179 - Korolevu Viilage Nadroga to Telenaua Village Serua



# **Significant Training & Events**

Three surveyors were registered and added to the list of RS in Fiji.

- Joeli Biu
- Ryan Caffrey
- Elesio Nadaku

Training was also provided to the survey division staffs;

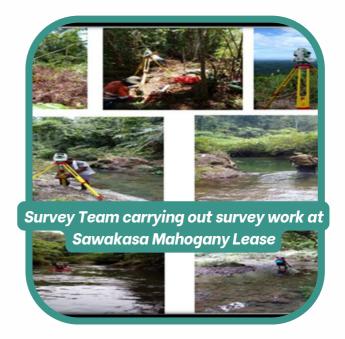
- FPSSD
- APREF
- SPC
- UNGGIM
- Geoscience Australia

#### **Challenges and Way Forward**

NO	CHALLENGES	WAY FORWARD
1.	Approval of Scheme Plan- Pending with DTCP & ITLTB	The need for intervention on the approval of scheme plan at DTCP and ITLTB
2.		Qualified staff are not prioritizing doing project
3.	Complexity of the projects e.g. Datum Project	Collaboration with development partners

#### **Activities**





#### **Overview**

The Valuation Division ensures equitable compensation payments for properties acquired by State for capital projects. Also, the division is responsible for compensating iTaukei Leases to State ensuring government's land requirements are facilitated effectively through valuation and negotiations with iTaukei Lands Trust Board and private landlords.

The Chief Valuer is also a member of the Valuer's Registration Board that oversees the registration of Valuers.

#### **Staff Structure**

The Valuation Division is headed by the Chief Valuer which consists of 3 major sections:

- Acquisition, iTaukei Leases to State (TLTS)
- Special Valuations, Rating, Statistics and Property market; and
- Rental and Estates Section

The Valuation section is also present in all Divisional offices (CE, West and North). There are 2 Principal Valuers while the Acquisition TLTS Special Valuation section consists of 1 Senior Valuer Acquisition, 1 Senior Valuer for TLTS, 1 Senior Valuer Rating, 2 Valuers and 1 Technical Assistant.

#### **Achievements**

The Valuation Division has had an eventful and demanding financial year where staff had coped with the adverse effects of COVID-19. Just as staff had recovered and work had slowly picked up its pace, the second wave of COVID-19 struck, allowing staffs to practice their multitasking techniques adopted from the previous financial year. Staff had to adopt to the COVID-19 measurement and precaution set out by the Ministry of health the necessary tools provided, adapting and using their multitasking techniques in order to achieve its set out target and meet its regulatory function and role.



SPECIFIC AGENCY OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION	ACHIEVEMENT
Land Acquisition for Public Purposes	Acquire and transfer Land Interest to State	Achieved: 1  1. Nausori Airport Ext: [1] Ram Nand, 100% compensation paid out.
	Verify and approve valuation basis and Valuations undertaken for all statutory bodies (Fiji Roads Authority/Water Authority of Fiji)/Land Use Division.	Achieved: 120 - (on-request basis only)  Fiji Roads Authority: [19] LUD: [16] TLTS: [8] DIVISION: [76] SAVUSAVU TOWN REVALUATION BASIS: [1]  Note:Dependant on valuation assessments sent in from FRA & the Divisions for Chief Valuer's approval
Special Valuation	Asset Valuation for Financial Management	Achieved 6 (on request basis)  Breakdown of 6: 1.CT11437 Lot 3 DP 2737; 2.CT 11441 Lot 1 DP 3200; 3.CT 11438 Lot 4 DP 2737; 4.CT 28694 Lot 1 DP 9714; 5.CT 14402 Lot 3 DP 4138; 6.CT 11171 Lot 1 DP 2755  Note: Dependent on the number of incoming requests from Dept.'s/ Statutory bodies to undertake special valuations
Other Land Acquisition issues		Achieved: 174  Breakdown as follows: 1.Qtr. 1 - 52; 2.Qtr. 2 - 31; 3.Qtr. 3 - 48; 4.Qtr. 4 - 43  Not limited to but including the following: - 1.Updating of Land Acquisition progress schedules 2.Public enquiries on Land Acquisition matters 3.Identifying Land Acquisition projects for Caveat registration and facilitating accordingly Note: Dependent on incoming requests/queries for land acquisition related issues from stakeholders.



SPECIFIC AGENCY OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION	ACHIEVEMENT
Administration of iTaukei Leases to State	Applications of New Leases submitted to iTLTB.	Breakdown of new lease applications sent to iTLTB as follows:  1.LD 15/3/1502 Vunarewa Settlement 2.LD 15/3/1501 Sansana (Pt. of) 3.LD 15/3/1500 Nacava (Pt. of) 4.LD 15/3/1485 Tavela 5.LD 15/3/1503 Togabalavu & Tovilavila (Pt. of) Subd Lot 1 6.LD 15/3/1505 Valewaquyaya (Pt. of) Lot 1 8.LD 15/3/1506 Sauyaro (Pt. of) Lot 1 8.LD 15/3/1507 Tauvegavega (Pt of) Subd. Lot 1 10.LD 15/3/1508 Tomuka 11.LD 15/3/1508 Tomuka 11.LD 15/3/1510 Tukutora Subd. Lot 1 12.LD 15/3/1511 Nabare Settlement Lot 1 13.LD 15/3/1512 Delaisaweni Settlement Lot 1 15.LD 15/3/1513 Delainamasimasi Subd. (Pt. of) 16.LD 15/3/1515 Delaivarewakula Settlement Lot 1 17.LD 15/3/1515 Delaivarewakula Settlement Lot 1 18.LD 15/3/1515 Delaivarewakula Settlement Lot 1 18.LD 15/3/1508 Valewaquyaya 22.LD 15/3/1505 Valewaquyaya 22.LD 15/3/1500 Ledrusasa 23.LD 15/3/1479 Vunivau A 24.LD 15/3/1499 Qawaira Settlement 26.LD 15/3/1499 Qawaira Settlement 26.LD 15/3/1499 Qawaira Settlement 27.LD 15/3/1499 Qawaira Settlement 28.LD 15/3/1493 Waidamudamu & Delaiviwa
		<b>Achieved - 3</b> Breakdown of renewal of lease applications
		sent to iTLTB as follows:  • LD 15/3/276 Nausori Health Centre  • LD 15/3/265 Nausori Maternity Unit  • LD 15/3/267 Nausori Police Barracks  A total of \$1,787,924.60 was made to TLTB on 28/4/22 which was payments for the above three (3) sites.



SPECIFIC AGENCY OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION	ACHIEVEMENT
Administration of iTaukei Leases to State	Reassessment of Rent on existing iTaukei Land Leased to State	Achieved - 69 The Division attended to 141 Notices, breakdown as follows: Notices Accepted/Deemed to Accept: 69 Inconsistencies Noted: 8 Out of Time Reassessment Notice: 61 Counter offer for Reassessment: 3
	Assessment of Premiums for Non- Government Schools	<b>Achieved: 1</b> LD 82/3/101 Nauluvatu Kindgarten
Verification of payment schedule on iTaukei and other leases to State		Achieved: 1. 569 statements verified and first half payments completed A total of \$1,415,404.14 payments were made to TLTB on 17,21,22 & 29/6/22 for the 569 statements verified
Other issues on iTaukei leases including Surrender of Leases for other Private Organisation		Achieved:177  Breakdown as follows:
Municipal Councils Rate Demand Notices	Consult municipal councils for their rates demands and complete verification	Target & Achieved <669 (Budget: \$1,891,230.00)  Municipal Councils  1. Suva City - \$1,161,746.23  2. Lami - \$4,768.91  3. Nausori - \$18,960.85  4. Lautoka - \$189,782.89  5. Ba Town - \$15,144.92  6. Rakiraki Town- \$1,488.05  7. Tavua Town - \$5,976.71  8. Levuka - \$12,922.85  9. Labasa Town - \$46,724.15  10. Savusavu Town- \$20,881.29  11. Nadi Town - \$1,368.15  12. Nasinu Town - \$37,988.55  TOTAL - \$ 1,517,753.55

SPECIFIC AGENCY OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION	ACHIEVEMENT
Sexennial revaluation	Rating Valuation for Municipal Councils.	Submission of Valuation Roll, Valuation report and plans to respective municipality.
		Achieved: 5064
		1. Nausori – 4430 2. Savusavu – 634 Total: 5064
Maintenance of valuation roll	Undertake Roll Maintenance valuation for local authorities	Achieved - 203
vataationrott	under the Local Government Act 1972	<ul> <li>LD 56/43-12 Suva City - 18 lots</li> <li>LD 56/8-5 Nadi Town - 36 lots</li> <li>LD 56/17-4 Labasa Town - 24 lots</li> <li>LD 56/65-3 Nasinu Town - 124 lots</li> <li>LD 56/66 Rakiraki Town - 1 lot</li> <li>Total: 203 Lots</li> </ul>
Sales Information	Collation of property sales data	Achieved - 897
Property sales.	Production of monthly property sales.	Achieved - 186
Property Market Report	Production of Property Market Report	Target & Achieve:  8 Monthly Trend Reports One (1) 20 Year Property Market Trend Report
Production of		Target & Achieve:
Periodical Reports		<ul> <li>52 Weekly Reports</li> <li>12 Monthly Reports</li> <li>6 SMB Updates</li> <li>12 Monitoring Reports</li> <li>6 Dashboard Updates</li> <li>1 Annual Report</li> <li>1 Annual Business Plan</li> </ul>
Rental reassessment	Collate data on leases due for reassessment in 2019 and undertake assessment of rental.	Achieved: 2,963 CE: 886 W: 1765 N: 312

## **Achievements**

SPECIFIC AGENCY OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION	ACHIEVEMENT
Assessment of rentals/leasehold market value/ premium	Undertake and submit valuation requests for issue of new leases	Achieved: 578  CE: 153  W: 362  N: 63
Assessment of penal rent	Assessment of penal rent for breach of lease conditions completed	Achieved: 96 – (on request basis only)  CE: 50 W: 43 N: 3
Valuation for government renting (office accommodation & quarters)	Rental valuation for Government quarters completed	Achieved: 42  CE: 32  W: 8  N: 2
Lease Inspection Execute ground work operation for all state lease dealings and vetting of all reports to safeguard government's interest	Inspection on Estate: Transfer; Subdivision; Rezoning; New applications; Renewal & expired; Leases; Mortgage; Tenancy; Agreement; Water & FEA Connection; Re-entry; Gravel Extraction;	Achieved: 2,425 CE: 1136 W: 894 N: 395

# Significant Training & Events



Figure 1: Handover of Savusavu Valuation



Figure 2: Handover of Nausori Valuation Town Roll

# **Challenges and Way Forward**

CHALLENGES	WAY FORWARD
Capacity building for valuers and registration	Staff capacity building through continuous professional development Prioritize and encourage valuers to be registered



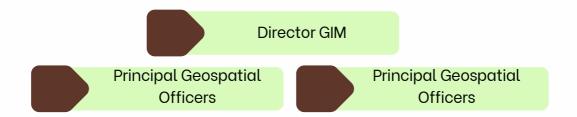
#### **Overview**

The core responsibility for the Division is to manage the state land geospatial information for the division as well. These are in the form of technical land administration information such as the State Land Administration, Survey and Valuation and other information technology roles.

During this financial year, the division focused on improving the production and upgrading of maps, approved plans and legal diagrams. Through Management of Land and Geospatial Information Systems and services, maps were produced according to the required specifications ensuring timely and quality service. This is aligned to the National Development Plan initiatives which is the adoption of new technology to increase efficiency & productivity.

The Division will continuously seek innovative solutions for the continuous improvement of geospatial information management for Government and the country as a whole.

#### **Staff Structure**



The Division is headed by Director for Geospatial Information Management (DGIM). There are 2 sections within the Division, each headed by their respective Principal Geospatial officers. Each section has 4 units operating under its designation. The Mapping Section has Air Survey, Cartography, Statutory and Draughting unit while The FGISS consists of Geospatial Information System, System Analyst, System Support and Fiji Geospatial Information. In total the Division is made up of 43 staff.



	GIM Outputs	Targets	Achievements
1.	Customized Map	500	861
2.	Projecting Mapping	10	12
3	Drone Missions	26	32
4.	Expire State Lease update	1000	2105
5.	Updating of National Land Register	600	202
6.	Land status briefs	45	62
7	Acquisition diagrams	20	28
8.	Verification and Charting of approved Survey Plans	1500	4603
9.	New Web Apps	2	2
10.	New applications	1	1
11.	Preparation of legal diagrams	450	935
12.	Scanning of historical sales reports	104	185
13.	Land records scanning	3000	3228
14.	Revenue - Sales of Maps	\$75,000	\$262,317.03
15.	Plans Checked	15	30
16.	Digitized Surveyed Records	3000	3049/4000
17.	Verified Surveyed Records	3000	3273/4000
18.	Restored Surveyed Records	3000	402/500



#### **Achievements**

#### **New Initiatives**

MyLeaseInfo

Due to the adverse effects of the CoVID-19 pandemic, many of our lessees found it challenging to access services that were provided at the various offices within the Department.

Lands Department like many other agencies and organizations in Fiji, ventured into the use of technology to better reach and serve it's' lessees.

One such initiative was the development of the online MyLeaseInfo service by the software team. After registration, lessees are able to view the following information:

- Lease details This includes latest information on their leases.
- Last eight financial transactions This will allow for better monitoring of transactions while referencing their receipts.
- **View and Print statement invoice** Instead of waiting for statements to arrive in the postal box, lessees can easily access and download their statements.
- Track the progress of their consent applications if any Lessees will have the option to view and track the progress of their consent application from the comfort of their homes instead of having to use money and time visiting the Lands Department to follow up.

The Division in the next Financial Year will be working to digitize the State Lands Administration processes to improve its operations and services to customers. A key part of this effort was to work with the Lands Administration Division to review the Standard Operation Processes.

#### Country Action Plan to Strengthen National Geospatial Information Arrangements

The Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources recognized the importance of the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework (IGIF) to be a guiding tool for transformative change. Together with evidence-based policy development and decision-making, the ministry sees the relevance of the framework to Fiji's pathway to sustainable development. The Ministry supported by the Fiji Geospatial Information Management Council (FGIMC) and the UNGGIM, by hosting a 1-day National stakeholder consultation workshop on 14 June at the Pasifika Conference room. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss and finalize Fiji's country-level action.



# **Challenges and Way Forward**

No	Challenges	Way forward
1.	Delays in approval from external agencies that are part of the procurement processes.	Wider consultations and referrals on operations and projects to be held between the two parties in order to determine the next course of action
2.	Delays in responses or feedback from external agencies on requirements, correspondence, and queries for activities.	Regular feedback via email by approving agencies to be undertaken
3.	Intervention from external parties on planned activities, which result in delays and or changes to activities.	Strengthen collaboration with external parties in terms of understanding their processes and timelines
4.	Delays of output due to delays of needed information from relevant agencies to complete output	Enter into MOU to access information and data
5.	Staff retention	Provide a conducive work environment, reward through recognitions and encourage staff to apply for higher positions that are vacant should they qualify







GIM Staff setting controls at the Caubati joint survey



Field check by GIM Officers



Senior Managers Team for the Public Accounts Committee

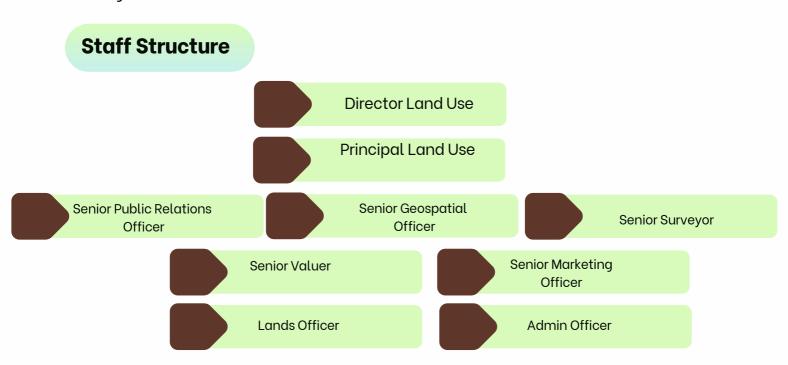


#### **Overview**

The Land Use Division was established for the following reasons which are also aligned to the 5 Years & 20 Years National Development Plan and the Ministry's 2018-2022 Strategic Plan:

- i) utilize designated iTaukei land in a manner that is in the best interest of iTaukei landowners and designated state land with a view of achieving optimal returns to State;
- ii) develop a Land Use Bank to facilitate the efficient leasing of lands which are currently idle and unutilized under terms and conditions which are attractive to both the landowners and tenants:
- iii) provide long tenure of lease for sustainable and progressive developments of the agricultural and commercial sectors; and
- iv) ensure to make all land available leased with the purpose of providing a livelihood for all the parties concerned.

The Division continued to work during the financial year in light of the unprecedented disruptions to planned activities and travel/fieldworks caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The travel and border restrictions within Fiji was finally uplifted in the first quarter of this financial year (October 2021) much to the relief of the Division which enabled the staff to carry out its planned activities with continued minimal COVID-19 restrictions and achieved its COP targets.



The division is headed by Director Land Use. The division has a Public Relations Unit, Geospatial Unit, Survey Unit, Valuation Unit, Marketing Unit, the Executive & Administration Unit, and has an overall total of 28 staff.



No.	Strategies	Target	Achievements	Success Rate
1.	Enhancement of LUD administration and Monitoring.	384	464	121%
2.	Execution of leases and conveyancing	31	22	71%
3.	Consultation/Awareness and Public Relations	206	226	110%
4.	Identification of viable iTaukei Land for designation projections	500acres	890acres	178%
5.	Number of land parcels designated	4	3	75%
6.	Number of land parcels surveyed and surveyed plans approved	9	5	56%
7.	Valuation carried out, Valuation re-assessment and Valuation statistical information data updates.	321	841	262%
8.	Marketing Activities	113	288	255%
9.	Number of designated land developed	1	1	100%
10.	Designated iTaukei land developed and monitored.	1	1	100%

## **Achievements**

#### **New Initiatives**

No.	Section/Staff	New Initiatives	
1.	Valuation	<ul> <li>Property Market Report 2015-2021</li> <li>New database and digitization of the following:         <ul> <li>Sales analysis</li> <li>Rental analysis</li> <li>Building construction rates analysis</li> </ul> </li> <li>New filing system</li> <li>New valuation report format - IVS standard</li> <li>New inspection sheets that are practical to field</li> <li>Introduced plotting on KML layers - final product that is analyzed (pilot within Division)</li> </ul>	
2.	Geospatial	Migration of Land Use records from MS Excel/Spreadsheet to MS Database. Accessible on the shared folder for all staff. Team to liaise further with DGIM on the progress of the creation of the new Database.	
3.	Public Relations	<ul> <li>Success stories – via reports</li> <li>Creation of new landowners contact database</li> <li>Introduction of new PR Strategic Framework</li> </ul>	
4.	Survey	Re-strategize processes on raw data collection after field work (Central Data Hub)	
5.	Marketing	Introduction of Jot form LUD Online Application Forms	
6.	Principal Land Use Officer	<ul> <li>Introduction of Land Use Division COP &amp; BP Monitoring Matrix</li> <li>Collation of all backlogs of Financial Statements in collaboration with the Lands Admin/Execution team</li> </ul>	



# **Challenges and Way Forward**

No	Challenges	Way forward
1.	Continued circulation of misinformation on the roles and functions of the Land Use Division	More targeted consultations to be planned and undertaken with the general public & within the Civil Service.
2.	There is no policy in place for equal distribution of lease monies by landowners	Cabinet Paper to be formulated to address this matter
3.	The turn-around time for lease issuance is quite lengthy as there is no system in place for issuance of Approval Notice or Agreement for Leases on un-surveyed land	Cabinet Paper to be formulated to address this matter
4.	Budget constraints have stalled most Land Development plans	Cabinet Paper to be formulated to address this matter:  • Proper planning needed
5.	High staff turnover/rotation EOI Contract Duration and rotation of staff disrupts workflow	Proper consultations with Divisional Heads need to be consistently done prior to decisions being made by Corporate & HQ Management
6,	Limited data from stakeholders	Issue confidential letters to stakeholders to assure them on the security of data collected
7.	Minimum requirements for Surveyors and Valuers Post	Minimum requirements for Valuers and Surveyors to be captured in Divisional BPs and staff IWPs to encourage/commit. Aspiring Valuers and Surveyors to pursue their projects & registration
8.	Trainings offered by Malaysian Technical Cooperation Program (MTCP) under Corporate Division does not reflect Valuation	Corporate to liaise further with MCS & MTCP on the possibility of introducing Valuation Courses
9.	Prolonged timelines in receiving consents (designations, trustees, cessation) from Land Owning Units (LOU)	New approach to be introduced whereby proper LOU consultations shall be done to inform on the following:  Consent forms deadline to be within 3-6 months.  Consent forms are to be distributed together.
10.	Constant changes to LOU stance on matters initially agreed in meetings. This is mainly due to internal disagreements in terms of designations, nomination of trustees and cessation.	New approach to be introduced whereby LOUs shall be formally notified in writing to sort grievances within 3-6months timeframe otherwise the initial agreement shall prevail

# **LAND USE DIVISION**

# **Challenges and Way Forward**

No	Challenges	Way forward
11.	LUD database design and host on digital platform	GIM office to also prioritize the design of LUD database
12.	Land Allocation Committee (LAC) decisions turn-around time is slow	LAC decisions are to reflect the SOP of the Division Rapid turn-around time required.
13.	Non availability of software licenses	Proper budget planning is needed in order to include license subscription of all the Ministry's software requirements
14.	Delay in approvals from the relevant stakeholders such as ITLFC, DTCP, Banks, Police clearance etc.	Memorandum of Understanding to be initiated with these stakeholders





Joint inspection of Vatutu Town land, Nadi with potential investor



## **LAND USE DIVISION**















# **Minerals Resources Department**

**Performance Snapshot Achievement** 

#### **Mines & Environment Division**



**Mines Inspections** 



**Quarries Inspections** 



**Applications for Exploration Licenses** 



**Mineral Explorations** 



**EIA Screening Application** & EIA Review



**Special Prospecting** Licences

#### **Geological Services Division**



**Total drilled boreholes** 

**Boreholes Commissioned** 



Large Islands drilled

& Investigations

**Groundwater Assessments** 



Small Island drilled borehole



**Reticulation sites** 143 household

**Geological Survey Division** 



**Land Acquisition** 



Special Valuation



**Other Land Acquisition** 



**Administration of iTaukei Leases to State** 





**Rental Reassessment** 2963

#### **Geoscience Division**



Mineral Investigation **Project** Compile GIS data - 13



**Seamless Mapping Project** Reconciling geological map sheets - 7 locations



Digitization of geological map sheets
3 Marine Island





**Relocation programs** 4 locations



**Potential Hard Rock** Resources 19 sites

## **Overview**

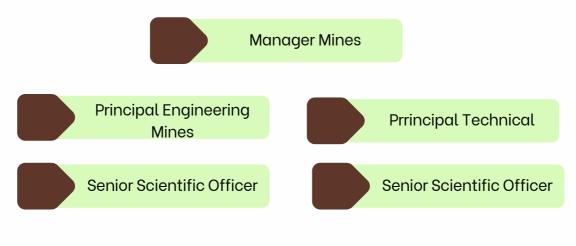
2021–22 has been an extraordinary year. Any reflection on the past 12 months will be dominated by the impact that COVID-19 has had on our world, our community, and our workplace since its appearance as a global issue. For the Mining Division, the focus was on providing a safe workplace and ensuring the protection of our workforce. Like other public service agencies, we aimed to do this while maintaining the key services that the Fijian community and government expected from us.

As evident, the Mining Division continued to play a unique role in supporting a safe, fair, and responsible future for the Fijian community, industry and resources sector. Like all agencies we were challenged to be more resilient, flexible, and responsive to the evolving COVID-19 situation.

As outlined in this Annual Report we have continued to perform and deliver our wide range of services, including key regulatory functions, tenement administration, resource assessment and core data logging including community consultation and facilitated royalty distribution.

## **Staff Structure**

The Division is headed by Manager Mines and has two Principal officers who oversee the duties of the five units which are Inspectorate Unit, Tenement Unit, Resource Geology Unit, Community Unit, and Environment Unit. Overall, the Division has a total of 17 staff members.



# **Achievements**

No	Licence	Number
1.	Special Prospecting Licences	35
2.	Mineral Exploration	34
3.	Geothermal Exploration	0
4.	Deep Sea Exploration Licence	1
5.	Special Mining Leases	7
6.	Permit to Mine	0
7.	Special Site Rights	4
8.	Oil Exploration Licenses	0
9.	Applications for Exploration Licenses	5
10.	Prospectors Right (Valid)	43

## **Inspectorate Unit**

Mine Inspections	1	5	3	2	11
Nasomo Month End inspection	2	3	3	2	10

## **Tenement Unit**

Renewal Applications	1
New Applications Granted	5
New Applications [currently processed]	5
Dealing in a Mining Tenement	4

## **Achievements**

#### **Resource Geology Unit**

The following was achieved during the financial year 2021 - 2022;

- Launching of the initiative to develop and operationalize the Mineral Resource Department Core shed database. This will be a long term plan which began with the clean-up and assessment of the existing MRD core shed. The intended outcome of this strategy is the development of a robust database containing historical and current data that would be made available to interested clients wishing to develop Fiji's mineral and mining sector. Information will be presented as Idle Prospect Packages.
- Capacity Building with Technical Officer (Epineri Vula) being part of the UNESCO-IGCP: Stone for Development Programme which aims to provide opportunities for scientists and students from developing countries, especially early career and female scientists.
- Formulation of a new Form 7 template to be used by the relevant companies in reporting data to MRD. To be presented to the Mines and Quarry Council for deliberation.
- Geobank Software Training completed towards the end of 2022.
- Work commenced on operationalizing MRD Core repository
- Continued assessment of Annual, Quarterly and monthly reports from various mining and exploration companies.

#### **Community Unit**

Details of Licenses	LO Consultation	Meeting with Investors
Exploration	70	16
Special Mining Lease	12	11
TOTAL	82	27



# **Achievements**

## **Environment Unit**

Activity	Qtr. 1	Qtr. 2	Qtr. 3	Qtr. 4	Total Inspections
Mine Inspections	1	4	5	4	14
Tenement Inspections	3	2	3	3	11
Quarries Inspection	14	13	37	37	101
EIA Screening Applications & EIA Review	7	5	9	3	24
Community/Stakeholder Meetings & Consultations	1	1	10	9	21



# **Achievements**

**HIGHLIGHTS** 

**Inspectorate Unit** 

SML 55 FAIR SHARE OF MINERAL ROYALTIES PROCESSED

MONTH	TOTAL ROYALTIES RECEIVED	VGML 80% SHARE	NASOMO LOU 80% SHARE	20% STATE SHARE
JUNE 2021	\$394,318.11	\$278,033.57	\$37,420.92	\$78,863.62
JULY 2021	\$365,717.45	\$250,762.66	\$41,811.30	\$73,143.49
AUGUST 2021	\$280,201.60	\$198,445.95	\$25,715.33	\$56,040.32
SEPTEMBER 2021	\$348,729.28	\$255,264.59	\$23,718.84	\$69,745.86
OCTOBER 2021	\$291,465.04	\$203,321.73	\$29,850.30	\$58,293.01
NOVEMBER 2021	\$297,412.86	\$199,882.25	\$38,048.04	\$59,482.57
DECEMBER 2021	\$333,576.01	\$224,759.45	\$42,101.36	\$66,715.20
JANUARY 2022	\$213,454.61	\$144,937.74	\$25,825.95	\$42,690.92
FEBRUARY 2022	\$222,529.97	\$161,852.00	\$16,171.98	\$44,505.99
MARCH 2022	\$226,644.91	\$158,000.31	\$25,315.62	\$45,328.98
APRIL 2022	\$211,744.75	\$152,566.12	\$16,829.68	\$42,348.95
MAY 2022	\$255,409.33	\$187,336.16	\$16,991.30	\$51,081.87
TOTAL	\$3,441,203.92	\$2,415,162.53	\$337,800.62	\$688,240.78

#### **SML 60 FAIR SHARE OF MINERAL ROYALTIES PROCESSED**

DATE	TOTAL ROYALTY	LOU 80% SHARE	20% STATE SHARE
16/6/2021	\$ 92,992.72	\$ 74,394.18	\$ 18,598.54

#### **Achievements**

#### **AUGUST 2021 - JULY 2022 EXPLOSIVE LICENSING**

LICENSE	IMPORT	REMOVE	POSSESS	STORE & DEAL	STORE	PURCHASE	EXPORT
NUMBER	20	49	166	83	21	27	0
REVENUE	\$2,664.40	\$6,527.78	\$2,211.12	\$5,530.29	\$1,399.23	\$359.64	\$-
TOTAL	\$ 18,692.40	\$ 18,692.46					

#### **NEW INITIATIVES**

#### **Inspectorate Unit**

• Use of iAuditor App to conduct OHS inspection of Mines, Quarries, Firework Store Display and Container clearances which has improved timely submission of reports

#### **Tenement Unit**

- Formulation of intern presentation.
- Create database for bond register.
- Attend Low carbon cement workshop.

#### **Resource Geology Unit**

The following are some of the new initiatives that the section is intending to undertake moving forward;

Improving Work Efficiency

• Formulate a more use friendly assessment template for Company Reports received (form 7, 13, 18,etc) This will allow the unit to effectively track and monitor companies mining and prospective progress and provide up to date recommendations and advice. Once this is achieved, it will make the sections assessment work easier and efficient which will then allow the team to handle other tasks concurrently, improving the overall productivity of the Resource Geology section.

## **Achievements**

- Work in conjunction with other sections within the Department to update and build on information contained in the Metallic Mineral Deposits of Fiji Book, 1995.
- Current Technical Officers to obtain driving license seeing that a significant portion
  of the work undertaken is field oriented. This is to solve issues relating to instances
  where senior staff are being asked to act as drivers not only for the Resource Geology
  section but for the other sections as well.

#### **Environment Unit**

- Environment Management Monitoring Checklist formulated for monitoring and reporting from Mineral Exploration companies.
- Officer from the Unit assisted researchers from Akita University, Japan.

# **Challenges and Way Forward**

No	Challenges	Way Forward
1.	Incomplete requirements submission of renewal application form from clients.	Urge clients to recheck requirements before sending their renewal application. Strengthen guideline as part of continuous improvement.
2.	Old and aging IT infrastructure which hinders the work of the team.	Holistic and determined effort and working together with other sections in digitizing of respective documents and reports.
3.	Monitoring – costing and safe access to sites, equipment and sampling strategy	Strengthen the role of the unit by having officers appointed as 'Inspectors' under the Environment Management Act 2005. Improve networking and collaboration with internal & external stakeholders.

## **Overview**

The Geological Services Division is tasked with principal responsibilities of developing groundwater resources of Fiji and providing 24/7 earthquake and tsunami monitoring services. To facilitate such responsibilities the Division is made up of four Sections with respective thematic roles namely the Hydrogeological Section, Drilling Section, Seismology Section and Laboratory Section.

The Hydrogeology and Drilling Section work closely in the assessment and development of groundwater resources for the water vulnerable communities and for commercial development. The Seismology Section provides continuous monitoring of earthquake and tsunami events and issuance of warnings in the case a tsunami is generated through the 24/7 operations.

The division's plans are aligned to the Ministries Strategic Plans, the National Development Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals, in ensuring water security through the provision of clean and safe drinking water to schools and communities, and national security through the early warning systems and alert for tsunamis.

## **Staff Structure**

Manager Geological Services

Principal Scientific Officer

Principal Technical Officer

Senior Scientific Officer

The Division is headed by Manager Geological Services under the Director Mineral Resources. The Manager is assisted by the section heads of the three sections in the coordination and execution of the core deliverables. The Hydrogeology Section is headed by the Principal Scientific Officer, the Drilling Section by the Principal Technical Officer, and the Seismology Section by the Senior Scientific Officer. Overall, the division is made up of around 50 staffs.

# **Achievements**

## **Borehole Drilling**

No.	BH No.	Location	Status
1.	MDH21/06	Yaro village, Kia Island	Successful
2.	MDH21/07	Daku village, Kia Island	Successful
3.	TDH21/10A	Sariyawa 1, Momi	Abandoned
4.	TDH21/10B	Sariyawa 2, Momi	Abandoned
5.	TDH21/11A	Sariyawa 3, Momi	Abandoned
6.	TDH21/11B	Sariyawa 4, Momi	Successful
7.	TDH22/12	Sariyawa 5,Momi	Successful
8.	TDH22/03	Sariyawa 6, Momi	Successful
9.	MDH21/08	Ligau village, Kia Island	Successful
10.	MDH21/09	Ligau village, Kia Island	Abandon
11.	TDH22/01	Tau Lagi,Nadroga	Successful
12.	TDH22/04	Vavalagi 1 settlement ,Macuata	Successful
13.	TDH22/05	Naveyago village, Nadroga	Successful
14.	TDH22/07	Batiri settlement, Vavalagi 2	Successful
15.	TDH22/06	Nasealevu, Macuata	Successful
16.	TDH22/09	Coboi Primary School	Successful
17.	TDH22/08	Nakelikoso Primary School	Abandoned

#### Note:

Total drilled boreholes- 17 ; Large Islands - 13; Small Islands - 4; Successful - 12; Abandoned - 5

# **Achievements**

#### Reticulation

Sites	Household No.	Population No.
Savusavu lailai settlement,Nadroga	28	138
Namata Primary School, Nadroga	9	73
Cawalevu Settlement, Bua	5	30
Vunisavisavi village, Cakaudrove	11	49
Nabukelevu I ra, Kadavu	90	300

#### **Boreholes Commissioned**

Borehole No.	Location	Household	Beneficiaries
BH20/06	Naqumu village, Macuata	25	108
BH20/03	Nasea village, Macuata	30	134
BH20/14	Cawalevu settlement, Bua	5	30
BH11/03	Nabukelevu-i-Ra village, Kadavu	90	300





Groundwater Drilling at Coboi Primary Schoo, Bua.

# **Achievements**

# Hydrology

	Large Islands		Small Islands	
	Targets Achievements		Targets	Achievements
Groundwater Assessments and Investigations	25	54	5	9
Groundwater Drilling & Development	10	13	5	4
Well Development	43	4	5	0
Reticulation	7	4	3	1
Groundwater Monitoring	12	7	4	0

# Significant Training & Events

Staff	Training
Anawaite Starzynski (Scientific Officer)	Climate Change and Water Short Course Online
Naomi Gade (Technical Assistant)	Climate Change and Water Short Course Online
All staff	Inhouse training - Pumping test analysis

# **Challenges and Way Forward**

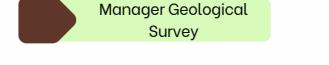
No.	Challenges	Way Foward
1.	Unfavorable weather conditions	Ensure that the staff is equipped with proper PPE and tools to ensure their safety and work is completed
2.	Late delivery of reticulations materials from respective vendors	Proactive approach in planning so the issue is not repeated
3.	Sudden change in shipping schedules that hampers mobilization/demobilization	Proactive approach in planning
4.	Rigs and Supporting equipment breakdowns together with unavailability of spare parts locally,	Ensure that spare parts are available and where to get it from.



## **Overview**

The Geological Survey Division ensures that our communities are resilient, have an improved livelihood that is environmentally sustainable for the future. These duties include the promotion and marketing of mineral prospects to foreign investors. The Division also empowers resource owners through awareness programs of available resources to improve living standards and encourage sustainable development within the communities/village setting.

## **Staff Structure**





The Geological Survey Division is headed by the Manager Geological Survey, under the Director Minerals. Overall, the Division has a total of 16 positions.

Survey



# **Achievements**

Mineral Investigation Project	In the 2021/22 financial year, funding for the project was not requested as the Division focused on compiling GIS data packages for the mineral prospects covered from 2008 to 2020/21 FY. The Division worked in collaboration with the Geospatial Unit at MRD to ensure the GIS data packages are standardized as this will be tagged a cost should interested investors request for data for the surveyed prospects.
Seamless Mapping Project	Seamless Mapping Project was undertaken in the Bua province, Vanua Levu, with focus on reconciling geological map sheets 3 (Rukuruku Bay) and 4(Dreketi) over a 4 week period in the 2nd Quarter of the Financial year. Field data collection for updating the geological information of the map sheets were conducted over a 4 week period in November to December 2021. The area of survey was under an active tenement for earthy mineral exploration (SPL 1424 – Aurum Exploration (Fiji) Ltd) and correspondence was made with the Mines Division informing the tenement holder on the purpose of the seamless mapping project, which was to reconcile lithological boundaries on the seams of published geological map sheets and not for the intention for mineral exploration.
Digitization of geological map sheets	Digitization this financial year was focused of geological map sheets for maritime islands namely, Taveuni, Vanua Balavu and Kadavu was also a collaborative work with the Geoscience unit, where the Mapping team focused on verifying the digitization of lines, points and polygon features that was carried out by the Geoscience team.
MIP database and MIP Data Package	The data package for MIP sites for 2020/21 prospects was jointly undertaken with the Geoscience unit of the Technical Support division where the provision of information was done by the division with verification of submitted data conducted by the Mapping section.
Mineral Marketing	The mineral marketing component focused on the compilation of promotional flyers for Wainikoro-Koroiwa and Vitina-Rauriko prospects; posters for Cuvu and Sigatoka Waters prospects; and pamphlet for the MIP.
Maritime Affairs Coordinating Committee (MACC)	Through its involvement in the Maritime Affairs Coordinating Committee (MACC) and the continuous seaworthiness of the Department vessels. The MACC committee is mandated through cabinet and oversees all maritime issues from the; i. Review of National and International Legislation and treaties,



# **Achievements**

Maritime Affairs Coordinating Committee (MACC)	<ul> <li>ii. Progress with Fiji's delimitation, negotiation of the maritime boundaries (EEZ) and finalise Fiji's Full Submission to UNCLOS and the Review of all Marine Scientific Research Cruise request into Fiji's EEZ and the acquisition of all MSR scientific data, Quarterly MACC meetings are held and organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) with discussions of all maritime affair issues inclusive of the;</li> <li>International Sea Bed Authority's (ISA) Deep Sea Mineral (DSM) legal framework,</li> <li>International Legally Binding Instrument under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biodiversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ),</li> <li>Fiji's Marine Spaces Act,</li> <li>Regional DSM Legal framework and,</li> <li>The FFA Regional Aerial Surveillance Treaty Agreement,</li> <li>A key issue noted during the discussions was the progress of establishing the country's maritime boundaries.</li> </ul>
MV Yautalei and MV Vatutalei vessels	Seaworthiness certificate provided to the Department from Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji (MSAF) was valid from March 2021 to March 2022.  The Division was notified by MSAF that the vessel has outlived its intended lifespan and is no longer certified sea worthiness. PTO Survey, Marine Section and Asset Management Unit (AMU) of the Ministry facilitated the boarding of the vessel. A cost benefit analysis was undertaken to justify boarding the vessel.
Geological Hazard Assessment Disaster Risk Reduction and Risk Management: Engineering Geology Projects Landslide Desktop Research	The Engineering Unit undertook Desktop research and analysis to identify landslide prone areas within the main Viti Levu area. Ground verification exercise was conducted in May 2022 between 16/05/22 to 25/05/22 over 3 weeks and covered the Galoa area to the west and right up to the Veisari region, east of Navua Town whereby a total of 26 landslide points were recorded with majority of these points noted along road cuts. The updated inventory received from this activity resulted in the production of a Landslide Distribution Map for Viti Levu. The team from Common Sensing and United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) - United Nations Satellite Centre UNOSAT were approached to assist with satellite imageries but went further in providing advice and technical support on the development of a proposed susceptibility map for N29 which is currently on going.
Relocation Programs post Tropical Cyclones	The Mapping team undertook relocation programs for affected villages in the North Division (Vanua Levu island). The team focused their geotech surveys on prioritised villages from the Commissioner North Office - Cogea village (Bua), Banikea village (Bua) and Nabavatu village (Macuata).

#### **Achievements**

Potential Hard rock
resources on Vanua Levu
and Viti Levu

This financial year, the consolidation of the report included the 2nd phase of the Cakaudrove Province. Overall, a total of 19 sites have been identified mainly from the Macuata and Cakaudrove Province while Bua lacks any potential site due to non-exposure of outcrop inland as well as thick overburden and that most of the hard rock identified comprised of volcanic breccia and weathered basalt.

- Potential Hard Rock Resource Project Cakaudrove, Phase 2 field component of the project was carried out in the financial year, from February to early April 2022, covering much of the sites in the Saqani, Vaturova and Wairiki districts. A total of sixteen (16) sites were mapped with volumetric assessments carried out for potential quality hard rock resource. A report was compiled and consolidated to one report inclusive of surveys conducted in the Bua, Macuata and Phase 1 Cakaudrove provinces.
- Phase 3 is to continue to the 2022/23 financial year and the project for Vanua Levu should be completed with the production of a consolidated potential hard rock resource map.

#### Ad hoc Request

The Engineering team utilized the same funding for post Disaster assessments and other geohazard assessments. Provided below is a breakdown of the ad-hoc requests attended to by Engineering Section for the 2021/22 FY

Records	Qtr 1 2021- 2022	Qtr 2 2021- 2022	Qrtr 3 2021- 2022	Qtr 4 2021- 2022	Total
Preliminary Briefs	2	2	6	5	15
Geotechnica l Assessment reports	-	2	6	1	9
Landslide Assessment Reports	3	1	5	6	15
Aggregate Assessment Reports	2	4	2	1	9
Advisory Memos & Letters	2	1	5	-	8
RRA Reviews	-	-	-	-	-
Quotations	7	2	4	3	16

#### **Achievements**

Prototype Hot Spring Geothermal Power Generation System Project A joint visit between The Pacific Community (SPC), Mineral Resources Department (MRD) and Department of Energy (DoE) to assess potential hot spring sites around the country was conducted in the 4th quarter for the purpose of understanding and assessing the technical feasibility of hot spring power generation in South Pacific Communities such as Fiji. This is a collaborated research project between SPC and the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Australia, aligning well with research portfolios of climate change and carbon neutral energy supply. RMIT has designed a new power generation system which is sustainable and uses low temperature hot spring water to produce electricity. The system is scalable and will be particularly useful for remote communities which are in close proximity to these resources, and do not have access to the current energy supply (EFL power grid, solar, hydro). A team of four (4) officers from SPC, MRD and DoE visited ten (10) hot spring sites around Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, conducting ground assessments and collating the necessary field data to assist with the project objective.

With innovative energy solutions as such, the project is anticipated to progress later in the year, by testing the system at the most feasible site(s).

# **Challenges and Way Forward**

	Challenge	Way Forward
1.	Resources constraints	The Division supports the move for digital transformation and data management to allow the staffs to be able to access work outside of the office to ensure work continuity.
	lmagery	Liaise further with development partners and donor organizations on the request for updated and quality satellite images to assist the Division with Landslide projects and hard rock projects.
3.		The Division anticipates the opportunities for more short term and long-term trainings and studies for the Division staffs to raise their capacity towards executing work.
4.	Field worthy vehicles	The Division is requesting Management for an additional field vehicle to support the facilitation of the requests and the work-plans for the Division.



TO II Mapping stands on one of the large basalt columnar joints, Naiselesele Falls, Lekutu.



Mapping noting the highly weathered road cut exposure in the Korokadi area.





Minor Slip identified on a road cut near Wainadiro village, Serua (left) Shallow slump located inland in the Waidradra area, roughly 1km north from the Main Queens Road (right)

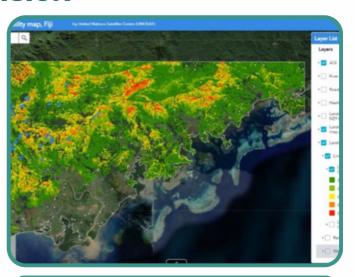




Meeting with the Common Sensing and UNITAR team



Viti Levu Landslide Inventory Distribution map



N29 Area Draft Landslide Susceptibility map Produced by UNOSAT



Mapping team conducting traditional protocol with Assistant Roko Tui Bua, prior to geotechnical assessment for relocation at Cogea village, Wainunu, Bua

SO Mapping and TO II Mapping carrying out hand auger drill test holes at one of the proposed relocation sites at Cogea village, Wainunu, Bua



## **Overview**

The Geoscience Division consists of three Units namely Administration, Accounts and Geospatial.Our role and responsibilities align to the following Strategic Priorities:

- · Structural Reform Civil Service Reform
- · Information and Communication Technology
- · Monitoring and Evaluation

The duties of the division include:

- Human Resources Management, training, and other administrative functions
- Coordinate budget planning, financial services (procurement, asset management, payment) monitoring, reporting and compliance to financial regulation.
- Provide Information technology support, non-spatial and geospatial management. Data management and maintaining an inventory of geoscience data.

#### **Staff Structure**

Principal Scientific Officer

Senior Technical Officer



Accounts Officer

The division is headed by the Principal Scientific Officer. There are three sections within the division that is headed by the Senior Admin Officer, Accounts officer and Senior Geospatial Officer. Overall, the division has 28 staff.



# **Achievements**

## **Administration**

SPECIFIC AGENCY OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION	TARGET
CIVIL SERVICE REFORM	Recruitment and Selection Staff Resignation & Retirement	38 - Contract issued 11 - Promotion 9 - Resignation 1 - Retirement
	HRIS Database updates and MYAPA Assessment	1. Provide regular updates on Human Resource Information Systems [HRIS] which incorporates the digital recording of staff leave information. training attended for ease of reference.  2. The compilation of department MYAPA forms for the period under reviewed and individual work plan for FY2021-2022.
ASSET MANAGEMENT	Vehicle Management  Successfully carried out general servicing and management of departr as follows:  16 vehicles  11 Heavy Drilling Mace 23 Authorized Drivers	
	Minor upgrade and general housekeeping	<ul> <li>General building maintenance in consultation with MoIT and housekeeping.</li> <li>The procurement and installation of new generator for Seismology building. The generator is for power backup.</li> <li>Installation of Hurricane shutters for key areas of the building identified.</li> <li>Auditing of power consumption</li> </ul>

# **Achievements**

## **Training**

Capacity building for staff is always supported. During pandemic period and given the restriction in numbers, training continued through virtual mode.

## • Local Training

NO:	COURSE NAME	TOTAL STAFF
1.	Local Workshop/Seminars/ Forum	32
	Ministry of Civil Service	
2.	Mental Health & Working Remotely	10
3.	Writing Influential Speeches	3
4.	Exceptional Customer Services	1
5.	Investigation Officers Training	2
6.	Open Merit , Recruitment & Selection	3
7.	Writing Persuasive Brief	3
8.	Assessing and Discussing Performance	7
9.	FMIS	2
10.	Purchase Order Training	1
11.	Accounts Payable	1
12.	Job Evaluation	2
13.	Writing Effective Job Proposals	1
14.	Bank Lodgement & Accounting Heads	1
15.	Bank Lodgment Training	1
16.	FICAC Financial Investigation	1
17.	Senior Officers Leadership Training	4

## • Overseas Training

Name	Course Name	Duration	Country
Joji Malodali	Study Leave with 50% Master's in Seismology, Earthquake Engineering and Tsunami Disaster Mitigation	28/09/22 to 16/09/2023	Japan
Unaisi Rawaikela	Study Leave with 50%: KIZUNA Programme JICA - Master's in Human Resources Development for Government Officers and Researchers in Mineral Resources Rich Countries	21/09/22 to 30/09/2025	Japan

#### **Achievements**

#### • Library Services 2021-2022

The total revenue generated from the sales of publication, scanning of reports and printing for the financial year 2021 – 2022 amounted to \$7,603.90.

The monthly breakdown for the revenue generated for government is shown in the table below:

Month	Internal Customers	External Customers	School Visit	Roadshow	Total Revenue
2021	40	22	1		\$1,195.25
2022	43	20	2	4	\$6,408.65

#### • IT Support Services and Maintenance

- The division through Geospatial Unit continued to provide Information technology support and ensure staff are fully equipped with the relevant laptops and desktop for the compilation of scientific report and the provision to correspond with stakeholders through email. Three new laptops were purchased to equip staff working from home during COVID and two field laptops for the Hydrogeological Section. In addition, a desktop was purchased for the Mines division.
- A total of 230 request received and attended to by respective IT officers, this includes troubleshooting, installation both hardware and software and attending to network downtime.
- Upgrading of Unwired data plan to meet the demand for virtual meeting, conference, and training. The Department also host the STAR virtual conference on 25th to 26th November 2021.
- Subscription renewal of Terraflex licenses, a total of seven licenses. Two GPS devices were given to division Lands Office North and West.
- The procurement of three (3) NOMAD device for field data collection and to equip field officers during field engagement.

## **Achievements**

#### Digitization of Geological Map 1:50,000 for Maritime Island

The digitization of the geology maps is an ongoing project from previous financial year. Geology maps have been identified as one of the important data themes that can be used in many applications and thus the importance of also overseeing its accuracy is important.

It is an ongoing task that the Unit has involved in, using open-source geospatial tools to digitize the features. This financial year the team is focusing on digitizing maritime Island.

#### MIP Data Packaging

The Geospatial team of the department have worked in collaboration with the Geological Survey division to compile Mineral Investigation Data package and update geological map sheets through seamless mapping. New data collection methodology introduced to scientific officers.

#### **Training**

ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT
Digitizing geological Maps Scale 1:50000	l per quarter	Successfully completed 4 map sheets for 2 map sheets for Kadavu, Vanuabalavu and Taveuni.
Database development and harmonization of existing database	2 New databases	<ul><li>Hard rock database</li><li>Deep Sea Mining</li></ul>
MIP Data Cleaning and GIS data conversion	MIP data package	2021 - 2022 prospects completed data compilation conversion to Vanua GIS format)
Thematic maps/customize maps produced	100 maps produced	113 maps produced

## **Achievements**

#### **Training**

- New Initiatives undertaken by the Division.
  - Provision of quarterly updates of utility bills and fuel usage for head of division awareness and monitoring.
  - Installation of time machine in the Garage and Drill yard to monitor hourly patrols of the Watchman.
  - CCTV camera Installation at the Drill yard.
  - Keep abreast with new technology and application for conferences, meeting, and training.
  - Digitalization of reports and maps
  - Introduce Business Improvement Plan

# **Challenges and Way Forward**

Issues and Challenges	Way Forward
COVID 19 Pandemic	Encourage work from home and allow flexible hours.
Non-compliance of submission for procurement even though awareness already conducted.	<ul> <li>The possibility of reviewing procurement process from approving agencies</li> <li>Conduct awareness in-house relation to procurement and other financial matters and ensure key officers are involved.</li> </ul>
Advertisement of positions with no suitable candidates.	Reviewing the process



**Minor Works** 



Back -up Generator for Seismology



# **Support Services**

Policy, Quality Assurance Division

Corporate Services Division



## **Overview**

The Policy and Quality Assurance (PQA) Division's key role is to provide research and analytical assessment for policy support to the Minister for Lands & Mineral Resources and Permanent Secretary through Deputy Secretary. The division is also responsible for the provision of secretariat support to MLMR & PSLMR through coordination of policy and cabinet papers, systems & process monitoring, media, and complaints monitoring and effective execution of two of its projects: harmonization and rental arrears collection.

The Policy & Quality Assurance has orientated its programs and activities in accordance with the overarching Ministry's strategic priorities of the Ministry's 2020/2021 COP, 2018–2022 SDP & Fiji's NDP.

#### **Staff Structure**



The Division is headed by the Deputy Secretary. There are two sections within the division that is headed by the Senior Research officers and overseen by the Principal Research Officer. The division has a total of 18 staff of which 3 are project officers.



## **Achievements**

#### • Policy & Research

- Target 10
- KPI- Submission to PSLMR

NO:	NAME OF CABINET PAPER	CABINET DECISION
1.	Surveyors Regulation 2021- CP (21) 109	Received Cabinet Decision (30/09/2021) CD 132/2021
2.	Progress Update on Survey of Mahogany Plantations- CP (21) 110	Received Cabinet Decision (30/09/2021) CD 133/2021
3.	Development of the National Earthquake Response Plan- CP (21) 111	Received Cabinet Decision (30/09/2021) CD 134/2021
4.	Annual Report 2014	Received Cabinet Decision (30/09/2021) CD 136/2021
5.	MyLeaseInfo Service for State Land Leases	Received Cabinet Decision (20/12/2021) CD 176/2021
6.	Progress Report on the National Groundwater Development Project- CP (22) 36	Received Cabinet Decision (08/04/2022) CD 58/2022
7.	Annual Report 2018/2019	Received Cabinet Decision (22/04/2022) CD 59/2022
8.	National Groundwater Resources Development Management Policy	Received Cabinet Decision (21/06/2022) CD 80/2022
9.	Removal of Vanuaview Online Licence Fee	Received Cabinet Decision (20/07/2022) CD 104/2022

- Internal Policies: 2 (Risk Management Policy and MLMR Policy Execution Plan) completed.
- Minister's Executive Policy Committee Meeting Secretariat in 6 meetings

#### Report Monitoring

- MLMR Business Plan (BP) & Costed Operational Plan (COP) Provision of monthly updates. Conduction of internal verification on a Quarterly basis with reports on finding and achievements submitted to PS through DS/PRO
  - 2021/2022 Update;
    - Three (3) quarterly verification are conducted for the respective divisions within the ministry

#### **Achievements**

#### Report Monitoring

- Qtr. 1 Report submitted.
- Qtr. 2 Report submitted.
- Qtr. 3 Report submitted.
- Mid-term Report submitted.
- Costed Operational Plan.
- 2021/2022 Update with percentage performance of achievement
- Qtr. 1 Update provided
- Qtr. 2 Update provided
- Qtr. 3 Update provided
- MLMR QPPR Due to Ministry of Economy on the 15th of the first month of a new quarter.
  - 2021/2022 Update: Quarter four last financial year and Quarter one to Quarter three QPPR formulated and submitted. This includes:
    - Capital Project Update (CAPEX)
    - Operational Project Update (OPEX)
    - Budget utilization
    - Cabinet Paper Implementation Updates
    - Research on Staff Awards
    - MyAPA

#### Executive Support

- Parliament
- Drafted and submitted the following:
  - MLMR Statements 3
  - Response to Audit (Public Accounts Committee) 3
  - Response to 4 Oral & 1 Written Questions
  - Response to the Consequential Bill 7
  - Motions to Debate 8
  - Low Hanging Fruits (update) 1
  - Proposed Questions 13
  - Additional Notes 4

## **Achievements**

#### Complaints Advocacy Unit

- Target Depending on number of complaints received, it is targeted that 100% of the complaints are to be resolved.
- A total of 158 complaints were received in this financial year with 158 resolved and 0 pending cases.
- Breakdown:

Division	Received	Resolved	Pending
West	105	105	0
CE	41	41	0
North	12	12	0
Total	158	158	0

- Investigation Attended to on Complaints Received 10
- Complaints Matrix to PSLMR Prepared a total of 9 presentations
- "Help Desk" Database Continuous update and collation of information of the Ministry's customer complaints statistics.

#### • Media Relation Unit

- 355 FB uploads including Ministerial events and articles shares
- Press Release 5
- Quarterly Newsletters 3
- MLMR Media Strategy 2021/2022 completed



## **Achievements**

#### • Quality Assurance Unit

- Target 10 Quality Assurance Report
  - QA Improvements (drafting and implementation) 6
    - 1. Draft Charting of Approved Plans
    - 2. Draft General Valuation
    - 3. Land Use Designation Process
    - 4. Accounts Online Transactions
    - 5. Expired Leases
    - 6. File Verification 500 (Lautoka)
  - SOP Review: 2/4
    - Completed DLs Consents
    - Completed Foreshore Application
    - Special Permissions
    - Soil and Accretion
  - MLMR COP 2021/2022 Compilation, finalization, and endorsement of the ministry's COP
  - MLMR Project Reports (Improvement Strategies) 4

#### Projects

- Rental Collection
  - Target \$7,600,000.00
  - A total of \$15,298,291.25 (201.2%) was collected.
- Project Harmonization
  - Target 1500 leases to be harmonized.
  - A total of 1500 (99.26%) leases were visited, assessed and verified.

#### Other Achievements:

Compilation, drafting and endorsement of MLMR COP 2020/2021 & 2021/2022

## **Achievements**

#### **New Initiatives**

#### Policy & Reporting

 Providing one-to-one sessions with officers responsible for Divisional Papers and submissions. This has assisted the officers in drafting papers and the type of information to be provided in alignments to government programmes and its beneficiaries.

#### Media

- Have officers from different Divisions attend the talkback shows to build officers confidence with public speaking and how to present during media interviews.
- Fiji Sun printing a two-page centerspread for stories that will be exclusive to only them to help boost our coverage and raise more awareness on the roles of the Ministry.
- Generate QR codes for client's convenience. Clients can scan codes as ease of access and business to access forms, checklists, contacts, fees, etc

#### Quality Assurance

• QA activities - Research and networking, critical thinking and prioritizing tasks.

# **Challenges and Way Forward**

Unit	Challenges	Way Forward
Policy & Reporting	<ul> <li>Submission of Cabinet and Policy Papers.</li> <li>Response from other agencies on the Cabinet Papers.</li> <li>IWP review &amp; weekly updates</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Re-strategizing of communication process.</li> <li>Strengthen networking with other agencies.</li> <li>If comments are still not received intervention from PSLMR/MLMR is sought.</li> <li>IWPs &amp; weekly updates - one on one discussion with staffs.</li> </ul>
Complaints	Incorrect information by lessees and public	Strengthen public awareness.
Media	Lessees registering on the MyLeaseInfo platform	Increases in uploads via ministry websites, public awareness through local newspapers and roadshow.
Quality Assurance	<ul><li>Field deployment restrictions.</li><li>MyLeaseInfo Registration</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Provision of relevant resources.</li> <li>Engage in more awareness conducted</li> </ul>



Team Deployment conducting harmonization project

### **CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION**

### **Overview**

The Corporate Services Division has three Sections, namely:

- 1. Human Resources Management/ Development
- 2. Administration and
- 3. Financial Services

The above functions serve the role of the Division in providing administrative management and policy support to the Ministry while ensuring that all human resource management and financial services are aligned to the legislations and policies of government.

The Division's core functions have in this regard been aligned to the National Development Plan stipulations on Financial Reform, Civil Service Reform and Good Governance.

The Corporate Service Division ensures the:

- uniformity and consistency in the application of policies and procedures that pertains to appointments, promotion, retention, and discipline within the Ministry of Lands & Mineral Resources;
- management and staff have the requisite skills and tools to fulfil its mandate.
- Ministry of Lands & Mineral Resources has a secure and comfortable environment that is conducive to productivity; and
- compliance with relevant Financial Acts Regulations and procedures.

The Division also continued to provide secretariat and administrative support to the Management and the Staff of the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources.

## Staff Structure Director Corporate Manager Corporate Manager Finance Senior Admin Officer Senior Accounts Officer Senior Accounts Officer Officer

The Division is headed by Director Corporate Services (DCS). There are 2 sections within the Division, each headed by their respective Managers, Manager Corporate Services and Manager Finance. Each section has 2 units operating under its designation. The Corporate section consists of the Administration, Recruitment & Selection Units and the Finance section that looks into the financial tasks of the Ministry. Overall the division has a total of 42 staff.

### **CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION**

### **Achievements**

### • Employee Management Unit

Leave Management		EOI – Short Term Appointment	Appointment of Interns/Attaches	Resignation	Retirement
AL	1,606				
SWSS	691				
SWOSS	459	59 appointees	36 appointments	10 resignations	2 Retirement
BL	231				
Total Leave Processed	2,987				

### Post Processing Unit

• Recruitment & Selection - Total of 111 Contracts Issued

### • Training/OHS/Nukulau/Transport/Registry

- Training
  - Overseas Training 28
  - Local Training 56
  - Nukulau Total booking received 1,022
  - Transport Daily transport logistics facilitated
    - Authority to Drive processed 18 and

Vehicle Pass Issued - 42

### **Challenges and Way Forward**

No.	Challenges	Way Forward
1.	staffs '	Formulation of the new application template for the different categories
2.	<ul> <li>Incomplete job applications received.</li> <li>Non-availability of selection panels which leads to the delays in meetings and interviews.</li> <li>Non-availability of meeting and interview venues</li> </ul>	Online Panel meetings, Job Test, and Interviews



# Audited 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 Karsanji St. Vatuwaqa P. O. Box 2214, Government Buildings Suva. Fiii



Telephone: (679) 330 9032 E-mail: info@auditorgeneral.gov.fi Website: www.oag.gov.fj



File: 486

2 June 2023

The Honourable Filimoni Vosarogo Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources PO Box 2222 Government Buildings SUVA

Dear Honourable Vosarogo

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

The audited financial statements for the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources 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.

Yours sincerely

5000

Sairusi Dukuno

**ACTING AUDITOR-GENERAL** 

Dr Raijieli Taga, The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources

Encl.

CC:

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

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### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

I have audited the financial statements of Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources, which comprise the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure, Appropriation Statement, Statement of Losses, Trust Fund Account Statements 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 of Lands and Mineral Resources are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2004, the Finance Instructions 2010 and the Finance (Amendment) Instructions 2016.

### **Basis for Opinion**

I have conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA). My responsibilities under those standards are 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 Accountant's 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.

### **Emphasis of Matter**

I draw attention to Note 6 (b) of the financial statements that discloses the Department of Lands Trust Fund Account which includes the Land-Owning Units (LOUs) lease funds received from lessees and paid to the respective LOUs trust accounts. The Ministry is yet to fully submit draft financial statements and relevant supporting documents for individual LOUs for my audit as required by Land Use Regulations 2011 – Regulation 5(7).

My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

### Responsibilities of the Management and those charged with governance for financial statements

The Management of the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources are responsible for the preparation of the 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.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism 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** 

HIII \*

Suva, Fiji 2 June 2023

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

### MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

We certify that the financial statements:

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

Raijeli Taga

**Permanent Secretary** 

Date: 1/6/2023

Marika Qalo

**Acting Manager Finance** 

Date: 01/06/2023

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

### STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

	Note	2022 (\$)	2021 (\$)
REVENUE			
State Revenue			
Land and Property Rent	3(a)	16,727,941	14,140,272
Fees Charges, Fines and Penalties	3(b)	1,655,858	688,806
Revenue from Surveys & Sales of Navigation	3(c)	510,334	191,249
Licence		24,987	24,091
Sale of Publications		4,482	1,264
Sale of Photographs		120	92
Mining Fees	3(d)	129,631	543,419
Chemical		-	12
Commission		2,218	3,799
Valuation Fees	_	12,222	12,842
Total State Revenue Agency Revenue	_	19,067,793	15,605,846
Miscellaneous	3(e)	1,521,697	970,954
Total Revenue	- C(C) _	20,589,490	16,576,800
Expenditure			
Established Staff		8,979,290	8,680,645
Government wage earners		820,383	854,380
Travel and Communications	3(f)	371,491	349,885
Maintenance & Operations	3(g)	7,263,646	4,827,489
Purchase of Goods and Services	3(h)	531,930	470,254
Operating Grants and Transfers		32,100	
Special Expenditures	3(i) _	673,871	303,824
Total Operating Expenditure		18,672,711	15,486,477
Capital Construction	3(j)	2,745,852	2,417,601
Capital Purchase	3(k)	64,211	517,978
Capital grants and transfers	3(I) _	183,010	363,150
Total Capital Expenditure	_	2,993,073	3,298,729
Value Added Tax		937,310	749,302
Total Expenditure		22,603,094	19,534,508

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

### APPROPRIATION STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

SEG	Item	Budget Estimate	Changes (Note 4)	Revised Estimate	Actual Expenditure	Carry- Over	Lapsed Appropriat ion (Note 5)
1	Established Staff	10,869,096	(Ψ)	10,869,096	8,979,290	(Φ)	(\$) 1,889,806
2	Government Wage Earners	995,717	_	995,717	820,383	_	175,334
3	Travel and Communications	373,100	26,000	399,100	371,491	_	27,609
4	Maintenance & Operations	7,433,457	15,626	7,449,083	7,263,646	-	185,437
5	Purchase of Goods & Services	632,359	(35,626)	596,733	531,930	_	64,803
6	Operating Grants & Transfers	32,100	-	32,100	32,100	-	-
7	Special Expenditures	764,000	-	764,000	673,871	_	90,129
	Total Operating Expenditure	21,099,829	6,000	21,105,829	18,672,711	-	2,433,118
8	Capital Construction	2,873,679	-	2,873,679	2,745,852	-	127,827
9	Capital Purchases	64,211	-	64,211	64,211	-	-
10	Capital Grants and Transfers	190,000	(6,000)	184,000	183,010	-	990
	Total Capital Expenditure	3,127,890	(6,000)	3,121,890	2,993,073		128,817
13	Value Added Tax	1,092,675	-	1,092,675	937,310	-	155,365
	Total Expenditure	25,320,394	-	25,320,394	22,603,094	-	2,717,300

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

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)

There was no loss of fixed assets recorded for the financial year ended 31 July 2022. However, following the Board of Survey carried out for the financial year ended 31 July 2022, assets totalling \$372,389 were approved for write off by the Permanent Secretary for Economy.

Asset Type	Amount (\$)
IT Equipment	111,078
Furniture and Fittings	260,946
Office Equipment	365
TOTAL	372,389

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS TRUST FUND ACCOUNT STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

	Note	2022 (\$)	2021 (\$)
Opening Balance		7,855,618	6,454,587
Receipts			
Compensation		252,328	225,805
Fisheries Impact		86,905	-
Lease Rental/ LOU		1,350,717	2,518,319
Meal / Mileage Claim		766	-
Royalty		543,765	245,968
Other Revenue		928,465	197,759
Total Receipts	_	3,162,946	3,187,851
Payments			
Bank Fee		123	121
Meal/ Mileage Claim		33,418	20,318
Royalty/State Land		268,798	256,961
Fisheries Impact		39,325	
Compensation		-	255,190
Lease rental/LOU		828,000	1,154,031
Transfer of Funds to Ministry of Finance	6(a)	2,921,737	-
Other Expenses	_	167,785	100,199
Total Payments		4,259,186	1,786,820
Closing Balance	6(b) _	6,759,378	7,855,618

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

DEPARTMENT OF MINERALS TRUST FUND ACCOUNT STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2022

	Note	2022 (\$)	2021 (\$)
Opening Balance		10,001,638	7,054,111
Receipts Mining			
Mining Bond		508,237	106,000
SPL Renewal Fees		6,121	151,217
Mining Rental Fees		115,977	1,044,032
Royalty Non-Mining		4,075,221	4,550,014
Geotechnical Survey		17,957	13,503
Borehole Construction		10,815	13,307
SPL Licenses		12,734	22,027
Total Receipts		4,747,062	5,900,100
Payments Mining			
Transfer of Renewal Fees		1,289	240,557
Royalty Fair Share Non-Mining		4,348,025	2,572,721
Borehole Construction		5,939	10,828
Geotechnical Survey		9,975	2,310
Transfer of other revenue held in Trust		654	126,157
Total Payments		4,365,882	2,952,539
Closing Balance	6(c)	10,382,818	10,001,638

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

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

### NOTE 1 REPORTING ENTITY

The Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources plays a pivotal role in national development of the Republic of Fiji ("Fiji") and in supporting its economic growth.

The Ministry is focused on developing, reviewing and adopting flexible and market-driven policies to address the challenges faced by land developers, tenants, investors and indigenous landowning units in terms of accessing and utilising land.

The State owns 4 per cent of land in Fiji. The State's land is located within major urban centres around the country; its effective management is crucial to the national development.

The Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources is made up of two Departments: The Department of Lands and the Department of Mineral Resources.

The Department of Lands is responsible for the effective and efficient administration, development and management of all state land in Fiji. The new Land Use Division, which was established in 2010, helps indigenous landowners put viable land that is currently idle and unutilised to productive use, under terms and conditions which are attractive to both the landowners and tenants.

The Department of Mineral Resources oversees and facilitates the development of the country's mineral sector and groundwater resources. It undertakes studies in relation to geological hazards and mineral and groundwater development. It also manages the development of the mining and quarrying sector.

### NOTE 2 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### a) Basis of Accounting

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

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

### b) Revenue Recognition

Revenues are recognised when funds are receipted by the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources.

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

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

### NOTE 2 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### c) Accounting for Value Added Tax

All income and expenses are exclusive of Value Added Tax (VAT). 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 subcontractors for expenses incurred.

The VAT payment as per the consolidated statement of receipts and expenditure 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 represent the difference between VAT Output and VAT Input.

### d) Comparative Figures

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

### NOTE 3 SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS

- a) Land and Property Rent collections increased by \$2,587,669 or 18% due to the appropriate and robust measures being pursued by the Ministry that includes:
  - (i) Implementation of Electronic Transfer platforms that conveniently allows Lessees to make payment more efficiently without having to visit our various office. Apart from cash payment, direct deposit and payment through Post Fiji outlets, other introduced platforms includes Electronic Fund Transfer at Point of Sale (EFTPOS) and M-Paisa.
  - (ii) Continue issuance of Notices to Defaulters to facilitate payment,
  - (iii) Strengthening collaboration with Defaulting Lessees either by face to face, emails, written correspondence and via phone to discuss on lease arrears and options can pursed for clearing of overdue accounts,
  - (iv) Pursing legal actions.
- b) Fees Charges, Fines and Penalties increased by \$967,052 or 140%, these were mainly due to the increase in fees and charges and the increase in the number of lessees who lodge applications for various dealings (consent to build, caveat, transfer, mortgage and Mineral Consent). The increase in the number of Lessees penalised failing to adhere to terms and conditions of the lease agreement is a major contributing factor in the high increase in collection.
- c) Revenue from Surveys & Sales of Navigation increased by \$319,085 or 167% due to increase in survey fees collected. These survey fees and charges are derived from the following:
  - (i) Calibration of Survey Instrument (Control):
  - (ii) Registered Surveyors Practicing Fees (SRB);
  - (iii) Survey Instruction Fees (Gazetted Scale of Fees);
  - (iv) Survey Fees & Charges;
  - (v) Lodgement of SO Plans.

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

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

### NOTE 3 SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS (CONTINUED)

- d) Mining Fees reduced by \$413,788 or 76% due to the aftermath of COVID-19 pandemic where mining and quarry businesses closed down. This resulted in reduction of special prospectus and special mining license received.
- e) Miscellaneous revenue increased by \$550,743 or 57% due to the increase in collection of sundries revenue such as penal rent premium, drawings, registration and plan fees received and increase in royalties on sand, coral and metal received.
- f) Travel and Communications increased by \$21,606 or 7% due to the increase in the allocated funds for travel.
- g) Maintenance and Operations increased by \$2,436,157 or 51% due to the increase in price of fuels. Also, payment of native lease to state to ITLB increase after the verification of all statement through ITLTB including the one-off payment of \$1.9m for renewal of leases (premium) for Nausori Health Centre and Nausori Police Barracks.
- h) Purchase of goods and services increased by \$61,676 or 13% due to the increase in the software License Renewal for the upgrade of the CLLS.
- i) Special expenditures increased by \$370,047 or 122%. This was mainly due to the engagement of 12 project officers to support and strengthen the management of current documents and new lease files that will be processed as part of producing efficient and timely service delivery to enhance Land administration process. In addition, there were project officers also engaged for the redefinition survey works under schedule A rentals.
- j) Capital Construction increased by \$328,251 or 14% due to the increase in the Development of State land for the unutilized State land, which includes the construction of infrastructure and the creation of subdivisions. For Groundwater Assessment and Development Project, there was less utilisation in 2021 compared to 2022 due to COVID 19 lockdown, where the targeted number of projects were not fully attended to during the financial year.
- k) Capital Purchase decreased by \$453,767 or 88% due to the decrease in payments of new equipment assigned under SEG 9.
- Capital grants and transfer increased by \$180,140 or 50% due to the increase in payments executed for expenditure assigned under SEG 10 through the development of I Taukei land.

### NOTE 4 DETAILS OF APPROPRIATION CHANGES

There were no redeployments of the Ministry's budget during the year. Other movements were made through virements

The Permanent Secretary for the Ministry approved the following virements under delegation from the Ministry of Finance:

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

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

### NOTE 4 DETAILS OF APPROPRIATION CHANGES (CONTINUED)

Virement Number	From Expenditure Group	Amount (\$)	Virement No.	To Expenditure Group	Amount (\$)	Approved By
DV3301/21-22	SEG 05	1,000	DV3301/21-22	SEG 04	1,000	PS MLMR
DV3302/21-22	SEG 03	6,000	DV3302/21-22	SEG 04	6,000	PS MLMR
DV3303/21-22	SEG 04	390,400	DV3303/21-22	SEG 04	390,400	PS MLMR
DV3304/21-22	SEG 05	4,626	DV3304/21-22	SEG 04	4,626	PS MLMR
	SEG 13	417		SEG 13	417	
DV3305/21-22	SEG 04	60,000	DV3305/21-22	SEG03	18,000	PSMLMR
				SEG 04	42,000	
DV3306/21-22	SEG 04	3,500	DV3306/21-22	SEG 03	3,500	PS MLMR
DV3307/21-22	SEG 05	30,000	DV3307/21-22	SEG 03	8,000	PS MLMR
				SEG 04	22,000	
TOTAL		495,943	TOTAL		495,943	

The Ministry of Finance approved the following virements during the year:

Virement Number	From Expenditure Group	Amount (\$)	Virement No.	To Expenditure Group	Amount (\$)	Approved By
V33001/21-22	SEG 10	6,000	V33001/21-22	SEG 03	2,500	PS Finance
			V33001/21-22	SEG 04	3,500	PS Finance
TOTAL		6,000	TOTAL		6,000	

### NOTE 5 SIGNIFICANT SAVINGS

Significant savings for the year ended 31 July 2022 are as follows:

No.	Expenditure Group	Revised Budget (\$)	Actual Expenditure (\$)	Savings (\$)	Savings (%)
(a)	Established Staffs	10,869,096	8,979,291	1,889,806	17%
(b)	Government Wage Earners	995,717	823,227	172,490	18%

- a) The significant savings of \$1,889,806 under Established Staffs was mainly due to some officers being paid on 70-80 percent salary due to not meeting the full qualification requirements of the post. E.g., Relieving or acting on un-registered Surveyors and Valuers and officers held against positions such as Senior Scientific Officers and Mining Engineers which are specialised areas where the Ministry lacked officers with the full qualifications for the posts.
- b) The savings of \$172,490 under Government Wage Earners was mainly due to the restructure in the Ministry on the payment made to all Government Wage Earners.

### MINISTRY OF LANDS AND MINERAL RESOURCES

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2021

### NOTE 6 TRUST FUND ACCOUNT

- a) In accordance with the Financial Management (Revised Budget Amendment) Act 2022 and Ministry of Finance Circular no. 3/2021-2022, Ministries, Departments and Agencies were to reconcile their detailed beneficiary listings and remit to consolidated fund account (CFA) the trust monies that cannot be substantiated. This is now deemed as public money. On 06/06/2022, the Department of Lands transferred unsubstantiated main trust fund balance of \$2,921,737 to CFA.
- b) <u>Department of Lands Trust Fund Account</u> the funds that are operated under the Land Trust Fund include the following:
  - Land Acquisition Compensation funds;
  - Land Bank Fees, Leases & Securities collected on behalf of Land Owning Units;
  - Sand & Gravel Extraction Royalties;
  - Qoligoli Compensation;
  - · Government Survey & Plan Ad-Hoc Work;
  - Government Construction Work Compensation;
  - Land Owning Unit Leases:
  - Funds received for Vanua View Services: and
  - · Funds received for Re-Evaluation of city and town boundaries for municipal councils
- c) <u>Department of Minerals Trust Fund Account</u> the Mining Trust Fund Account includes licence paid in advance. This is to ensure that any environmental damage caused by the Company will be covered by the money held.

The money held in non-mining trust fund account is from the private or public entities who request the Mineral Resources Department to conduct works or project for them. Non Mining includes groundwater project or mineral investigations.



### **NOTES**

### **Contact Information**

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Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources

