



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, HERITAGE & ARTS

Parliamentary Response

Donor Funded/Technical Assistance Projects

2023 – 2024 Financial Year

2024 – 2025 Financial Year

	PROJECT TITLE	SUMMARY	PROJECT STATUS	FUNDING / TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
1.0	<p><i>Fiji Capacity Building on the Development of a Community Led Safeguarding Plan for Meke [Traditional Dance] and Associated Vucu [Chants].</i></p> <p><i>Funded by International Training Centre for ICH in Asia and the Pacific (CHRIHAP).</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The project is part of Fiji's progressing the Implementation of the 2003 Convention for ICH Safeguarding at national level – Fiji as state party partners with CHRIHAP to enhance its works.• Safeguarding plans for Fijian ICH currently focus on inventorying and documentation of our living heritage.• The concern of the sector is on the viability, continuity and sustainability of Fiji's living heritage that are endangered yet communities continue to practice.• The proposed Development of a Safeguarding Plan in Fiji on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) will ensure this is achieved that focuses on traditional dance (meke) and Chants (vucu).• The village of Nataleira, Dawasamu in the province of Tailevu was selected because of recent efforts undertaken by the village youths on revitalization programmes in the use of their dialect, traditional meke and vucu (chants) which has been lost for some time.• Engaging youths, practitioners and the Vanua in the Preparation of Community Driven Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Safeguarding Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The three-day workshop was successfully completed, held from July 2 to 5, 2024.• Report finalized and submitted to CHRIHAP Office, China.• Recommendation from the workshop will be tabulated and submitted to the line Ministry for implementation in this new fiscal year.• A key outcome of the 3-day discussion is to facilitate similar workshop on the Safeguarding Plans for Fiji's ICH around the remaining 3 Divisions in Fiji and correlating activities regarding progressing the project.	USD25,000

	PROJECT TITLE	SUMMARY	PROJECT STATUS	FUNDING / TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
2.0	The initiative was part of the broader UNESCO-supported programme titled <i>“Advancing the SDGs by Improving Livelihoods, Social Protection, Human Rights and Resilience of Vulnerable Communities via Economic Diversification and Digital Transformation.”</i> for Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a significant effort to strengthen the legal and professional capacities of Fiji’s creative community, a multi-stakeholder workshop was convened to deepen understanding of copyright in the music industry. • Bringing together composers, musicians, and performing arts professionals, the initiative focused on intellectual property protection, copyright registration, licensing, royalty management, and the role of digital platforms in today’s music landscape. • This Copyright on Music Awareness Workshop, held from 23rd to 25th October 2024, was jointly organized by the Fiji Arts Council, (FAC) the Department of Culture, Heritage & Arts (DCHA), and Oceanica Law, with the financial and in-kind support of UNESCO in terms of guidance and advisory throughout the project. • Through a combination of expert-led presentations, interactive group work, and peer-to-peer learning, participants were equipped with critical knowledge and practical tools to navigate copyright challenges and opportunities. • A total of 41 participants attended, including 9 government officials (56% of whom were women), with active engagement across all sessions. • The workshop offered a comprehensive exploration of copyright and the music industry, with a strong focus on empowering composers, musicians, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Copyright on Music Awareness Workshop, held from 23rd to 25th October 2024, has been successfully completed. • Report finalized and submitted to UNESCO Samoa office • It was through the networking and Talanoa session held that identified the need to organize Business Entrepreneurship training specifically targeting Musicians and Composers. • A key outcome was the recognition of the need for a dedicated Collective Management Organization (CMO) for music producers, who are currently not covered by FIPRA. Following the workshop, discussions have commenced to explore this initiative further, with FIPRA’s potential support. 	FJD \$20,531.21

	PROJECT TITLE	SUMMARY	PROJECT STATUS	FUNDING / TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
		<p>and other creatives with legal and practical knowledge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led by Mr. Niubalavu, participants received in-depth instruction on copyright law, ownership, infringement, and the specific rights attached to various musical works, including traditional knowledge and cultural expressions. • Sessions also addressed real-world issues such as licensing, enforcement, and dispute resolution, equipping attendees with tools to protect and manage their creative outputs. • Notably, artists Phil Dakei and Natalie Raikadroka added real-life context through their experiences, underscoring the importance of copyright awareness in sustaining artistic careers. 		
3.0	The initiative was part of the broader UNESCO-supported programme titled <i>“Advancing the SDGs by Improving Livelihoods, Social Protection, Human Rights and Resilience of Vulnerable Communities via Economic Diversification and Digital Transformation.” for Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support the economic resilience of Fiji’s creative sector, the Fiji Arts Council (FAC), in partnership with the Department of Culture, Heritage & Arts (DCHA) and Oceanica IP, delivered a Business Entrepreneurship Training in late May 2025. • The three-day training session brought together 36 participants from various sectors of the music and creative industries, including composers, musicians, record labels, and government officials. • This training was specifically tailored to equip participants with practical business knowledge, covering financial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 3-day Business Entrepreneurship Workshop was successfully conducted from May 23-25, 2025 • The final report has been submitted to the UNESCO Apia office. • There has been ongoing discussion on further areas for collaboration in the next financial year. 	FJD \$21,049.60

	PROJECT TITLE	SUMMARY	PROJECT STATUS	FUNDING / TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
		<p>literacy, marketing strategies, business planning, and the utilization of digital platforms to support and monetize creative work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A key goal of the training was to help artists shift their mindset from seeing themselves solely as creators to also understanding their role as entrepreneurs. Interactive sessions, case studies, and facilitated discussions allowed participants to reflect on their current challenges and develop concrete strategies for building more sustainable careers. • The workshop provided a comprehensive overview of the music industry and copyright fundamentals, equipping participants with essential knowledge about the roles of key stakeholders, types of royalties, and the challenges within licensing and distribution systems. • Through panel discussions and interactive Q&A sessions, attendees explored critical topics such as digital streaming platforms, royalty collection, and the evolving landscape of music consumption. Real-life experiences shared by artists enriched the learning, highlighting practical challenges and opportunities in protecting creative works and maximizing income. • Building on this foundation, the workshop also focused on the business and entrepreneurial aspects of the music industry. • Sessions covered effective marketing strategies, developing an 		

	PROJECT TITLE	SUMMARY	PROJECT STATUS	FUNDING / TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
		<p>entrepreneurial mindset, formalizing creative enterprises, and monetizing live performances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final day emphasized navigating digital distribution channels, expanding revenue streams through branding and merchandise, and understanding contract essentials to safeguard artists' rights. • Collectively, these sessions empowered participants with practical tools to build sustainable careers, adapt to the digital economy, and confidently engage in contract negotiations and business development. • The training also fostered valuable networking among participants and sparked important industry conversations. This business entrepreneurship training marked a meaningful step in advancing creative industry development in Fiji. • The Fiji Arts Council, together with its partners, is committed to building on this success by offering further training, mentorship, and advocacy to ensure that local artists are not only creatively empowered but economically equipped to thrive. • The support from UNESCO was critical in making this initiative a reality, and the FAC looks forward to continued collaboration in promoting sustainable livelihoods through the arts. 		

	PROJECT TITLE	SUMMARY	PROJECT STATUS	FUNDING / TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
4.0	Capacity Building for Safeguarding ICH During Emergencies - (UNESCO Funding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main purpose of this project is for people to be aware of what to do before, during and after any natural disaster and to implement the programs and all the activities to safeguard ICH elements in Fiji. The project engaged with participants from the NDMO, weather office/experts, youths both men and women, disabled peoples, advocates and ambassadors for ICH, connect with schools, where we focus this initiative on the communities. These are the communities that were greatly impacted by the disasters, cyclones, flooding and were hit the hardest by the recent COVID19 pandemic and TC Winston. The workshop was held in Suva for the Central/ Northern Division, Nadi for the Western Division and in Levuka Town for the Eastern Division. The community inventory was carried out in Naisausau Village Namara Tailevu and Nauonuo Village in Levuka Ovalau to gather data on the community needs for the safeguarding of elements in Fiji. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A series of workshops was carried out from the 23 February 2024 to 25 October 2024. This was successfully completed. A Report was submitted to UNESCO. 	USD25,000
3.0	Fire Assessment and Training at the Levuka World Heritage site - UNESCO Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The purpose of this funding program is to fund a Fire Assessment and Training at the Levuka World Heritage site in Levuka Town. The workshop will include consultation with the National Trust of Fiji, Levuka Town Council and key stakeholders in Levuka. 	Preparation in-progress and expected to be completed by 31 st December 2025.	USD26,000 (Funding is yet to be released by NATCOM Office under the Ministry of Education).

	PROJECT TITLE	SUMMARY	PROJECT STATUS	FUNDING / TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A key outcome of the workshop is for participants to be able to develop a Levuka World Heritage Site Fire Management Plan. 		
4.0	<p>Technical Assessment of State of Heritage Buildings in Levuka.</p> <p>Funding by JICA.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JICA assisted by bringing on two separate occasion world heritage technical experts from Japan to assist the Fiji Team in determining best way to rehabilitate dilapidated heritage buildings in Levuka that had endured the test of time since Cyclone Winston in 2016. To ensure that repair works must continue to meet world heritage standards, and since Fiji does not have world heritage technical experts on wooden structure conservation, the Japanese experts are key to the Department's progressing rehabilitation works in Levuka. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical Experts Visit was completed. Both reports of Technical Experts were provided to the Department of Culture, Heritage & Arts. The Reports assisted the Department in putting together a grant disbursement guideline for Levuka World Heritage Rehabilitation. The reports were also used to assist our local technical experts – architect, engineer, and carpenters in preparing material costs for submission to the Ministry of Finance for the release of capital grant for Levuka. Capital funds were not released by Ministry of Finance. 	JICA Funding of Technical Experts from Japan.