

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2022-2023

PARLIAMENTARY PAPER NUMBER: 99/25



## ABOUT THE ANNUAL REPORT

This Annual Report offers a comprehensive overview of the accomplishments and performance of the Ministry of Agriculture during the period 1st August 2022 to 31st July, 2023. The Ministry was renamed the Ministry of Agriculture and Waterways (MoAW) after a new government entered office on 24th December 2022, however, funding was not allocated until the next fiscal year, 2023–2024.



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## ACRONYMS

<b>AES</b>	Agriculture Extension Service
<b>AGTRADE</b>	Agriculture Trade
<b>AH&amp;P</b>	Animal Health and Production
<b>AMA</b>	Agricultural Marketing Authority
<b>AO</b>	Agriculture Officer
<b>ARS</b>	Agriculture Research Services
<b>AWP</b>	Annual Work Plan
<b>BAF</b>	Biosecurity Authority of Fiji
<b>BQA</b>	Bilateral Quarantine Agreement
<b>BTEC</b>	Bovine Tuberculosis and Brucellosis Eradication Campaign
<b>CADP</b>	Commercial Agriculture Development Programme
<b>CAPEX</b>	Capital Expenditure
<b>CBUL</b>	Committee for Better Utilization of Land
<b>CCDRM</b>	Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management
<b>CCNASWP</b>	Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific
<b>CMR</b>	Calf Milk Replacement
<b>CODEX</b>	Codex Alimentarius Commission
<b>COP</b>	Costed Operational Plan
<b>COVID19</b>	Corona Virus Disease
<b>DDA</b>	Demand Driven Approach
<b>DIS</b>	Dairy Industry Support
<b>DRS</b>	Dobuilevu Research Station
<b>DRR</b>	Disaster Risk Reduction
<b>EOI</b>	Expression of Interest
<b>EP&amp;S</b>	Economic Planning and Statistics Division
<b>ET</b>	Embryo Transfer
<b>FARS</b>	Fiji Agriculture Rural Statistics
<b>FJD</b>	Fijian Dollar
<b>FMIB</b>	Fiji Meat Industry Board
<b>FNPF</b>	Fiji National Provident Fund
<b>FNS</b>	Food and Nutrition Security
<b>FNU</b>	Fiji National University
<b>FRCS</b>	Fiji Revenue and Customs Service
<b>FSP</b>	Food Security Program
<b>FY</b>	Financial Year
<b>FVPL</b>	Fiji Veterinary Pathology Lab

## ACRONYMS

<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GIS</b>	Geographic Information System
<b>GMP</b>	Good Management Practice
<b>GTB</b>	Government Tender Board
<b>GWE</b>	Government Wage Earners
<b>HACCP</b>	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point
<b>HOTEC</b>	Hotel Trade Exhibition
<b>HQ</b>	Headquarters
<b>HRFI</b>	Human Resource, Finance and Information
<b>HRMIS</b>	Human Resource Management Information System
<b>ICT</b>	Information, Communication and Technology
<b>IRRI</b>	International Rice Research Institute
<b>IT</b>	Information Technology
<b>Kg</b>	Kilogram
<b>Km</b>	Kilometre
<b>KPI</b>	Key Performance Indicator
<b>KRS</b>	Koronivia Research Station
<b>LFT</b>	Livestock Feed Technology
<b>LRPD</b>	Land Resource Planning Division
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>MoA</b>	Ministry of Agriculture
<b>MVAM</b>	Mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping of Food Systems
<b>NATI</b>	Navuso Agricultural Technical Institute
<b>NDP</b>	National Development Plan
<b>NSC</b>	National Steering Committee
<b>NZ</b>	New Zealand
<b>OCA</b>	Our Community Agriculture
<b>OHS</b>	Occupational Health and Safety
<b>OIC</b>	Officer in Charge
<b>OPEX</b>	Operating Expenditure
<b>PDNA</b>	Post Disaster Needs Assessment
<b>PIR</b>	Post Implementation Review
<b>PO</b>	Purchase Order
<b>PPE</b>	Personal Protective Equipment
<b>PPP</b>	Public Private Partnership
<b>PSA</b>	Permanent Secretary Agriculture
<b>QPPR</b>	Quarterly Performance Progression Report
<b>RIE</b>	Request to Incur Expenditure
<b>RMIT</b>	Royal Melbourne Institute Technology

## ACRONYMS

<b>ROI</b>	Rural Outer Island
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SDP</b>	Strategic Development Plan
<b>SLM</b>	Sustainable Land Management
<b>SOP</b>	Standard Operating Procedures
<b>SP</b>	Strategic Priority
<b>SPCA</b>	Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
<b>SVDP</b>	Sigatoka Valley Development Program
<b>TB</b>	Tuberculosis
<b>TC</b>	Tropical Cyclone
<b>TLB</b>	Taro Leaf Blight
<b>TV</b>	Television
<b>TVET</b>	Technical & Vocational Education and Training
<b>UN</b>	United Nation
<b>UNCCD</b>	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
<b>USP</b>	The University of the South Pacific
<b>VAT</b>	Value Added Tax
<b>WAN</b>	Wide area network
<b>WBS</b>	Waidradra Bull Station

## MINISTER'S FOREWORD



I am privileged to present the Annual Report for the Ministry of Agriculture, which provides a comprehensive overview of the Financial Year 2022-2023. It is an honor for me to contemplate the accomplishments, obstacles, and advancements we have encountered throughout the year.

The Ministry's primary objective was to encourage commercial agriculture while also improving agricultural systems and processes to accelerate and broaden the reach of effective agricultural extension services for our farmers. This ongoing effort was aimed to stimulate production based on market demand by implementing initiatives that fostered extensive participation from farmers throughout the sector. As a result, the Ministry had embraced a comprehensive approach to tackle challenges and provide assistance for a robust and sustainable agriculture sector.

Fiji, similar to all other nations, has had to reassess and readjust its approach to enhancing its food system to meet the goals set for 2030 amidst the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. It has enhanced our focus on many contemporary issues such as climate change, food fraud and the digitalization of the food system, each of them with potential implications for the availability, affordability and safety of food.

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I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the individuals who are part of the Ministry of Agriculture for their unwavering dedication. As we delve into the Annual Report, we need to recognize the obstacles we have triumphed over and also commemorate the remarkable growth in the agricultural sector's contribution. This progress serves as a testament to our resilience and determination.

In conclusion, may these motivate us to work collaboratively in driving continuous development and success in the agricultural industry, capitalizing on the progress made during the year 2022-2023.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mahendra Reddy', written over a dotted line.

**Hon. Dr. Mahendra Reddy**  
**Minister for Agriculture, Waterways and Environment**

## ASSISTANT MINISTER'S STATEMENT



I am pleased to reflect on the achievements and challenges outlined in the Ministry of Agriculture's 2022-2023 Annual Report. As Assistant Minister, I commend the collective efforts demonstrated by our dedicated team in navigating the complexities posed by the global COVID-19 pandemic and Tropical Cyclone Cody.

The impact of these events on our agricultural landscape was substantial, requiring swift and strategic responses. Despite the adversities faced, our commitment to ensuring food security, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, supporting rural livelihoods, and promoting commercial agriculture remained unwavering.

The resilience displayed by the Ministry's personnel during and after Tropical Cyclone Cody, showcased their dedication to mitigating the effects on our agricultural infrastructure and providing essential assistance to affected communities. The challenges brought forth by the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated quick adaptations to our operations, ensuring the continued delivery of vital services to farmers and stakeholders.

The occurrence of Tropical Cyclone Cody further tested our agility and responsiveness. However, through coordinated efforts, we successfully navigated the challenges, implementing measures to expedite recovery and restore normalcy to the agricultural sector.

As we reflect on the accomplishments detailed in the Annual Report, it is evident that the Ministry has not only overcome formidable challenges but has also strengthened its commitment to sustainable agriculture and rural development. The insights gained from these experiences will undoubtedly inform our future strategies and contribute to the continued growth of the agricultural sector.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Viam Pillay'.

**Hon. Viam Pillay**  
**Assistant Minister for Agriculture, Waterways and Environment**

## PERMANENT SECRETARY'S STATEMENT



This year, the transition phase that occurred with the change of government has been challenging for the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). Notwithstanding this, the year saw a great number of success achieved.

However, the approved budget for the Financial Year 2022–2023 passed in Parliament serves as the basis for this report. That being said, the MoA funds allocated was used to support the operations that were completed in the year. As such, all activities were focused towards meeting the needs of the People of Fiji, Government, Public and Private Sector and all stakeholders of the agriculture sector.

The Ministry in this Financial Year (2022-2023) has placed specific emphasis on commercial agriculture to improve the economic development of the country. As such, the Ministry has allocated \$29.6 million for assistance to farmers around the country. This is the biggest ever support package directly provided to either first-time recipients or existing farmers whose livelihoods depend on farming as their primary economic activity. This is the right direction taken at present to enhance food security, nutrition and rural income generation.

The successes achieved by the Ministry of Agriculture in the past year are indeed commendable. The joint effort of all staff, who took full responsibility for implementing the 2022-2023 Work Plan, resulted in significant progress towards the Ministry's intended outcomes. This annual report is aimed at informing the People of Fiji, Government, Line Ministries, Donor Partners, Bilateral Partners, NGO's, Private Sector, Farmers and stakeholders that the achievements reported here were the combined efforts of all our hard work. As such, all activities were focused towards meeting the needs of the People of Fiji, Government, Public and Private Sector, and all stakeholders of the agriculture sector.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Kumar', enclosed within an oval shape.

**Dr. Vinesh Kumar**  
Permanent Secretary for Agriculture

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The overall mandate for the Ministry of Agriculture is to provide food and nutrition security, income and employment support and, broad based economic sector growth. The 2022-2023 Financial Year Annual Report reflects significant achievements in key areas, aligning with the overarching goal of promoting food and nutrition security, ensuring sustainable livelihoods, and fostering inclusive agriculture.

The strategic focus on increasing agricultural income, promoting gender and youth involvement, and adopting climate-smart agriculture has yielded positive outcomes. Furthermore, by focusing on commercializing agriculture and providing quality public sector services, the Ministry holistically ensured a sustainable, competitive and resilient agriculture sector.

The commitment to inclusivity is evident in the 2020 census, which identified 83,395 farmers, with 11,971 being female. This underscores the Ministry's dedication to promoting gender diversity in agriculture, fostering a more equitable distribution of resources and opportunities. The engagement of 70,991 households in the Agriculture sector reflects their heavy reliance on agriculture for food security and livelihood.

In conclusion, the Ministry's comprehensive approach to agricultural development has resulted in tangible economic and social benefits. The increased economic performance and contribution of the sector to the National Economy indicate progress towards the overarching goals of the Ministry, setting a positive trajectory for sustainable agriculture and economic growth in Fiji.



## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE CORPORATE PROFILE

### CONSTITUTIONAL/LEGISLATED FUNCTIONS

The Ministry derives its core mandate from the 2013 Constitution and is currently responsible for twenty-eight (28) pieces of legislations. It is envisaged that all the Acts specified under the Ministerial Assignment will be reviewed to ensure there is no conflict between policy interpretations of existing Acts.

### STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

The Ministry is a regulatory and service organisation responsible for the national Agriculture sector through the following functions:

- To promote food security;
- To ensure sustainable development in the non-sugar sector;
- To facilitate private sector development; and
- To accelerate agricultural product diversification.

### VISION

A sustainable, competitive, and resilient agriculture sector.

### MISSION

To create an enabling environment that accelerates sustainability, economic opportunities, climatic viability, and food and nutrition security for all Fijians.

### VALUE

Values are the positive behavior attributes that the Ministry will actively nurture, encourage, and support in all its dealings with stakeholders, including clients, staff, businesses, and other people. These values guide the development of internal and external relationships.

- Excellence
- Integrity
- Accountability

- Innovation
- Partnership
- Commitment

## STAKEHOLDERS

We take pride in serving our customers by implementing the 'Customer Service Charter' which sets out our commitment to providing high-quality standards of services that exceed customer expectations. Our customers include:

### INTERNAL

Farmers  
MoA Staffs  
Rural Community Leaders  
Exporters  
Importers  
Processors  
MoA Consultants

### EXTERNAL

Ministries and Departments  
Private Sector  
Statutory Bodies  
Non-Governmental Organizations  
Diplomatic Missions  
Unions and Employers  
Resource Owners  
Academic Institutions

## LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

The Ministry of Agriculture is guided in its daily operations by the following legislations, regulations, policies, plans, and manuals.

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**Table 1: Guiding documents for the Ministry of Agriculture**

Legislation	Regulations	Policies	Plans	Manuals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Constitution of the Republic of Fiji 2013</li> <li>• Financial Management Act 2004</li> <li>• Tax Administration Decree 2009</li> <li>• Fiji Health &amp; Safety at Work Act 1996</li> <li>• Civil Service Act 1999</li> <li>• Act 2 of 2016 Amendment to PSC Act</li> <li>• Employment Relations Promulgations 2007 &amp; Employment Relations (Amendment) Act 2016</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil Service Regulation 1999</li> <li>• Finance Instructions 2010</li> <li>• Fiji Procurement Regulations &amp; Amendments 2010</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Orders 2011</li> <li>• Terms &amp; Conditions of Employment for GWE's 2010</li> <li>• Ministry's Risk Management Policy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoA 5 year Strategic Development Plan</li> <li>• MoA Training Plan</li> <li>• MoA Asset Management Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoA HR Manual</li> <li>• MoA Finance Manual</li> </ul>

**Table 2: Ministry of Agriculture legislations**

1	Agricultural Landlord and Tenant Act 1966	15	Ginger Council of Fiji Act 1996
2	Agricultural Marketing Authority Act 2004	16	Goat (Ear-marks) Act 1955
3	Animal(Control of Experiment) Act	17	Land Conservation and Improvement Act 1953
4	Banana Export and Marketing Act 1960	18	Land Development Act 1961
5	Birds and Game Protection Act 1923	19	Land Use Decree
6	Brand Act 1928	20	Meat Industry Act 1969
7	Coconut Industry Development Act 2010	21	Pesticides Act 1971
8	Co-operative Dairy Companies Act 1974	22	Pound Act 1877
9	Copra Industry Loan Act 1976	23	Promulgation of Biosecurity Act 2008
10	Crop Liens Act 1975	24	Protection of Animal Act 1954
11	Dairies Act 1965	25	Rewa Rice Limited Decree 1991
12	Dog Act 1968	26	Stock Improvement Act 1932
13	Fencing Act 1955	27	Trespass of Animals Act 1955
14	Fruit Export and Marketing Act 1906	28	Veterinary Surgeons Act 1956



## ROLES OF THE DIVISIONS

### Functional Divisions within the Ministry

The Ministry of Agriculture comprises six (6) divisions: Crop Extension, Crop Research, Animal Health & Production, Human Resource & Development, Finance, and Economic Planning & Statistics. Since 2018, the Land Resource Planning & Development Division has been split. Temporarily, the Land Use Planning & Research unit was reporting to Crop Research, while the Farm Management Unit was reporting to the Head of Crop Extension. In addition, the Senior Valuer was reporting directly to the Head of Operations. The divisions were tasked with ensuring the effective delivery of annual planned activities under their responsibilities to achieve the Ministry's vision and mission.

#### CROP EXTENSION

The Division is responsible for the promotion of appropriate technologies for adoption, facilitating farmer training on best farm practices, conducting farm management and farm business plan training, identifying potential agriculture projects, preparing project plans and facilitate monitoring. In addition they provide technical advice and business advisory services to farmers. As well as promote sustainable land use practices with major emphasis on land conservation and land degradation issues.

#### CROP RESEARCH

The Division conducts and fosters applied and adaptive crop research that enhances food and income security, facilitates scientific, technical, and professional support services for agriculture development, conserves and manages plant genetic resources, facilitate pest and disease management that will support production and trade, provide analytical, diagnostic and regulatory services, develop products and value adding to enhance income security. They publish and disseminate agriculture research knowledge to clients and stakeholders.

#### ANIMAL HEALTH & PRODUCTION

The Division provides knowledge and other livestock related services to livestock industries, processors, distributors, importers, exporters, smallholder livestock farmers, and clients necessary for the adoption of best practices. Furthermore, it promotes and facilitates jointly funded Government/Private sector market focused livestock research and development programmes, leading to the development of cost-effective technology.

#### HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES

The Division is responsible to manage all human resources development and management functions, promote an innovative and creative IT solutions, and foster a healthy and safety environment for work. Furthermore, it promotes and encourages best practices to develop a vibrant workforce that supports change conducive to an effective assessment management, respects diverse culture workforce, encourages high performance and promotes good governance and integrity in all aspects of work.

#### FINANCE

The Division provides financial advice on utilization and oversees procurement for the Ministry, develop and implements internal procedures and practices to actively drive financial reform and prevent mismanagement of funds. It also provides financial updates to Executive Management

#### ECONOMIC PLANNING & STATISTICS

The Division sets the vision and direction for the Ministry of Agriculture and the agriculture sector in Fiji. It formulates agriculture sector development policies, strategies and subsequent programs in accordance with the National Strategic Plan. It assesses the impact of international trade regimes on the agriculture sector and assists in the identification, preparation, monitoring and evaluation of all agricultural projects in Fiji. The Division coordinates, with an emphasis on capital expenditure on a quarterly basis and collates, compiles and analyses agricultural statistics to assist in the formulation of policies and development plans.

## 2022-2023 MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE BUDGET ALLOCATION

The Ministry of Agriculture was allocated a total of FJD 64.1 million for the 2022-2023 Financial Year, reflecting an increase of 5% from the 2021-2022 Financial Year.

**Table 3: Operating & Capital Budget**

CATEGORY	AMOUNT (FJD Million)
Operating Budget	FJD 25.3
Capital Budget	FJD 36.9
VAT	FJD 1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>FJD 64.1</b>

### The Gender distribution in the Ministry

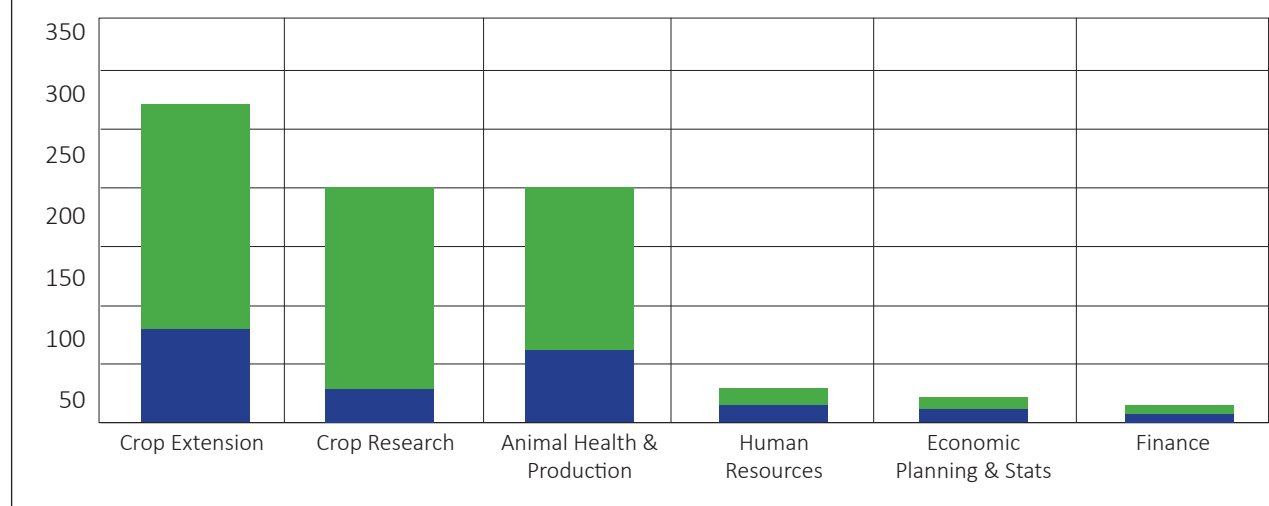
The Ministry employed 861 staffs in the 2022-2023 Financial Year, of which 66% were male and 34% female. Moreover, 88% of MoA staff were engaged in the Operational Divisions (Crop Extension, Animal Health & Production and Crop Research) while 12% were involved in Strategic and Administrative operations of the Ministry.

**Figure 1: Overall distribution of staff by gender within the Ministry**



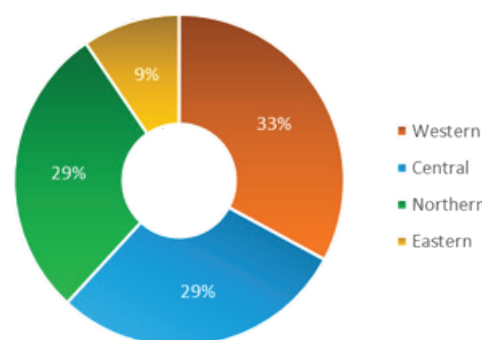
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**Figure 2: Distribution of Staff by Division/Gender**



### Number of Farmers

In 2022, the Ministry registered 98,084 farmers, of whom 82% were men and 12% were women.



**Figure 3: Divisional farmer distribution**

## EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE



**Permanent Secretary**



**Acting Deputy Secretary  
Agriculture Development**



**Head of Agriculture  
Research**

**Research Division:**  
Total Number of staff - 236  
Male - 184  
Female - 52



**OIC Animal Health &  
Production**

**AH&P Division:**  
Total Number of staff - 202  
Male - 125  
Female - 77



**OIC Crop Extension**

**Crop Extension Division:**  
Total Number of staff - 317  
Male - 217  
Female - 100



**Head of Human Resources  
Development & Services**

**HRD&S Division:**  
Total Number of staff - 46  
Male - 20  
Female - 26



**Head of Finance**

**Finance Division:**  
Total Number of staff - 24  
Male - 7  
Female - 17

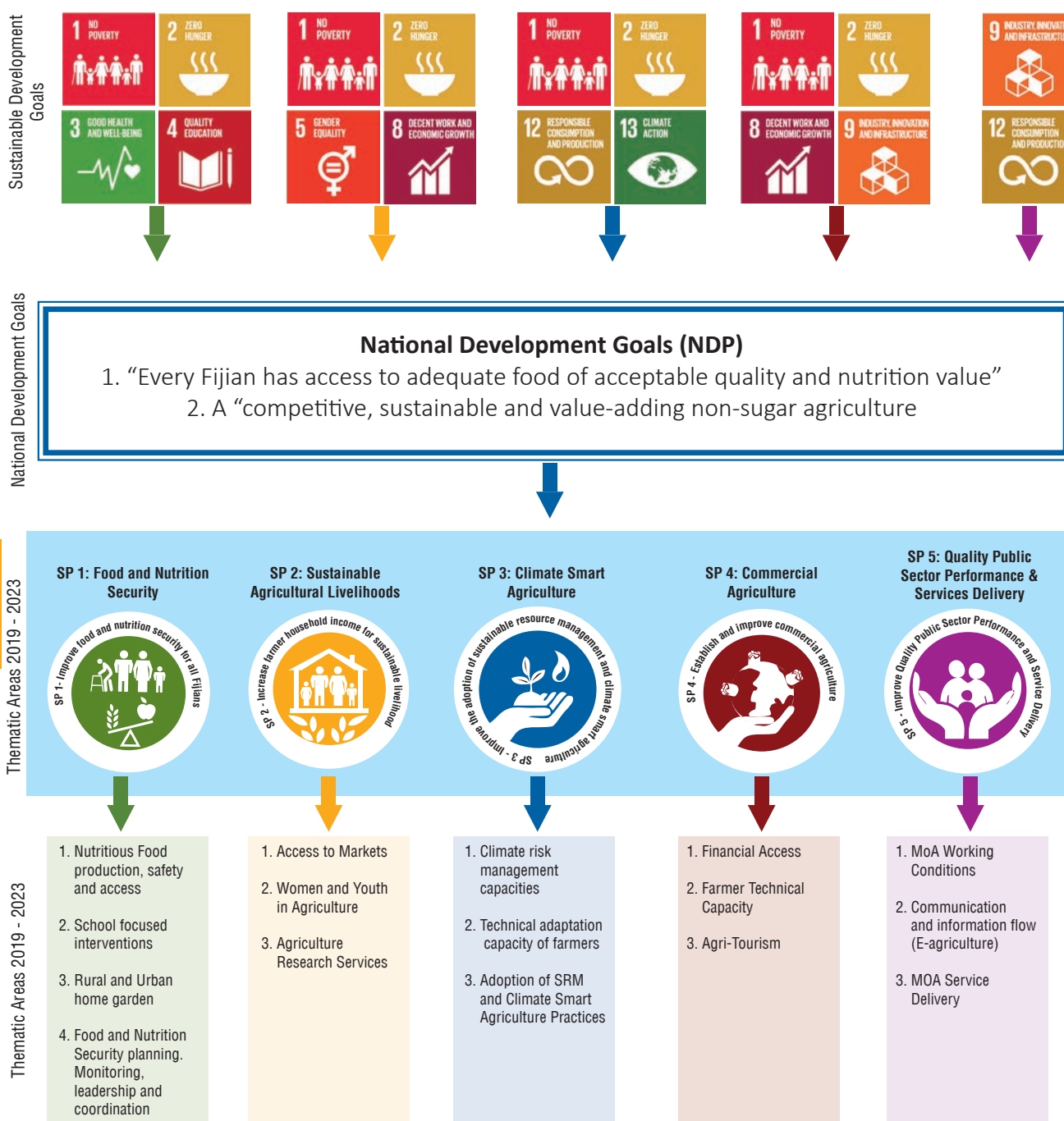


**OIC Economic Planning  
& Statistics**

**EP&S Division:**  
Total Number of staff - 36  
Male - 13  
Female - 23

# MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE 5 YEARS STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

The MoA 5 Years Strategic Development Plan (SDP) is a planning document that sets the vision and direction of the Ministry towards the development of the Agriculture Sector in Fiji.



## LINKAGE OF MOA STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (SDP), NDP & SDG

The Ministry's SDP highlights 5 strategic priorities and 17 outcomes, as tabulated below. It is aligned with the National Development Plan (NDP) requirements and the global commitment to SDGs. The performance of 2022-2023 Financial Year is measured against the COP Macro Indicators stated below.

**Table 4: Ministry's Strategic Priorities, NDP and SDG's**

Strategic Priorities (MoA SDP)	NDP Targeted Outcome (Goal/Policy Objective)	COP Macro Indicators	Ministry's Targeted Outcome
<b>1. Improve Food and Nutrition security for all Fijians</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase livestock production</li> <li>• Increase number of farmers assisted under FSP program</li> <li>• Reduce incidences of animal diseases.</li> <li>• Increase crop production</li> <li>• Increase, understanding and training in the use of backyard farming technologies such as container farming</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 % increase in crop production</li> <li>• 2% Growth in Livestock production</li> <li>• 2% increase in the number of commercial farmers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve production and access to local, safe, and nutritious food for communities</li> <li>• Increase production of resilient, safe, and nutritious food in rural and urban communities;</li> <li>• A strong multi-sector approach supported by Food and Nutrition Security policy;</li> </ul>
<b>2. Increase farmer household income for sustainable livelihoods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop tailor-made incentives and financial packages for smallholder farmers and incentivized investment into value-addition</li> <li>• Strengthen role of AMA in supporting the marketing of agro-produce for smallholder farms</li> <li>• Increase participation of skilled women in the crop and livestock agriculture sector</li> <li>• Ensure Equal Access for Women &amp; Youth in Agriculture Development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5% increase in the number of households assisted</li> <li>• 2% increase in the number of registered women and youth groups benefiting from MoA Crop and Livestock programs</li> <li>• Increase contracted farmers registered</li> <li>• 15 crop and livestock programs implemented annually</li> <li>• 2% increase in the number of subsistence farmers elevated to Commercial Farming</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase farmer participation in existing and new demand-driven markets.</li> <li>• Increase participation of women and youths in the crop and livestock agriculture sector</li> <li>• Strengthen MoA institutional approach, capacity, and engagement with partners and stakeholders that support market-driven production of agriculture commodities and products.</li> </ul>

Strategic Priorities (MoA SDP)	NDP Targeted Outcome (Goal/Policy Objective)	COP Macro Indicators	Ministry's Targeted Outcome
<b>3. Adopt Sustainable Resource Management and Climate Smart Agriculture.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with community-based partners to provide training in the proper approach to climate change and disaster risk management</li> <li>Farmer Field School training to include proper land use practices and risk management</li> <li>Establish a digital database and Geographical Information System (GIS) under the Land-use Plan.</li> <li>Continue initiatives to improve the use of farm waste for animal feed, organic fertilizer, or bio-gas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish MoA CCDRM standard operating procedure and policy</li> <li>Establish a Standard PDNA System</li> <li>New resilient crop variety</li> <li>3000kg pulses seeds produced nationally per year.</li> <li>100 farmers to be supported with improved breeds</li> <li>Number of farmers registered to adopt Organic Agriculture.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve MoA institutional, technical, and scientific capacity and partnerships for evidence-based planning, and targeted research agenda;</li> <li>Increase awareness and adoption by farmers of sustainable resource management and climate-smart agriculture practices.</li> </ul>
<b>4. Establish and Improve Commercial Agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish farmer cooperatives and promoted cluster arrangements to raise synergy amongst Farmers.</li> <li>Strengthen links and synergy between the agriculture sector and tourism Industry to promote locally grown foods.</li> <li>Establish and implemented a program to graduate farmers from Subsistence to semi-commercial to full commercial farming.</li> <li>Improve Production and productivity through increased Mechanization</li> <li>Encourage the development of Public Private Partnership (PPP) arrangements.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10% increase in fresh and chilled agriculture commodity export</li> <li>Reduce Agriculture Imports by 5%</li> <li>Update Commercial database</li> <li>Increase the number of Organic Certified farmers</li> <li>Increase in the number of farmers assisted through the Export Promotion Program</li> <li>Increase the number of Commercial Agriculture Trainings</li> <li>Increase in the number of farmers Registered with FNPF</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase farmer access to loans, grants, insurance, and basic financial services.</li> <li>Increase farmer, youth, and agribusiness participation in producing market-driven commodities.</li> <li>Improve commercial agriculture linkage with the tourism industry.</li> <li>Enhance Utilization of data, and research information to ensure the formulation of evidence-based policy, program interventions, and timely dissemination to stakeholders;</li> </ul>

Strategic Priorities (MoA SDP)	NDP Targeted Outcome (Goal/Policy Objective)	COP Macro Indicators	Ministry's Targeted Outcome
<b>5. Improve Quality Public Sector Performance and Service Delivery.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen research and development through restructuring of research and extension services</li> <li>Develop a modern agriculture statistical database to better support decision-making</li> <li>Strengthen delivery of agriculture support services to improve farm productivity and efficiency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% allocated funds utilized within designated time frame throughout the year</li> <li>100% of vacant positions filled</li> <li>Improve MoA public building</li> <li>Update Standard Operation Procedures</li> <li>Increase in the number of staff training</li> <li>Increase in the number of Media Release</li> <li>Full coverage of govnet connectivity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A new MoA structure with supportive systems and infrastructure</li> <li>Improve information, communication, and technology (ICT) systems in the agriculture sector that include value chain opportunities, financial literacy, business planning, and farm management</li> <li>MoA stations and officers are well supported through improved working conditions;</li> <li>Enhance utilization of data, and research information to ensure the formulation of evidence-based policy, program interventions, and timely dissemination to stakeholders.</li> </ul>





## 2022-2023FY NEWLY IMPLEMENTED CAPITAL PROGRAMMES



Machinery Outsourcing Programme



Commercial Agriculture Development Programme



R&D of Fruit Tree Orchard Programme



Dairy Extension Programme



Climate Smart Agriculture Programme



CODEX Programme (CCNASWP)



Pacific Week of Agriculture & Forestry (PWAf)



Ministry introduces Wagyu breed cattle to the livestock industry



## 2022-2023 MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE ONLINE FARM SUPPORT INITIATIVES

Advertisements were posted on the Ministry's website and Facebook page allowing interested applicants to submit their application online.

Crop Farming Initiatives			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Irrigation Kit Support</li> <li>2. Hydroponic Farming System Support</li> <li>3. Fruit Tree Orchards</li> <li>4. Women in Agriculture</li> <li>5. Farm Shed Establishment Package</li> <li>6. Borehole Support</li> <li>7. Draught Animal initiative (Horse Harness/Collar)</li> <li>8. Organic Development</li> </ol>		<p>QR CODE – CROP FARMING INITIATIVES</p> <p>Online Form Link <a href="https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/EAVT09TM">https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/EAVT09TM</a></p>	
Livestock Farming Initiatives			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fencing Kit Support for Beef Cattle Farms</li> <li>2. Fencing Kit Support for Sheep Farms</li> <li>3. Fencing Kit Support for Goat Farms</li> <li>4. Small Holder Dairy Support</li> <li>5. Piggery Pan Package support</li> <li>6. Poultry Shed package support</li> <li>7. Sheep Shed package</li> <li>8. Goat Shed package</li> <li>9. Pig Farrowing Crates support</li> <li>10. Home Biogas Digester Equipment</li> <li>11. Beef Stock Yard Support</li> <li>12. Goat Rearing Package</li> </ol>		<p>QR CODE – LIVESTOCK FARMING INITIATIVES</p> <p>Online Form Link <a href="https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/3eI377hT">https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/3eI377hT</a></p>	
Farm Mechanization Initiatives			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Small Farming Equipment and Agro Processing Machines</li> <li>2. Commercial Yaqona Farming Equipment</li> <li>3. Provision of farm machinery power via outsourcing</li> <li>4. Farm Mechanization</li> <li>5. Rice Harvester</li> </ol>		<p>QR CODE – ALL FARM MECHANIZATION INITIATIVES</p> <p>Online Form Link <a href="https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/bHz2lnzU">https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/bHz2lnzU</a></p>	
Exporters and Agro Processors Support			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Equity Support to Agro Exporters and Processors</li> </ol>		<p>QR CODE – INFRA. SUPPORT TO EXPORTERS/ AGRO PROCESSORS INITIATIVES</p> <p>Online Form Link <a href="https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/tk7tKkis">https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/tk7tKkis</a></p>	
Commercial Farmers Equity Support			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Commercial Farmers Equity Package</li> </ol>		<p>QR CODE – CFEP</p> <p>Online Form Link <a href="https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/bQG7eiOI">https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/bQG7eiOI</a></p>	
Young Commercial Farmers			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Land Preparation facility for Young Commercial Farmers</li> </ol>		<p>QR CODE – YOUNG COMMERCIAL FARMERS</p> <p>Online Form Link <a href="https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/2uhPVm4U">https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/2uhPVm4U</a></p>	



## 2022-2023 FINANCIAL YEAR TRADE HIGHLIGHTS

### TOP 5 COMMODITIES FOR CROPS & LIVESTOCK

#### Top 5 Fresh/Chilled Export Commodities



A total volume of 462.2 tonnes of Kava, worth FJD 36.9 million, was exported in the 2022- 2023 Financial Year to major export destinations such as the USA, NZ, and Vanuatu to name a few.



A total volume of 6,171.7 tonnes of Dalo, worth FJD35.7 million, was exported in the 2022- 2023 Financial Year to major export destinations such as the USA, NZ, and Australia to name a few.



A total volume of 2,932.9 tonnes of Turmeric worth FJD21.5 million, was exported to major export destinations such as the USA, NZ, and Singapore to name a few in the 2022-2023 Financial Year.



A total volume of 1,460.5 tonnes of eggs, worth FJD7.3 million, was exported mainly to the Pacific Island Countries in the 2022-2023 Financial Year.



A total volume of 1,253.2 tonnes of ginger worth FJD10 million, was exported to major export destinations such as Australia, and NZ, to name a few in the 2022-2023 Financial Year.

#### Top 5 Fresh/Chilled Imported Commodities



A total volume of 191,103.8 tonnes of Wheat, worth FJD170.9 million, was imported from major countries of origin such as Australia and NZ in the 2022-2023 Financial Year.



A total volume of 6567.7 tonnes of meat of Sheep, worth FJD68.4 million, was imported from major countries of origin such as Australia and NZ in the 2022- 2023 Financial Year.



A total volume of 42,041.8 tonnes of Rice was imported worth FJD61.8 million, from major countries of origin such as Vietnam, China, and Thailand, just to name a few in the 2022-2023 Financial Year.



A total volume of 19,765.3 tonnes of potatoes worth FJD46.1 million, was imported from major countries of origin such as New Zealand, China, and Australia, just to name a few in the 2022- 2023 Financial Year.



A total volume of 90.3 tonnes of beef, worth FJD27 million, was imported from New Zealand and Australia in the 2022-2023 Financial Year.



## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2022-2023 Financial Year (Aug 2022- July 2023), the Ministry continued to increase the value of its services, helping boost the economic and environmental performance of Fiji's crop and livestock subsectors. Highlighted below are the major contributions of the agriculture sector to the National Economy.

**FJD129.7 million**

Fresh/Chilled Agriculture  
Produce Export Value in  
2022-2023 FINANCIAL  
YEAR

Increased by 1.3% in 2022- 2023  
FINANCIAL YEAR as compared to  
2021-2022 FINANCIAL YEAR

**15,719.9 tonnes**

Fresh/Chilled Agriculture  
Produce Export Volume  
in 2022-2023 FINANCIAL  
YEAR

Increased by 2.6% in 2022- 2023  
FINANCIAL YEAR as compared to  
2021-2022 FINANCIAL YEAR

**FJD541.4 million** Fresh/  
Chilled Agriculture  
Produce Import Value in  
2022-2023 FINANCIAL  
YEAR

Decreased by 27.2% in 2022- 2023  
FINANCIAL YEAR as compared to  
2021-2022 FINANCIAL YEAR

**308,009 tonnes** Fresh/  
Chilled Agriculture  
Produce Import Volume  
in 2022-2023 FINANCIAL  
YEAR

Increased by 41.9% in  
2022-2023 FINANCIAL YEAR as  
compared to 2021-2022

**460, 423.2 tonnes**  
Volume of Agriculture  
Production in 2022-2023  
FINANCIAL YEAR

Increased by 19.1% in 2022- 2023  
FINANCIAL YEAR as compared to  
2021-2022 FINANCIAL YEAR.

**378,978.6 tonnes**  
Volume of Crop  
Production in 2022-2023  
FINANCIAL YEAR

Decreased by 13.2% in 2022-  
2023 FINANCIAL YEAR as compared  
to 2021-2022 FINANCIAL YEAR

**81,444.6**  
tonnes Volume of  
Livestock Production in  
2022-2023 FINANCIAL  
YEAR

Increased by 56.9% in  
2022-2023 FINANCIAL YEAR as  
compared to 2021-2022 FINANCIAL  
YEAR

**98,084**  
farmers  
Registered with MoA in  
2023

Registered with MoA in 2023  
(VitiAgri Data Hub, Statistics Unit)

**12%**  
Female farmers were  
registered in 2023

This accounted for 14.4% of Total  
Enumerated Farmers

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## REPORT ON PERFORMANCE

The Ministry's SDP highlights the 11 strategic goals and 5 strategic priorities, as detailed in the Table below. The SDP is aligned to the National Development Plan (NDP) requirements and global commitments. The performance of the Ministry of Agriculture is detailed henceforth in this report under each Strategic Priority.

**Table 5: Ministry Performance in line with the Strategic Priorities and National Development Plan**

Strategic Priorities	National Development Plan	Sustainable Development Goal
<b>1. Improve Food and Nutrition Security for all Fijians.</b>	NDP: 3.1.4 Food and Nutrition Security NDP: 3.1.6 Health and Medical Services NDP: 3.2.10 Expanding the Rural Economy NDP: 3.2.12 Non-sugar Agriculture	Goal 1: No Poverty Goal 2: Zero Hunger Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being Goal 4: Quality Education Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
<b>2. Increase Farmer Household income for Sustainable Livelihoods.</b>	NDP: 3.1.4 Food and Nutrition Security NDP: 3.1.7 Social Inclusion and Empowerment NDP: 3.1.9 Women in Development NDP: 3.2.12 Non-sugar Agriculture	Goal 1: No Poverty Goal 2: Zero Hunger Goal 5: Gender Equality Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
<b>3. Increase adoption of sustainable resource management and climate smart agriculture.</b>	NDP: 3.1.4 Food and Nutrition Security	Goal 1: No Poverty Goal 2: Zero Hunger Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production Goal 13: Climate Action
<b>4. Establish and Improve Commercial Agriculture.</b>	NDP: 3.1.4 Food and Nutrition Security NDP: 3.2.10 Expanding the Rural Economy NDP: 3.2.12 Non-sugar Agriculture	Goal 1: No Poverty Goal 2: Zero Hunger Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production Goal 13: Climate Action Goal 15: Life on Land
<b>5. Improve Quality Public Sector Performance and Service delivery.</b>	NDP: 3.1.4 Food and Nutrition Security NDP: 3.2.10 Expanding the Rural Economy NDP: 3.2.12 Non-sugar Agriculture	Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure Goal 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

## 2022-2023 FINANCIAL YEAR ACHIEVEMENTS BY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



### STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: IMPROVE FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY FOR ALL FIJIANS

In the 2022-2023 Financial Year, the Ministry allocated FJD7.2 million to facilitate the implementation of Strategic Priority 1 activities and programmes that addresses food and nutrition security for all Fijians. Strategic Priority 1 is aligned with four priority goals of the National Development Plan (NDP) and SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 12:

1. Every Fijian has access to adequate food of acceptable quality and nutritional value.
2. Access to quality health facilities necessary for good health, and to health care services, including reproductive health care.
3. Promoting equal opportunities, access to basic services, and building resilient communities.
4. Competitive, sustainable, and value adding agriculture.

The Ministry, in pursuit to address these multi-dimensional and cross-sectoral issues, planned several strategic interventions that will contribute to achieving the following strategic outcomes highlighted below:

- 1.1 Improved production and access to local, safe and nutritious food for communities;
- 1.2 Increased production of resilient, safe, and nutritious food in rural and urban communities;
- 1.3 Strong multi-sector approach supported by Food and Nutrition Security policy.

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#### Capital Programmes Implemented under Strategic Priority 1

In addressing food and nutrition security in the country, the Ministry implemented various capital programmes in 2022-2023 Financial Year. These were coordinated and implemented by the following divisions: Crop Extension, Animal Health & Production, Crop Research and Economic Planning & Statistics.



**Table 6: List of Capital Programmes implemented by the Ministry under Strategic Priority 1**

Crop Extension Division	Animal Health & Production Division	Crop Research Division	Economic Planning & Statistics Division
Highland Farming Programme Rotuma Farming Programme Coconut Farming Programme Agriculture Extension Services Sustainable Land Management Farm Management Cocoa Farming Programme Vanilla Farming Programme Rice Development Programme Women in Agriculture Land Preparation Facility- Youth in Agriculture Yaqona Farming Programme Dalo Farming Programme Ginger Farming Programme Farm Access Roads	Livestock Rehabilitation Livestock Feed Technology Poultry Breeding Programme Sheep Breeding Programme Goat Breeding Programme Pig Breeding Programme Beef Breeding Programme Partnership to Establish Goat Meat Industry Programme Apiculture Industry Dev. Programme Dairy Extension Programme Pig Research & Development Programme Pig Extension Programme BTEC Programme Veterinary Pathology Lab Upgrade Programme Stray Animal Control Campaign Programme Animal Welfare SPCA Partnership TB Free Farms Development Refurbishment of Vet Clinic Poultry Extension Programme Beef Extension Programme Animal Waste Management for Livestock Farmers Programme Dairy Development Programme Upgrade of Abattoirs	Development of Seeds and Planting Materials Programme ARS Tree Crops ARS Root Crops ARS Horticulture Rice Research & Development Programme Management of Pest Purchase of Equipment Programme (FACL) Post-Harvest Losses Programme Mushroom Research Programme Tissue Culture Lab Upgrade Programme Production and Promotion of Organic Fertilizer Programme	Agrtrade Research Council

### Achievements of Strategic Priority 1 Deliverables in 2022-2023 Financial Year

The Ministry implemented planned activities that were set out for this strategic priority during the 2022-2023 Financial Year.

To improve production and access to local, safe, and nutritious food for communities, the Ministry, through the Agriculture Operation Services (Crop Extension and AH&P) and Crop Research Division focused on producing and distributing quality planting materials, conducting awareness programmes, training along with pest and disease research.

The budget allocated was utilized to address needs of farmers, staff, exporters and players in the food value chain

#### Outcome 1.1: Improved production and access to local, safe and nutritious food for communities

- The Ministry allocated FJD516,000 through the Research Division for the production and supply of seeds and planting materials.

The following were produced and supplied to farmers through Extension division:

- o Kumala cuttings- 113,210, producing 19Ha;
- o Mix cassava cuttings- 24,652, producing 5.4mt;
- o Yam seeds – 8,500kg from Dobuilevu



One of the Kumala variety called Kabara



Research Station and Seaqaqa Research Station.

- Furthermore, these planting materials were supplied to farmers
  - o Yellow Cassava cuttings- 27,950, producing 6 mt;
  - o Hybrid and traditional Taro suckers- 2,245, producing 2.2 mt;
  - o Dalo ni wai suckers – 2000, with a production of 2 mt;
  - o Bulou seeds- 448kg, producing 5 mt;
  - o Uro ni Vonu suckers- 11,830, with a production of 11 mt;
  - o Kawai seeds- 153.1kg, with a production of 0.2 mt;
  - o Dalo ni tana suckers-700, with a production of 0.7 mt;
  - o Coconut Seednuts- 33,800 357 mt dried copra;
  - o Coconut seedlings- 20,914, 221 mt produced;
  - o Cocoa seedlings-12,825, 10.26 mt produced;
  - o Budded Cocoa seedlings – 220, 0.12 mt produced;
  - o Grafted citrus seedlings-1,270, 106 mt produced;
  - o Assorted & Native Fruit Trees-14,900, 2,234 mt produced;
  - o Spices seedlings – 567, 1.4 mt produced;
  - o Avocado seedlings-1,150, 84.5 mt produced
  - o Yaqona cuttings- 40,000, to produce 36.8 tonnes;
  - o Turmeric seeds-1.64 ton, targeting 4.7 tonnes;
  - o Rice seeds produced-17,323kg;
  - o Total rice seeds distributed- 38,190kg [Central 1,380kg, Western- 7,860kg, Northern- 28,830kg and Eastern- 120kg], producing 1.5 tonnes; and
  - o Total rice seeds purchased- 8,260kg.
- FID275,000 was allocated by the Crop Extension Division for the procurement of planting materials and seedlings.
- A total of 836 communities (250 Western, 249 Central, 169 Eastern and 168 Northern) received planting materials and seedlings for 11 different commodities including dalo, plantain, yellow cassava, duruka, eggplant, chilies, okra, tomatoes, bananas, maize, and cowpeas. This contributed to the increase in the production of local & nutritious food for the communities
- In addition, a total of 80 Food Security awareness campaigns (25 Eastern, 20 Northern, 15 Western and 20 Central) were carried out, along with 16



A dalo farm in Navua



Seedling distribution for food security



Pot plant of a tree crop



Local Okra harvesting

consultations (5 Western, 4 Central, 4 Northern and 3 Eastern), and the establishment of 2 Farmer Field Schools, 1 in the West and 1 in the North. These initiatives aimed to empower and build the capacity of farmers' agricultural knowledge and skills and utilising the assistance from the Ministry's Extension programme. The Ministry guarantees that farmers and employees are adequately trained to carry out the Ministry's initiatives and operations.

- The Sustainable Land Management programme organized various training sessions at three Tikina in Kadavu (Nakasaleka, Ravitaki, and Naceva). Additionally, a training session was conducted for the Kukukunirewa Women Cluster Group (consisting of 11 farmers), Mrs. Talenaua's Farm, Natabua, Tabusuka Farm in Sabeto, and the Yasawa Island Group.
- The AH&P Division dedicated FJD5.5 million towards executing tasks under the Ministry's Strategic Priority 1. This includes the following programmes:
  - i. 6 pure Senepol bulls and 5 pure Brown Swiss bulls and 3 F1 crosses were supplied to livestock farmers;
  - ii. A crossbreeding program for 63 F1 bull calves was born and distributed to farmers as heard bulls;
  - iii. Retaining 53 heifers as replacements for aging local recipients;
  - iv. Parent pure Senepol and Brown Swiss stock were under the breeding programme for the development of the nucleus;
  - v. 14 Breeder bulls supplied to 11 farmers (8 farmers in the Central division and 3 farmers in the Western division);
  - vi. A total of 11 Brown Swiss parents have been relocated to Waidradra Bull Station, where they have commenced calving as part of a line breeding initiative;
  - vii. Currently there are 20 Brown Swiss Cattle being housed in Sigatoka Research Station. The calving process has begun, resulting in the birth of three bull calves. The station primarily focuses on housing Brown Swiss bulls for distribution to farmers and genetic material purposes;
  - viii. 45 Wagyu and 45 Drought Master embryos were received from the Australian Reproductive Technology.
  - ix. During the initial breeding stage, 23 Wagyu embryos were implanted at the Koronivia Research Station, while 27 Drought Master embryos were implanted at the Sigatoka



SLM Training at Niudua, Naceva, Kadavu



SLM Training at Tawaya, Kadayu



Improved Cattle Genetics Released To Farmers



Senepol cattle breed



Drought Master cattle breed



- Research Station as part of the Embryo Transfer Programmes;
- x. A total of 22 Wagyu embryos and 18 Drought Master embryos were transferred during the second phase at Sigatoka Research Station;
- xi. The Honorable Minister for Agriculture and Waterways- Mr. Vatimi Rayalu, made an official announcement regarding the acquisition of Wagyu and Drought Master breed calves by the Ministry on January 8th, 2023. This is a significant step in the implementation of Embryo Transfer activities in Fiji;
- xii. The development of Yalavou has placed great priorities on various activities, including the completion of 26 kilometers of road graveling and improvement, the construction of 15 kilometers of fence lines, and the establishment of 200 legume plants. In addition, for Bio-security purposes, 90% of the station boundary has been double-fenced. Furthermore, 15 paddocks have been fenced, and the ongoing process of pasture establishment is currently underway;
- xiii. A 90 acres land area within the Nawaicoba Quarantine Station has been enclosed for cattle breeding.
- xiv. Genomic testing is conducted on ET stock to determine the selection of Nucleus herd bull breeders based on the outcomes; and
- xv. A new breeding center is being constructed at Sigatoka Research Station, set to become the first biotechnology lab in Fiji. The necessary equipment has already been supplied, and the lab will focus on harvesting and storing embryos and semen. With the capacity to provide semen and embryos to farmers, the lab aims to distribute disease-free genetic materials to farms on a large scale.
- Fiji relies on imported milk to meet 50% of its market demand for liquid milk. At present, the domestic industry is fulfilling only half of its demand. The local demand requires approximately 12.7 million litres of milk each year;
  - There are a total of 368 officially registered dairy farms, housing approximately 6803 cows. The total annual production amounts to approximately 6 million litres, with an average daily output of around 6 litres per dairy cow, a notably low figure;
  - The dairy industry faced a significant challenge



due to the loss of productive animals to tuberculosis, but now farms are slowly making a recovery.

- The Dairy Extension Program was introduced to improve the quality of life for dairy farmers residing in rural farming areas. This is an agriculture business approach designed to meet market demand by focusing on progressive farmers and farmers groups to increase milk production through an integrated, demand driven approach;
- The local milk production in the formal sector recorded an increase of 2.1% when compared to the 2021 & 2022 total milk supply.
- This year, the Ministry has extended support to both new and existing farmers through the Dairy program.
- A total of 22 dairy farmers were assisted under the Small Holder Dairy initiative, Central-14 farmers, Western- 6 farmers & Northern Division- 2 farmers.
- Milk production is forecasted to increase by 25% from existing farms based on the interventions.
- Other capacity building trainings were carried out on the following commodities: Wainibuka Cluster Sheep Training with 32 participants, Seaqaqa Small Ruminant Training with 35 participants, Apiculture Training Basics in Beekeeping with the following number of participants: Macuata-31, Cakaudrove-14 and Ovalau-34.

### Outcome 1.2: Increase the production of resilient, safe, and nutritious food in rural and urban communities

To enhance the production of resilient, secure, and nourishing food in both rural and urban communities, the Ministry has prioritized the empowerment of farmers through the Crop Extension and Crop Research Division. This involves equipping farmers with the best agricultural practices, conducting research on resilient crop varieties, and offering technical guidance and farm visits as outlined below:

- The Research Division allocated FJD152,000 for conducting demo trials for farmers in which the following were undertaken;
- Rice Research programme - 2 demonstration farms were established in Kadavu and Rokoroko Village in Rakiraki.
- Rice demonstration for Kadavu was successfully completed and 3 more villages have now adopted rice farming for food security.
- Post-harvest losses range from 30-40% due to poor handling of harvested commodities, rejection of export-grade produce, disposal



of unsellable agricultural commodities, and deterioration.

- Although farmers have been educated about Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), there is a need for more stringent measures to ensure compliance with proper post-harvest handling, as well as maintaining sanitary and hygiene standards during the storage and transportation of commodities.
- While the implementation of GAP guidelines can help decrease post-harvest losses, it is crucial to conduct value-addition research to further minimize losses. Additionally, this research can also create more income opportunities and empower groups and communities to establish SMEs that contribute to Fiji's GDP.
- During the 2022-2023 Financial Year, the Ministry organized a series of workshops under the Post-Harvest Losses program aimed at providing training on food processing and packaging to women's groups in the rural and maritime areas. A total of 58 participants took part in the training sessions that was held in Nacevailagi (22 participants), Eastern Saints (15 participants) and Navatuyaba (21 participants), where they were trained on techniques for enhancing the value of agricultural products through techniques such as hygiene and proper packing;
- The Crop Extension Division has allocated FJD19,000 for the training of farmers. A total of 300 farmers underwent training on husbandry practices and the process of curing beans.
- Selected farmers and clusters were given small machines, curing equipment, and sun driers.

### Outcome 1.3: Strong multi-sector approach supported by Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) Policy

- The Ministry is dedicated to addressing the complex challenges of food and nutrition security by implementing a comprehensive multi-sectoral approach, which includes the formulation of a Food and Nutrition Security Policy.
- The following outlines the activities carried out during the fiscal year to support a robust multi-sectoral approach to food and nutrition security:
- A budget of FJD49,000 was sourced from the Crop Research and Economic Planning and Statistics Division to carry out joint research and participate in high-level meetings with other bilateral partners. In addition, 4 meetings were held regarding engagements related to the Food Security & Livelihood Cluster.
- The Economic Planning & Statistics Division of



Food CODEX Standard Meeting hosted by Fiji Government



Fruits on display



Minister Rayalu receiving a copy of the book, 'Agricultural Policy Analysis: Concepts and Tools for Emerging Economies'. The book was presented by co-editor, Dr. Andrew Jacque, who is the Team Leader and Agricultural Policy Advisor for the EU-funded TA-SRL programme, Fiji.



Food and Nutrition Security through farming

the Ministry has been diligently working on modernizing the database of agriculture farmers.

- The Ministry launched the “Youth in Agriculture Policy” in December 2022, aiming to enable 27,810 youths to engage in the Agriculture Sector.



Launching of the Agridata hub for farmers at HQ Conference Room



Launching of Agridata hub to modernize database for farmers

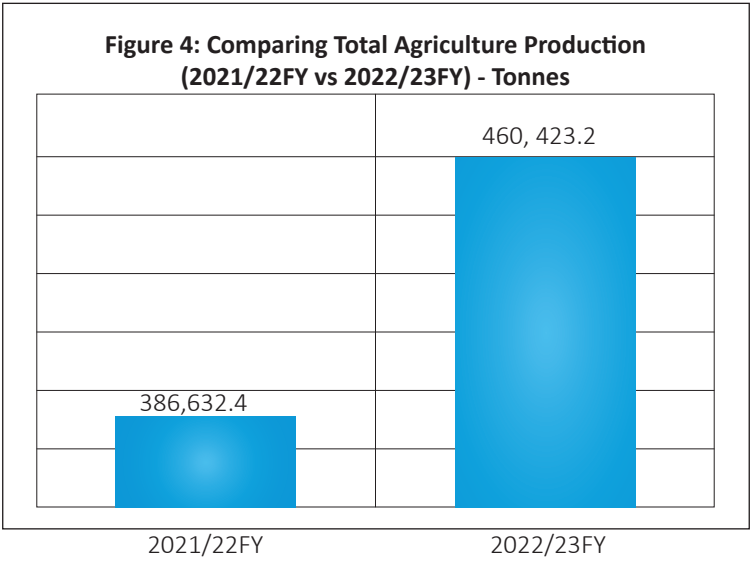


Launching of the 2022-2027 Youth in Agriculture Policy to inspire, empower and bring the innovation, energy and creativity of young people into the agri-food system.

### C. Performance Analysis of the Impact of Government Intervention in the Improvement of Food Security and Nutrition to All Fijians

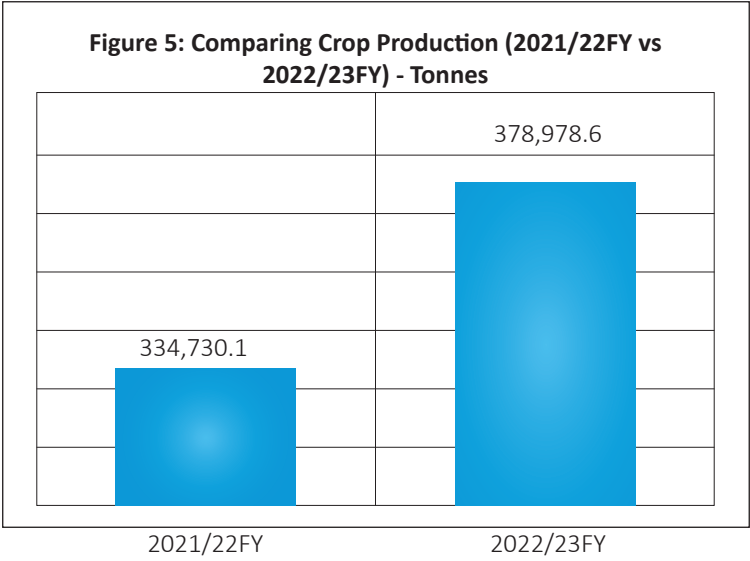
Key Performance Indicator 1: 15 % increase in total agriculture production

The overall volume of agricultural production increased by 19.1% in the 2022/2023 fiscal year, exceeding the 15% growth rate targeted in FY 2021/ 2022.



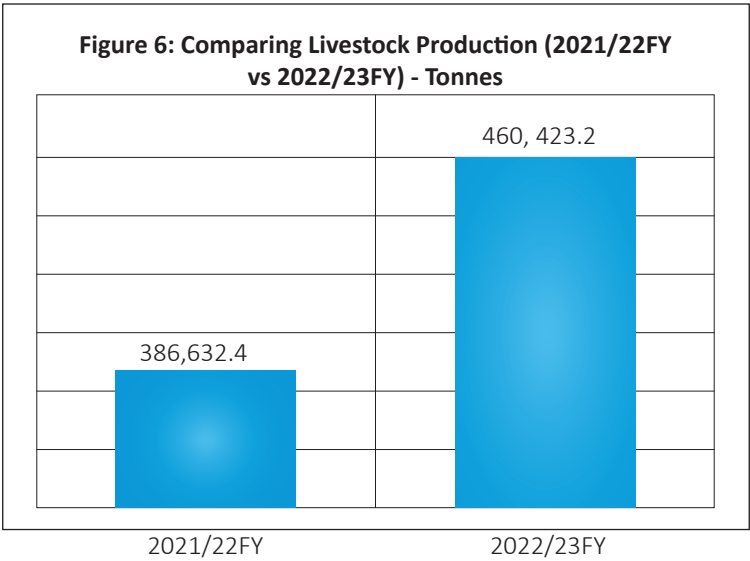
Key Performance Indicator 2: 5% increase in crop production

Compared to the 2021/2022 fiscal year, there was a 13.2% increase in the volume of crop production in this fiscal year 2022/2023. This exceeded the intended growth of 5% that was forecasted in FY 2021/2022.



Key Performance Indicator 3: 2% Growth in Livestock production

The volume of livestock produced in the 2022/2023 fiscal year increased significantly over the 2021/2022 fiscal year. The rise in poultry (broiler) production was the primary cause of the 56.9% positive growth.





## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: INCREASE FARMER HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

In 2022-2023 Financial Year, the Ministry allocated FJD4.8million for Strategic Priority 2 to facilitate the implementation of programmes that targets subsistence farmers with an intention of elevating them to semi-commercial level, resulting in increased farmer household income for sustainable livelihoods.

This Strategic Priority is aligned to three goals in the National Development Plan (NDP) and SDGs 1, 2, 5 & 8;

- Social Inclusion and Empowerment: A socially inclusive Fiji and empowered Fijians;
- Women in Development: empowering women to reach their full development potential
- Non-sugar Agriculture: Competitive, sustainable and value adding agriculture

Interventions planned under this priority covered three key strategic outcomes:

- 2.1 Increased farmer participation in existing and new demand driven market
- 2.2 Increased participation of women and youths in the crop and livestock agriculture sectors;
- 2.3 Strengthened MoA institutional approach, capacity, and engagement with partners and stake holders that support market-driven production of agriculture commodities and products.

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#### A. Capital Programmes Implemented under Strategic Priority 2

The Ministry of Agriculture has undertaken several capital programmes in the 2022-2023 Financial Year to strengthen the agriculture sector and empower all Fijians. These capital programs were coordinated and implemented by the Crop Extension Division, Animal Health & Production Division, Crop Research Division, and Economic Planning & Statistics Division.

**Table 7: List of Capital Programmes implemented by the Ministry under Strategic Priority 2**

Crop Extension Division	Animal Health & Production Division	Crop Research Division	Economic Planning & Statistics Division	Human Resource & Finance
Agriculture Extension Services	Dairy Development Programme	Post-Harvest Losses Management of Pest	FARS	Agriculture Show
Farm Management	Sheep Extension Programme	Rice Research & Development	Agtrade	
Rotuma Farming Programme	Pig Extension Programme	Management of Pest	Pacific Week of Agriculture & Forestry	
Highland Farming Programme	Poultry Extension Programme	Upgrade of Plant Tissue Culture Lab	Coconut Industry	
Spices Farming Programme	Dairy Extension Programme			
Coconut Farming Programme	Apiculture Industry Development Programme			
Cocoa Farming Programme	Beef Extension Programme			
Copra Stabilization Fund	Sheep Breeding Programme			
Women In Agriculture Programme	Pig Breeding Programme			
Vanilla Farming Programme	Poultry Breeding Programme			
Land Preparation Facility	Establishment of TB Free Farms			
- Youth in Agriculture Programme	Livestock Feed Technology			
	Livestock Rehabilitation Programme			
	Beef Breeding Programme			

## B. Achievements of Strategic Priority 2 Deliverables in 2022-2023

During the 2022–2023 Financial Year, the Ministry successfully attained planned outcomes and outputs by utilizing its budgetary allocation for this Strategic Priority.

### Outcome 2.1: Increased Farmer Participation in Existing and New Demand Driven Market.

- Farmers increased their income by finding market opportunities where they competed on their skills and quality of products.
- The Ministry, through the Economic Planning & Statistics Division allocated FJD250,000 to:
  - Assist 15 Agro- Processors, with FJD10,000 to boost their capacity in procuring produce from small holder farmers;
  - Conducted Exporters Survey;
  - Asses Duty Concession;
  - Coordinated the HOTEK Show;
  - Conduct the Commodity Technical Working Group meeting for market access;
  - Undertake a meeting on CODEX undertaken;
  - Host the 16th Session of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and World Health Organization (WHO) Codex Committee for North America and South West Pacific (CCNASWP) meeting which took place on the 3rd of January 2023, in Nadi.
- The Research Division was allocated FJD110,000 to develop 3 new value added products. These are shaved young coconut (Packaged), bottled young coconut water (collaboration with Coconut Millers Ltd) and coconut curd. Coconut curd is made into powder and can also be made into yoghurt and skim milk. Additionally, a packaging machine to complete the bottled coconut water processing machine set, was also purchased.
- In addition, four (4) surveys (Fresh export commodity) and training (Plant Health Clinic) were undertaken under the Management of Pest programme. Testing of four new Commodities (Fiji pumpkin, bottle gourd, guava and green mango) were also undertaken for market access. Experimental works to locally produce new protein bait spray was also undertaken within this programme.
- The AH&P Division allocated FJD1.2M through the Dairy Development programme, and the following activities were carried out:
  - Payment of VAT to FRCS of 9%;
  - A total of 227 dairy farmers were assisted through cartage of milk;
  - Provision of 856 bags of CMR to farmers at subsidised rates;
  - Provision of 2,500 bags of calf grower; and
  - Provision of 6,000 bags for dairy farmers at subsidised rate.



Additionally, greater attention was given to raising awareness and conducting field visits. It has been observed that there was a 3.6% growth in production during the year 2022 in comparison to 2021 and a 6.7% increase in production among bulk suppliers in 2022 compared to 2023 for dairy milk production.

## Outcome 2.2 Increased Participation of Women and Youths in the Crop and Livestock Agriculture Sector

Enhancing participation of women and youth in agriculture is an important step towards acknowledging the rights of both women and youth in a Fijian economy that is a basis for food security, livelihoods, and economic growth which includes tourism and trade.

This has also been highlighted in the Ministry's SDP. In ensuring that these activities are realized, the Ministry, through the Agriculture Operation Division (AH&P & Crop Extension) undertook the following activities:

- FJD432,000 was allocated by the Ministry to address Outcome 2.2 of Strategic Priority 2, supporting women and youth in agriculture to promote gender equality and empowerment (SDG 5). However, women and young people don't seem to be involved as intended.
- Findings of Volume 3 of the 2020 FAC Report highlighted that there is gender inequality in the participation of women and youth in agricultural activities. Therefore, the Ministry ensures that women farmers and youths are recognized and supported in transitioning to commercial agriculture.
- Women and youths are empowered on good husbandry practices for crops and livestock, and are supplied with planting materials, tools, and agro- inputs to support them.
- For instance, Day Old Broiler Chicks and feed were supplied to 589 farmers (Central-144, Eastern-115, Western-164 & Northern-166) of which 179 were males and 410 were females. Day Old Free range chicks were supplied to 566 farmers (Central- 134, Eastern- 109, Western- 163 & Northern- 160), of which 169 were male farmers and 397 were females.
- Additionally, Poultry Production Management Training was conducted in Cakaudrove (32 participants) and Rewa (40 participants). A total of 72 farmers were trained where 22 were males and 50 were females.

To enhance the institutional approach of the MoAW,



Supporting women in livestock industry



Empowering women in crop farming



Women heavily involved on this demo plot in Vanua Levu



Supporting women in poultry industry

### Outcome 2.3: Strengthened MoA institutional approach, capacity and engagement with partners and stakeholders that support market-driven production of agriculture commodities and products.

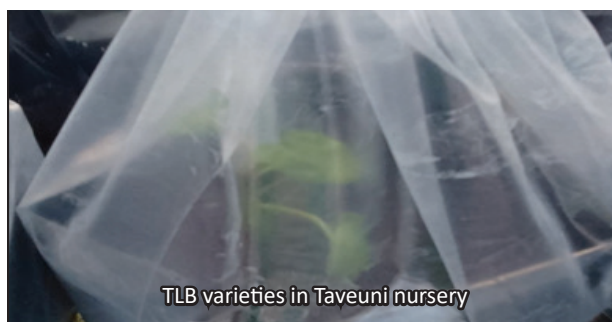
efforts are being directed towards strengthening capacity building and fostering collaboration with partners and stakeholders.

This is aimed at promoting the production of agricultural commodities and products that are driven by market demands:

- The Ministry, through the Research Division allocated FJD20,000 to undertake screening and evaluation of commodities.
- The Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory at Koronivia Research Station released two (2) commodities, breadfruit (Balekana) and banana (Veimama variety), for field evaluation and rapid multiplication.
- The planting materials were provided to a farmer in Visama and to Taiwan Technical Mission, whereas breadfruit was supplied to Sigatoka Research Station, Dobuilevu Research Station, Naduruloulou Research Station, and Wainigata Research Station.
- The team also initiated and hardened taro leaf blight-tolerant varieties that were transferred to Taveuni. The laboratory has also obtained a single sample of Nigerian yam, which will be replicated before being transferred to the field.
- In addition, a total of FJD682,000 was allocated under the Rice Research Program where 3 saline tolerant trials were conducted in Vanua Levu. The data from this trial were also presented at the Regional Agriculture and Forestry Symposium. Evaluation trials for IRRI, Indian high yielding, Rain-fed, Aromatic varieties are on- going.
- Seed bulking for drought tolerant IRRI varieties is continually on-going. Fertilizer trials for improved cultural practices have been completed.
- The Economic Planning & Statistics Division allocated a total of FJD250,000 in coordinating the 8th Ministerial and Head of Agriculture and Forestry Meeting hosted by Fiji. A total of FJD20,000 was sourced from the Coconut Development program for reviewing the Copra Pricing Formula.



TLB varieties in Taveuni nursery



TLB varieties in Taveuni nursery



Boldgrain rice planting



Matured Boldgrain rice field



Taro Loa variety conserved in the lab



Rice harvesting



## C. Performance Analysis of the Impact of Government Intervention on Strategic Priority 2

**Table 8: Increase in Volume of Production of Commodities that contributed to the livelihood of Farmers.**

Crop Commodities	Unit	2021/22	2022/23	Growth
Assorted Vegetables	Tonne	36,567.7	44,023.2	0.4%
Cocoa	Tonne	126.7	134.3	6.0%
Coconut	Tonne	17,476.3	20,134.0	15.2%
Copra	Tonne	2,842.8	3,258.7	14.6%
Eggplant	Tonne	6,484.3	7,751.8	9.5%
Chillies	Tonne	1,397.1	1,667.5	9.4%
Ginger	Tonne	14,160.6	15,405.4	8.8%
Pineapple	Tonne	6,297.0	7,722.9	.6%
Tomatoes	Tonne	2,113.7	2,777.3	31.4%
Tumeric	Tonne	1,401.7	1,432.2	2.2%
Yaqona	Tonne	12,557.7	12,885.1	2.6%

In the financial year 2022-2023 the Ministry targeted commodities such as Yaqona, fruit trees, and vegetables to support socio economic activities in Fiji. This is significantly shown on the table above in terms of its percentage growth. It is interesting to note the significant increase for these commodities, as it indicates the demand we have for agriculture produce. The Ministry is working towards facilitating the needs of farmers.

**Table 9: Increase in Volume of Production of commodities that heavily involve women farmers.**

Crop Commodities	Unit	2021/22	2022/23	Growth
Floriculture	Tonne	6,357.5	6,454.7	1.5%
Masi	Tonne	111.3	134.4	20.7%
Vanilla	Tonne	2.3	3.3	42.3%
Voivoi	Tonne	1,699.1	2,050.7	20.7%

For the financial year 2022-2023, the Ministry supported most women and youths around Fiji. This is in alignment to the Gender in Agriculture Policy and Youth in Agriculture Policy. As highlighted in the table above, a 42.3% growth in Vanilla indicates that most women are heavily involved in vanilla farming as a source of livelihood, followed by Masi and Voivoi respectively. In comparison, floriculture saw a 1.5% growth rate compared to the financial year 2021-2022.



Floriculture training to empower women in the rural areas



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: IMPROVE THE ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE

For the implementation of programmes aimed at enhancing the adoption of Sustainable Resources Management and Climate Smart Agriculture, the Ministry has allocated FJD353,000 for Strategic Priority 3 in the 2022-2023 Financial Year.

This Strategic Priority is aligned with the National Development Plan (NDP) and SDG 1,2,9,13 and 15, on Non-sugar Agriculture: Competitive, sustainable and value adding agriculture.

Interventions planned under this priority are intended to achieve three key strategic outcomes:

- 3.1 Improved MoA Institutional, Technical and scientific Capacity and Partnerships for Evidence- Based Planning, Targeted Research Agenda
- 3.2 Increased Access to Resilient Crop Varieties, Livestock Breeds and Social Safety Nets and Markets Products that Mitigate Risks for Farmers;
- 3.3 Increased Awareness and Adoption by Farmers of Sustainable Resource Management and Climate Smart Agriculture Practices

### 40

#### A. Capital Programmes Implemented under Strategic Priority 3

The Ministry of Agriculture, in an effort to improve the adoption of sustainable resource management and climate smart agriculture, implemented various capital programmes in the 2022-2023 Financial Year. These capital programmes were coordinated and implemented by the Crop Extension Division, Animal Health & Production Division, Crop Research Division and Economic Planning & Statistics Division.

**Table 10: List of Capital Programmes implemented by the Ministry under Strategic Priority 3**

Crop Extension Division	Animal Health & Production Division	Crop Research Division	Economic Planning & Statistics Division
Agriculture Extension Services Climate Smart Agriculture Sustainable Land Management	Goat Breeding Program Partnership to Establish Goat Meat Industry Goat Extension Program	ARS – Horticulture Program ARS – Root Crops Program ARS – Tree Crops Program Upgrade of Plant Tissue Culture Lab Rice Research & Development Program ARS – Promotion and Production of Organic Fertilizer	FARS Disaster Risk Reduction Review of Legislation

## B. Achievements of Strategic Priority 3 Deliverables in 2022-2023 Financial Year

During the 2022–23 Financial Year, the Ministry successfully achieved planned outcomes and outputs by prioritizing this Strategic Priority and allocating the budget accordingly.

### Outcome 3.1: Improved MoA Institutional, Technical and scientific Capacity and Partnerships for Evidence-Based Planning, Targeted Research Agenda.

In improving Institutional, Technical-Scientific Capacity and Partnership for evidence-based planning, targeted research area agenda, the Ministry through the Operation and Research divisions, accomplished the following:

The Crop Extension division allocated FJD80,000 through its selected programs to undertake farm management trainings for 2000 farmers and staff. Of these 25% will be women and 30% addressed youths. Additionally 40 Staff were trained on commodity packages and Farm Management (10% targeted women) and supported 10 Organic Farmers. A total of 124 farm plans were developed for new agriculture leases.

The AH&P Division allocated FJD3,000 to undertake activities outlined in Strategic priority 3 outcome:

- A rainwater harvesting facility was installed at Nacocolevu Goat Research Centre in Sigatoka.

The Economic Planning and Statistics Division was able to undertake the following activities with an allocated amount of FJD8,000:

- Review and update of the Climate Emergency Preparedness SOP
- Establishment of the MoA Technical Working Group (TWG) on National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy
- Finalizing of the National Organic Policy document.

### Outcome 3.2: Increased Access to Resilient Crop Varieties, Livestock Breeds and Social Safety Nets and Markets Products that Mitigate Risks for Farmers.

To increase access to resilient crop varieties, livestock breeds, social safety nets, and market products that mitigate risks for farmers, the Ministry achieved the following:

- The Research Division, through the production and promotion of organic fertilizer enlightened farmers on the importance of maintaining soil health organically for sustainable agriculture production.
- In the 2022-2023 Financial Year, the Organic Section produced 100 tons of organic compost and supplied 1,657 litres of pure bacterium



Irrigation practice for high crop yield during dry weather



Participants at the Regional Meeting of POETCom and Organic Stakeholders



Bacterium Culture and compost to boost organic farming and minimise use of chemical fertilizer

cultures. More than 49,000 litres were distributed to Agriculture Stations.

- An experiment was undertaken to assess the impact of five different liquid organic fertilizers on the cultivation of taro. This study was precisely designed to evaluate the efficacy of these fertilizers in enhancing taro productivity and improving soil properties. However, the outcomes were interestingly uniform across all variants.
- The conservation and maintenance of plant genetic resources (PGR) is one of the core role of the Research Division, and this is carried out for field germplasm in all Research stations. The team planted 43 varieties in the field to maintain seed viability, genetic purity, and preservation of these varieties from eroding. A total of 103 varieties of rice seeds are stored in the cooler.
- The Tissue Culture lab conserved 14 commodities which includes:
  - Sweet potato-18 varieties to be included for all [10 exotic, 8 local];
  - Irish potato-47 [45 Peru, 2 USA];
  - Ginger-3 [3 local- canton, Jamaica, local red];
  - Turmeric-3 [black, yellow, orange];
  - Vanilla-1; Coconut-14 [TRDC germplasm] ;
  - Breadfruit-6 [3 local, 3 exotic];
  - Pineapple-6 [4 local, 2 exotic];
  - Banana-12 [2 local, 10 exotic];
  - Bulou-1 [local]; Yam-4 [3 local, 1 exotic]; Bele-5 [9 local]; Cassava-25 [21 local, 4 exotic] and Taro-98 [BL- 17 local, FJXSMBL-42, 39 local varieties, 1 Asian taro].



Nigerian Yam ready to be transferred to pots



Nigeria yam growing in the hardening nursery



TLB varieties:



Tarova varieties de-flasked at Taveuni



Breadfruit plants conserved in the lab



Bread fruit (Balekana) – In the Tissue Culture hardening nursery



Banana (veimama variety) ready for field transfer



Banana (veimama variety) and Breadfruit ready for field transfer



Banana (veimama) growing well in TTM. The plants were supplied from KRS lab

### Outcome 3.3: Increased Awareness and Adoption by Farmers of Sustainable Resource Management and Climate Smart Agriculture Practices.

To ensure adoption of sustainable resource management and climate smart agriculture practices is effective, the Ministry undertook the following:

- Provision of Bad Land Husbandry Assessment Report to ITLTB for 16 Agricultural lands
- 76 LUC with reports provided for Compilation of Better Farm to assist farmers with loan application to FDB – each application being more than FJD30,000.00
- Completion & printing of 160 Thematic baseline maps upon requested
- Completed Land Use base maps for Koro, Kadavu & Lau Islands
- 160 Land Use Capability Classification Assessment with reports produced and given to assist farmers acquiring for new agriculture leases.
- Rejection of 24 Agricultural lease proposals for rezoning to residential.
- Collaboration work with stakeholders & NGOs for Land Use Assessment & SLM technical Advisory at Saliadrau village with WCS-WISH Project, Nakavika in Navosa, Matalolo & Korotari with Royal Melbourne Institute Technology on Land Care Project, Photovoltaic project site Assesment in Ovalau & Taveuni with Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Project in the Yasawa & Malolo in collaboration with Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Reducing Emmision from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD+) Workshop on Emission Reduction Program. North: Land Care Consultation with Matalolo Village in Wairiki, Cakaudrove and Korotari with FNU & RMIT, Pacific Community (SPC) Agroforestry project at Dreketi village
- Organizing commemoration of World Day to Combat Desertification & Drought in Nawailevu, Bua and World Soils Day in NATI
- Conducted SLM Community Training for 500 farmers all around Fiji. (Kadavu Island - Nakasaleka, Ravitaki, Naceva).
- GIS infrastructure, hardware, software and licenses improvement and maintenance.
- Transfer and Adopting of SLM - Purchasing assorted dry seeds for nurseries and selected farms, with assessments conducted at two sites (Nubutautau and Waikete) in the Western Division.
- Supplied 5,000 vetiver slips and 5,000 vetiver seedlings supplied upon request in the Central, Western, and Northern Divisions.

- The Nitrogen Fixation Trees Nursery in Koronivia Research Station were commissioned
- Land Use Assessment for Tikina Udu & Tawake in Vanua Levu, Vatulele & Yasawa Island – Field Data was manipulated to update Soil & LUC Data
- Conducting preliminary soil loss data experimentation in Logani, including data collection and analysis.



- Conducting participatory Land Use Assessment for all Lau Islands
- SLM Consultation and establishment of Demonstration plot for the Nauluvatu Youth group in Nakelo, Tailevu
- SLM consultation and supply of resilient crop varieties in particularly Yam traditional varieties for the Navuevu Mens Cluster Group, in Cuvu, Nadroga. Varieties includes (Bulou, beka, Kivi, Taniela leka & Murapoi).
- Combating Land Degradation - Identifying one site in Nabutautau, Navosa, and delivering 447 fruit tree seedlings and 120 assorted vegetable seedlings. Conducting on-farm riverbank stabilization at Tabusuka farm in Sabeto by planting 40 lvi trees.
- Purchasing and distributing 21 tumbler compost bins to peri-urban communities in the Central Division.
- Land Use Assesment for 100 hectares of land for Niusawa Methodist in Taveuni.
- Participating in the Land Care Conference in Sydney, Australia, the Organic Network Workshop in Nukualofa, Tonga, establishing three land care sites, attending the UNCCD meeting in Seoul, Korea, and preparing for the UNFCCC meeting in Egypt (COP 27, Oct 31-Nov 22, 2022).



## C. Performance Analysis of the Impact of Government Intervention on Strategic Priority 3

The 2022-2023 Financial Year MoA Costed Operational Plan (COP) identified six (6) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to measure performance of Strategic Priority 3 on Adoption of Sustainable Resource Management and Climate Smart Agriculture.

### Establish MoA CCDRM standard operating procedure and policy

A draft Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Standard Operation Procedure (SOP) was developed through assistance provided by UNFAO. The SOP was successfully used in TCs Yasa, Ana and Cody which contributed to the effective operation (pre and post disaster), assessments and formulation of rehabilitation plan for the Ministry.

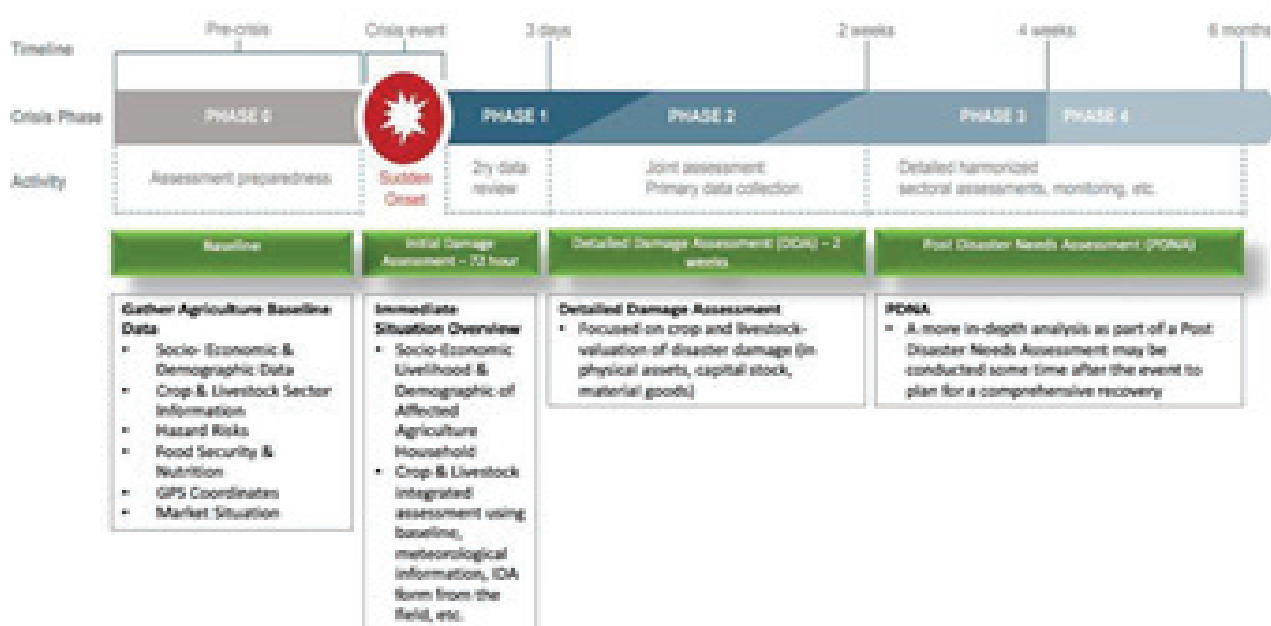
### Key Performance Indicator 1: Establish Standard System

**Achievement:** In this Financial Year, the Ministry has persistently pursued its consultations regarding the implementation of the PDNA System. This has been accomplished through the creation of an Initial Damage Assessment Form and a Detail Damage Assessment Form, both intended for utilization by the Ministry.

### Key Performance Indicator 2: Establish Standard PDNA System

**Achievement:** In this Financial Year, the Ministry experimented with and successfully implemented the PDNA System using the Initial Damage Assessment Form and Detail Damage Assessment Form. The system was implemented with the help of technical assistance from FAO. With this improved PDNA System, the Ministry was the first to submit 72 hours assessment report after TCs Yasa, Ana, and Cody and a detailed Quantitative and Qualitative Damage Assessment Report containing concrete data.

Figure 7: Established IDA and DDA Process



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## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4: ESTABLISH AND INCREASE COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE

In the 2022-23 Financial Year, the Ministry allocated FJD22million for Strategic Priority 4 for the implementation of programmes that entirely focused on farmers as well as agro-processors, improving on-farm productivity, trade, and marketing of agricultural commodities.

The development of the agriculture sector is crucial in providing interventions that will allow access to financial services and products that are aligned to the National Development Plan (NDP) , and SDG's 1,8 and 12.

These interventions covered three key strategic outcomes:

- 4.1 Increased Farmer Access to Loans, Grants, Insurance, and Basic Financial Services;
- 4.2 Increased farmer, Youth and Agribusiness Participation Producing Market Driven Commodities; and
- 4.3 Improved commercial agriculture linkage with tourism industry

### A. Capital Programmes Implemented under Strategic Priority 4

In the 2022-2023 Financial Year, the Ministry of Agriculture undertook several capital programmes to enhance on-farm productivity, as well as improve the trade and marketing of agricultural commodities. These capital programmes were coordinated and implemented by the Crop Extension Division, Animal Health & Production Division, Crop Research Division, and the Economic Planning & Statistics Division.

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**Table 11: List of Capital Programmes implemented by the Ministry under Strategic Priority 4**

Crop Extension Division	Animal Health & Production Division	Crop Research Division	Economic Planning & Statistics Division	Human Resource & Finance
Yaqona Farming Program	Upgrade of Abattoirs	Research & Development	Commercial Farmers	CBUL
Farm Mechanization	Dairy Extension Program	Of Fruit Tree	Equity Package	
Machinery	Piggery Extension Program	Orchards	FARS	
Outsourcing	Poultry Extension Program	Development of	Agtrade	
Women in Agriculture	Beef Extension Program	Seed & Planting	CADP	
Land Preparation	Sheep Extension Program	Materials		
Climate Smart Agriculture	Goat Extension Program			
Farm Access Roads				
Agriculture Extension Services				
Ginger Farming Program				
Dalo Farming Program				
Sustainable Land Management				
Land Preparation				
Facility- Youth in Agriculture				

## B. Achievements of Strategic Priority 4 Deliverables in 2022-2023 Financial Year

In the 2022-2023 Financial Year, the Ministry successfully achieved its planned outcomes and outputs by effectively utilising the allocated budget as part of its Strategic Priority.

### Outcome 4.1: Increased Farmer Access to Loans, Grants, Insurance and Basic Financial Services

To increase farmer accessibility to loans, grants, insurance, and basic financial services,

- The Ministry allocated FJD7.4million through the Commercial Farmers Equity Package (assisting 9 farmers), and the CBUL program to support farmers venturing into agriculture farming. In the 2022-2023 Financial Year, a total of 30 applicants were approved by NSC, but only eight applicants (2 Central, 3 North & 3 West) were approved with the 20% equity loan, amounting to \$148,449.43.

### Outcome 4.2: Increased farmer, youth and agribusiness participation producing market driven commodities.

In pursuit in increasing youth and agri-business participation in producing market driven commodities, the Ministry achieved the following:

- The AH&P Division allocated FJD204,000 to assist 22 smallholder dairy farmers with shed materials, 29 pig farmers with piggery pans and crates, 81 poultry shed packages, fencing kits for 27 beef, 101 sheep, and 90 goat farmers.
- FMIB was able to achieve the following activities :
  - o Developed 5 year strategic plan;
  - o Re-branding exercise and developing website for the company;
  - o Prepared and submitted a slaughter review paper for approval to assist FMIB's request for funding,
  - o Worked towards HACCP compliance with the upgrade works being done and eventually be HACCP compliant at the earliest.
- The Crop Extension Division allocated FJD9.1million to support farmers with the procurement of 10 rice harvesters, 5 diggers, and 20 tractors for farmers' cooperative in the Northern, Central, Western & Eastern Division.

### Outcome 4.3: Improved commercial agriculture linkage with tourism industry

In strengthening its capacity while engaging in commercial agriculture development, the Economic Planning and Statistics Division allocated:

- FJD116,000 to implement Our Community Agriculture (OCA), in which assistance was provided to farmers in supplying their produce to the Hotels as well as participating in the Hotel Food Show;
- FJD 72,000 under the Commercial Agriculture Development Program, through which 9 farmers (7 from the West and 2 from the Northern Division) were awarded hydroponic kits. This assistance aims to accelerate agricultural development sustainably without compromising the health of our environment and agro-ecosystem.

In the dry zone areas, the Ministry provided borehole and irrigation kits to help farmers supply water to their farms and boost production. A total of 52 farms were assisted with FJD219, 481 worth of services and kits. Twenty seven (27) farmers were assisted with FJD243,300 worth of piggery pan and crates to help meet the FJD40 million pig industry "magiti market". Two hundred (200) farmers were assisted with small farming and food processing machines worth a total of FJD592,958 to help them improve productivity and efficiency.



**Table 12: 2022-23 Approved CADP Recipients**

Initiatives	Total Budget	Budget per recipient	Division				Total
			Central	Eastern	Northern	Western	
Borehole	\$110,000.00	\$5,000.00	4	1	8	9	22
Farm shed	\$211,377.00	\$5,000.00	8	12	14	8	42
Fencing Kit- Beef	\$68,316.00	\$2,500.00	7	1	6	13	27
Fencing Kit- Goat	\$226,194.50	\$2,500.00	5	1	26	58	90
Fencing Kit- Sheep	\$255,937.00	\$2,500.00	2	1	37	61	101
Goat Shed	\$160,000.00	\$10,000.00	2	1	15	8	26
Horse Hassle	\$60,000.00	\$2,000.00	3	5	13	9	30
Hydroponic System	\$72,257.00	\$8,000.00			2	7	9
Irrigation Kit	\$109,481.00	\$5,450.00	3	4	11	12	30
Pig Farrowing Crates	\$32,000.00	\$5,500.00	2	1	1	2	6
Piggery Pan	\$211,300.00	\$10,000.00	6	4	5	6	21
Poultry Shed	\$206,428.00	\$2,500.00	16	2	30	33	81
Sheep Shed	\$174,000.00	\$6,000.00	4	1	10	15	30
Small Farming Equipment	\$592,958.00	\$5,000.00	65	10	59	65	199
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,490,248.50</b>		<b>127</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>714</b>

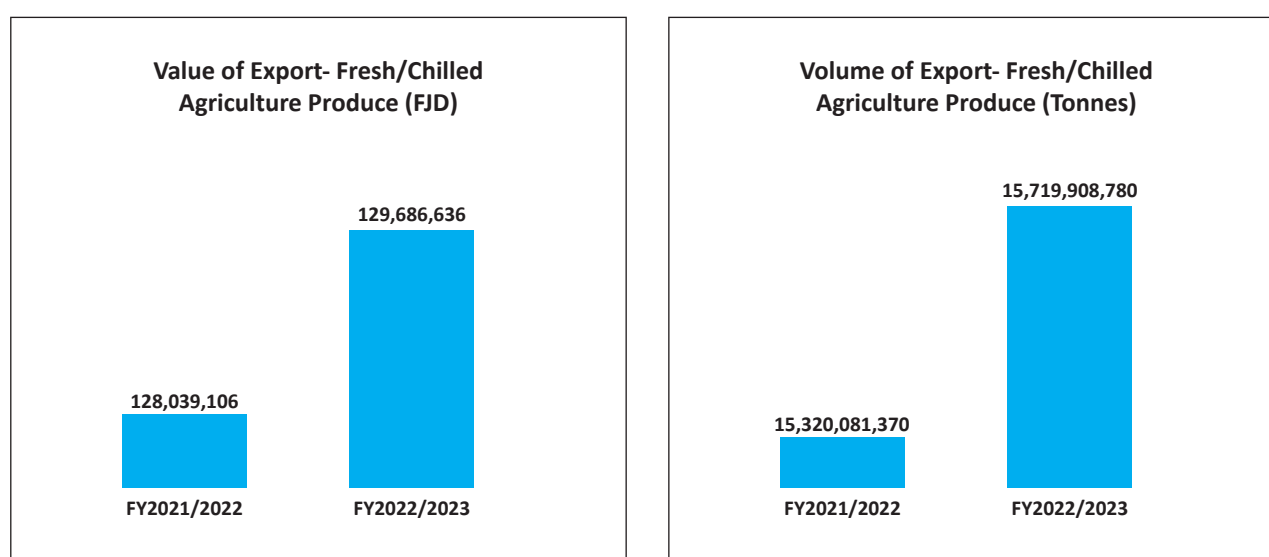
## C .Performance Analysis of the Impact of Government Intervention on Strategic Priority 4

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### Key Performance Indicator 1: 10 % increase in fresh and chilled agriculture commodity export

Fiji exported a total of FJD129.6 millions worth of fresh/chilled agriculture produce in the 2022-2023 Financial Year, an increase of 1.2% as compared to the 2021-2022 FY. The positive growth was also reflected in the volume exported, which rose from 15,320.0 tonnes in the 2021-2022 Financial Year to 15,719.9 tonnes in the 2022-2023 Financial Year. The increase in export is mainly due to assistance provided to farmers through the Dalo Development Programme, Ginger Development Programme, Yaqona Development Programme and Coconut Programme to name a few. The ongoing assistance to exporters and agro processors through the Commercial Farmers Equity Package has contributed to the exports of fresh/chilled produce.

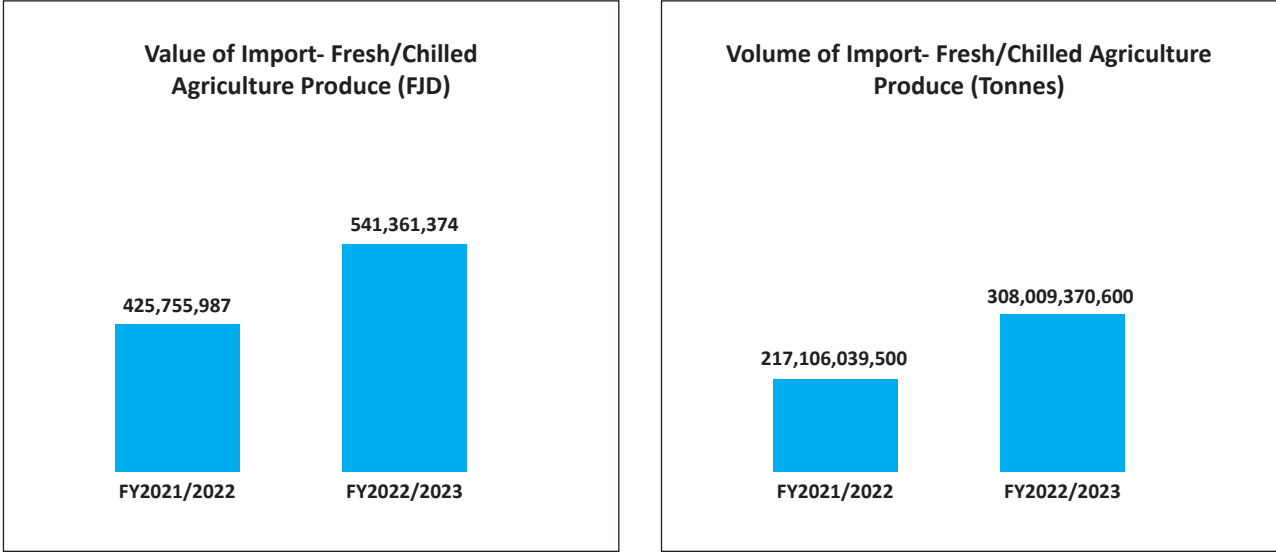
**Figure 10: 10 % increase in fresh and chilled agriculture commodity export**



Key Performance Indicator 2: 5% reduction in Agriculture Import

It was interesting to note an increase in the import value of fresh/chilled agriculture produce in the 2022-2023 Financial Year, by 27%, that is, from FJD425.7 million in the 2021-2022 Financial Year to FJD541 million in the 2022-2023 Financial Year. This increase is also reflected in the volume of import from 217,106 tonnes to 308,009 tonnes in this financial year. These figures indicate that the Ministry needs to introduce new programmes that can substitute our imports.

Figure 11: 5% reduction in Agriculture Import





## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5: QUALITY PUBLIC SECTOR PERFORMANCE & SERVICE DELIVERY

In the 2022-23 Financial Year, the Ministry allocated FJD4.5million for Strategic Priority 5, for the implementation of programmes that realizes the importance of equipping and supporting its officers to provide quality public sector performance and service delivery.

These interventions under this strategic priorities covered five key strategic outcomes aligned to the National Development Plan (NDP) and SDG's 9 and 16;

These interventions covered five key strategic outcomes:

- 5.1 A New MoAW Structure with supportive systems and infrastructure;
- 5.2 Improved Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) System in the Agriculture Sector that includes Value Chain Opportunities, Financial Literacy, Business Planning, and Farm Management;
- 5.3 MoAW Stations and Officers Are Well Supported Through Improved Working Conditions;
- 5.4 Enhanced Utilization of Data and Research Information to Ensure Formulation of Evidence Based Policy, Programme Interventions, and Timely Dissemination to Stakeholders; and
- 5.5 Updated Legislative Frameworks and Continuous Capacity Building Program

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### A. Capital Programmes Implemented under Strategic Priority 5

The Ministry's effort is to provide quality public sector performance and service delivery, implemented various capital programmes in the 2022-2023 Financial Year. These capital programmes were coordinated and implemented by the Crop Extension Division, Animal Health & Production Division, Crop Research Division, Economic Planning & Statistics Division and Human Resources Development & Services Division.





**Table 13: List of Capital Programmes implemented by the Ministry under Strategic Priority 5**

Crop Extension Division	Animal Health & Production Division	Crop Research Division	Economic Planning & Statistics Division	Human Resource & Finance Division
Ginger Farming Program Cocoa Farming Program Highland Farming Program Farm Mechanization Program Rice Farming Program Sustainable Land Management Agriculture Extension Services	Livestock Feed Technology(LFT) Stray Animal Feed Technology Poultry Breeding Program Goat Breeding Program Pig Breeding Program BTEC Beef Extension Program Sheep Extension Program Apiculture Industry Development Pig Extension Program Animal Waste Management Beef Breeding Program Goat Extension Program Establishment of TB Free Farm	Upgrade of Agricultural Chemistry Laboratory Purchase of Equipment Chemistry lab	FARS M&E Research Council Review of Legislation	Maintenance of Quarters IT Training

## **B. Achievements of Strategic Priority 5 Deliverables in 2022-2023 Financial Year**

In the 2022-2023 Financial Year, the Ministry, through this Strategic Priority with its budgetary allocation, ensured that planned outcomes and outputs were achieved.

### **Output 5.1 A New MoA Structure Restructured operationalize.**

- The Ministry has embarked on key change initiatives to support and improve service delivery.
- Allocated FJD1.3M through the Research Division for procurement of office supplies, renovation of Agriculture Chemistry Lab, and procurement of consumables for the Lab.
- The Crop Extension Division allocated FJD685000 for recruitment of support staff for their various capital programs.
- The Human Resources Development & Services Division continues to review the workforce plan of the Ministry with an objective of identifying existing vacant position that needs to be filled, identify new roles to meet the strategies and priorities of government, effectively responding to the Ministry's mission statement.

### **Output 5.2: Improved Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) System**

The following activities was conducted to support ease of communication and flow of agricultural information in the geographical divisions:

- Procurement of office equipment's for technical officers;
- Provision of Wi-Fi and recharge cards for technical officers;
- Establishment of Bio-Metric machines; and
- Improvement of IT-related machines, provision of software licenses, and accessibility to connectivity.

### **Outcome 5.3: MoA Stations and Officers Are Well Supported Through Improved Working Conditions.**

Providing a safe working environment to Ministry staff is paramount to support service delivery in the rural, remote, and maritime stations.

The following were part of the continued improvement program for the Geographic Division;

- Upgraded and installed Govnet network facilities to ensure accessibility.
- Maintained and improved general machinery and equipment (vehicles, vessels, machines etc) to support mobility to farms, communities, and maritime island.
- Provide office support, office upgrade and repair and Veterinary Clinics renovated to boost services provided to Livestock (Lautoka & Sigatoka).



#### **Outcome 5.4: Enhanced Utilisation of Data, Research Information to Ensure Formulation of Evidence Based Policy, Program Interventions and Timely Dissemination to Stakeholders.**

Gathering quality evidence is the first step in developing sound policy and dissemination to enhance utilization of data. This financial year the following was conducted; Research Division organized the Agriculture Symposium and carried out the following activities;

- o Two papers for FIAS Journal Publication- Breeding and Evaluation of Open Pollinated and Tissue Cultured Accessions of Sweet Potato [*Ipomea batatas*] (L.) Lam in Fiji and Taro Breeding;
- o A total of four Plant Health Clinic (PHC) and Plant Protection training conducted to Extension officers;
- o Continuation of practical attachments 30 students from FNU and USP.

Economic Planning and Statistics Division carried out the following activities;

- o Organised an Agriculture Dissemination Workshop;
- o Procure an Arc GIS license for MoAW farmers GIS Online Portal;
- o Established Mobile App for Farmers;
- o Monitored selected capital programmes, Costed Operational Plan progress and Bi annual SDP;
- o Developed 10 year strategic plan for Agriculture and Rural Statistics;
- o Submitted Policy papers to Cabinet
- o Produced 2022-2023 Financial Year Monthly Market Situation Reports;
- o Prepared Cash flows, Annual Procurement plan, and Quarterly reports.
- o Introduced new initiatives for Agriculture assistance

The Human Resources Development and Services Division coordinated the Agriculture show; total of 3,000 press releases, features, vernacular radio programs, talk back shows, documentaries, short videos, news clips, social media uploads and responses and help desk responses; in addition Published around 600 publication. All Publications produced includes Weekly Issue, E- Newsletters, Brochures, leaflets, Posters etc. All these publications are information centric publications for the public knowledge. Our main target audience are farmers, interested stakeholders and the general public.

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#### **Outcome 5.5: Updated Legislative Frameworks and Continuous Capacity Building Program.**

In the 2022-2023 Financial Year, following outputs were achieved;

- The Ministry, through the Economic Planning and Statistics Division was able to submit Cabinet papers on various issues and concerns of the agriculture sector, including the review of the Pesticides Act and co-ordination of Annual reports.
- Conducted Post Implementation Review (PIR) and SDP monitoring, The PIR, an annual review of capital program, was conducted in place of Mid-Term COP monitoring due to resource constraints

#### **C. Performance Analysis of 2022-2023 Financial Year**

The 2022-2023 Financial Year MoAW Costed Operational Plan (COP) identified four Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to measure performance of Strategic Priority 5 on Quality Public Sector Performance & Service Delivery. The Ministry utilized around 90% of the allocated budget in the 2022-2023 Financial Year.

Achievements made during the financial year are as follows;

- i. Commencement to fill Leadership positions in the Ministry that was left vacant.
- ii. Appointment of a consultant funded by EU to provide a report on the Ministerial Reorganization.
- iii. Advertisement of vacant positions.
- iv. Retitling of roles to meet Ministry demands.

A total of 763 positions were filled during the period as of June 2023, with 263 females and 506 males

Figure 12: Distributions of staff positions within the Ministry

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & WATERWAYS ESTABLISHMENT UPDATE - 30.07.2023											
LINE POSITIONS [SEG 1 & 2] - AGRICULTURE											
Programme		Established					Government Wage Earners				
Programme	Activities	Approved Established Positions	Filled Positions	Vacant Positions	Male	Female	Approved Unestablished (GWE) positions	Filled Positions	Vacant Positions	Male	Female
1. Policy & Administration	30-1-1: General Administration	92	62	30	25	37	23	15	8	13	2
	30-1-2: Economic Planning & Statistical Services	34	17	17	6	11	2	1	1	0	1
	30-1-3: Research	16	13	3	6	7	36	22	14	19	3
	30-1-4: Information Services	12	8	4	3	5	0	0	0	0	0
2. Crop Extension	30-2-1: Administration	41	34	7	14	20	11	7	4	5	2
	30-2-2: Extension	158	113	45	67	46	140	91	49	69	22
	30-2-3: Research	84	68	16	43	25	82	58	24	46	12
3. Livestock	30-3-1: Administration	27	22	5	11	11	5	5	0	5	0
	30-3-2: Extension	104	83	21	44	39	17	13	4	9	4
	30-3-3: Research	7	6	1	5	1	36	27	9	27	0
5. Waterways Services	30-5-1: General Administration	14	9	5	6	3	0	0	0	0	0
	30-5-2: Planning, Designing & Implementation Unit	32	23	9	21	2	67	47	20	44	3
6.Land Resettlement	30-6-1: Resettlement of Displaced Tenants	32	21	11	14	7	8	4	4	4	0
TOTAL		653	479	174	265	214	427	290	137	241	49
TOTAL BUDGETED POSITIONS		1080									

Summary of Budgeted Positions	
Total Established Positions	653
Total GWE Positions	427
Total Positions	1080

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### CHALLENGES

The Human Resources Development & Services Division faced several challenges escalated from the past that has primarily affected staff and retention issues as follows;

- The research conducted by a Consultant engaged (Mabel's Report of July 2019) to reorganize and restructure the Ministry was not comprehensive and partial. These contributed to blocked career pathways within the Ministry, decreased staff morale, and contributed to high attrition thereafter following its implementation post COVID period.
- Concerns of merged technical core divisions led to staff expertise and qualification not carefully considered in that restructure and had caused disarray to existing staff.
- Lack of remuneration to staff made it challenging to retain talents and affected workforce planning and development.
- New positions/titles created mismatch with the organizational needs and its strategies.
- Continuous changes in Leadership positions affected the workplace culture.
- Delayed support for quarters and office repair, maintenance and improvement.



# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Promoting Public Sector Accountability and Sustainability through our Audits



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### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### Ministry of Agriculture

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

I have audited the financial statements of the Ministry of Agriculture ("the *Ministry*") which comprises the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure, Appropriation Statement, Consolidated Trading Account – Commercial Undertaking, Consolidated Profit and Loss Account – Commercial Undertaking, Consolidated Balance Sheet – Commercial Undertaking and Statement of Losses for the financial year ended 31 July 2023, and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements of the Ministry are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2004 and the Finance Instructions 2010.

#### 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 Standard Commission 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 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 audit opinion.

#### Other Information

The Management of the Ministry are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Managements' Report but does not include the financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or my knowledge obtained during the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based upon the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report the fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.



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# ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023