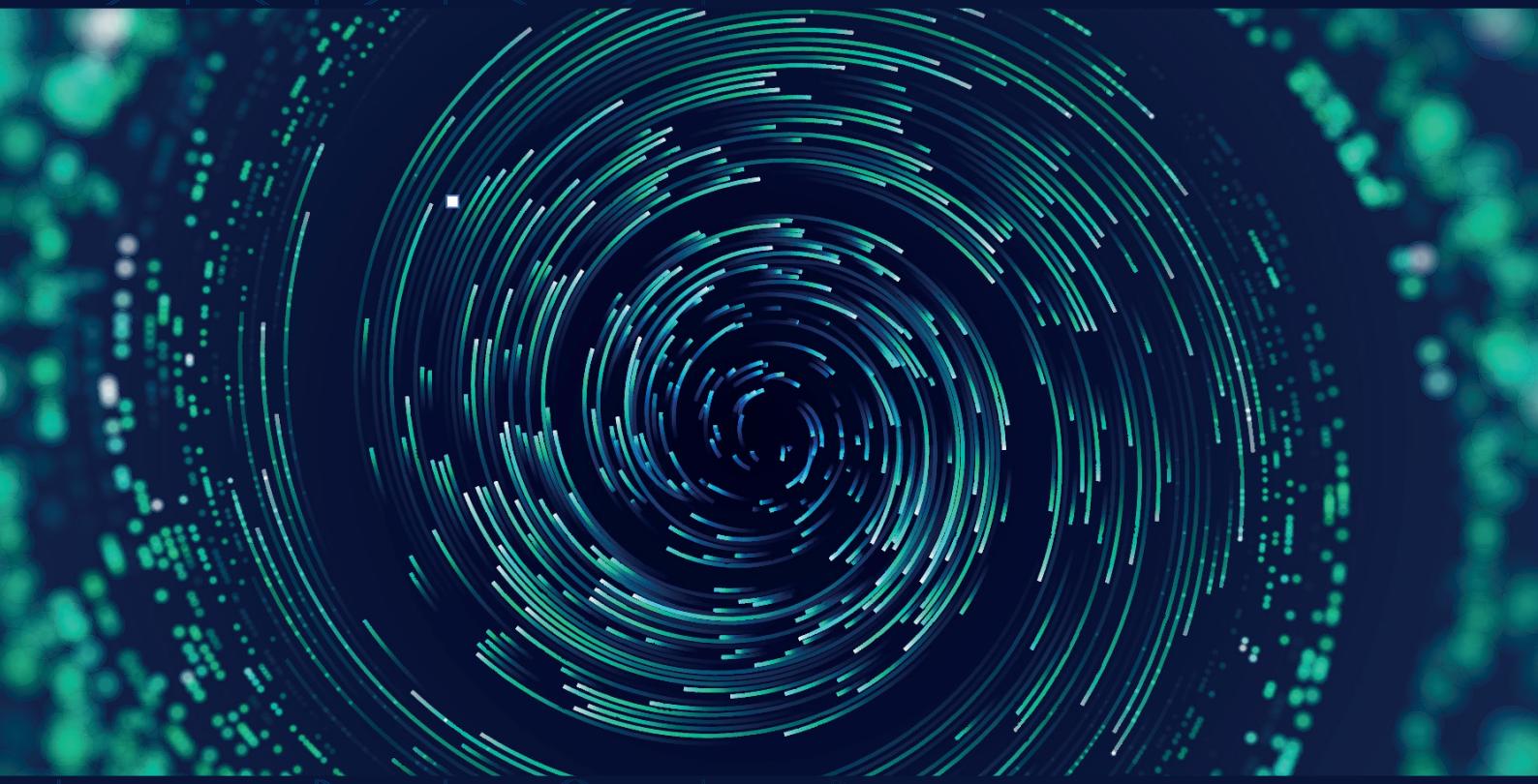
FIJI FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

FijiFIU
Fiji Financial Intelligence Unit

PARLIAMENTARY PAPER NO. 05 OF 2025

Our Vision:

Protecting Fiji from Money Laundering

Our Strategic Pillars:

Our Key Strategies:

1. Develop and disseminate quality intelligence products for our stakeholders.
2. Improve the quality and use of our intelligence products.
3. Promote the understanding of money laundering risks and methods in Fiji.
4. Promote a risk based implementation of the preventive measures under the FTR Act.
5. Enhance financial institutions and businesses understanding of their obligations under the FTR Act.
6. Effectively supervise financial institutions and businesses for compliance with the FTR Act and take appropriate enforcement action in case of non-compliance.
7. Effective data reporting.
8. Develop innovative data management systems and analytic tools.
9. Improve data quality and information security.
10. Enhance our network for information sharing.
11. Strengthen relationships with domestic and international partners.
12. Provide support to international partners on AML/CFT initiatives and engagements.
13. Cultivate a skilled, motivated and high performing team.
14. Ensure corporate governance through strong internal controls and performance reporting.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2024 ANNUAL REPORT
FIJI FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT

1 OUR ROLE AND FUNCTIONS 2

2 DIRECTOR'S FOREWORD 3

3 GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE 6

4 OUR ACHIEVEMENTS 8

- FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE 8
- PREVENTIVE MEASURES 14
- TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN PROCESSES 18
- PARTNERSHIPS 25
- OUR PEOPLE 28

5 NATIONAL AML COUNCIL 30

6 APPENDICES 31

7 SELECTED KEY STATISTICS 2020 - 2024 32

8 GLOSSARY 33

1 OUR ROLE AND FUNCTIONS

The Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) has two core functions which it is mandated by the Financial Transactions Reporting (FTR) Act to fulfil.

These core functions are aimed at protecting Fiji's financial system from abuse by criminals who seek to use the financial services offered to launder the proceeds of crime or to facilitate other serious crimes.

Intelligence Function

As an intelligence agency the FIU develops financial intelligence from reports of transactions provided by financial institutions and information from other sources. This financial intelligence is then referred to local law enforcement agencies for investigation and prosecution of money laundering, terrorism financing and other serious crimes.

The key recipients of our intelligence products are the Fiji Police Force (FPF), Fiji Revenue and Customs Service (FRCS) and Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC).

The FIU also provides intelligence support to local and foreign law enforcement agencies for ongoing operational projects or taskforces. In this role, the FIU also works with law enforcement agencies in their efforts to trace and restrain proceeds of crimes in Fiji.

Regulatory Function

The FIU is also responsible for regulating businesses and organisations identified under the FTR Act as financial institutions. As a regulator, the FIU seeks to ensure that financial institutions in Fiji have strong internal systems and controls to mitigate the risk of their services and products being misused by criminals and their associates for money laundering, terrorism financing and other serious crimes.

In this capacity, the FIU also promotes the awareness and understanding of financial institutions on the financial crime risks and threats in place.

Other Roles

In its intelligence and regulatory function, the FIU is often required to work closely with various agencies of Government and international partners and organisations. Therefore, an important role of the FIU is to form partnerships, exchange information with key partners and provide advice on matters related to money laundering, terrorism financing and other serious crimes.

The FIU also contributes to international policy formulation on matters related to money laundering and terrorism financing and represents Fiji on international platforms on anti-money laundering and other related issues.

Overall, our role ultimately contributes to having a secure financial system which prevents and detects money laundering and other serious crimes. We also contribute to national security by contributing to the investigation of serious financial crime and hindering efforts by criminals to profit from their crimes.

2 DIRECTOR'S FOREWORD

I am pleased to present the Fiji Financial Intelligence Unit's (FIU) Annual Report for 2024. This report highlights the operational achievements of the FIU and the collective efforts of our dedicated team and stakeholders in 2024.

The FIU continued to deliver on its mandate through regulatory oversight, the provision of financial intelligence and strategic partnerships. These efforts were carried out in the context of a dynamic regulatory environment, marked by evolving financial crime threats and heightened compliance expectations. The FIU remained adaptive and proactive, ensuring its operations effectively supported both national and international efforts to combat financial crime and protect the integrity of our financial system."

Regulatory and Compliance Oversight

In 2024 the FIU fulfilled its regulatory responsibilities through risk-based supervision of financial institutions and designated non-financial businesses and professions, such as real estate agents and legal practitioners. Risk-based supervision ensured that FIU supervisory resources were focused on higher-risk entities. This supervision was conducted through on-site and off-site monitoring of these entities on their compliance with Fiji's anti-money laundering requirements.

The FIU also engaged with industry stakeholders through regulatory guidance, meetings, forums and training sessions to promote awareness and compliance with the regulatory requirements.

Financial Intelligence for Crime Prevention and Detection

Throughout 2024, the FIU provided vital financial intelligence to support investigations of serious crimes by law enforcement agencies. The primary recipients of this financial intelligence were the FPF, FICAC and the FRCS. This highlights the major threats present in Fiji's criminal landscape.

The confiscation of proceeds of crime is a vital strategy in Fiji's fight against money laundering and serious criminal activity. In 2024, the FIU provided critical financial intelligence that enabled local law enforcement agencies to trace, restrain and confiscate illicit funds and other assets.

During the year the FIU raised awareness of financial institutions of emerging risks related to illicit narcotics activities and transnational organised crime in Fiji and the Pacific region. These initiatives aimed to strengthen the private sector's understanding of key criminal threats and to enhance their financial crime risk mitigation strategies.

Collaboration and Partnerships

The FIU worked closely with a wide range of domestic and international partners in 2024. These collaborations included joint regulatory initiatives with other regulatory bodies such as the Reserve Bank of Fiji and participation in multi-agency operational taskforces with local and foreign law enforcement agencies. During the year, the FIU also collaborated with industry groups and multi-lateral forums such as the Pacific Financial Intelligence Community and the Pacific AML/CFT Supervisors Forum.

The FIU collaborated with the National Anti-Money Laundering Council to coordinate efforts on key national initiatives. This included coordinating Fiji's national risk assessment and preparation for Fiji's next mutual evaluation in 2026.

Throughout 2024, the FIU worked closely with key government agencies to advance national efforts in combating terrorism and narcotics, strengthening cybersecurity, and preventing scams. These initiatives align with the objectives and mandate of the FIU.

Strategic Planning and Institutional Development

In 2024, the FIU undertook a comprehensive strategic planning process, engaging stakeholders across government and the private sector. This process culminated in the development of the FIU Strategic Plan 2025–2029, which outlines the organization's vision, mission, and strategic priorities for the next five years.

The FIU also received technical assistance from several international partners, including the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC), aimed at enhancing its operations and technological capabilities. Support from international partners plays a vital role in advancing the development of the FIU as a robust institution.

Outlook for 2025 and Acknowledgement

The implementation of the new Strategic Plan marks a significant milestone for the FIU in 2025. The Plan provides a renewed focus on the FIU's core purpose and sets a clear direction for future initiatives.

The FIU remains committed to strengthening its regulatory operations and providing actionable financial intelligence to law enforcement partners to support successful investigative outcomes. Furthermore, the FIU is committed to enhancing collaboration with all stakeholders.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to all our partners—particularly the law enforcement agencies, financial institutions and international partners—for their continued support.

I also acknowledge the dedication and hard work of the FIU staff throughout the year, whose commitment has been instrumental in enabling us to deliver on our mandate. Additionally, I acknowledge the Reserve Bank of Fiji for its strong support for the FIU during 2024.

We anticipate another promising year in 2025, filled with opportunities, and remain committed to collaborating with all our partners to protect our community and businesses against financial crime.

Caroline Pickering
Director
Financial Intelligence Unit

2024 AT A GLANCE

Analysed **304** Suspicious Transaction Reports

Disseminated **237** Intelligence Reports to partner agencies

Conducted credibility checks on **72** individuals **55** entities

Engaged with **192** AML Compliance Officers of financial institutions

Registered **12** new AML Compliance Officers

Provided clear guidance on regulatory requirements via **Policy Advisories and Guidelines**

Provided training and awareness to employees of Financial Institutions and law enforcement agencies

Managed FIU's database containing about **37** million financial transaction reports

TAIPAN The next generation of FIU systems

Utilised the **Taipan System** for intelligence process such as complex profiling

Efficient operation of online reporting system which received **6,139,750** financial transaction reports

Conducted on-site compliance assessments of **1** Legal Practitioner **4** Real Estate Agents

Issued a **Transnational Organised Crime** Threat Guide for the banking sector

Continuous **off-site compliance supervision** of financial institutions

Collaborated with 14 other FIUs through the Pacific Financial Intelligence Community

Engaged with law enforcement agencies on investigations and operations

Coordinated Fiji's National Risk Assesment

3 GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Statutory Agency

The FIU is a Government statutory agency that was established in 2006 under the FTR Act. The powers, duties and functions of the FIU are clearly defined in the FTR Act.

Minister

The Attorney General is the line Minister responsible for the FTR Act. Pursuant to section 23(3) of the FTR Act, the Minister is directly responsible for the performance of the Director FIU. The Minister is also responsible for appointing the Director FIU on the recommendation of the National Anti-Money Laundering (AML) Council. In 2005, the Minister delegated his responsibilities under the FTR Act to the Governor of the Reserve Bank of Fiji (RBF).

Governor of the Reserve Bank of Fiji

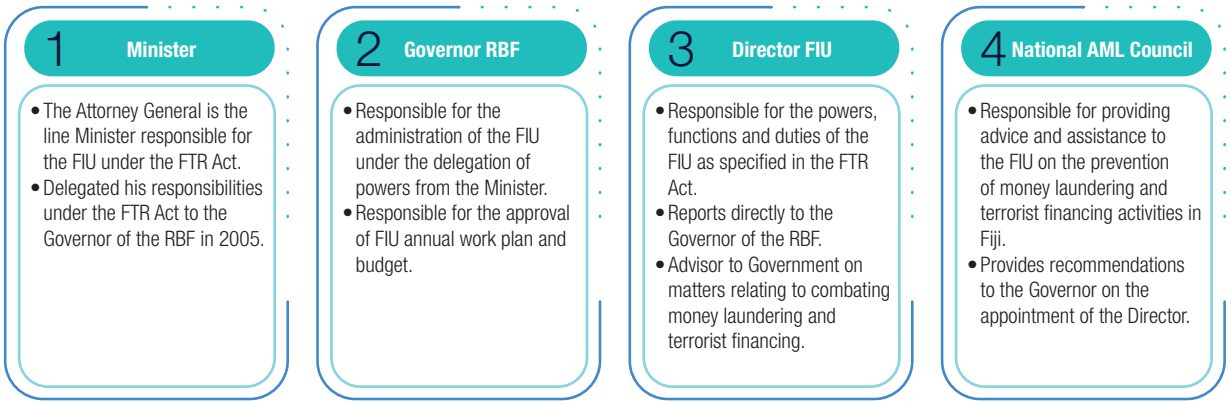
Pursuant to the ministerial delegation under the FTR Act, the Director FIU reports to the Governor of the RBF for the discharge of his/her powers, duties and functions provided under the FTR Act. Subsequent to this delegation and on the recommendation of the Governor, the Board of the RBF approved the organisation structure and annual funding of the FIU.

The Director FIU regularly meets with the Governor of the RBF and also provides regular reports on the FIU's performance and achievement of work plan targets.

Director of the FIU

The Director FIU exercises the powers, duties and functions of the FIU as specified in the FTR Act. Following the Minister's delegation of his responsibility in 2005, the Director is now directly responsible to the Governor of the RBF in the performance of his/her duties. The Director FIU is a member of the National AML Council and is also the advisor to the Minister and the Governor on matters relating to combating money laundering, terrorist financing and related matters in Fiji. The Director is responsible for the preparation and implementation of the FIU's strategic plan, annual work plan and its annual budget.

FIU GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK



Funding and Administration

The FIU has been administratively housed within the RBF since 2006. The FIU is subject to all the administrative protocols, policies and procedures of the RBF.

The FIU is fully funded by the RBF. The annual budget of the FIU is submitted for the approval by the Board of the RBF each year. The Director FIU is accountable to the Governor and the Board for the use of funds allocated annually.

The FIU does not prepare and publish annual financial statements on its operations. The expenditure of the FIU is included in the financial statements of the RBF and is subject to the Bank's internal and external audit.

The FIU also receives indirect financial support from the FPF and the FRCS through staff secondment to the FIU on a full-time basis. The secondment arrangement is provided under MOAs the FIU has signed with the two agencies.

The FIU does not currently receive any direct funding support from the Fijian Government.

Independence and Functional Autonomy of the FIU

While the FIU is housed within and is administratively dependent on the RBF, the technical and core functions of the FIU are separate and distinct from the functions of the RBF.

Under the FTR Act, the Director of the FIU is solely vested with the powers to discharge the statutory responsibilities of the FIU. This ensures the operational independence of the FIU. The FIU has the authority and capacity to carry out its core functions independently and freely.

The FIU is also able to engage independently with other domestic or foreign government agencies for the exchange of information. Furthermore, the FIU can obtain and deploy resources needed to carry out its functions without undue influence or interference from any external party.

These arrangements are in accordance with international standards on the operations of an FIU.

The National Anti-Money Laundering Council

The National AML Council is established under the FTR Act and is Fiji's national coordinating and policy advisory body on matters relating to the prevention of money laundering and the financing of terrorism.

The Director of the FIU is a member of the National AML Council and also advises the Minister responsible on matters relating to the prevention of money laundering, the financing of terrorism and other serious crimes in Fiji.

The National AML Council may provide policy advice to the FIU as needed. The Council is also responsible for making recommendations to the Governor of the RBF on the appointment of the Director of the FIU.

The FIU provides regular updates and advice to the National AML Council on relevant national issues relating to Fiji's compliance with the international standards and conventions on combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism.

4 OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Financial Intelligence

A core pillar of the FIU is to produce high quality financial intelligence for its partners. The FIU seeks to achieve this by:

i. developing and disseminating quality intelligence products;
ii. improving the quality and use of its intelligence reports; and
iii. promoting the understanding of money laundering risks and methods in Fiji.

Financial intelligence enables law enforcement partners to investigate serious crimes, money laundering and terrorist financing activities.

The FIU uses tactical analysis procedures as set out in its standard operating manual to analyse all financial transaction reports and develop intelligence of possible money laundering or other serious crimes.

Develop Intelligence Products

In 2024, the FIU received a total of 6,139,750 financial transaction and other reports which are used to develop intelligence products. These reports consisted of suspicious transactions reports (STR), cash transaction reports (CTR), threshold transaction reports (TTR), and electronic funds transfer report (EFTRs) which are submitted by financial institutions. The FIU also received border currency declaration reports (BCR) from the FRCS.

The FIU relies on technology for its intelligence development. The FIU also has access to a wide range of information on government databases which enables it to fulfil its analysis function.

As part of its analysis process, the FIU makes enquiries with financial institutions and government agencies. The enquiries are aimed at developing further intelligence on information already provided in the STRs. FIU enquiries may also be in relation to an ongoing investigation of money laundering and serious offences or proceeds of crime cases.

In 2024, the FIU made 697 enquiries to financial institutions and government agencies for further information to analyse STRs and develop other intelligence products. Of these, 257 enquiries were made to financial institutions while 440 enquiries were made to government agencies.

Enquiries to financial institutions were related to requests for information on customers such as identification details, transaction details or history, asset details or copies of relevant documents.

At the end of the analysis process, the FIU assesses whether the STR and relevant analysis indicates that money laundering or a serious offence maybe taking place. In some instances, the reports or intelligence do not meet the threshold to be disseminated to law enforcement or other agencies and it is “filed away” for future reference.

In 2024, the FIU analysed 304 STRs. As a result of this analysis, 165 STRs were filed away for future intelligence reference, 125 case dissemination reports were issued to law enforcement agencies, 9 alert and instruction notices were issued to financial institutions, and 5 cases were linked to other cases already disseminated.

STRs Filed Away for Future Reference

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of STRs Filed Away	372	551	322	189	165

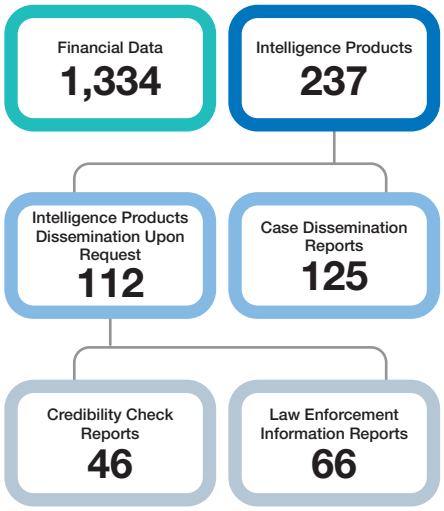
Source: Fiji FIU

Intelligence Products

The FIU disseminates intelligence products spontaneously or upon request from our partner agencies. Spontaneously disseminated intelligence products are referred to as case dissemination reports (CDR). Intelligence products disseminated upon request can be used by law enforcement agencies in investigations or by government agencies when assessing the credibility of entities and individuals.

In 2024, the FIU disseminated a total of 237 intelligence products to law enforcement agencies, regulatory bodies, and government ministries. This is a decrease from 429 intelligence products disseminated in 2023. This decrease is due to the FIU streamlining financial intelligence processes and building capacity within law enforcement agencies to directly extract and interpret financial data from the FIU database. As result, in 2024 law enforcement agencies extracted 1,334 financial data reports from the FIU compared to the 111 financial data reports extracted in 2023.

Intelligence Products Disseminated and Financial Data Extracted 2024



Source: Fiji FIU

Case Dissemination Reports

Out of the 237 intelligence products disseminated in 2024, 125 products were CDRs to law enforcement agencies. This is a decrease from 163 CDRs disseminated in 2023. These CDRs were developed directly from STRs received in 2024 and prior to 2024 and contained information on 140 individuals and one entity.

Case Dissemination Reports 2024

Source: Fiji FIU

In 2024, 57 percent of CDRs were disseminated to the FPF and 25 percent of CDRs were disseminated to FRCS. In some instances, intelligence that is developed from a single STR is sent to more than one law enforcement agency as it may involve suspected violations of different laws and regulations.

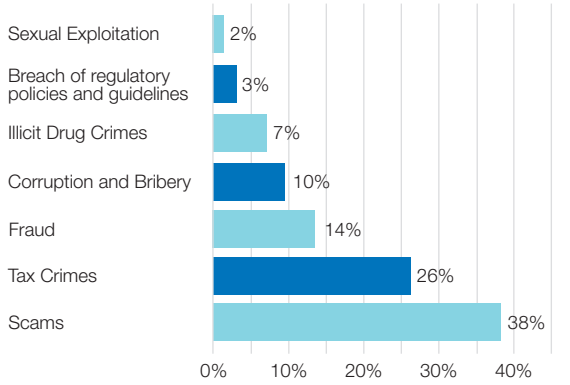
Case Dissemination Reports to Law Enforcement Agencies

Law Enforcement Agency and Reason for Dissemination	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
FRCS-Taxation Division Possible violations under the Income Tax Act and VAT Act.	128	90	116	43	31
Fiji Police Force *including Transnational Crime Unit. Possible violations under the Proceeds of Crime Act and serious offences under the Crimes Act and other relevant laws.	67	41	41	74	71
Immigration Department Possible violations under the Immigration Act and Passport Act.	10	8	9	2	1
FRCS-Customs Division Possible violations under the Customs Act.	5	8	9	7	3
FICAC Possible violations under the FICAC Act and Prevention of Bribery Act	5	5	14	1	11
Others[1]	55	22	30	36	8
Total	**270**	**174**	**219**	**163**	**125**

Source: Fiji FIU

Based on the number of dissemination reports for 2024, the top two possible underlying criminal activities identified in the STRs were scams (38%) and tax crimes (26%).

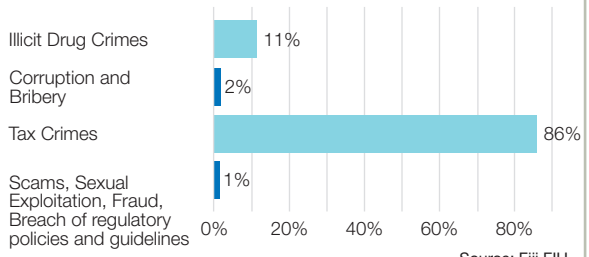
Suspected Criminal Activities by Number of Case Dissemination Reports in 2024



Source: Fiji FIU

While scams are reported in a large number of CDRs, in terms of transaction value of CDRs, tax crimes (86%) generated the highest transaction values.

Suspected Criminal Activities by Transaction Value of Case Dissemination Reports in 2024



Source: Fiji FIU

[1] Other law enforcement agencies include Foregin FIUs and law enforcement agencies and other regulatory bodies.

Intelligence Products Disseminated Upon Request

In 2024, there were 112 intelligence products disseminated upon request. These products consisted of local and foreign law enforcement information reports and credibility check reports.

a) Law Enforcement Information Reports

The FIU also provides financial intelligence to law enforcement agencies upon request. The requests for assistance from the law enforcement agencies are related to investigations of suspected money laundering activities and other predicate offences such as forgery and fraud, drug trafficking, obtaining money by false pretences, larceny and corruption. The requests may also be related to investigations initiated by a CDR that was disseminated to a law enforcement agency.

In 2024, the FIU disseminated 66 intelligence products that were directly requested by local law enforcement agencies such as the FPF, FICAC and FRCS, compared to 62 reports in 2023. These reports contained information on 168 individuals and 65 entities.

Law Enforcement Information Reports 2024

Source: Fiji FIU

Law Enforcement Agencies Requesting Intelligence

Requesting Agency	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
FICAC	15	6	19	12	38
Fiji Police Force	77	33	55	47	24
FRCS	26	34	5	3	2
Immigration Department	6	3	3	0	1
Others[2]	3	6	5	0	1
TOTAL	**127**	**82**	**87**	**62**	**66**

Source: Fiji FIU

b) Credibility Check Reports

The FIU conducts credibility checks on individuals and entities upon a request made in writing from a government department or authority as provided under section 25.1(m) of the FTR Act.

In 2024, the FIU disseminated 46 credibility check reports compared to 93 reports disseminated in 2023. The credibility checks were conducted on 72 individuals and 55 entities as part of vetting investment proposals, potential supplier applications and assurance checks for board appointments.

Credibility Check Reports 2024

Source: Fiji FIU

[2] Other requesting agencies include the Ministry of Fisheries, Fijian Competition & Consumer Commission, Fiji Corrections Services and Legal Practitioners Unit.

Financial Data Reports

In 2024, the FIU facilitated 186 requests from our stakeholders to directly extract financial data at the FIU premises. There were 1,334 financial data reports obtained by authorised law enforcement officers from the FIU database, which includes reports on individuals, entities, addresses and phone numbers. Law enforcement agencies that utilised this arrangement included FPF, FRCS, FICAC and the Immigration Department.

Dissemination of Information to Foreign FIUs

The FIU also receives information from foreign FIUs. In 2024, the FIU received 3 information requests from foreign FIUs through the Egmont Secure Web (ESW).

The FIU made no request through ESW in 2024.

Information Exchanges with Other FIUs

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of requests received	1	19	19	12	3
Number of requests sent	6	8	3	10	0

Source: Fiji FIU

Alert Notices

The FIU may, under section 25(1)(h) of the FTR Act disseminate alerts in relation to information it has received under the FTR Act. This information could include new typologies and emerging threats that our stakeholders should be aware of.

The FIU issued four such alerts in 2024 to financial institutions and a regulatory agency.

Directives to Financial Institutions

The FIU may, under section 25(1)(h) of the FTR Act instruct financial institutions to take certain steps to enforce compliance with the FTR Act or to facilitate any investigation anticipated by the FIU or a law enforcement agency.

The FIU issues Notices to financial institutions to protect the financial system from being used by adversely reported individuals and business entities. An Instruction Notice contains information on adversely reported individuals and/or business entities that require enhanced due diligence and scrutiny by financial institutions.

There were three Instruction Notices issued by the FIU in 2024.

The Instruction Notices and directives are enforceable instructions of the FIU and must be implemented by the financial institutions

Engagement with Stakeholders

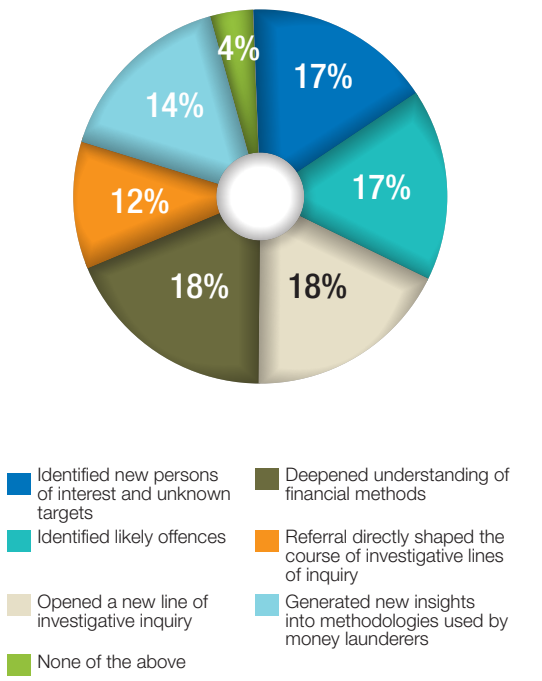
In 2024, the FIU reviewed key standard operation procedures and made changes to ensure the effective use of its products and powers by its stakeholders. In 2024, the FIU reviewed and streamlined its STR analysis, instruction notice and credibility check standard operating procedures. To further encourage the use of FIU data, the FIU made a strategic decision in 2024 to provide access of FIU data to authorised law enforcement officers, from the FIU office.

The FIU has been actively exploring new ways to obtain feedback on its intelligence products. In 2024, as part of its strategic planning process, the FIU obtained feedback from law enforcement partners through a survey to gauge the usefulness and quality of FIU intelligence products.

The survey responses were generally positive with 86 percent of respondents stating that they found FIU intelligence products to be “very useful” while the remaining 14 percent stated that FIU intelligence products were “useful”.

The two most common actions taken by law enforcement agencies as a result of FIU financial intelligence were; opening a new line of investigative inquiry (18%) and deepening their understanding of financial crime methods (18%). Respondents also reported that FIU financial intelligence also led them to identify new persons of interests (17%) and possible criminal offences (17%).

Outcomes by Law Enforcement Agencies as a result of FIU financial intelligence



Source: Fiji FIU

In 2024, the FIU actively partnered with local and foreign law enforcement agencies on a number of active investigations and operations by providing financial data, analysis and financial intelligence expertise. The FIU also participated in its second regional multilateral intelligence project with counterparts from Australia, Samoa and Tonga. The project involved financial intelligence data collection and collation relating to a transnational crime threat in the Pacific.

The FIU also assisted a law enforcement agency to secure suspected proceeds of crime in four bank accounts, most of which are still in court proceedings. One of the matters concluded with the court granting a non-conviction based forfeiture order of FJ$18,030.10 to the government.

Financial Crime Threat Guide and Discussions

In 2024, the FIU held a forum with all banks to discuss the existing and emerging transnational organized crime (TNOC) threats in Fiji and the Pacific and its implications on financial institutions. The banks were also provided with a Financial Crime Threat Guide, which outlined the TNOC risk indicators and trends and the measures the banks could take to safeguard themselves.

Fiji's National Risk Assessment

The international standards on combating money laundering and terrorist financing (called the FATF Recommendations) requires that countries identify, assess and understand the money laundering and terrorist financing and proliferation financing risks that it faces. This is referred to as a National Risk Assessment (NRA).

In 2024, an expert was engaged with funding assistance from the Asian Development Bank, to assist officials to conduct Fiji's NRA. The NRA aims to update Fiji's understanding of risk for money laundering, terrorist financing and proliferation financing. The initial meetings and data gathering process commenced in November 2024.

The Permanent Secretary for Justice as Chair of the National AML Council, provides direct oversight of the NRA process. Inter-agency co-ordination and liaison with the expert on the NRA process is led and coordinated by the FIU. The NRA Working Group, which consists of key officials nominated by heads of agencies, provides the support and input needed for the NRA process.

The NRA is scheduled to be completed in 2025.

Preventive Measures

The FIU seeks to promote a safe and sound financial system to prevent or detect money laundering and terrorist financing activities. The FIU does this through three broad strategies as follows:

a) promoting risk-based implementation of preventive measures under the FTR Act;

b) enhancing financial institution's understanding of their obligations under the FTR Act; and

c) effectively supervising financial institutions and taking appropriate enforcement action as needed.

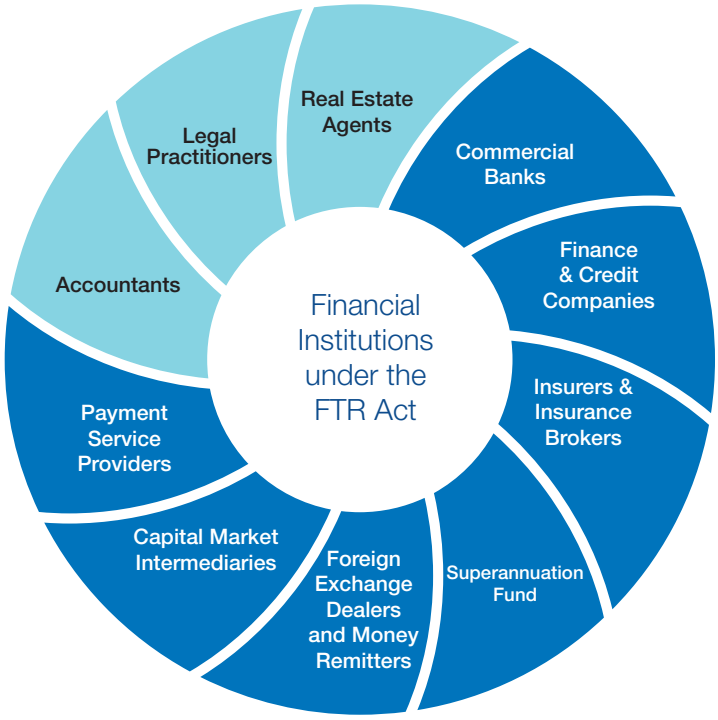
Entities and businesses that are required to comply with the requirements of the FTR Act include:

i. financial institutions such as, commercial banks, insurance companies and intermediaries, finance companies, money remitters, money changers, investment advisors, brokers and dealers, unit trust or managed funds, payment service providers; and

ii. other Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions (DNFBPs), such as, accounting firms, legal practitioners, real estate agents or businesses.

All entities and businesses that are covered by the FTR Act are referred to as "financial institutions" under the law.

Financial Institutions under the FTR Act



Implementation of Preventive Measures

The requirements in the FTR Act, commonly referred to as "preventive measures" are based on international AML/CFT standards, the FATF Recommendations. Financial institutions can implement these preventive measures on a risk-based approach.

The FIU promotes a risk-based implementation of the FTR Act by:

- providing clear guidance on the preventive measures and requirements of the FTR Act through the issue of Guidelines and policy advisories;
- training and ongoing awareness;
- industry/sector focussed AML/CFT forums and training webinars; and
- ongoing engagement with financial institutions to assist them on how they can implement these preventive measures on a risk-based approach.

In 2024, the FIU continued to provide financial institutions with advice and guidance on the requirements under the FTR Act and Regulations.

The FIU provides advisories and guidelines aimed at helping financial institutions gain a better understanding of their obligations. The FIU has issued 10 Enforceable Guidelines to date which provides detailed guidance on the key requirements under the FTR Act. The FIU has issued 19 Policy Advisories to date which provides clarification on interpretation of certain requirements of the FTR Act. The Guidelines and Policy Advisories are accessible on the FIU website.

The FIU also provides policy advice and clarifications on an ad-hoc basis, as and when requested by financial institutions. In 2024, the FIU issued 26 ad-hoc policy advisories explaining various requirements of the FTR Act and Regulations.

Ad-hoc Policy Advisories Issued by FIU 2024

Nature of Advisory	Number of ad-hoc Policy Advisories Issued
Customer Due Diligence Requirements	6
Transaction Reporting Requirements	15
Other Issues (FIU Alert Notices, role of compliance officer, AML developments)	5
TOTAL	**26**

Source: Fiji FIU

Engagement and Awareness

The FIU promotes awareness and understanding of the FTR Act requirements through issuance of guidelines and advisories, targeted training and regular engagements with financial institutions through sector-based forums and meetings.

As at 2024, there were 192 AML Compliance Officers registered with the FIU.

The FIU continued to engage closely with the AML Compliance Officers of financial institutions during 2024 through trainings and one-on-one meetings and liaisons. These forums provided a platform for the FIU to update the AML Compliance Officers on new regulatory developments and money laundering trends and to clarify policy requirements.

The FIU also participated in the joint industry meetings between the RBF and the Restricted Foreign Exchange Dealers Association and the Payment Service Providers.

In 2024, the FIU held one induction training for all new AML Compliance Officers. There were a total of 12 new AML Compliance Officers registered with the FIU in 2024. The FIU engaged with the new AML Compliance Officers to educate them on their role and responsibilities.

During 2024, the FIU was invited to the Real Estate Agents Licensing Board Talanoa Sessions for Suva and Lautoka to provide training to about 58 real estate agents on their AML/CFT obligations.

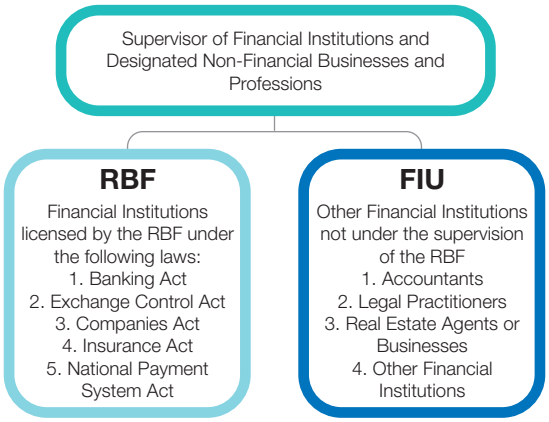
The FIU also held a forum for the banking sector to raise awareness on existing and emerging TNOC threats in Fiji and the Pacific.

The FIU also used its website to promote awareness of the requirements of the FTR Act including new initiatives, guidelines and policies issued by the FIU.

Supervision of Financial Institutions

The FIU and RBF are required to supervise financial institutions' compliance with the FTR Act and Regulations.

AML/CFT Supervision



Source: Fiji FIU

Supervision of financial institutions for compliance with their obligations under the FTR Act and Regulations is undertaken by the FIU on a risk-based approach and through a combination of onsite examination and offsite monitoring programmes.

During 2024, the FIU conducted onsite examinations of one legal practitioner and four real estate agents. The onsite examination involved a review of internal policies and procedures, customer due diligence, on-going monitoring, record-keeping practices and reporting to the FIU.

FIU Onsite Compliance Examinations

Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Legal Practitioners	2	0	0	6	1
Real Estate Agents	3	1	0	7	4

Source: Fiji FIU

The FIU also relies on the onsite supervision programme of the RBF to assess the compliance of RBF licensed financial institutions with the FTR Act and Regulations. These financial institutions include commercial banks, insurance companies and brokers, credit and finance companies, restricted foreign exchange dealers and money changers, payment service providers and capital markets.

The FIU also joined the RBF for the on-site AML/CFT compliance examinations of two commercial banks in Suva and three restricted foreign exchange dealers in Savusavu and Labasa. The FIU provided policy advice to RBF supervisors as and when needed on AML/CFT compliance issues.

The FIU's Alert Monitoring System (AMS) was used to monitor financial institutions offsite on a weekly basis for their compliance with requirements to report CTRs, TTRs and EFTRs to the FIU. The weekly AMS reports were analysed by the FIU to identify breaches of the 5-day reporting obligation.

The FIU's intelligence management team, during their analysis process also identified 11 cases of possible non-compliance by financial institutions. These cases were subject to internal enforcement processes by the FIU compliance team.

During the year, the FIU also identified through offsite monitoring, two financial institutions who failed to conduct updated customer due diligence on existing customers. These cases of non-compliance have been addressed by the FIU and the respective financial institutions, using the FIU's enforcement process.

Appropriate Enforcement Action

Enforcement tools are applied to ensure compliance by financial institutions with their obligations under the FTR Act and Regulations. The FIU may undertake enforcement actions such as criminal/civil actions, administrative monetary penalties and other remedial measures to ensure that financial institutions comply with the law and other regulatory instruments. The legal basis for applying enforcement action is provided under the FTR Act and FTR Regulations.

The following enforcement actions were undertaken by the FIU in 2024:

1. Financial institutions are required to report their CTRs, TTRs, and EFTRs within 5 working days from the date of transaction.

   During 2024, there were six breaches of the 5-day transaction reporting requirement. The FIU addressed these breaches by immediately issuing notifications to the respective financial institutions to rectify the breaches. In most of the cases, the financial institutions were able to rectify the breach within a reasonable time.

Reporting Requirement Non-Compliance

Reporting Requirement Non-Compliance	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
No. of breaches of the 5 days reporting requirement	30	21	16	8	6
No. of formal non-compliance letters/ correspondences issued	2	2	1	1	3

Source: Fiji FIU

2. The FIU reviews the reports submitted by financial institutions to identify data quality issues and ensure that fields (especially mandatory fields) in the transaction reports are completed accurately. Any data quality issues, once identified, is registered and communicated immediately by the FIU to the relevant financial institution for its necessary remedial action.

   In 2024, the FIU identified 11 data quality issues. These related to CTRs, TTRs, and EFTRs submitted by financial institutions with incomplete or incorrect information. The cases were subjected to the FIU's enforcement processes and the issues were resolved by the relevant financial institutions within a reasonable time.

Technology Driven Processes

A core pillar of the FIU is to implement technology driven processes in the performance of its functions. This is achieved by the following strategies:

i. effective data reporting;
ii. developing innovative data management systems and analytic tools; and
iii. improving data quality and information security.

The FIU's Information Management System Online (FFIMSO) consists of two online web application systems, namely Online Data Delivery System (ODDS) and Transaction Query System (TRAQ).

As at 2024, the FIU had a total of 37,026,920 financial transaction reports and BCRs on its database which formed the basis of the FIU's intelligence process.

Financial Transaction Reports Held on the FIU Database

Financial Transaction Reports	Number of Reports
Electronic Funds Transfer Report (EFTR)	25,618,517
Cash Transactions Report (CTR)	7,451,362
Threshold Transactions Report (TTR)	3,936,757
Suspicious Transaction Report (STR[3])	11,089
Border Currency Report (BCR)	9,195
TOTAL	**37,026,920**

Source: Fiji FIU

ODDS is used by financial institutions to electronically submit financial transaction reports to the FIU.

At the end of 2024, 172 reporting entities were registered on ODDS. ODDS was accessed by 74 authorised individual users, 5788 times during 2024.

The FIU continued to provide support and training on the use of ODDS to securely submit financial transaction reports to the FIU in a timely manner.

ODDS Registration

Sector	No. of Reporting Entities Registered for Online Reporting to the FIU
Commercial Banks	6
Foreign Exchange Dealers & Money Remitters	9
Payment service providers	2
Finance Companies	13
Legal practitioners	74
Insurance & Superannuation	14
Accounting Firms	12
Securities and Brokers	3
Real Estate Agents	33
Others	6
TOTAL	**172**

Source: Fiji FIU

In 2024, the FIU received a total of 6,139,750 financial transaction and other reports. These reports consisted of STRs[4], CTRs[5], TTRs[6], EFTRs[7], and BCRs[8]. ODDS received an average of 511,646 financial transaction reports per month in 2024.

[3] Includes 1,145 STRs that were reported between 2000 – 2005 under section 61 of the Proceeds of Crime Act.
[4] Suspicious Transaction Report (STR) is a report by financial institutions to the FIU on any transaction (including attempted transactions) or information which it suspects or has reasonable grounds to suspect maybe related to the commission of: a) a money laundering offence; b) a financing of terrorism offence; c) a serious offence.
[5] Cash Transaction Report (CTR) is a report by non-banks to the FIU on any cash transaction of $5,000 and above (or its equivalent in foreign currency).
[6] Threshold Transaction Report (TTR) is a report by the banks to the FIU on any transaction of $5,000 or more.
[7] Electronic Funds Transfer Report (EFTR) is a report by the banks, money remittance providers, payment service providers to the FIU on all international electronic fund transfer transactions.
[8] Border Currency Report (BCR) is a declaration completed by a traveler at the borders if they are carrying on themselves or in their possessions, any currency or bearer negotiable instruments of $10,000 or more (or equivalent amounts in foreign currency).

Financial Transaction Reports Received

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
STR	736	261	435	527	559
CTR	619,987	586,382	572,269	22,321	22,284
TTR	0	0	233,770	1,676,525	2,026,462
EFTR	1,866,197	2,434,091(r)	2,960,501	3,542,848	4,089,605
BCR	266	99	640	599	840
TOTAL	**2,487,186**	**3,020,833(r)**	**3,767,615**	**5,242,280**	**6,139,750**
Monthly Total Average	**207,266**	**251,736 (r)**	**313,968**	**436,902**	**511,646**

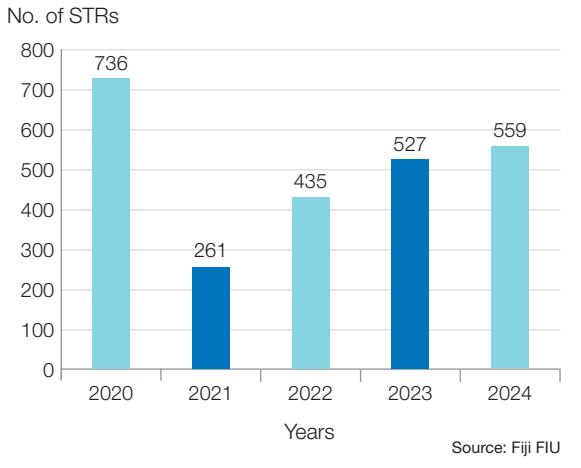
Source: Fiji FIU

Suspicious Transaction Reports

The FIU received 559 STRs[9] in 2024 or an average of 47 STRs per month compared to 527 STRs received in 2023.

STRs were reported to the FIU by various financial institutions. The majority of the STRs continue to be reported by commercial banks (2024: 81%; 2023: 76%) followed by the money remittance service providers (2024: 12%; 2023: 14%).

Suspicious Transactions Reported



Source: Fiji FIU

Suspiscious Transactions Reported by Sector

Financial Institutions and Persons Reporting	No. of STRs Received				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Commercial Banks	636	177	246	401	451
Money Remittance Service Providers	68	36	154	74	67
Finance Companies	3	3	4	5	5
Members of the Public	18	32	22	14	1
Regulatory Authorities	0	1	0	2	0
Legal Practitioners	1	1	4	2	0
Accounting Firms	1	0	0	0	0
Insurance Companies and Superannuation	6	6	2	10	12
Securities, Unit Trusts	1	0	3	8	1
Real Estate Agents	1	0	0	0	0
Payment Service Providers	1	4	0	11	22
Others[10]	0	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	**736**	**261**	**435**	**527**	**559**

Source: Fiji FIU

About 75 percent of STRs were received electronically via ODDS. The remaining 25 percent of STRs were reported via email or hardcopy reports that were later converted into digital format on ODDS.

STRs are reported manually through an online form on ODDS. The STRs from ODDS are then transferred to Taipan which is an internal application used for analysis by the Intelligence Management team. The STRs from Taipan are automatically curated in a particular format and uploaded to CMS.

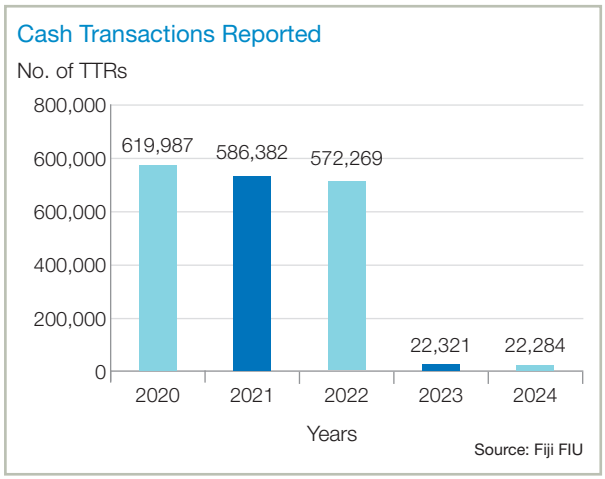
[9] The number of STRs reported and the funds that are involved in suspicious transactions do not necessarily indicate the size of money laundering activity in Fiji. However, these transactions have been subject to a greater level of scrutiny by reporting financial institutions and have been flagged and reported as suspicious transactions.

[10] "Others" include STRs filed by foreign FIUs.

Cash Transaction Reports

The FIU received 22,284 CTRs in 2024 or an average of around 1,857 CTRs per month. CTRs are reported by non-bank financial institutions.

From 1 November 2022, commercial banks were excluded from reporting CTRs, which contributed to the large decrease in CTRs received in 2023 and 2024.



About 61 percent of CTRs were batch reported on ODDS by non-bank financial institutions and 39 percent of CTRs were reported manually via the online data entry form on ODDS. The batch reporting of transactions is more efficient for large volumes of CTRs and it eliminates the risk of a human error during data entry.

Majority (80%) of the CTRs received during 2024 were reported by foreign exchange dealers and money remittance service providers.

Cash Transactions Reported by Sector

Sector	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Commercial Banks[11]	616,660	583,175	565,312	0	0
Foreign Exchange Dealers and Money Remittance Service Providers	1,414	1,448	4,960	18,361	17,782
Finance Companies	1,000	841	1108	1,452	1,228
Insurance and Superannuation Fund	397	594	419	270	312
Law Firms	355	252	310	35	8
Securities/ Brokers/ Advisors	153	72	151	278	413
Real Estate Agents	8	0	6	4	0
Payment Service Providers	0	0	3	1,921	2,539
Total	**619,987**	**586,382**	**572,269**	**22,321**	**22,282**

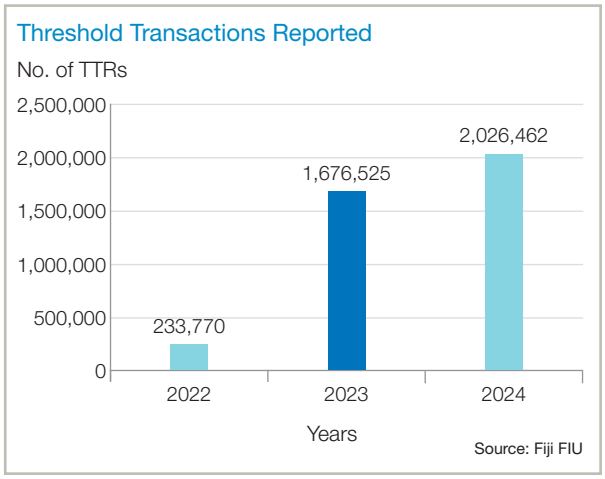
Source: Fiji FIU

Threshold Transactions Reports

The FIU received 2,026,462 TTRs in 2024 or an average of around 168,872 TTRs per month from the commercial banks. All TTRs submitted were batch reported on ODDS by commercial banks.

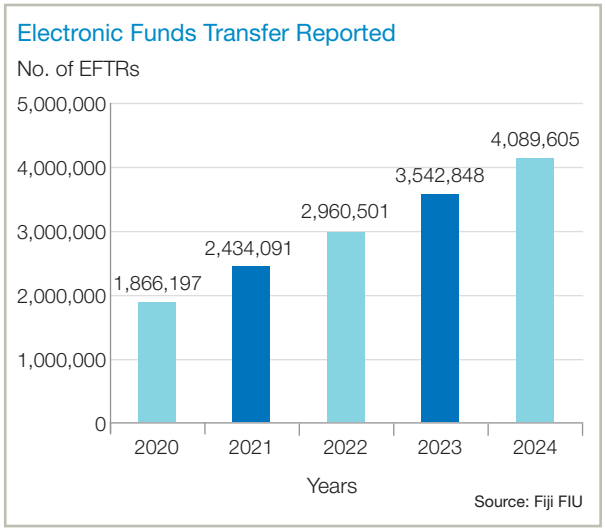
The TTR framework came into force in November 2022 and is a reporting obligation applicable only to commercial banks.

[11] From November 2022, the commercial banks ceased reporting cash transaction reports.



Electronic Funds Transfer Reports

The FIU received 4,089,605 EFTRs in 2024 or an average of around 340,800 per month. This is an increase of 15 percent compared to 3,542,848 EFTRs received in 2023. Majority (99.73%) of the EFTRs were batch reported on ODDS.



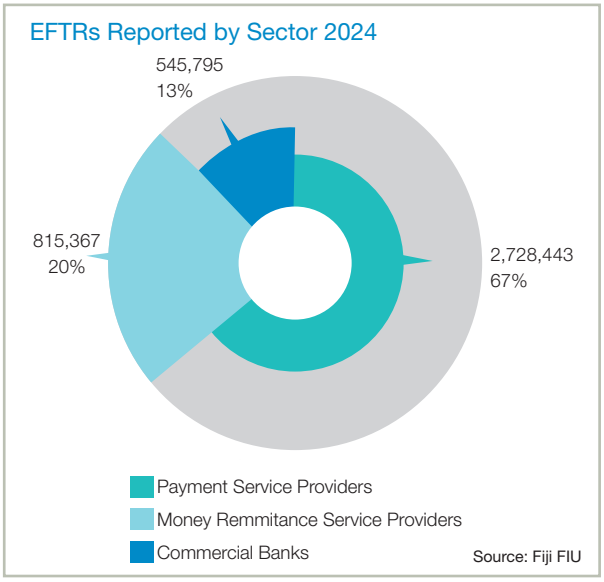
Majority (67%) of EFTRs were received from the payment service providers. There was an increase of 28 percent in the number of EFTRs received from the payment service providers in 2024.

The increase in EFTRs from the payment service providers was due to the substantial demand by consumers for the use of the mobile money wallet for funds transfer. This is considered as a convenient and cheaper alternative to remit funds to Fiji compared to traditional remittance channels.

Electronic Funds Transfer Transactions Reported by Sector

Sector	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Money Remittance Service Providers	1,376,295	1,319,304	980,133	951,013	815,367
Commercial Banks	329,965	348,597	479,275	452,512	545,795
Payment Service Providers	159,937	766,190[12]	1,501,093	2,139,323	2,728,443
Total	**1,866,197**	**2,434,091**	**2,960,501**	**3,542,848**	**4,089,605**

Source: Fiji FIU



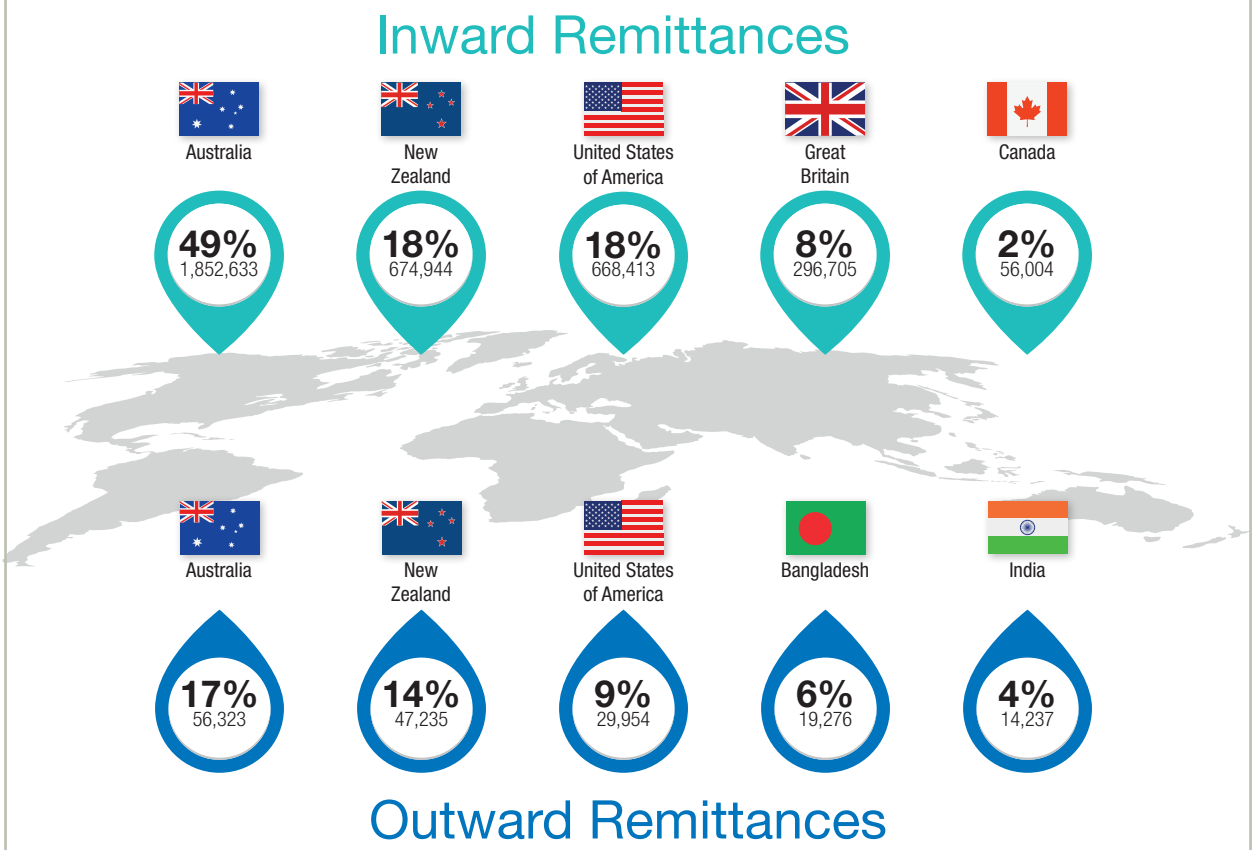
[12] EFTRs of Payment Service Providers for 2021 has been has been revised from 216,501 to 766,190.

EFTRs may involve remittances into Fiji (inward) or remittances out of Fiji (outward). Majority (92%) of EFTRs reported during 2024 were for inward remittances.

Inward international remittance transactions reported to the FIU were conducted from the following ten major countries: Australia, New Zealand, United States of America, United Kingdom, Canada, Cook Islands, Vanuatu, Ireland, Tuvalu and Tonga.

Outward international remittance transactions reported to the FIU were made to the following ten major countries: Australia, New Zealand, United States of America, Bangladesh, India, China, Philippines, Hong Kong, Solomon Islands and Singapore.

EFTRs: Top 5 Countries Conducting Inward/Outward Remittances to/from Fiji (Number of EFTRs) 2024



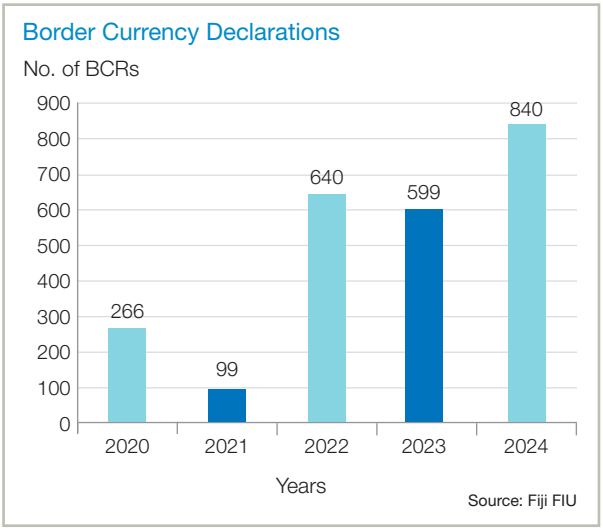
Source: Fiji FIU

Border Currency Reports

All travellers coming into Fiji or going out of Fiji are required to declare if they are carrying currency or negotiable bearer instruments of $10,000 or more (or its equivalent in foreign currency).

Travellers are required to make a declaration in the first instance on the arrival or departure cards and then fill out a BCR form which is available at all ports of entry and exit in Fiji. The completed BCRs are collected by FRCS Customs officials at the ports and submitted to the FIU for central recording, analysis and for its intelligence purpose.

In 2024, the FIU received 840 BCRs compared to 599 BCRs received in 2023.



There were more declarations made by outbound travellers compared to inbound travellers in 2024. In 2024, 51 percent of declarations were made by outbound travellers while 49 percent of declarations were made by inbound travellers.

BCR Declarations

Persons Declaring	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Declarations made by **inbound** travellers	81	29	201	255	413
Declarations made by **outbound** travellers	185	70	439	344	427
TOTAL	**266**	**99**	**640**	**599**	**840**

Source: Fiji FIU

The total value of currency declared by travellers in the BCRs in 2024 was about $49.6 million.

Value of Border Currency Reports Received

Persons Declaring	Value of Currency Declared ($million)				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Travellers Arriving in Fiji	5.4	0.5	4.9	10.3	19.9
Travellers Departing Fiji	10.5	1.5	32.8	28.7	29.7
Total	**15.9**	**2.0**	**37.7**	**39.0**	**49.6**

Source: Fiji FIU

Majority of BCRs declared by inbound and outbound travellers ranged in the value of $10,000 - $100,000.

Failure to declare currency at the border is an offence under the FTR Act. If convicted, a person is liable to a fine of up to $60,000 or imprisonment of a maximum of 10 years or both. In 2024, there were four reported cases of BCR non-declaration.

Technology Solutions to Improve Data Quality

The FIU employs controls which monitors the quality of data provided in financial transaction reports submitted by financial institutions on ODDS. Data quality issues are quickly identified by FFIMSO and raised with financial institutions for correction to the reports. Furthermore, the FIU continued to work with financial institutions to ensure that their CTR, EFTR and TTR reporting solutions adequately meet the minimum standards for reporting.

During 2024, the FIU worked closely with commercial banks to implement systems that would enable them to report the TTRs as required. This will continue into 2025.

Access to Government Databases and Data

The FIU currently has online access to four databases of partner government agencies including Department of Immigration (IBMS), Land Transport Authority, and FRCS. In addition, the FIU accesses bulk data from Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, Registrar of Companies and Post Fiji.

During 2024, the FIU worked with the relevant agencies to ensure there is consistent and secure access to these databases and bulk data.

Cyber Security and Cyber Risks

In 2024, as part of ongoing cybersecurity measures the FIU conducted weekly cybersecurity scans on FFIMSO which flags any critical vulnerabilities and threats against potential cyber-attacks. The FIU also benefitted from the cybersecurity protocols and measures employed by the RBF. The FIU's cybersecurity strategy is aimed at mitigating the risk of cyber-attacks and to protect against unauthorised exploitation of FFIMSO.

Transaction Query System and Taipan System

From 30 June 2024 the FIU Intelligence team ceased using TRAQ as part of its intelligence gathering process. TRAQ was accessed by 10 FIU officers and 25 direct database access (DDA) officers in 2024. DDA officers are nominated officers from partner law enforcement agencies that are authorised to access TRAQ. TRAQ is now only used by DDA officers.

From 1 July 2024, the FIU Intelligence team started using the Taipan system for its intelligence process to perform profiling of entities or persons of interest. The Taipan system features, such as open-source query language searches and in house filtering and saving of information, is a process improvement in the team's internal information collection and evaluation process specifically for complex profiling. The FIU is working with AUSTRAC to enhance its use of the Taipan system.

Alert and Monitoring System

The FIU continued to use AMS which monitors all financial transaction reports maintained on the FFIMSO database for identifying suspicious transactions.

Currently, AMS has 7 suspicious indicator rules which runs in the background. Alerts are generated and emailed to the intelligence team for further analysis and profiling.

Case Management System

The FIU continued to use CMS for managing STRs and CDRs. CMS centrally stores all STR information, case analysis details and dissemination reports. CMS also generates templates for case dissemination reports and link charts. During 2024, there was ongoing support and enhancement provided to ensure the effective operation of CMS.

Windows Server Upgrades

In 2024, the FIU successfully upgraded all its servers with windows operating system incorporating the most recent security patches, performance improvements and feature enhancements ensuring FIU's IT infrastructure remains robust and secure.

Partnerships

Collaboration with its partners is crucial for the FIU functions and it seeks to achieve this through three broad strategies as follows:

i. enhancing its network for information sharing;
ii. strengthening relationships with domestic and international partners; and
iii. providing support to international partners on AML/CFT initiatives and engagement.

Information Sharing

The FTR Act provides the FIU with the authority to enter into MOAs with other agencies. The MOAs allow the FIU to exchange information and enhance networking and cooperation with domestic partner agencies.

The FIU has signed MOAs with 14 local partner agencies to date. As a result of these MOAs, the FIU is able to access databases and bulk data of government partner agencies. The FIU continued to engage with these partner agencies during 2024.

As part of these MOA arrangements, authorised officers from the FPF, FRCS, Immigration Department and FICAC continued to have direct access to the FIU's TRAQ database. In 2024, there were 86 officers who had this direct access to the FIU database.

The officers used this arrangement to obtain intelligence on persons or entities of interest who are subject to their investigations and profiling. One officer from FRCS and one officer from FPF continued to be seconded to the FIU in 2024 as provided under the MOA arrangement.

MOA signed with Domestic Partner Agencies

Agency	Date MOA Signed	Type of MOA
Immigration Department	12 July 2007	Information exchange
FRCS	28 November 2007	Information exchange and secondment of two staff with the FIU
	12 September 2014 (amendment)	Direct access to FIU database
Fiji Police Force	24 January 2008	Information exchange and secondment of a staff with the FIU
	11 December 2014 (amendment)	Direct access to FIU database
Investment Fiji	13 June 2008	Information exchange
Ministry of Justice	3 July 2008	Information exchange
Land Transport Authority	5 October 2009	Information exchange
FICAC	3 November 2009	Information exchange
Joint Taskforce RBF/FRCS/FIU	14 April 2010	Information exchange
Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji	16 August 2012	Information exchange
RBF	17 April 2014	Information exchange
Fijian Elections Office	11 August 2016	Information exchange
Real Estate Agents Licensing Board	24 April 2017	Information exchange
Post Fiji Pte Limited	19 March 2020	Information exchange
iTaukei Land Trust Board	4 August 2021	Information exchange

Source: Fiji FIU

Engagements with Domestic Partners

During 2024, the acting Director FIU held meetings with various heads of agencies. These meetings were aimed at discussing common issues and topics for collaboration and networking between agencies.

The FIU continued to contribute to national policy formulation, implementation and coordination through participation in various national committees and provided input into various national strategies such as the counter-terrorism strategy and counternarcotics strategy.

In 2024, the FIU was involved in various multi-agency operational taskforces. The FIU participated in the formation and discussion of the framework of the FRCS Tax Crimes taskforce. The FIU provided a brief overview of its roles and function and the intelligence assistance it may provide in the operational function of the taskforce.

During the year, the FIU met with the Association of Banks in Fiji during their June meeting. This was an opportunity to provide the members more information of the FIU intelligence procedures. The FIU also supported and contributed to the Digital Financial Services Working Group meetings, the RBF meeting with the Payment Service Providers and the joint industry meeting between RBF and the Restricted Foreign Exchange Dealers.

The FIU also contributed to a specialised training on asset confiscation and money laundering that was organised in partnership by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) and the Australian Federal Police (AFP). The FIU provided a brief overview, to 36 participants, on its intelligence procedures that could assist investigators and prosecutors in collecting information to trace assets for confiscation relating to money laundering.

In 2024, Fiji commenced its NRA. The FIU is coordinating the NRA process with the support of Ministry of Justice, FPF, the ODPP, FRCS, RBF and other relevant government and private agencies. The initial meetings and data gathering had commenced in November 2024. The NRA is scheduled to be completed by 2025.

The FIU also contributed to consultations organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the draft counter terrorism and counter narcotics strategies and bills.

Engagements with International Partners

The FIU engaged closely with various international partners through its membership of various international forums, working groups and taskforce. Through its memberships of these international forums, working groups and taskforce, the FIU can exchange information and contribute to international AML/CFT policy formulation and projects.

Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering

Fiji is a member of the APG, an autonomous and collaborative international organisation currently comprising 42 member countries.

The FIU, as the designated lead agency for Fiji, liaised closely with the APG in 2024 on various national outputs, APG governance and other policy and mutual evaluation matters.

During 2024, the FIU participated in the following key APG activities:

i. participated in various APG surveys and contributed to discussion papers;
ii. Mutual Evaluation Committee meetings and discussions on mutual evaluation reports and follow up reports of APG members;
iii. coordination on technical assistance projects for Fiji.

iv. participated as an Assessor and Reviewer in the mutual evaluation of other APG members; and
v. attended the APG Annual Plenary Meeting.

The FIU continued to liaise with the APG on various AML/CFT issues relevant to Fiji during the year.

Pacific Financial Intelligence Community

The FIU is a founding member of the Pacific Financial Intelligence Community (PFIC) which is a regional body consisting of 15 FIUs from the Pacific region including Australia and New Zealand.

The PFIC provides a forum for Pacific FIUs focused on operational outcomes and other issues of specific interest to the Pacific region. PFIC encourages multilateral and bilateral collaboration across the region on issues of mutual priority through the regular dialogue and engagement between members that it provides. The FIU participated and hosted the second stage of the regional multilateral intelligence project with regional partners from the FIUs of Tonga, Samoa and Australia.

In 2024, PFIC held its 3rd Annual Plenary in Brisbane, Australia. Fiji FIU was appointed as the next rotating PFIC co-chair, taking over from the Cook Island FIU. The FIU continued to contribute to the discussions and decisions of PFIC and its Working Groups.

Egmont Group

The Fiji FIU is a member of the Egmont Group of FIUs. The FIU continued to participate in the activities of the Egmont Group during 2024. This included contributing to Egmont surveys conducted during the year, reviewing and providing comments on Egmont governance papers, projects and questionnaires.

As a member of the Egmont Group of FIUs, the Fiji FIU is committed to sharing information with 177 other Egmont Group members. During 2024, the Fiji FIU continued to provide assistance and information to other Egmont Group members upon request via the ESW.

AUSTRAC

The FIU continues to benefit from its engagement with AUSTRAC through sharing of AML/CFT information and intelligence. From 2021, AUSTRAC has been engaging with FIU on the Taipan project to strengthen the FIU's information technology infrastructure. The system will enhance the FIU's IT and data analysis capabilities. In 2024, the FIU IT Team continued to collaborate with AUSTRAC IT Team to provide resolutions to the issues identified during testing and use of Taipan to ensure the system meets the FIU requirements and standards.

Pacific AML/CFT Supervisors Forum

The FIU is a member of the Pacific AML/CFT Supervisors Forum which consists of AML/CFT supervisors from the Pacific including New Zealand and Australia. The Forum provides a platform for supervisors to share their experiences and challenges on AML/CFT supervision in their respective jurisdictions. In 2024, the FIU participated in the Forum's annual meeting in Brisbane, Australia.

Memorandum of Agreements with Foreign FIUs

The FIU is authorised under the FTR Act to enter into MOAs with foreign FIUs or law enforcement agencies for the exchange of information relevant to the investigation or prosecution of a money laundering offence, terrorist financing offence or any other serious offence. These MOAs allow for a more formal engagement with international FIUs and partners on AML/CFT matters. The FIU has signed MOAs with 32 foreign FIUs to date. Refer to Appendix 1.

Our People

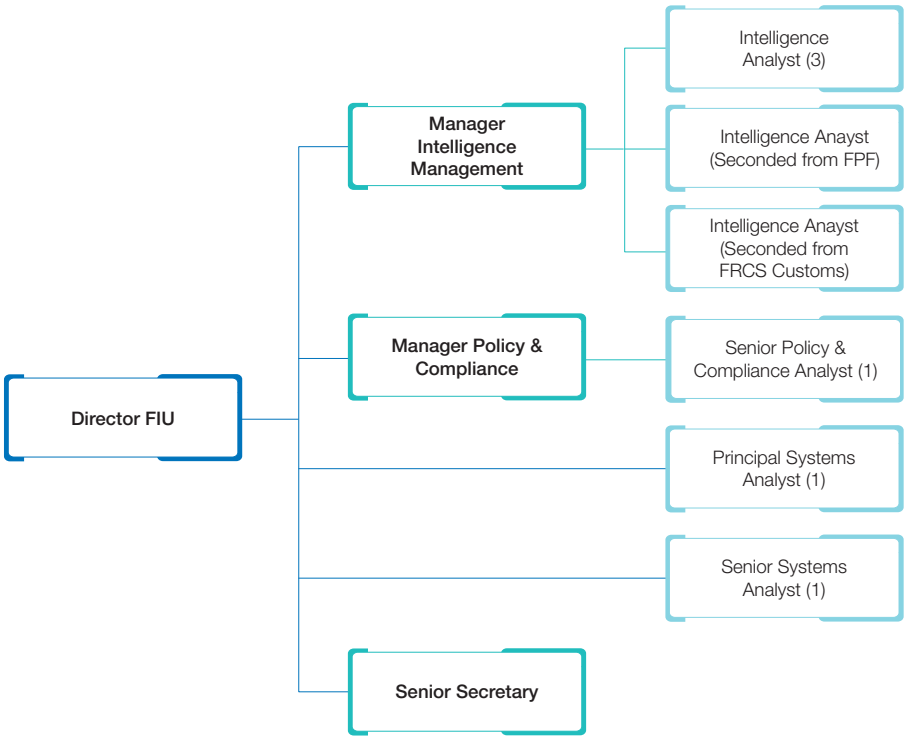
The FIU endeavours to enhance the potential of its people and governance processes by:

i. cultivating a skilled, motivated and high performing team; and
ii. ensuring corporate governance through strong internal controls and performance reporting.

As at the end of 2024, the FIU had nine permanent staff and two officers on secondment from partner agencies (one FPF officer and one FRCS officer). The FIU increased by one additional permanent position in 2024. During 2024, the Director position was also advertised and filled.

During the year FIU staff attended various training workshops and technical forums as part of professional development of staff. The trainings were provided virtually and face-to-face by various partners such as APG, AUSTRAC and UNODC.

FIU Organisation Structure 2024



Source: Fiji FIU

Governance and Communication

The FIU continued to provide monthly reports on its operations to the Governor of the RBF. The FIU also provided regular updates to the Chair of the National AML Council on key AML/CFT national initiatives and projects.

The FIU fully implements the Egmont Group key governance instruments, namely the Egmont Charter, Operation Guidance, Principles of Information Exchange and Support and Compliance Process.

The FIU also implemented processes to comply with the international standards relating to financial intelligence units. These ensure that the FIU's operations are in line with international best practice.

In 2024, the FIU made submissions to the Parliament Standing Committee on Economic Affairs on the FIU 2023 Annual Report.

The FIU used the media and its website to communicate key AML/CFT initiatives to the general public and its stakeholders. The FIU also continued to use its website to disseminate information to financial institutions on the regulatory requirements.

Funding and Expenditure

The RBF continued to fund the operations of the FIU in 2024. The FIU's total expenditure for 2024 was $830,000 compared to $1,066,883 in 2023. The expenditure of the FIU is incorporated into the financial statements of the RBF and is audited as part of its annual accounts.

FIU Funding and Expenditure

	2022	2023	2024
Operating Expenditure	910,000	1,057,000	828,000
Capital Expenditure	9,883	9,883	2,000
TOTAL	**919,883**	**1,066,883**	**830,000**

Source: Reserve Bank of Fiji

The RBF also provided other administrative support services to the FIU in 2024 in the areas of human resource management, accounting, information technology services, security services and other general administrative services.

The FIU received indirect funding assistance from FRCS and the FPF through the secondment of their staff with the FIU in 2024. The salaries of the seconded officers were fully funded by their respective agencies.

In 2024, the FIU also received assistance from various organisations to fund staff attendance at technical AML/CFT trainings and meetings.

Strategic Plan 2025-2029

In 2024, the FIU commenced its strategic planning process to develop its strategic priorities for the next five years. The strategic planning process also provided an opportunity for the FIU to review its vision, mission and organisation values.

The FIU consulted key partners from the private and public sector to obtain a deeper understanding of their needs and roles and to solicit their views on how the FIU can better support their roles.

The FIU Strategic Plan is for the period 2025-2029.

5 NATIONAL AML COUNCIL

The National AML Council is established under Section 35 of the FTR Act and is Fiji's national AML/CFT coordination committee.

The functions of the Council are provided for in section 35(5) of the FTR Act and are:

1. to advise the FIU and the Minister on any matters relating to the prevention of money laundering or the financing of terrorism;
2. to make recommendations to the Unit and the Minister on any matter relating to the prevention of money laundering or the financing of terrorism;
3. to assist the FIU and the Minister in the formulation of policies or strategies relating to the prevention of money laundering or the financing of terrorism; and
4. to assist the FIU in coordination between various Government departments and with statutory corporations.

The members of the National AML Council are:

1. Permanent Secretary for the Ministry for Justice, as Chairperson;
2. Director of the ODPP;
3. Commissioner of Police;
4. Governor of the RBF;
5. Chief Executive Officer of the FRCS; and
6. Director of the FIU.

The Council may invite other persons to attend the Council meetings. There were three Council meetings in 2024.

Council's Activities

Key outputs driven by the National AML Council in 2024 were as follows:

i. coordination and preparation of Fiji's upcoming Mutual Evaluation in 2026;
ii. ongoing support and contribution to APG work, namely, Fiji's contribution to the APG mutual evaluation programme, and other governance issues; and
iii. preparation for Fiji's NRA.

6 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: MOA SIGNED WITH FOREIGN FIUS

Country	Name of FIU	Date
Australia	Australian Transactions Reports and Analysis Centre	19 May 2011
Bangladesh	Financial Intelligence Unit	9 June 2015
Belgium	Financial Intelligence Unit	3 September 2012
Brazil	Council for Financial Activities Control	3 July 2013
Cambodia	Cambodia FIU	5 December 2017
Canada	Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada	12 July 2011
China	China Anti-Money Laundering Monitoring and Analysis Center	6 October 2021
Cook Islands	Cook Islands FIU	21 July 2011
France	The Unit for Intelligence Processing and Action Against Illicit Financial Networks	12 July 2011
India	India FIU	5 June 2014
Indonesia	Indonesian Financial Transaction Reports and Analysis Center	10 July 2009
Israel	Israel Money Laundering Prohibition Authority	6 February 2013
Japan	Financial Intelligence Centre	9 June 2015
Korea	Korea FIU	6 May 2011
Lao People's Democratic Republic	The Anti-Money Laundering Intelligence Office, National Coordination Committee For Anti-Money Laundering And Counter-Financing Of Terrorism Of The Lao People's Democratic Republic	26 July 2022
Lebanon	Special Investigation Commission	5 June 2014
Macau SAR China	Financial Intelligence Office	6 and 13 March 2012
Malaysia	Unit Perisikan Kewangan, Bank Negara Malaysia	3 February 2010
Papua New Guinea	Papua New Guinea FIU	29 January 2018
Philippines	The Anti-Money Laundering Council, The Financial Intelligence Unit of the Republic of the Philippines	13 July 2011
Samoa	Samoa FIU	8 March 2013
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands FIU	12 July 2011
South Africa	Financial Intelligence Centre	11 July 2012
Sri Lanka	Financial Intelligence Unit of Central Bank of Sri Lanka	21 July 2011
Republic of China (Taiwan)	Anti-Money Laundering Division, Investigation Bureau, Ministry of Justice	10 July 2012
Republic of Marshall Islands	Banking Commission-Financial Intelligence Unit	24 July 2017
Russia	Federal Financial Monitoring Service (Russian Federation)	28 June 2013
Thailand	The AML Office of the Kingdom of Thailand	25 October 2011
Timor-Leste	The Unidade de Informação Financeira	25 July 2022
United Kingdom	The Serious Organised Crime Agency	12 July 2011
United States of America	The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network	12 July 2011
Vanuatu	Vanuatu FIU	8 March 2013

Source: Fiji FIU

7 SELECTED KEY STATISTICS 2020 - 2024

	Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Transaction and Currency Reports Received by FIU	Suspicious Transaction Reports	736	261	435	527	559
	Cash Transaction Reports	619,987	586,382	572,269	22,321	22,284
	Threshold Transaction Report[13]	0	0	233,770	1,676,525	2,026,462
	Electronic Fund Transfer Transaction Reports	1,866,197	2,434,091(r)	2,960,501	3,542,848	4,089,605
	Border Currency Reports	266	99	640	599	840
	Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Suspicious Transaction Reports	Filed Away for future intelligence and analysis	372	551	322	189	165
	Case Dissemination Reports	270	174	219	163	125
Intelligence and Information Reports to Stakeholders	Information Dissemination Reports	127	82	87	62	66
	Due Diligence Reports	70	30	82	93	46
Notices to Financial Institutions	Alert Notices	20	8	5	1	4
	Directives	6	3	6	6	3
Enquiries with Financial Institutions	Request for further information to financial institutions	645	340	1,639	1,003	257
	Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Education and Awareness	Number of employees of Financial Institution	104	161	109	38	58
	Number of Financial Institutions	4	27	44	9	1
	Employees of Law Enforcement Agencies	0	115	0	20	36
Onsite Examinations	Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions	5	1	0	13	5
Breach of 5-day Reporting Requirement	Number of Breaches	30	21	16	8	6
	Number of Formal Non-Compliance Letters/ Correspondences Issued	2	2	1	1	3

Source: Fiji FIU

[13] TTR reporting by banks commenced on 1 November 2022.

8 GLOSSARY

AML	Anti-Money Laundering
AMS	Alert and Monitoring System
APG	Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering
AUSTRAC	Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre
BCR	Border Currency Report
CDR	Case Dissemination Report
CFT	Combating the Financing of Terrorism
CMS	Case Management System
CTR	Cash Transaction Report
DDA	Direct Database Access
DNFBP	Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions
EFTR	Electronic Funds Transfer Report
ESW	Egmont Secure Web
FATF	Financial Action Task Force
FFIMSO	Fiji FIU Information Management System Online
FICAC	Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption
FIU	Financial Intelligence Unit
FRCS	Fiji Revenue and Customs Service
FUR	Follow-Up Report
FPF	Fiji Police Force
FTR	Financial Transactions Reporting
MER	Mutual Evaluation Report
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MRSP	Money Remittance Service Provider
NRA	National Risk Assessment
ODDS	Online Data Delivery System
ODPP	Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
PFIC	Pacific Financial Intelligence Community
RBF	Reserve Bank of Fiji
STR	Suspicious Transaction Report
TF	Terrorist Financing
TNOC	Transnational Organized Crime
TRAQ	Transaction Query System
TTR	Threshold Transaction Report

FijiFIU

Fiji Financial Intelligence Unit

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