



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2019-2020

PARLIAMENTARY PAPER NUMBER: 32/24

## ABOUT THE ANNUAL REPORT

This annual report provides a summary of the Ministry of Agriculture outputs, achievements and performance from 1st August, 2019 to 31st July, 2020.

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## ACRONYMS

APP	Annual Procurement Plan
BAF	Biosecurity Authority of Fiji
BTEC	Bovine Tuberculosis and Brucellosis Eradication Campaign
BQA	Bilateral Quarantine Agreement
COP	Costed Operational Plan
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
COVID	Corona Virus Disease
CIDR	Controlled Internal Drug Release
DIS	Dairy Industry Support
DRS	Dobuilevu Research Station
EP&S	Economic Planning and Statistics Division
FJD	Fijian Dollar
FNS	Food and Nutrition Security
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FY	Financial Year
FLIS	Fiji Land Information System
FSC	Fiji Sugar Cooperation
FARS	Fiji Agriculture Rural Statistics
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographic Information System
HR	Human Resource
i-TLTB	iTaukei Land Trust Board
KG	Kilogram
KRS	Koronivia Research Station
LJ	Löwenstein-Jensen
LFT	Livestock Feed Technology
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MT	Metric Tonnes

## ACRONYMS

MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NDP	National Development Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSC	National Steering Committee
NTPC	National Training and Productivity Centre
PEGMI	Partnership to Establish Goat Meat Industry Program
PSA	Permanent Secretary Agriculture
QPPR	Quarterly Project Progress Report
REDD +	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
R&D	Research and Development
RBF	Reserve Bank of Fiji
RIE	Request to Incur Expenditure
SDP	Strategic Development Plan
SP	Strategic Priority
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SEEP	Social Education Empowerment Programme
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
SC	Southern Cross Foods Limited
SLM	Sustainable Land Management
SOPAC	South Pacific Applied Geosciences' Commission
TC	Tropical Cyclone
TB	Tuberculosis
TVET	Technical & Vocational Education and Training
USP	The University of the South Pacific
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

## MINISTER FOREWORD



I am pleased to present to you the Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture for the year ending 31st July, 2020. This report has been prepared in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2004, which requires that I submit an annual report for presentation to the Parliament of Fiji.

The 2019-2020 financial year, was an ambitious year for the Ministry, as it engaged on key priorities and activities that are crucial in the development and transformation of the sector. This report reflects the Ministry annual achievements in alignment with the Ministry 2019-2020 Costed Operational Plan, Ministry's 5 Year Strategic Development Plan; together with its Audited Financial Statements.

The 2019-2020 was a challenging year to the Ministry and the agriculture sector since we were impacted by TC Sarai and TC Tino. However, this did not daunt the agriculture spirit from accomplishing the overall output of the Ministry. This year we also witnessed the launching of the Ministry 5 Year Strategic Development Plan 2019-2023 which aims to deliver on the collective aspirations of our people through a demand-driven and resilient agriculture sector which provides economic opportunities, environmental sustainability and food and nutrition security for all Fijians. These objectives will be achieved through five (5) key strategic priorities:

- food nutrition,
- sustainable livelihoods,
- climate resilience,
- commercial agriculture and
- strengthened service delivery.

The outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic disrupted the Ministry's plan where we had to re-strategise to respond to the needs of the Nation. Agriculture will continue to be the pillar of Fiji's economy. In 2019, Agriculture Gross Domestic Product was accounted for FJD630.2 million.

I am confident the Ministry will continue to pursue key interventions that will support in building a sustainable community through an integrated transformation of the agriculture sector, promote and achieve policy goals directed towards quick economic recovery, food and income security, poverty alleviation and sustainable management of natural resources.

In presenting the Annual Report, I am pleased to acknowledge the continuing effort of our agriculture officers in achieving the Ministry's goals and its strategic objectives.

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 STATEMENT



I am indeed grateful to contribute towards the publication of the Ministry of Agriculture 2019-2020 Annual Report.

This annual report is aligned to the Ministry's Strategic Development Plan that was launched in 2019-2020 financial year, which sets direction for all functional divisions towards a sustainable, competitive and resilient agriculture sector. The alignment ensures that the overall Ministry objectives are filtered down to work responsibilities of individual officers through accountability and ownership of key outputs.

This year has been a very challenging year for all of us. The country was at a standstill as two tropical cyclones, Sarai and Tino cut a path of destruction across our nation. Despite the effects of the cyclones, the Ministry staff persevered in providing its services to the public and stakeholders. Therefore, this report highlights what the Ministry has achieved despite the disaster and aligning it to the Government's direction and goals.

Covid-19 pandemic disrupted development plans targeted for our farmers and the sector. Key rehabilitation activities were undertaken to address food supply to areas of lock down.

Regardless of the scarce resources and other limitations, I am certain that staff of the Ministry have continued to enhance their performance addressing issues affecting the development of the Sector whilst identifying and observing opportunities that is available.

As we progress further, let us reflect on our achievements, acknowledge all our encountered challenges with humility and continue to move forward with joint efforts and team commitment.

I would like to express my appreciation for the contribution made by the Management and staff of the Ministry for achieving another pleasing performance this year.

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

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



## PERMANENT SECRETARY STATEMENT



I am very pleased to present to you the Ministry of Agriculture 2019-2020 Annual Report in accordance with the General Order 1108(a).

The Ministry has in recent years increased its focus on forward planning, strengthening data collection and placing greater emphasis on evidence-based approaches to achieve its work. This year, the Ministry witnessed the launch of its 5 Year Strategic Development Plan in which it provides a clear, coherent set of strategic priorities that supports our National Development Plan goals, guide our Costed Operational Plan process and provides space for dialogue and greater collaboration with all our stakeholders.

The Ministry and the agriculture sector witnessed many challenges during this period. There were two tropical cyclones that thumped Fiji, Cyclone Sarai and Cyclone Tino causing many unrivalled damages where homes, farms and infrastructure were ravaged. Furthermore, the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic diverted funds meant for development to be used for rehabilitation. Programs undertaken by the Ministry included seed distribution, cross-boarder fertilizer transportation, agro input assistance and food supply to local municipalities and households.

Despite the many challenges, the Ministry still continues to pursue its annual targets and improve its performance.

For 2019-2020, FJD78.7 million was allocated to the Ministry of Agriculture in which 2.0 % was the Ministry budget share to the national budget. The Ministry total expenditure for this 2019-2020 financial year amounted to FJD75.6 million.

I wish to acknowledge the tremendous efforts of all agriculture officers for their hard work and support in ensuring that we achieve another fruitful and successful year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DK', written over a dotted line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

**David Kolutagane**  
**Permanent Secretary for Agriculture**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Agriculture Sector has remained the backbone of Fiji's economy since independence. The sector plays a vital role in Fiji's economy for income generation and food security following the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The sector is a key driver to Fiji's GDP and has contributed positively to the expansion of Fiji's economy in 2020. In 2020, the real GDP value in Agriculture (inclusive of growing of sugarcane) accounted for 8.6% (FJD756.2 million) of the GDP, recording a 4.1% growth during the year. The non-sugarcane agriculture contributed 7.5%. The sector supports the livelihoods of 27% of Fiji's population and is the main source of work for more than 83% of Fiji's rural population.

The Ministry of Agriculture was allocated with FJD78.7 million in the 2019-2020FY which accounted for 2.0% of the national budget. The budget comprised of FJD35million for operating expenditure, FJD40.6 million for capital expenditure and VAT of FJD3.1 million. The budget was utilized according to the priority areas identified in the 5 years Strategic Development Plan of which 22.7% of the expenditure was directed to the improvement of food and nutrition security for all Fijians, 19.0% for increasing farmers household income for sustainable livelihoods, 11.7% for improving adoption of sustainable resource management and climate smart agriculture, 15.8% on establishment and improvement of commercial agriculture and remained proportion for continuous improvement of quality public sector performance and service delivery.

The total volume of agriculture production (crop and livestock) increased by 3.6% in 2019-2020FY as compared to 2018-2019. Crop production alone stood at around 283,285 tonnes in 2019-2020FY as compared to 264,239 tonnes in 2018-2019, which is an increase of 7.2%. Livestock registered a decline in volume of production by 12.3% in 2019-2020FY as compared to 2018-2019. In 2019-2020FY, Fiji exported 11,894.3 tonnes of fresh/chilled agriculture produce worth of FJD95.0 million to major export destinations.

The Ministry of Agriculture in the work to improve food and nutrition security for all Fijians, implemented various capital programmes in the 2019-2020FY. These capital programmes were coordinated and implemented by the Crop Extension Division, Animal Health & Production Division, Crop Research

Division and Economic Planning & Statistics Division.

The Ministry of Agriculture is collaborating with development partners to increase linkages between the agriculture and tourism sectors, and to maximize benefits to local farmers and the economy. In 2019, food imports contributed 19.7% of Fiji's total imports. Fiji is dependent on imported produce to meet the tourism sector's demand for fresh fruit and vegetables, meat, seafood and dairy products.

The Ministry of Agriculture delivers services to ensure Fiji has a sustainable, competitive and resilient agriculture sector providing high-quality, safe and sustainably produced food to all Fijians. The Ministry creates value in Fiji's Agriculture Sector by connecting farmers, food manufacturing and tourism industries, exporters and government to grow our economy and safeguard our natural environment.

In the wake of this global pandemic, the world is already facing food and nutrition security challenges and Fiji is no exception. The Ministry plays a lead role in seizing the opportunity which underscores the importance of planning and setting achievable targets to encourage the production of more local produce, buoy food security, reduce import substitution, improve farmer livelihood, and strengthen agri-exports and agri-led economic growth.

There is no other industry that touches the lives and the tables of every Fijian family. Our economy depends on a fully competitive and productive agriculture industry but there are some structural shifts of which we need to be aware.

Despite the impacts of extreme weather events, the COVID-19 pandemic, lockdowns and other disruptors such as lack of infrastructure, human resources and mobility of Government resources in 2019-2020FY, the sector continued to remain resilient, backbone of Fiji's rural economy and a source of income for 71,163 households in Fiji. To ensure MoA remains a collaborative, modern and approachable organization, the Ministry continues to invest in the capability of staff and culture to drive improved performance in a rapidly changing environment and has been on top of its game by up-scaling several initiatives that were already in place to ensure self-sustainability and economic viability.

## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE CORPORATE PROFILE

### 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.

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 are beyond 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.

**Table 1: Organizational Management**

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</li> <li>• Instructions 2010</li> <li>• Fiji Procurement Regulations &amp; Amendments 2010</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Orders 2011 Terms &amp; Conditions of Employment for GWE's 2010</li> <li>• Ministry's Risk Management</li> <li>• 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 Legislation**

<b>CURRENT LEGISLATION</b>	
1. Agricultural Landlord and Tenant Act 1966	13. Ginger Council of Fiji Act 1996
2. Agricultural Marketing Authority Act 2004	14. Goat (Ear-marks) Act 1955
3. Banana Export and Marketing Act 1960	15. Land Conservation and Improvement Act 1953
4. Birds and Game Protection Act 1923	16. Land Development Act 1961
5. Brand Act 1928	17. Meat Industry Act 1969
6. Coconut Industry Development Act 2010	18. Pesticides Act 1971
7. Co-operative Dairy Companies Act 1974	19. Pound Act 1877
8. Copra Industry Loan Act 1976	20. Protection of Animal Act 1954
9. Dairies Act 1965	21. Stock Improvement Act 1932
10. Dog Act 1968	22. Trespass of Animals Act 1955
11. Fencing Act 1955	23. Veterinary Surgeons Act 1956
12. Fruit Export and Marketing Act 1906	



## MINISTRY'S OVERVIEW

The situation created by COVID-19 pandemic pushed people to farming in either subsistence backyard gardening or commercial undertakings, thus, the increase in number of households to 71,163 involved in farming activities. This was supported by the COVID-19 response package known as the “Food Security, Agriculture Growth & Expansion Strategy” initiated by the Ministry to assist vulnerable and interested households in urban, peri-urban and rural sector in establishing and expanding farming to support food security and income generation. This has been reflected in the growth of local crop production compared to livestock production. The COVID 19 response budget for 2019-2020FY was FJD61.8 million.

The outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic posed greater challenge to Fiji this year. During the pandemic, the Ministry expedited logistics for access of food supply to routes which crossed borders to reach those in quarantine isolation.

The Ministry has five (5) divisions; the Human Resource, Finance & Information, the Economic Planning and Statistics Division which provides planning and strategic support to the Crop Extension, Crop Research and Animal Health & Production Divisions. The Land Resource Planning & Development Unit was split into two sections where Farm Management and Land Use reported under Crop Extension and Crop Research, respectively. These Divisions are mandated to deliver the outcomes and outputs of the Ministry's Costed Operational Plan (COP) which is aligned to the five-year Strategic Development Plan (SDP).

The Economic Planning & Statistics Division strategically plans and oversees the implementation of key policies and activities to achieve sustainable economic growth of the Agriculture Sector in Fiji. The continued collaboration with relevant stakeholders, more land was made available for productive and social purposes which resulted in the expansion of the Agriculture Sector. The five-year SDP has five key strategic priority (SP) areas:

- i. Improvement of food and nutrition security for all Fijians (SP1);
- ii. Increasing farmers household income for sustainable livelihoods (SP2);
- iii. Improving adoption of sustainable resource management and climate smart agriculture (SP3);
- iv. Establishment and improvement of commercial agriculture (SP4); and
- v. Improvement of quality public sector performance and service delivery (SP5).

The Ministry provided an enabling environment to better facilitate and govern the implementation of work plans. The Ministry through improved service delivery, increased production levels of crops and livestock, change in livelihood status of farming communities and overall socio-economic development.

# MoA ORGANISATION STRUCTURE



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## Stakeholders

**GOVERNMENT ENTITIES**  
 Fiji Rice Ltd, Food Processors Ltd, Agricultural Marketing Authority, Fiji Corporate Dairy Company Limited, Fiji Meat & Industry Board, Copra Millers of Fiji Ltd, FCLC

**DEVELOPED PARTNERS**  
 FAO, IFAD, EU, ACIAR, SPC

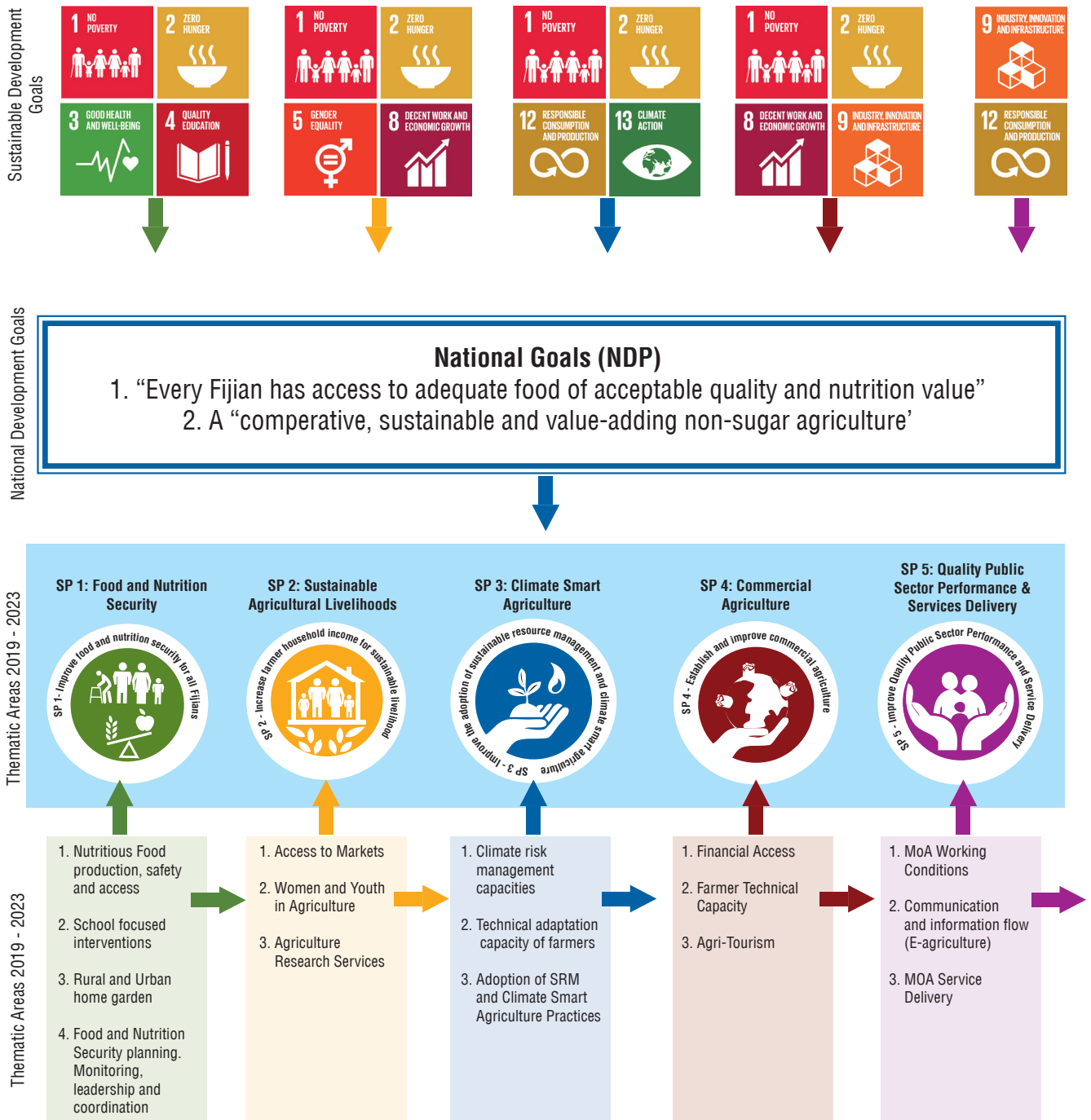
**DEVELOPED PARTNERS**  
 Ministry of Trade & Tourism, Ministry of Women, Ministry of Youth, Ministry of I-I-Taukei Affairs, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Rural Development

### KEY

- Human Resources Division
- Economic Planning & Statistics Division
- Crop Research Division
- Crop Extension Division
- Animal Health & Production Division

# MINISTRY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

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 the 11 strategic goals and 5 strategic priorities, as detailed in the Table below. The SDP is aligned with 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 4: Ministry's Strategic Priorities, NDP and SDG's**

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
<b>4. Establish and Improve Commercial Agriculture.</b>	NDP: 3.2.12 Non-sugar Agriculture NDP: 3.2.10 Expanding the Rural Economy NDP: 3.2.12 Non-sugar Agriculture NDP: 3.1.4 Food and Nutrition Security	Goal 2: Zero Hunger Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure Goal 13: Climate Action Goal 15: Life on Land Goal 1: No Poverty Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
<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

## MoA 2019-2020 Budget Allocation

The Ministry of Agriculture was allocated with FJD78.7 million in the 2019-2020FY, which accounted for 2.0% of the national budget. The budget comprised of FJD35 million for operating expenditure, FJD40.6 million for capital expenditure and VAT of FJD3.1 million. The budget was utilized according to the priority areas identified in the 5 years Strategic Development Plan of which 22.7 % of the expenditure directed to the improvement of food and nutrition security for all Fijians, 19.0 % for increasing farmers household income for sustainable livelihoods, 11.7 % for improving adoption of sustainable resource management and climate smart agriculture, 15.8 % on establishment and improvement of commercial agriculture and remained proportion for continuous improvement of quality public sector performance and service delivery.

The Agriculture Sector remains the backbone of Fiji's economy and its impact cuts across all sectors. Fiji's increasing population coupled with, but not limited to, impacts of climate change, land degradation and rural urban migration makes sustainable development a dream to achieve.

The overall mandate of the Ministry of Agriculture is to ensure the availability of nutritious food, income security and employment through a modernized and resilient agriculture sector. The government acknowledges the critical role of the Ministry through the sector's contribution to the National economy.

## Contribution to Fiji's Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

In 2020, the Real GDP value in Agriculture (inclusive of growing of sugarcane) accounted for 8.6 % (FJD756.2 million) of the GDP, recorded a 4.1 % growth during the year. The non-sugarcane agriculture contributed 7.5 % (FJD664.8 million) to the total GDP and showed a 5.4 % growth as compared to 2019.

The GDP contribution of the agriculture sector (inclusive of growing of sugarcane) increased from 6.8 % in 2019 to 8.6 % in 2020 due to,

- Contraction in economic activities of other major sectors such as Transport and Storage, Accommodation and Food Service Activities, Manufacturing, Construction, Wholesale and Retail, and Administrative Support Services
- Increase in agriculture activities in year 2020 which was supported by the number of new agriculture programmes and initiatives designed and implemented by the Ministry as part of the Covid-19 response plan.
- Increase in the number of farmers who were mainly laid off workers from the Tourism sector
- Increase in export demand that further expands market opportunities for local supplies

Major Commodities in the Formal Agriculture that mainly contributed to the 2020 Agriculture Real GDP;

1. Yaqona: GDP value of FJD233.9 million; contributed 30.9% to agriculture GDP; positive growth of 12.3%
2. Sugarcane: GDP value of FJD91.4 million; contributed 12.1% to agriculture GDP; negative growth of 4.4%
3. Taro: GDP value of FJD55.3 million; contributed 7.3% to agriculture GDP; positive growth of 4.4%
4. Vegetables: GDP value of FJD53.1 million; contributed 7.0% to agriculture GDP; positive growth of 22.5%
5. Cassava: GDP value of FJD40.1 million; contributed 5.3% to agriculture GDP; negative growth of 5.6%
6. Poultry: GDP value of FJD25.0 million; contributed 3.3% to agriculture GDP; negative growth of 26.5%

## Production Performance in Agriculture

The total volume of agriculture production (crop and livestock) increased by 3.6 % in 2019-2020FY as compared to 2018-2019. Crop production alone stood at around 283,285 tonnes in 2019-2020FY as compared to 264,239 tonnes in 2018-2019 which is an increase of 7.2 %.

Livestock registered a decline in volume of production by 12.3 % in 2019-2020FY as compared to 2018-2019. Except for egg production, all livestock components showed a decline in output. Reduction in the livestock production was mainly attributed by the impact of TB and Brucellosis on the cattle

industry, climate change and other relevant factors.

### **Agricultural Trade**

In 2019-2020FY, Fiji exported 11,894.3 tonnes of fresh/chilled agriculture produce worth FJD95.0 million (FJD) to major export destinations such as United States of America, New Zealand, Australia and neighboring Pacific Island Countries, just to name a few.

The top fresh/chilled crop and livestock produce were kava, taro, turmeric, ginger and a mixture of spices, with a combined share of 86.7 % in the total value of fresh/chilled crop and livestock exports. The import of fresh/chilled crops and livestock imports cost around FJD377.7 million for 294,003 tonnes of produce. Wheat, rice, meat of sheep, potatoes and beef were the leading crop and livestock import commodities. Collectively, these accounted for a share of 70.1 % in the total value of fresh/chilled imports. Australia was the major supplier of wheat, while Vietnam was for rice. The country maintained a negative trade balance in 2019-2020FY for crop and livestock.



# TRADE HIGHLIGHTS OF MAJOR CROP & LIVESTOCK COMMODITIES IN THE 2019-2020 FINANCIAL YEAR

## Top 5 Fresh/Chilled Export Commodities



Total Volume of 420.24 tonnes of Kava was exported in 2019-2020FY, which was worth of FJD39.9 million, to major export destinations such as USA, NZ and Marshall Islands to name a few.



Total Volume of 5,737.49 tonnes of Dalo was exported in 2019-2020FY, which was worth of FJD24.8 million, to major export destinations such as USA, NZ and Australia to name.



Total Volume of 1,647.30 tonnes of Turmeric was exported in 2019-2020FY, which was worth of FJD10.1million, to major export destinations such as USA, NZ and UAE to name a few.



Total Volume of 522.63 tonnes of eggs was exported in 2019-2020FY, which was worth of FJD2.3million, mainly to Pacific Island Countries.



Total Volume of 334.51 tonnes of Ginger was exported in 2019-2020FY, which was worth of FJD2.1million, to major export destinations Australia, NZ and Germany to name a few.

## Top 5 Imported Commodities



Total Volume of 178,631.9 tonnes of Wheat was imported in 2019-2020FY, which was worth of FJD120.2 million, from major country of origins such as Australia and NZ.



Total Volume of 4,344 tonnes of Meat of Sheep was imported in 2019-2020FY, which was worth of FJD44.6 million, from major country of origins such as Australia and NZ.



Total Volume of 44,266.8 tonnes of Rice was imported in 2019-2020FY, which was worth of FJD51 million, from major country of origins such as Vietnam, China, Thailand, just to name a few.



Total Volume of 22,205.4 tonnes of potatoes was imported in 2019-2020FY, which was worth of FJD26.8 million, from major country of origins such as New Zealand, China, Australia, just to name a few.



Total Volume of 2,736.5 tonnes of beef was imported in 2019-2020FY, which was worth of FJD17.7 million, mainly from New Zealand and Australia.

## 2019-2020 FINANCIAL YEAR ACHIEVEMENTS



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

In the 2019-2020FY, a total of FJD8.2 million capital budget was allocated for Strategic Priority 1 for the implementation of programmes and projects to ensure the improvement of food and nutrition security for all Fijians.

This Strategic Priority is aligning to four goals in the National Development Plan (NDP); (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 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 Paris Agreement recognized the fundamental priority of safeguarding food security and ending hunger, and the vulnerabilities of food production systems to the adverse impacts of climate change. This is further integrated into the National Development Plan of Fiji.

The Ministry, in its pursuit to address this multi-dimensional and multi-sector food security issue, planned a number of strategic interventions in this financial year. These interventions are anticipated to contribute to the achievement of the following five key strategic outcomes of the COP:

- 1.1 Improved production and access to local, safe and nutritious food for communities;
- 1.2 Increased adoption of local food gardens by school and demand for diverse, nutritious and safe food;
- 1.3 Increased production of resilient, safe and nutritious food in rural and urban communities;
- 1.4 Strong multi-sector approach supported by Food and Nutrition Security policy; and
- 1.5 Strengthened demand driven research and extend partnership with private sector and established institutions.

#### A. Capital Programmes Implemented under Strategic Priority 1

The Ministry of Agriculture in the work to improve food and nutrition security for all Fijians, implemented various capital programmes in the 2019-2020FY. 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 1.1: 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
Food Security Program Highland Farming Program Agriculture Extension Services Farm Management Program Rotuma Farming Program Rice Farming Program SLM Program	Livestock Research/ Apiculture/Poultry Ext/Pig Ext/Goat Ext Agriculture Extension Service (Livestock) Food Security Program BTECH Stray Campaign Poultry Extension Program Dairy Industry Support Food Security Program	Management of Pest Development of Seed and Planting Material Sustainable Land Management Agriculture Research Services – Tree Crops/Root Crops/ Horticulture Rice Research and Development Mushroom Research	National Food and Security Policy

## B. Achievements of Strategic Priority 1 Deliverables in 2019-2020FY

In 2019-2020FY, the Ministry through this Strategic Priority with its budgetary allocation ensured that planned outcomes and outputs were achieved.

To improve production and access to local, safe and nutritious food for communities, Ministry focused its interventions on the production and distribution of planting materials, raising awareness and capacity building on production of nutritious food for both farmers and staff, strengthening core research programs promoting climate resilience in traditional crops, vegetables, fruits and livestock, promotion of backyard gardening in rural, peri-urban and urban areas, formulated food security policies and conducted stakeholder's consultations that steered the direction of achieving this outcome.

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

- The Ministry through Crop Extension Division distributed dried seeds of commodities such as Chinese cabbage, tomatoes, cucumber, eggplant, chillies, french beans and planting materials of commodities such as cassava, kumala, dalo and tivoli, coconut and breadfruit to 797 communities with the total sum of approximately FJD85,000.00 in the districts of Tailevu, Naitasiri, Serua, Namosi, Rewa, Lau, Kadavu, Lomaiviti, Ra, Ba, Nadroga/Navosa, Cakaudrove, Bua and Macuata.
- The Ministry assisted 153 communities with technical support particularly in disseminating quality information and displaying hands on training on selected commodities agronomic practices such as land preparation, use of compost, spacing, seed raising and transplanting, demo plots, Rotuma Day and Field days with the sum of approximately FJD68, 318.00.
- The Ministry through the Animal Health & Production Division has continued to provide pasture management livestock packages to communities and farming households. In this 2019-2020FY, a total of 136 bags of vegetative planting materials such as Koronivia, Seteria, JUNCAO, Guatemala and Mulato II has been provided to beef and dairy farmers of which 11 were from Central and 5 from Western Division. Another 20 bags of Mulato and 2 bags of JUNCAO planting materials were supplied to a farmer in Rakiraki; 10 bags of Seteria and 40 Redland potting are supplied to Navuso Agriculture School; and one load of JUNCAO planting materials to the Veterinary Laboratory.
- Fiji's first embryo transfer program on cattle has been hailed a success following the birth of 93 calves of which 58 were Senepol and 35 Brown Swiss at the Sigatoka Research Station. The cattle were born through 4 phases of transfer in which the 1st phase where 78 embryos were transferred, the 2nd phase where 66 embryos were transferred, the 3rd phase where 71 embryos were transferred and the 4th phase where 85 embryos were transferred.

- The Bovine Tuberculosis and Brucellosis Eradication Campaign (BTEC) programme has been an important health programme to promote a healthy and resilient livestock industry. For effective disease surveillance and control for Brucellosis and Bovine Tuberculosis (TB), the Ministry removed TB Reactors from infected farms to the Nasinu Abattoir for slaughter which was done within the fourteen days target period after testing. Farmers were compensated for these reactors after the slaughters. Awareness has been raised by the Ministry staffs, Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF) and other stakeholders to non-complaint farmers on the importance of the testing for cattle.
- The Ministry has sent a total of 14 bottles of purified cultured Mycobacterium species on LJ pyruvate and glycerol Agar Slant to CSIRO Australian Animal Health Laboratory for identification on species level. Out of the 14 samples sent, all were all positive for TB. Species were identified as Mycobacterium bovis and Mycobacterium tuberculosis. In addition to this, a total of 24 TB Reactor Backlog was slaughtered at Wainiyaku slaughterhouse.
- To curb the problem of stray dogs, the Ministry veterinarians and support staff perform the ongoing Trapping, Neutering and Releasing exercise as part of the Stray Animal Control Program. This long-term exercise reduces the stray dog population by preventing them from reproducing and allows the stray dog population to die out naturally. The Ministry has constructed two (2) new pounds in Nukuloa, Ra and Kasavu, Nausori and conducted repairs to the existing two (2) pounds in Naitonitoni, Navua and Lomaivuna, Naitasiri to address the increase in the number of stray dogs and dog attacks. A total of 607 stray animals were trapped.
- The Ministry conducted community consultation, site identification for farmers' field school demonstration and catchment restoration in Navatusila, Nadroga/Navosa and Taveuni. This was done in collaboration with Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). The LRPD was part of various workshops conducted by other Ministries and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). A total of 11 trainings were held around the country which were attended by representatives from MoA, NGOs and other stakeholders.
- Pests and diseases are one of the major problems of agricultural production and it is important to advice farmers on how to diagnose the pests and diseases. The Ministry has conducted 8 market pesticide surveys in the Central, Western, Northern and Eastern Divisions on how to determine the level of breaches, inspection of expiry dates on labels; precautionary measures to be taken and the standard of keeping and storing chemicals. As part of the monitoring and evaluation, 80 shops were targeted and three (3) awareness trainings were conducted in each Division. In addition, a total of 34 new pesticide applications were received and registered in provisional and final registrations.

### **Outcome 1.2: Increased adoption of local food gardens by school and demand for diverse nutritious and safe food**

- The Ministry has focused its interventions on promoting backyard gardening in rural and urban areas and strengthening school gardening to increase adoption of local food gardens. The Ministry has established nursery gardens and agroforestry plots for four (4) primary and secondary boarding schools including Queen Victoria School, Ballantine Memorial School; Ra High School and Boubale Primary School. In addition, packed seeds were distributed to 17 schools of which five (5) schools were from Western Division; four (4) from Central Division; six (6) in Northern Division and two (2) from Eastern Division. Dalo
- The Ministry through the Dairy Industry Support (DIS) program allocated the sum of FJD30, 000 to primarily targeted milk self-sufficiency in boarding schools. The increase in volume of local milk production was targeted to two (2) schools including Saint Vincent College at Natovi and Ratu Kadavulevu School at Lodoni in Tailevu.
- Poultry farming is a significant source of revenue generation for smallholder farmers. It plays a vital role in fulfilling the daily protein requirements of humans through meat and egg consumption. The Ministry

under the Poultry Breeding Programme assisted a total of 163 farmers with 2631 day old chicks with a total sum of approximately FJD4000.00.

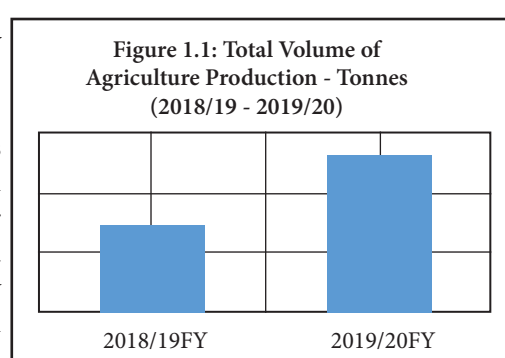
- The Ministry established school nurseries to promote local healthy food in combating Non-Communicable Diseases in the Central and Eastern. The Central and Eastern schools including Koro High School, Narocake District School, Wainibuka Secondary School and Queen Victoria School enhanced students' knowledge and skills in seed raising for the promotion of backyard gardening and food security. A total of 74 agriculture science students were targeted of which 29 were females.
- The Ministry produced a total of 3,436.74kg of seeds in various Research Stations of which 3,185kg was maize, 40kg was chilli, 51.2kg was tomato, 60.54kg was eggplant and 100kg was sweet corn whereby the total seeds supplied to approximately 2000 households was 3,371.2kg of which 3,150kg was maize, 36kg was chilli, 50.2kg was tomato, 56kg was eggplant and 79kg was sweet corn with a total of the value of approximately FJD2,891.70.
- The target for rice seed was 60,000kg and the total production was 63,347kg of seeds with a total value of approximately FJD29, 562 which mainly consisted of cultivar Star, Boldgrain, Deepak, Totoka, Maleka, Sitara and Cagivou at Koronivia Research Station (KRS) and Star and Boldgrain at Dobeilevu Research Station (DRS). The total amount of rice seeds distributed was 85,944.70kg to farmers in Central, Western and Northern Divisions with a total value of approximately FJD40, 108.

### Outcome 1.3: Increased production of resilient, safe and nutritious foods in rural, peri-urban and urban communities

- The Ministry of Agriculture through the Crop Extension Division has distributed over 36,495 packs of home garden packages worth FJD82, 450 consisting of 6-12 packets of dry seeds of chinese cabbage, tomatoes, french bean, long bean, okra, cowpea, eggplant, chillies, capsicum, methi, sarso and radish. Peri and rural urban areas such as Deepwater, Nabilo, Suva-Nausori corridors, Ba, Tavua, Nadi, Levuka, Sigatoka, Vunisea, Labasa, and Savusavu were selected. The breakdown of the seed distribution was 16,391 packages in Central, 13,137 in Western, 2,142 packages in Northern, 983 packages in Eastern and 3,842 packages to faith-based organizations and employees of NGOs and corporate entities.
- The Ministry conducted hands-on training to up skill the communities in Naikabula Settlement (Lautoka) and Pearl Gates Home (Suva) on how to grow their own food through seed raising and vegetable farming. A total of 41 farmers were trained of which 27 were males and 14 were females.

### Outcome 1.4: strong multi-sector approach supported by strategic Food and Nutrition Security (FNS) planning

- The Ministry under the Economic Planning & Statistics coordinated consultation work on Food and Nutrition Security Policy with all relevant stakeholders in the four divisional awareness meeting, consultation and finalized the framework for submission to Cabinet. The Ministry submitted the first draft FNS policy to Cabinet on 10th March, 2020.



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

The Ministry targeted a 5% increase in agriculture production in 2019-2020FY, but due to extreme weather effects, a 3.6% production growth rate was achieved. The production had increased from 324,688 tonnes in 2018-2019FY to 336,297.7 in 2019-2020FY.

A positive growth was recorded for production of crop commodities, by 7.2% while livestock production recorded a negative growth rate of 12.3%.



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a movement towards more subsistence agriculture, using agriculture as a social support mechanism with new and unskilled farmers.

Until Governments can restore tourism and export market linkages, there remain some long-term impacts that continue to negatively impact the livestock sector.

Figure 1.3: Total Volume of Livestock Production - Tonnes (2018/19-2019/20)

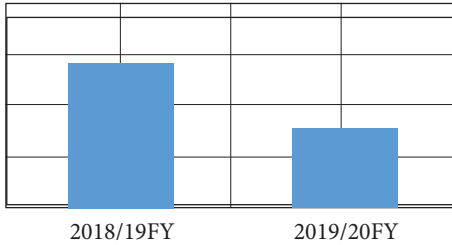
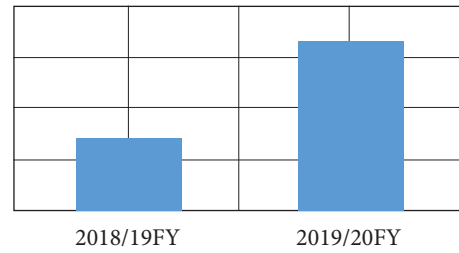


Figure 1.2: Total Volume of Crop Production - Tonnes (2018/19-2019/20)



The overall increase in agriculture production was the result of the COVID-19 response initiatives such as home garden agro-kit and planting materials that were provided to more than 36,000 farmers/ households and 797 communities, provision of 89,315.9kg of seeds and the establishment of 200 school gardens for both primary and secondary schools. Furthermore, from the 200-nucleus genetic improved breed implanted in 2018-2019FY, only 93 calves were born in 2019-2020FY. The Ministry was committed to providing a first draft of the Food and Nutrition Security policy early 2020; however, there was a delay in the provision of support letter from the Ministry of Economy.

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

In the 2019-2020FY, a total of FJD6.9 million capital budget was allocated for Strategic Priority 2 with the intention of “creating a strong viable agriculture sector that empowers all Fijians” by targeting subsistence farmers to advance to semi-commercial agriculture resulting in increasing farmer household income for sustainable livelihoods.

This Strategic Priority is aligned to three goals in the National Development Plan (NDP); (1) Social Inclusion and Empowerment: A socially inclusive Fiji and empowered Fijians (2) Women in Development: empowering women to reach their full development potential (3) Non-sugar Agriculture: Competitive, sustainable and value adding agriculture.

### **Interventions planned under this priority are intended to achieve 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 sector;  
and
- 2.3 Strengthened MoA institutional approach, capacity and engagement with partners and stakeholders that support market-driven production of agriculture commodities and products.

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

The Ministry of Agriculture in the effort to increase farmer household income for sustainable livelihood, implemented several capital programmes in 2019-2020 financial year. These capital programmes were coordinated and implemented by Crop Extension Division, Animal Health & Production Division, Crop Research Division and Economic Planning & Statistics Division.

Table 2.1: 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
Rotuma Development SVDP NDP Coconut Farming Cocoa Farming Food Security Export Promotion Rural Outer Island RIDP Vanilla Farming Rice Farming Coconut Farming Cocoa Farming Potato Farming Pineapple Farming Sigavou NDP Vanilla Planting materials FMIS/Cottage	Dairy Industry Support Dairy Development Agriculture Extension Services (Livestock) Apiculture Farming Poultry Extension Livestock Research Pig Extension/Goat Ext/Goat Industry	Agriculture Research Services- Horticulture/Tree Crops/Root Crops Rice Research and Development Mushroom Research and Development	Monitoring & Evaluation

## B. Achievements of Strategic Priority 2 Deliverables in 2019-2020FY

In 2019–2020FY, the Ministry through this Strategic Priority with its budgetary allocation ensured that planned outcomes and outputs were achieved.

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

- The Ministry through Crop Extension Division activities were successfully implemented in 2019-2020FY through the Cocoa; Food Security; Export Promotion; Rural and Outer Island; Vanilla; Rice; Coconut and Potato Programs in enhancing of market services to farmers; strengthen and formation farmers clusters by commodity and also coordinate consultations and meetings to increase market access on agriculture products. The procurement of agro input under Agro-Input subsidy program to enhance farmers' production.
- To support agriculture growth, the Ministry aims at strengthening its existing Bilateral Quarantine Arrangements and Commodity Protocols. In this financial year, the Ministry established 25 fruit orchards in collaboration with the Taiwan Technical Mission which included 12 pearl guava, five (5) avocado, seven (7) dragon fruit and one (1) breadfruit orchards.
- The Ministry established fruit tree orchards to develop Fiji's fruit industry to enhance local fruit consumption through the engagement of farmers. Packages for the establishment of 50 orchards included 36 Guava, seven (7) Dragon fruit, two (2) Breadfruit and five (5) Avocado with the sum of FJD20, 000. The selection of farmers was done according to the availability of land, location, and farmer performance record. Moreover, the identified farmers were provided with land preparation, training, and seedlings through demonstration trainings. The Ministry monitored the final establishment of orchards in accordance with the recommended package of practices for individual fruit commodities.
- Village Nutrition Security was an initiative announced by the Honourable Minister for Agriculture to help with rehabilitation on the impact of COVID 19 and Tropical Cyclone Harold. A total of 14 villages in the Nadroga/Navosa district were established with fruit tree planting with close monitoring by the Research team at Sigatoka.
- The Ministry through the root crops research program allocated the sum of FJD300, 000 to improve plant genetic resources, introduction, and plant breeding, improving root crops cultivation technologies, release of new crops varieties, disseminating root crops research information and the production of seed

and planting materials. The selection of 145 new dalo breeding lines from 18 crosses for resistance to Taro Leaf Blight (TLB); selection of new 27 cassava open pollinated accessions and selection of 13 new open pollinated kumala accessions is an ongoing activity. These breeding works focuses on improving and broadening root crops gene pool and building resilience to biotic and abiotic stresses.

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

- The Ministry through the Women in Agriculture Programme was allocated the sum of FJD400, 000 primarily to increase women participation. The activity was implemented at all geographical Divisions and targeted women farmers who were engaged in Voivoi, Masi and Floriculture. For 2019-2020FY, there were 25,056 voivoi suckers procured and distributed to 200 women farmers, 2483 Masi cutting distributed to Bua of 12 clusters and 400 anthurium plants were distributed to five (5) women's group in the Central Division and 9000 Vanilla cuttings were distributed in Ra for two (2) clusters.
- Honey as a high valued commodity is of greater demand than supply in Fiji. Investment in Apiculture would enable greater profits for the industry in the value chain and support the livelihoods particularly for women and youths. Under the Apiculture programme, a total of nine (9) women, one (1) from Central, 2 from Western and six (6) from Northern participated in beekeeping and two (2) youths, one (1) from Central and Western respectively were provided hive and hive parts and harvesting equipment.
- The Ministry through the Dairy program developed two (2) school dairy farms worth of FJD91, 800 including Ratu Kadavulevu School and Queen Victoria School in the Central Division. The improvement of school farms will set a platform for education and training opportunities to the youths. The intervention will focus on shed construction and pasture & fodder bank establishment aiming to improve the performance of the milking stock through availability of high-quality pastures all year around. Improved pastures such as Setaria and Guatamala were established, and grazing was done at an early stage when the fibre content was less.
- In this 2019-2020FY, the Ministry established the new collection centre in Sigatoka in 2020. The work was in progress to divert the first batch of 12 cattle farmers in Sigatoka to supply to the new established chilling centre to be constructed in Sigatoka Research Station. The formal dairy production comprised of farmers who supply raw milk to Fiji Dairy Company Limited. The informal sector supplies to urban dwellers for home consumption and value adding milk production. The Central division recorded the highest suppliers with 12 bulk and 280 farmers supplying milk to the chilling centres. A total of 122 farmers from the West supplied to the two chilling centres (SC Foods) in Ba and Lautoka.
- A total of nine (9) trainings were conducted for capacity building for subsistence farmers to enhance their knowledge and skills in establishment and maintenance of nurseries, land use and maintain SLM plots. These trainings were conducted in the Central, Western and Northern Divisions.

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

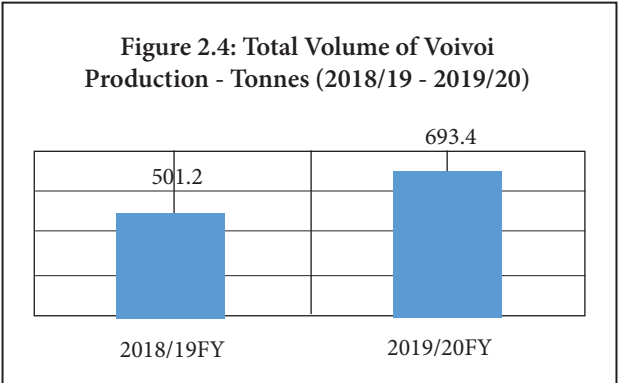
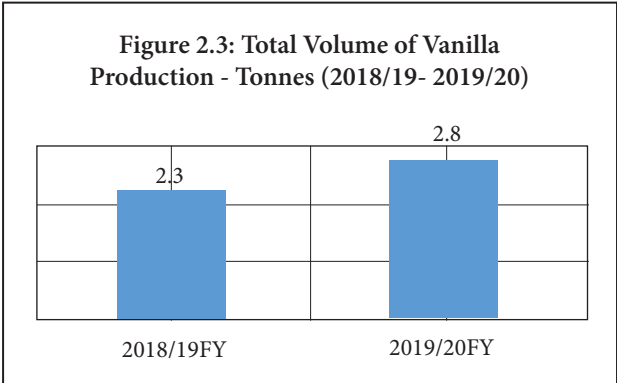
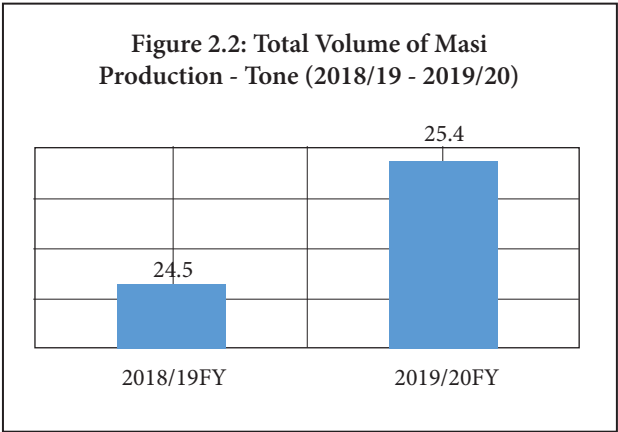
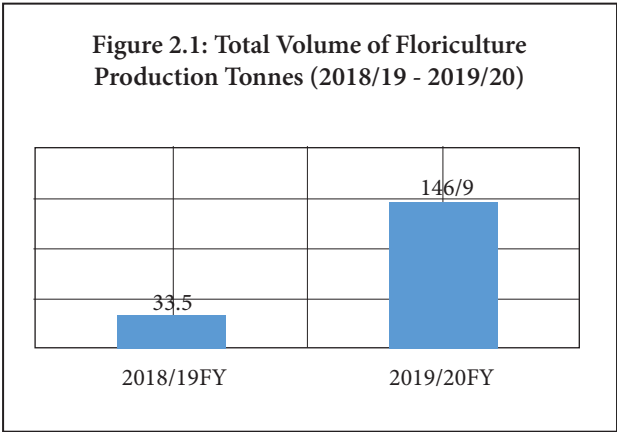
- The Ministry in collaboration with Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) conducted trial on analysing four different species of fodder. The staffs from goat research section assisted in establishing the trial which was a two (2) wet season trail carried out on the nutrition analysis.
- To ensure that both women and youth have equal access to agriculture, the Ministry conducted trainings on mushroom research & development (crop improvement screening); fruit research & development (farm practices), technology transfer (fruit seedlings); and vegetable research & development (farm practices) and conservation and maintenance of plant genetic resources.
- The Ministry implemented a total of 14 research programmes including Chemistry one (1), Root Crops (12), Rice nine (9), Tree Crops eight (8) and Horticulture four (4) with a total allocation of FJD1,289,255.00. These programmes include production of new varieties of vegetables, pulses, potatoes and fruits, developing organic production systems, conducting trainings and technology transfer.
- The Ministry reported five (5) new Research collaborations with international research institution that have been signed and established. The collaborations were on chemistry for analysis contaminants and pollutants in water sources; with ACIAR on genetic resources, production, and post-harvest systems

to SDP & COP Monitoring 2020 and 19 market opportunities for Pacific islands and Australian; and horticulture.

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

In 2019-2020FY, a total of 36,939 planting materials of voivoi, flower cuttings, vanilla and masi were distributed to women farmers under the Women in Agriculture Program. This was reflected in the significant increase in production of the targeted commodities in 2019-2020FY as compared to 2018-2019FY. 50 tree fruit orchards were established which was beyond the target of 20 orchards set in the COP.

There was a total of 163 livestock farmers registered in 2019-2020FY and adopted good management practices from research, which is an increase of 7.7% as compared to 2018-2019FY.





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

In the 2019-2020FY, a total of FJD4.2 million capital budget was allocated for Strategic Priority 3 with the intention of improving the adoption of Sustainable Resource Management and Climate Smart Agriculture.

This Strategic Priority is aligned to National Development Plan (NDP) goal 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; and
- 3.3 Increased Awareness and Adoption by Farmers of Sustainable Resource Management and Climate Smart Agriculture Practices.

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

The Ministry of Agriculture on the work to improve the adoption of sustainable resource management and climate smart agriculture, implemented several capital programmes in 2019-2020 financial year. These capital programmes were coordinated and implemented by Crop Extension Division, Animal Health & Production Division, Crop Research Division and Economic Planning & Statistics Division.

**Table 3.1: 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 Farm Management Information System Farm Access Vanilla, Ginger, Yaqona, Flatland, NDP, Sigavou, Cocoa, Coconut and SDVP FLDP/LPF	Apiculture/Goat Extension Livestock Research Goat Industry Agriculture Extension Services Waste Management Rural Outer Island Beef Extension Dairy Industry Support	Agriculture Research Services – Horticulture/Root Crops and Tree Crops Sustainable Land Management Upgrade of Plant Tissue Culture Lab	Disaster Response Management

### B. Achievements of Strategic Priority 3 Deliverables in 2019-2020FY

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

- The Ministry managed to conduct 5 basics of Bee Keeping trainings with 173 participants in the Central and Western Division with a total budget of approximately FJD26, 000.00.
- The Ministry in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy conducted the monitoring of the Partnership to Establish Goat Meat Industry (PEGMI). This was on the monitoring was conducted under PEGMI on

the criteria of the 21 farms selected and the distribution of materials. These farms were selected according to the set criteria to supply to fattening farm which in turn, fattens the animals and channels through slaughterhouse into formal markets by the contractor from Tagitagi Tavua.

- The Ministry through the Animal, Health and Production assisted the five (5) farms in the Northern and Western Division to develop as multiplication centres to meet the drought issue with a total budget of FJD26,000.00. All these five (5) farms were provided with water tanks, three (3) farms were provided with fencing materials for pasture and nursery and four (4) farms were provided with chaff cutters.
- The Ministry has supported a total of 660 farmers on technology and capacity building for effective climate change related planning and management for the crop sector. A total of FJD 39,000.00 was fully utilized on planting materials (Tivoli, kumala, dalo ni tana and other resilient variety crops), water tanks, water pumps (irrigation system) for those farms affected by drought. The planting material assistance was provided to Lau, Tailevu North, Kadavu and Vanua Levu. Additionally, disaster risk management awareness was conducted in the maritime islands; Kadavu, Lau and Lomaiviti.
- The Ministry under the crop improvement involving release of new crop variety; potential pigeon pea variety (ICPL 96053) seed block was established at Korovuto and maintained for release with the sum of FJD12, 500.00.
- The Ministry released two new animal breeds including Senepol and Brown Swiss. 15 beef farms received beef extension programme assistance package. This particularly activity was supposedly linked with the Livestock Research target of distributing Senepol ET bulls whilst, nutrition and infrastructure improvement to be accommodated by the beef extension programme. Due to the disease status of the station, the distribution of the bulls was unable to proceed nevertheless; the nutrition and infrastructure development of the potential beef farms selected for assistance had been undertaken.
- The Ministry signed 2 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for new partnership with China and Australia. The MoU with China is on improving Agriculture Cooperation for research and agriculture policies and to strengthen the agriculture cooperation between the Government of People's Republic of China and Government of Fiji. It enhances agricultural cooperation between the two parties on basis of equality and mutual benefit. To prevailing laws and regulations in their respective countries. The MoU with the Australian Government is of collaborative research for improving small ruminant production and supply in Fiji. It also tends to improve husbandry and feeding system to better manage feed gaps to reduce mortality and improve small ruminant turn off-rates.

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

- The Ministry under the horticulture programme produced seeds for those agricultural commodities/ varieties that were currently produced at Research Stations and are not commercially available. The outcome of this programme was to increase crop production thus ensuring food and income security and entail to increase export earnings by the provision of good quality seeds as required under the Bilateral Quarantine Agreement. A total budget of FJD76, 548.00 was utilised for production of cowpea (800kg), pigeon pea (800kg), peanut (1000kg), urd (50kg) and mung (50kg) seeds.
- The Ministry supported 1478 farms of which 1033 were poultry and 445 were pig farms with quality breeding stock and nutritional plan in the Central and Western Division.

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



- The Ministry conducted a total of 5 trainings in Ravitaki, Kadavu, Caubati Womens group, Naitasiri and Namuamua in Namosi and Tailevu to train about 200 farmers with a total budget of FJD21, 600.00. The training areas included farming as a business, rewarding form of employment and sustainable land management to empower farmers to understand more about farming and importance of land management.



- The Ministry trained 41 staffs from the 4 Divisions on sustainable resource management and climate smart agriculture practices on Green House Gas inventory online course hosted by Greenhouse gas Management Institute through Climate Change office - Ministry of Economy; Green House Gas Emission Inventories with Ministry of Forestry & Climate Change Unit, Ministry of Economy; and Profiling & Description with Land Use Capability Classification refresher training.

- The Ministry conducted 2 biophysical surveys to assess land use, soils, and land use capability. This survey was carried to identify potential agriculture and alternative cropping options in Lau, Ba, Naitasiri, Serua/Namosi and Nadroga/Navosa areas. This was to encourage youths and young farmers in the area to develop the land for other agriculture. The Ministry also provided land use maps, soil maps, and locality maps to stakeholders for acquiring new leases to ITLTB. A total of 352 maps in the Central, Western and Northern Division was provided for land use capability and soil.



- The Ministry has a Geographic Information System (GIS) unit that captures, stores, analyses, and produces cartographic outputs of all mapping requirements. The GIS Unit currently stores, manipulates, and analyses land use data (cadastral, topography, vegetation, soils, land use capability, FLIS, TLTB leases, registered aerial photographs, and Tikina-based land use information). Land Use staff received hands-on training in the use of GIS. A total of 6 staffs have been trained on ArcGIS Pro Software and Carbon Emissions Training.



- The Ministry focuses on efforts to combat land degradation through capacity building and soil conservation technologies. It is hoped that building the capacity of local communities will promote human coexistence with nature in a long-term perspective and ensure food security, poverty alleviation, livelihood improvements, and improved ecosystem services. A total number of 8 trainings have been conducted with 280 participants of whom 63 were women. Additionally, A total of 19 land use staffs from all Divisions have been trained on SLM practices and Land Use Capability Classification and Soil Profiling & Description in Nadi from the 27th - 31st January, 2020.



- Conservation Farms were established around the country to assist in the training and awareness activities in promoting sustainable land management practices. These demonstration plots or model farms show the different types of good adoptable land husbandry practices suitable for the area or site and will assist in training the communities in promoting such practices. The demonstration plots or model farms show the different types of good adoptable land husbandry practices (use of soil conservation measures- vetiver grass hedgerows, pineapple hedgerows). This financial year, the Ministry received requests from farmers, communities, and schools needing



assistance on soil erosion control or conservation measures. A total number of 16 communities were assisted with vetiver grass, agroforestry plants, and fruit trees for soil erosion control measures on sloping lands.

- One of the core functions of the Fruit Research is the collection, establishment, and conservation of Plant Genetic Resources to prevent genetic erosion. A total of 27 varieties of citrus, 2 varieties of Noni, 8 varieties of banana and plantain, 5 varieties of avocado, 7 indigenous fruits, 11 breadfruit and 15 exotic fruits were conserved in the field gene banks at the three agriculture research stations. The Plant Tissue Culture lab produced 17 diseases free planting material for evaluation and conserving genetic lines. The total funding of FJD160,000.00 was allocated for the upgrade of the Lab during the financial year; FJD70,000 was used for direct Tissue Culture work.
- In addition, the Tissue Culture Lab produced and supplied 4 crops to identified research stations for evaluation. Plants conserved in vitro during the year were collected from farmers' field and research stations while the overseas collections were received from the Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees [Ce-PaCT]. There was an on-going collaboration between the Ministry and Ce-PaCT. Training in areas of multiplication of crops with bioreactor, advance technology in tissue culture, and advance techniques.



*Launching of SDP Document*



*Census Training in the Northern Division*



*Staff capacity building*



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4: ESTABLISH AND INCREASE COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE

In 2019-2020FY, the Ministry supported 660 farmers on climate smart agriculture practices against 500 targeted in at the beginning of the financial year, 1033 poultry local stock were supplied to farmers, Cattle ID system was established, cattle population tested and screened, farmers were supported with quality breeding, and volume of pulses seeds were produced. A total of FJD5.7 million capital budget was allocated for Strategic Priority 4 with the intention to accelerate the process for transitioning smallholder farmers to commercial level.

This Strategic Priority is aligned to National Development Plan (NDP) goal on Promoting equal opportunities, access to basic services and building resilient communities and Non-sugar Agriculture: Competitive, sustainable and value-adding agriculture.

### Interventions planned under this priority are intended to achieve 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

The Ministry of Agriculture on the effort to accelerate the process for transitioning smallholder farmers to commercial level, implemented several capital programmes in 2019-2020 financial year. These capital programmes were coordinated and implemented by Crop Extension Division, Animal Health & Production Division, Crop Research Division and Economic Planning & Statistics Division.

**Table 4.1: 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
APIS Commercial Farmers Equity Package Rice Extension Ginger Farming Dalo Farming Yaqona Farming Cold Storage Facility Young Farmers Business incubation scheme Bilateral Quarantine Agreement (BQA) Farm Mechanization Coconut/Yaqona FNS/DNP Export Promotion Program (CADP)	Goat Extension Commercial Farmers Equity Package Beef Extension Agriculture Extension Services Sheep Extension Poultry Extension Partnership to Establish Goat Meat Industry Upgrade of Nasinu & Vuda Abattoir	Taveuni Coconut Post-Harvest Losses Agriculture Research Services –Root Crops Mushroom Research & Development Rice Research and Development	APIS Commercial Farmers Equity Package Cold Storage Facility Project Appraisal Support Monitoring & Evaluation AgTrade Fiji Agriculture & Rural Statistics

## B. Achievements of Strategic Priority 4 Deliverables in 2019-2020FY

In 2019-2020FY, the Ministry through this Strategic Priority with its budgetary allocation ensured that planned outcomes and outputs were achieved.

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

- The Ministry through the Ginger Development programme allocated the sum of FJD600, 000.00 and distributed 150.467 tonnes of ginger seeds to 282 farmers: 97 tonnes to 180 Farmers from Naitasiri, 25.3 tonnes to 57 Tailevu farmers and 33.167 tonnes to 45 farmers in Serua and Namosi respectively. Agro inputs such as fertiliser, weedicides and poultry manure were also distributed and 2 farmer trainings were conducted in Naitasiri.
- The Ministry through the Dalo Development Programme allocated the sum of FJD300, 000.00 and procured 60,000 dalo suckers which were delivered to 20 farmers in Cakaudrove and 120 farmers in Taveuni. Agro-inputs such as fertilisers, weedicides and irrigation materials worth of FJD104, 000.00 were supplied and trainings were conducted in Vuna, Wainikeli, Navatu and Naweni for 532 farmers. 3 demo plots were established; 2 in Cakaudrove and 1 in Taveuni for dalo farmers to demonstrate application of fertilisers and other agronomic practices.
- Research activities on root crops were expanded and were implemented at the following locations: Koronivia, Dobuilevu, Seaqaqa, Wainigata, Taveuni and farmers' field. After five years of research on dalo, a new variety BL/SM/44, which a tolerant variety to TLB, dwarf type, thick petiole, good suckering abilities, mean corm weight 1.4kg, better shelf life, fast cooking, and excellent eating quality will be expected to be released in 2021.
- For improvement in cultivation technologies where a flatland demonstration on Tausala ni Samoa dalo variety was established at Koronivia and one (1) at Muanaweni to demonstrate Tausala production on flatlands. This was done to encourage the diversification of Tausala on flatland, reducing cost of production and accessibility and cost effective to exporters.
- The Ministry through the Yaqona Development programme allocated a sum of FJD300,000.00 in which 41,500 cuttings were procured and distributed to farmers in Cakaudrove, Bua, Macuata, Tailevu, Naitasiri, Rewa, Serua/Namosi, Lomaiviti, Kadavu and Lau. Agro inputs worth of FJD14, 650.000 were distributed to 45 farmers in Cakaudrove, Bua, Macuata, Lomaiviti, Kadavu and Rewa and one (1) pounding machine was procured and given to a farmer in Macuata.
- With the domestic consumption of fruits of coconut palms in Fiji and the declining production trend, Coconut Programme attempts to take measures in producing high yielding hybrids for rehabilitation work, pest management and crop management practices. Coconut Research programme for the year concentrated more on breeding Hybrids and raising of seedlings. The Ministry allocated the sum of FJD450, 000.00 for the Coconut Development Programme where 10,000 coconut seed nuts were procured and distributed in the Northern Division. Nurseries were established at Dreketi, Natua & Labasa stations.
- The Division was able to monitor and evaluate Demand Driven Approach (DDA) Programs including 34 capital programs. The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) with collaboration of UNFAO successfully conducted COP 2019-2020FY nine months monitoring to which the report has been tabulated to the Management and Ministry of Economy.

### Outcome 4.2: Improved commercial agriculture linkage with tourism industry

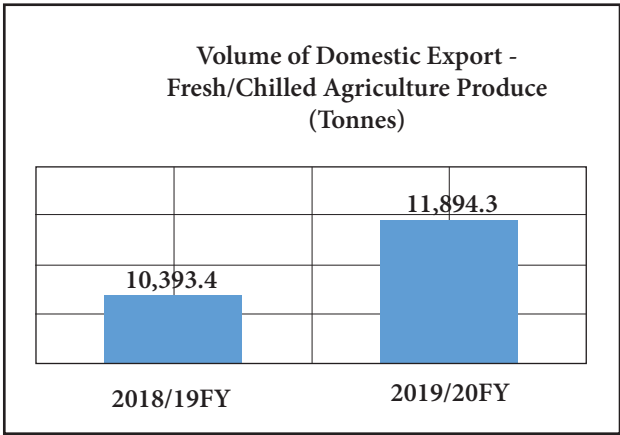
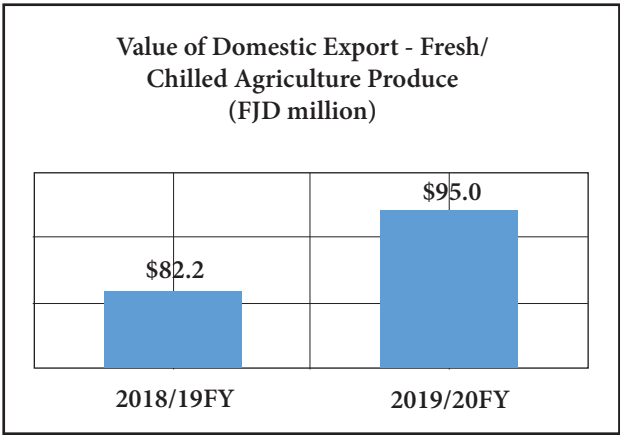
- The Ministry under the EP&S Division successfully linked 150 farmers to the Agro-tourism industry and established a database for local produce information and was made accessible to chefs. This information is provided to chefs to allow them access information on availability of crops and where they could access it. The program mainly involves information sharing.

- The Ministry through the Fiji Agriculture Trade Section hosted a booth to showcase Fiji products for the Fine Food Show in Australia. 5 small and medium sized exporters were supported to participate and gained market knowledge. The exporters included Zonah United, Fiji Kava, Green Gold, Farm Boy and Agricultural Marketing Authority. These included major export commodities such as kava, ginger, turmeric and value-added products.
- The Phase 1 of the Commercial Kava Pilot Programme commenced whereby personal importations of kava into Australia has increased from 2kg to 4 kg. The Ministry has developed written submission to support market access of products into new markets such UK and Australia. In helping to manage issues associated with maintaining and improving existing trade, 90 kava farmers in Kadavu have been trained on quality standards in improving the way kava is produced, harvested and prepared for consumption and for export.
- The Ministry attended the Coordinating Committee for North America and the South West Pacific meeting held in Port Vila, Vanuatu from the 16th-20th September, 2019. This placed significant efforts on Codex to gain access into new market by achieving compliance with international food safety standards and supported the participation of 3 experts and 2 high level officials in the Regional meeting. The proposed draft regional standard for fermented noni fruit juice and the draft regional standard for kava products for use as a beverage when mixed with water were discussed.
- A total of 110 duty concession support letters were facilitated by the Ministry. This support is committed towards the development of Agriculture sector in Fiji to encourage fresh crop farming, food stability and sustainability.
- The Ministry supports helped farmers to promote the use of local food in the tourism market by supporting the engagement of international recognized chef to train local/new chefs to incorporate local products in modern cuisine. A chef's training was conducted in Dream View Villas in Rakiraki, Ra and included local chefs and women's group from Ra Province as participants. The Ministry participated in HOTECH show to showcase various fresh produce, Fijian Made and Fijian produced products to the tourism sector. This included the exporters and farmers to engage in finding markets for their produce with a wide range of audience at Sheraton Fiji Resort in Nadi.

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

Fiji exported a total of FJD95 million of fresh/chilled agriculture produce in 2019-2020FY, an increase of 15.5% as compared to 2018-2019FY. The positive growth was also recorded on volume exported, that is, from 10393.4 tonnes in 2018-2019FY to 11,894 tonnes in 2019-2020FY.

The increase in export was due to an increase in the number of farmers assisted under Dalo Development Program, Ginger Development Program, Yaqona Development Program and Coconut Program to name a few. The ongoing assistance to exporters and agro processors through Agro-Processors Industry Support Program and Cold Storage Facility Program has also boosted the capacity of fresh/chilled export in this financial year as compared to 2018-2019FY.



In 2019-2020FY, total of FJD39.9 million was injected into the economy from the export of Kava, FJD24.8 million from Taro, FJD2.1 million from Ginger, FJD10.1 million from Turmeric, FJD2.6 million from Vegetables and FJD2.3 million from export of egg, just to name a few.





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

In the 2019-2020 FY, a total of FJD11.1 million capital budget was allocated for Strategic Priority 5 with the intention to deliver the best agriculture services for all Fijians.

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

- 5.1 A new modern MoA 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 MoA stations and officers are well supported through improved working conditions;
- 5.4 Enhanced utilization of data, research information to ensure formulation of evidence-based policy, program interventions and timely dissemination to stakeholders; and
- 5.5 Updated legislative frameworks and continuous capacity building program.

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

The Ministry of Agriculture on the effort to deliver the best agriculture services, implemented several capital programmes in 2019-2020FY. These capital programmes were coordinated and implemented by Crop Extension Division, Animal Health & Production Division, Crop Research Division, Economic Planning & Statistics Division and Human Resources and Development Division.

**Table 5.1: 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
Agriculture Extension Services Cocoa Farming Farm Management Cottage and Potato Coconut Farming Ginger Farming SVDP, NDP Farm Mechanization Rice Farming FLDP	Livestock Research Agriculture Extension Services (Livestock) Extension Commodity and Regulatory	Infrastructure Improvement of Research Stations Construction of Agronomy building Purchase of Equipment – Molecular Lab Purchase of Equipment Chemistry Lab Infrastructure Improvement of Research Stations Construction of Agronomy building Agriculture Research Services – Horticulture/ Tree Crops/Root Crops Fiji Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Mushroom Research & Development Rice Research Development	Fiji Agriculture & Rural Statistics Program Ongoing Agriculture Partnership Project in the Highlands National Agriculture Census FAPP Project Appraisal Support FAO-Office Support Public Consultation on Revision of Agriculture Laws Research Council Monitoring & Evaluation	Restructure Program Repairs & Maintenance of Office Training Program Information Technology/ Information Communication IT Operational Support  Agriculture Show

## B. Achievements of Strategic Priority 5 Deliverables in 2019-2020FY

### Outcome 5.1: A New MoA Structure with Supportive Systems and Infrastructure.

- The Ministry employed 926 staffs of which 450 were established, 248 GWE's, 121 project and 107 casuals in the 2019 calendar year. There were 334 vacant positions for this financial year due to resignations, retirements, transfer to other Government Departments and within, staff demise and terminations. 8 officers got acting posts and 6 temporary officers were appointed. For implementation of ongoing projects in the Ministry, 24 project staff was recruited and 33 casual staff were engaged. In addition, 13 staff retired from their service whereas 5 employees resigned from the Ministry.
- The Human Resources Management Information Systems (HRMIS) spearheaded by the Ministry of Civil Service was established and operational where this database was for staffs to view leave status and apply online. The additional features of the database where the staffs could view their Performance Management Framework form and staff can update their performance achievements online and view their contract details.
- The ongoing Ministry restructure continued from 2018 and 4 new Heads positions was created to lead Divisions as follows;
  - i. Head of Agriculture Operations & Services (Band M);
  - ii. Head of Human Resources Development & Services (Band K);
  - iii. Head of Finance (Band K); and
  - iv. Head of Agriculture Research (Band K)

A total of 103 SOP were developed and reviewed and one (1) training calendar for the entire Ministry was developed. In addition, 5 OHS Committee Units were established in Geographical Stations.

- To improve productivity and performance of staffs, trainings were conducted to enhance skills and knowledge. Training courses are classified into overseas, local and in - house trainings. This year, a total of 45 trainings were facilitated: 34 overseas, five (5) local and six (6) in - house training.

### Outcome 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.

- The Ministry produced 7 reports on agriculture statistics and disseminated to the stakeholders this FY, achieving 100% of the target. The EP&S through its Fiji Agriculture and Rural Statistics section is continuing to improve the compilation and release of agriculture statistics in Fiji. The following reports were disseminated to internal and external stakeholders: 2019 Production Statistics Yearbook; 2019 Agriculture Trade Statistics Yearbook; 2019 Quarterly Production Report (4 Quarters); Agriculture Forecasted Production Data (RBF and Ministry of Economy); 2018 Updated GDP Highlight; 2019 Agriculture Trade Info graphics and 2019 Agriculture Production Map.
- The 2020 Fiji Agriculture Census engaged 430 enumerators (36% male, 64% female), 146 field supervisors and 118 area coordinators who were trained and deployed to collect information. Out of the 118 Area Coordinators, 84% from Ministry of Agriculture, 8% from Ministry of Fisheries, 4% from Ministry of Forestry, and 3% from Ministry of iTaukei Affairs. All field supervisors were selected from the Ministry of Agriculture Headquarters Team consists of ten government officials selected from five Ministries who were part of the Technical Group. All data processing activity were carried out at the Main Census Data Processing Room. Two MOA IT officers were responsible for coordinating IT activities at the three main regional census offices during the census period.
- The Information and Communication Unit has provided exclusive media coverage on agriculture promotion activities. This year, 4 quarterly reports on impact of agricultural promotion activities were released to enhance the Ministry's corporate image. There were 200 iTaukei radio programmes which aired on Radio Fiji One, Domoiviti produced by the Ministry of Agriculture titled 'Na Liganisau'. There

were 48 news segments sent to Fiji TV and Fiji Broadcasting Corporation to air on their respective channels during prime-time news. There were 4 radio talkback shows attended by the MoA staffs at the Fiji Broadcasting Corporation radio station.

- Chat portal was integrated into the MoA website for information dissemination to all stakeholders. Ministry website revamped from out-dated CMS to dynamic a website with an admin portal to upload press releases and vacancies. There has been a 5% increase of decentralised offices which has access to core government online portal. Out of the 79 stations, 31 have access to Govnet which includes ten (10) in Central, 12 in Western, eight (8) in Northern and one (1) in Eastern Division giving easy access to accurate, timely and useful information to staffs.

#### **Outcome 5.3: MoA stations and officers are well supported through improved working conditions.**

- The Ministry allocated a total of FJD1, 285,000.00 for undertaking repairs and maintenance for quarters in all four Divisions: 13 in Northern, ten (10) in Western, seven (7) in Eastern and 13 in Central Division, however this was not enough to cater for the deteriorating structures in most Agriculture Stations.
- Personal Protective Equipments is essential in the operations of the Ministry which needs to be beefed up.

#### **Outcome 5.4: enhanced utilization of data, research information to ensure formulation of evidence-based policy, program interventions and timely dissemination to stakeholders.**

- MoA Costed Operational Plan 2019-2020 was successfully launched in August 2019. The Division completed the compilation of Annual Work Plan (AWP) and Annual Procurement Plan (APP) for all Divisions in the Ministry.
- The Ministry was able to undertake the National Steering Committee (NSC) meeting and a total of 74 projects were tabled for discussion and approved by the NSC members. 11 projects were funded under the Dairy Industry projects, 14 projects under the Export Promotion programme, and 23 projects under the Food Security programmes, 25 under the Rural and Outer Island projects and one (1) under the Sigatoka Valley Development programme.
- The Ministry continued with its activity in vetting the Request to Incur Expenditure (RIE), ensuring that Quarterly Physical Progressive Report (QPPR) is done on a quarterly basis to indicate the amount set out for each activity is utilized for the planned activities. In addition, the Ministry was responsible in the compilation of Annual Work Plan (AWP) and Annual Procurement Plan (APP) for the Ministry and submitted to Ministry of Economy for their appraisal.
- The Ministry through the Project and Budget Unit was responsible in the compilation of the Ministry 2019-2020 COP in which all activities of the Ministry were collated and documented in the COP. The unit was also responsible in the compilation of the Grant Agreements for the Ministry's stakeholders such as Tutu Training Centre, Agro Marketing Authority and Navuso Agriculture Training Institute. The unit was able to compile the pending 2016 half year report Annual Report and 2016-2017 Annual Report in this financial year.

#### **Outcome 5.5: updated legislative frameworks and continuous capacity building program.**

- The Ministry signed 13 Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Agricultural Marketing Authority (2), Navuso Agriculture School, Tutu Training Centre, Fiji Cooperative Dairy Company Limited, Vinod Patel & Company Limited (2), i-TLTB, Fiji Meat Industry Board, General Machinery and Motors Limited, Water Authority of Fiji, Fiji Crop & Livestock Council, Engagement of consultant for goat & sheep development.
- The 3 Bilateral Agreements signed were:
  - i. Memorandum of Subsidiary Arrangement Relating to the ACIAR Project NO LS/2017/033 between the Government of Fiji and The Government of Australia relating to the "Improving Small Ruminant Production and Supply in Fiji and Samoa"
  - ii. Memorandum of Subsidiary Arrangement between the Government of Fiji and The Government of Australia relating to the "Increasing the productivity and profitability of smallholder beekeeping enterprises in PNG and Fiji".
  - iii. MoU with China was signed on improving Agriculture Cooperation for research and agriculture policies.



- A total of 12 Cabinet Papers were submitted and approved this financial year as follows:
  - i. Report on visit by the Minister For Agriculture to World Food Programme's executive board event in Rome;
  - ii. 2020-2022 Action Plan on Agriculture Cooperation between China and Pacific Island Countries;
  - iii. Banning of Neonicotinoid (Imidacloprid) insecticides and banning of Paraquat Herbicide;
  - iv. Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Agriculture of the Government of the Republic of Fiji and Kohan Shoji Company Ltd, Tokyo, Japan;
  - v. Report on the high-level segment of the 14th session of the conference of the parties (COP 14) of the United Nations Convention to combat desertification (UNCCD) and other bilateral meetings in New Delhi, India.
  - vi. Report on visit by the Minister for Agriculture to Australia -Fiji Business Council meetings and meetings with key stakeholders in Brisbane Australia;
  - vii. Report on visit by the Minister for Agriculture on the second Joint FAO and SPC Pacific Heads of Agriculture and Forestry Meeting;
  - viii. UNFAO/Fiji Country Programming Framework 2018-2022;
  - ix. Memorandum of Understanding on Agricultural Cooperation between the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Government of the Republic of Fiji.
  - x. Hosting of the 2021 Pacific Week of Agriculture and Forestry Meeting;
  - xi. Declaration of 2021 as the year of Coconut; and
  - xii. Food Security, Agriculture Growth and Expansion Plan.

## ANALYSIS

In 2018-2019FY, the Ministry issued 50 research publications compared to eight (8) in 2019-2020FY whereas the Ministry signed 4 bilateral MoU in 2018-2019FY compared to 16 in 2019-2020FY.



# MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE FINANCIAL STATEMENT YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

## OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Promoting Public Sector Accountability and Sustainability through our Audits



Level 1, Modyl Plaza  
Kananjhi St. Vatukawa  
P. O. Box 2214, Government Buildings  
Suva, Fiji



Telephone: (679) 330 9032  
E-mail: [info@auditorgeneral.gov.fj](mailto:info@auditorgeneral.gov.fj)  
Website: [www.oag.gov.fj](http://www.oag.gov.fj)



### 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, which comprise the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure, Appropriation Statement, Consolidated Activity Trading Account, Consolidated Trading Activity Profit and Loss Account, Consolidated Trading Activity Balance Sheet and Statement of Losses for the financial year ended 31 July 2020, and the notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Financial Management Act 2004, the Finance Instructions 2010 and Finance (Amendment) Instructions 2016.

#### Basis for Opinion

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

#### Management's Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (con't)

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Ministry of Agriculture's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and related disclosures made by the Ministry of Agriculture.

I communicate with the Ministry of Agriculture regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Sairusi Dukuno  
**ACTING AUDITOR-GENERAL**




Suva, Fiji  
01 June 2022

**MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020**

We certify that these financial statements:

- a) fairly reflect the financial operations and performance of the Ministry of Agriculture for the year ended 31 July 2020; and
- b) Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Financial Management Act 2004, Finance Instructions 2010 and the Finance (Amendment) Instructions 2016.



Dr Vinesh Kumar  
Permanent Secretary for Agriculture

Date: 16/05/22



Sikeli Baletsuva  
Acting Head of Finance

Date: 16/05/22

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

	Notes	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
<b>Operating Revenue</b>			
Agricultural produce & inspection Fees		24,970	602
License		48,906	71,579
Court fines		-	153
Meat inspection		16,416	18,457
Management fee		-	3,125
Veterinary and animal quarantine		13,033	10,140
Sale of sheep and wool		1,222	34,243
Rest house		2,444	3,575
Rental for quarters		52,209	44,744
Hire of plant and vehicles		-	231
Registration		3,716	7,326
Commission		14,548	18,128
Sale of farm produce		86,602	49,918
Miscellaneous revenue		233	563,765
Overpayment recoveries		31,974	5,800
Board Member fees		2,300	6,764
Agro input farmers contribution		130,132	32,640
Pound keeping		25,582	3,016
Land Preparation Farmers Contribution		2,129	-
Sale of animals by auction		23,585	1,184
Water charges		112	711
Rural electrification		19	19
Sales of Livestock		34,395	-
Plant & Equipment Farmer 1/3 cont		3,670	-
Reimbursement from FRA		138,000	-
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>		<b>656,197</b>	<b>876,220</b>
Investment revenue – sale of fixed assets		24,031	-
<b>Total Revenue</b>	3 (a)	<b>680,228</b>	<b>876,220</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Established staff		12,000,481	13,275,080
Government wage earners		4,194,054	4,784,857
Travel and communication	3 (b)	702,671	883,692
Maintenance & operations		1,971,608	2,054,851
Purchase of goods and services	3 (c)	590,150	469,866
Operating grants and transfers		3,856,512	4,157,605
Special expenditures	3 (d)	6,250,205	2,706,518
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>		<b>29,664,681</b>	<b>28,332,469</b>

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE (Continued...)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

	Notes	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
Capital construction	3 (e)	13,275,875	17,437,646
Capital purchase	3 (f)	1,798,556	1,239,982
Capital grants and transfers	3 (g)	15,127,228	13,650,167
<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>		<b>30,201,659</b>	<b>32,327,795</b>
Value Added Tax		1,819,809	2,231,078
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>61,686,149</b>	<b>62,891,342</b>

APPROPRIATION STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

SEG	Item	Budget Estimate \$	Appropriate Changes (Note 4) \$	Revised Budget \$	Actual Expenditure \$	Carry- Over \$	Lapsed Appropriation \$
	<b>Operating Expenditure</b>						
1	Established Staff	10,622,373	1,483,566	12,105,939	12,090,481	-	15,458
2	Government Wage Earners	3,884,306	309,829	4,194,135	4,194,054	-	81
3	Travel & Communications	666,181	36,656	702,837	702,671	-	166
4	Maintenance & Operations	1,787,775	184,428	1,972,203	1,971,608	-	595
5	Purchase Of Goods & Services	601,369	(11,076)	590,293	590,150	-	143
6	Operating Grants & Transfers	4,036,124	(178,303)	3,857,822	3,856,512	-	1,309
7	Special Expenditure	6,356,838	(90,038)	6,266,800	6,259,205	-	7,595
	<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>27,954,966</b>	<b>1,735,062</b>	<b>29,690,028</b>	<b>29,664,681</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,347</b>
	<b>Capital Expenditure</b>						
8	Capital Construction	15,199,535	(1,196,355)	14,003,180	13,275,875	-	727,305
9	Capital Purchase	1,766,550	32,009	1,798,559	1,798,556	-	3
10	Capital Grants & Transfer	14,523,457	603,800	15,127,257	15,127,228	-	29
	<b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>31,489,542</b>	<b>(560,546)</b>	<b>30,928,996</b>	<b>30,201,659</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>727,337</b>
13	Value Added Tax	2,373,957	(554,141)	1,819,816	1,819,809	-	7
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>61,818,465</b>	<b>620,375</b>	<b>62,438,840</b>	<b>61,686,149</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>752,691</b>

**CONSOLIDATED TRADING ACCOUNT – COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKING  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020**

	2020	2019
	(\$)	(\$)
<b>TRADING ACCOUNT</b>		
Sales	866,396	969,020
Opening stock	687,997	592,672
Add: Purchases	769,901	546,456
Add: Direct Labour	-	2,445
	<u>1,457,898</u>	<u>1,141,573</u>
Less: Closing stock	463,985	687,997
Cost of finished goods sold	<u>993,913</u>	<u>453,576</u>
<b>Gross (Loss)/Profit</b>	<u><b>(127,517)</b></u>	<u><b>515,444</b></u>

*(Refer to note 5 for details on TMA commercial activities)*

**CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT – COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKING  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020**

	2020	2019
	(\$)	(\$)
<b>INCOME</b>		
Gross (Loss)/Profit transferred from Trading A/C	<u>(127,517)</u>	<u>515,444</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<u><b>(127,517)</b></u>	<u><b>515,444</b></u>
<b>EXPENSE</b>		
Travelling & Communication Expenses	5,144	11,066
Maintenance & Operation	239,148	289,316
Other Expenses	31,926	25,352
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u><b>276,218</b></u>	<u><b>325,734</b></u>
<b>Net (Loss)/Profit</b>	<u><b>(403,735)</b></u>	<u><b>189,710</b></u>

*(Refer to note 5 for details on TMA commercial activities)*

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET – COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKING  
AS AT 31 JULY 2020

	2020	2019
	(\$)	(\$)
<b>EQUITY</b>		
<b>TMA Surplus</b>		
Opening balance	(796,468)	(506,438)
Remittance	(92,542)	(290,030)
Closing Balance	<u>(889,010)</u>	<u>(796,468)</u>
<b>TMA Accumulated Surplus</b>		
Opening balance	1,779,824	1,612,227
Net Loss/Profit	(403,735)	189,710
Write off loss of inventory	(2,076)	-
Write off deposits and retention	-	(22,113)
Closing Balance	<u>1,374,012</u>	<u>1,779,824</u>
<b>Total Equity</b>	<u><b>485,002</b></u>	<u><b>983,356</b></u>
<b>Total Liability and Equities</b>	<u><b>485,002</b></u>	<u><b>983,356</b></u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash	20,278	294,620
Accounts receivable	739	739
Finished goods	463,985	687,997
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u><b>485,002</b></u>	<u><b>983,356</b></u>

*(Refer to note 5 for details on TMA commercial activities)*

**STATEMENT OF LOSSES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020**

**Loss of Money**

There was no loss of money for the year ended 31 July 2020.

**Loss of Revenue**

There was no loss of revenue recorded for the year ended 31 July 2020.

**Loss of Assets**

There was no loss (other than money) recorded for the year ended 31 July 2020.

The annual board of survey was conducted by the Ministry and the following items valued at FJD110,111 are yet to be approved by the Permanent Secretary of Economy to be written off:

Description	31 July 2020 (\$)	31 July 2019 (\$)
Computers	11,887	19,624
Office equipment	37,117	47,861
Furniture and fittings	40,437	1,450
Veterinary Equipment	20,670	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>110,111</b>	<b>68,935</b>

#### Loss of Assets (Livestock)

There was loss of livestock resulting from death of sheep, goat and chicken for the year ended 31 July 2020

Description	31 July 2020 (\$)	31 July 2019 (\$)
Sheep	22,303	16,522
Goat	11,574	26,186
Poultry	6,365	1,330
<b>Total</b>	<b>40,242</b>	<b>44,038</b>

#### Loss of Assets (TMA Livestock)

There was a loss of TMA livestock resulted from death of pigs and cattle for the year ended 31 July 2020.

Description	31 July 2020 (\$)	31 July 2019 (\$)
Pigs	3,903	4,931
Cattle	1,856	4,496
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,759</b>	<b>9,427</b>

### NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020

#### NOTE 1: REPORTING ENTITY

The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for providing support to Fijian farmers (aside from sugarcane farmers, who are supported separately by the Ministry of Sugar Industry) and for helping them adapt to changing markets and climate change. The Ministry's approach is wide-reaching from administering technical crop and livestock extensions services to conducting new research to develop innovative solutions to unique challenges faced by Fiji's agriculture sector.

#### NOTE 2: STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### a) Basis of Accounting / Presentation

In accordance with Government accounting policies, the financial statements of the Ministry of Agriculture is prepared on cash basis of accounting. All payments related to purchase of fixed assets have been expensed.

The financial statements are presented in accordance with the Financial Management Act and the



requirements of Section 71 (1) of the Finance Instruction 2010. The preparation and presentation of a Statement of Assets and Liabilities is not required under the current Government policies, except for that of the Trade and Manufacturing Accounts.

**b) Accounting for Value Added Tax (VAT)**

All income is inclusive of VAT while expenses are VAT exclusive. The Ministry on a monthly basis takes out VAT output on total money budgeted for their expenditure. VAT input on the other hand is claimed on payments made to the suppliers and sub-contractors for expenses incurred.

The VAT payment as per the Statement of financial operation relates to the VAT input claimed on payments made to the suppliers and sub-contractors for expenses incurred and VAT payments to Fiji Revenue and Customs Services. Actual amount paid to Fiji Revenue and Custom Services during the year represents the difference between VAT Output and VAT Input.

**c) Comparative Figures**

The financial year end for Government was changed from 31 December to 31 July in accordance with the Financial Management (Amendment) Act 2016.

The financial statements for both financial years for 12 months period.

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued...)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020**

**NOTE 2: STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)**

**d) Revenue Recognition**

Revenue is recognised when the actual cash is received by the Ministry. The major sources of revenue for the Ministry of Agriculture are agricultural produce, inspection fees, license, rental for quarters, sale of farm produce, pond keeping, agro inputs farmers' contribution, sale of animal by auction and sale of livestock.

**NOTE 3: SIGNIFICANT VARIATIONS**

- a) Total revenue collected decreased by FJD389,728 or 44% in 2020 compared to 2019. This is mainly attributed to the impact of COVID 19 Pandemic. As a result of travel restrictions imposed, business activity declined and sales reduced.
- b) Travel and communication expenditure decreased by FJD181,021 or 20% compared to 2019. The decrease is mainly attributed to the reduction of travel and communication related activities as a result of COVID 19 travel restrictions. In addition, telecommunication bills have been significantly reduced during period.
- c) Purchase of goods and services expenditure increased by FJD120,284 or 26% in 2020 compared to 2019. The increase is mainly attributed to the payment of prior years' TPAF levy during the period. In addition, as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic lockdown and impacts of Tropical Cyclone Harold respectively, there was high demand for purchase of more rehabilitation supplies.
- d) Special expenditure increased FJD3,552,687 or 131% in 2020 compared to 2019. The increase is mainly attributed to the execution of National Agriculture Census activity during the period.
- e) Capital construction expenditure decreased by FJD4,161,771 or 24% in 2020 compared to 2019. The decrease is mainly attributed to the overall decrease in the capital construction 2019/2020 budget by 56% resulting in reduced activities undertaken under capital construction expenditure group.

- f) Capital purchase expenditure increased by FJD558,574 or 45% in 2020 compared to 2019. The increase is mainly attributed to the increase in purchase of farm machinery. The Ministry also purchased equipment for the Algricultural Molecular Lab and new technical equipment.
- g) Capital grants and transfers expenditure increased by FJD1, 477,061 or 11% in 2020 compared to 2019. The increase is mainly attributed to the implementation of new activity, the Copra Stabilization Fund program during the period.

**NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued...)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2020**

**NOTE 4: DETAILS OD APPROPRIATION CHANGES**

The following virements were approved by the Permanent Secretary under delegation of Authority from the Minister of Economy.

The following redeployment of funds was approved by the Cabinet on 16/07/20.

Virement No.	From	To	Amount (\$)
MOA 01/19-20	SEG 8	SEG 8	69,161
MOA 02/19-20	SEG 7,8,9	SEG 10	750,000
MOA 03/19-20	SEG 8	SEG 8	39,445
MOA 04/19-20	SEG 3,4,5,6	SEG 4	147,054
MOA 05/19-20	SEG 13	SEG 13	12,621
MOA 06/19-20	SEG 3,4,5,6,7	SEG 4	62,859
MOA 07/19-20	SEG 13	SEG 13	3,565
MOA 08/19-20	SEG 7,8,9,10,13	SEG 1	1,146,520
MOA 09/19-20	SEG 8	SEG 8	27,856
MOA 10/19-20	SEG 3,4,5,6,7	SEG 3,4,5	193,686
MOA 11/19-20	SEG 8,9,10	SEG 9	51,000
MOA 12/19-20	SEG 13	SEG 13	12,564
MOA 13/19-20	SEG 8	SEG 5	40,886
MOA 14/19-20	SEG 1,2	SEG 1,2	280,889
MOA 15/19-20	SEG 13	SEG 1,2,3,4,7,8,9	461,043
MOA 16/19-20	SEG 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,10	SEG 1,2,3,7,8	247,301

**NOTE 5: TRADING AND MANUFACTURING ACCOUNT – COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKING**

The Trading and Manufacturing Account (TMA) records livestock, fuel and oil. The services of the TMA is provided through livestock extension offices, veterinary clinics, research stations and fuel and oil provided through the crop extension offices.

The services include provision of recommendation livestock genetic material, fencing material, tools, provision of veterinary services and advices to livestock stakeholders. It has also been used in the case of emergencies whereby destocking and transferring of animals to address animal welfare issues during disasters. The machinery hire within the crop extension division include Government owned machines such as tractors, diggers and rice harvesters for farmers at a rate of FJD28/hour.

The TMA operates as a revolving fund and has a ceiling of FJD200,000 yearly (FJD120,000 for the livestock operation and FJD80,000.00 for fuel and oil crop extension).



# ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020



(+679) 338 4233



Ministry of Agriculture & Waterways Fiji



Fiji Agriculture



agrihelp@govnet.gov.fj



www.agriculture.gov.fj