

Your Government at Work

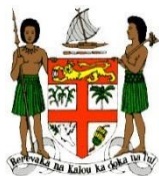


General Administration Sector 2018 – 2019 Budget Kit



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The Fijian Government

Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

2018-2019 Budget Highlights



“We need the world’s leaders to ‘walk the talk.’ We need action.”

-Timoci Naulusala and Shalvi Shakshi, Fijian schoolchildren and climate champions

The adverse effects of climate change—from severe weather events to rising sea and greenhouse gas levels—make up the single greatest threat faced by humanity. The world’s people, our cultures, our livelihoods and our national economies are extremely vulnerable to the devastating impacts of a changing climate.

It has become Government’s mission to take proactive measures to protect all Fijian families, our pristine resources, and our economic future from climate-induced threats. Over the course of the last year, this mission was championed through presidency of the world’s leading climate change negotiating body, the 23rd session of the United Nations Conference of Parties (‘COP23’). Led by the Honourable Prime Minister, COP23 has become a shining example of how a nation, regardless of size and stature, can help influence the world to move towards a low-carbon, sustainable and resilient future.

This section of the 2018-19 Budget Kit will outline the initiatives being undertaken in Fiji to ‘walk the talk’ by adapting our economy to the realities of climate change, along with key achievements from our COP23 Presidency on the global stage.

AT HOME

Fiji continues to incorporate climate resilience, sustainability and environmental conservation in all facets of national development. Learning from the devastating impacts of Tropical Cyclone Winston, the Fijian Government has placed increased emphasis on adaptation-based measures while continuing to invest in mitigation actions that reduce Fiji's carbon footprint. Government introduced the Environment and Climate Adaptation Levy and launched Fiji's Sovereign Green Bond as innovative financing mechanisms to adapt the Fijian economy, and that commitment to climate adaptation, disaster risk management and environmental protection will continue in 2018-2019.



The total allocation towards climate action in 2018-2019 is **\$651.0 million** with 18 projects designated as climate adaptation and eight as climate mitigation. Allocations detailed in this flyer are already accounted for in ministerial budgets and do not represent any additional expenditure.

Through the strong partnerships the Government has forged with international bodies and organisations, Fiji is seeing unprecedented support for sustainable infrastructure projects ranging from energy conservation to ensuring safe water and sanitation in the aftermath of natural disasters. A total of \$8.0 million has been pledged by development partners for six adaptation projects and three mitigation projects in the next financial year.

New Policy Initiatives

- **Plastic Bag Tax:** plastic bags continue to be a major source of pollution and are very often produced in an unsustainable manner. The current ten-cent levy on plastic bags will be increased to 20 cents at all point of sale outlets to further reduce plastic waste and usage in Fiji. Increased support will be provided to the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism to promote the use of reusable bags for shoppers through the Fijian-Made Campaign.
- **Environment and Climate Adaptation Levy ('ECAL'):** the ECAL has become a successful mechanism for financing climate change, disaster risk reduction and environmental

conservation programmes in the national budget. In the next financial year, the ECAL threshold of \$1.25 million, which is currently applied for licensed restaurants, bars, clubs, bistros and coffee shops, will be aligned to all other prescribed services for the application of STT. This will raise competitiveness of smaller businesses and support their expansion. In addition, a new provision will be included to take action against those businesses that fall under this threshold but illegally charge for and pocket false ECAL fees.

- Oceans Policy: a national framework for cooperation and coordination to sustainably manage and conserve the ocean ecosystem. It will bring into fold the commitments Fiji made at the 2017 Ocean Conference and provide pathways for ocean action (\$100,000).
- In line with Fiji's 2030 national target to reduce carbon emissions by 30%, a 55% capital deduction will be introduced for any purchase of electric vehicles. This incentive to be available for five years only. Also, as a complementary measure, the minimum capital investment for setting up of electric vehicle charging stations will be further reduced from \$500,000 to \$100,000.
- The Ministry of Waterways and the Ministry of Environment have been merged to form the newly established Ministry of Waterways and Environment, in recognition that waterways management and the preservation of Fiji's natural environment share many inherent linkages. This will also strengthen Fiji's waterways, a part of our natural environment that shares a unique vulnerability to the worsening impacts of climate change. This structural move will streamline Government's ability to direct environmental funding and support to the nation's flood adaptation and resilience efforts (\$58,296,704).

Major Allocations for Climate-Related Expenditure

- Department of Energy: Increased emphasis will be placed on providing Solar Home Systems in rural areas to improve standard of living and contribute towards the national goal of reducing carbon emissions by 30% by 2030 (\$20.9 million).



- Water Authority of Fiji: funds for improving the capacity, reliability and resilience of water supply infrastructure around the country through the Water Distribution System Project. The project will improve aging infrastructure and improve the reliability and safety of water supply during peak hours and in times of natural disasters (\$51.7 million).
- Fiji Roads Authority: funds the upgrading and construction of roading infrastructure, including bridges and jetties, to a standard that can withstand the severe effects of climate change (\$69.6 million).
- Cyclone Rehabilitation: to complete the final stage of rehabilitation and reconstruction of all remaining schools and public buildings damaged by TC Winston and begin the rehabilitation of schools damaged by TC Keni and TC Josie. The reconstruction process is geared to raising the standard of school facilities to better withstand severe weather events (\$90.0 million).
- Ministry of Forestry: funding allocated for the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) programme, a global mechanism for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and other reforestation projects, given that forests can mitigate the effects of climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere (\$2.9 million).
- Ministry of Disaster Management and Meteorological Services: funding allocated to improve disaster response and forecasting and reporting of weather events in order to make preparations for natural disasters as effective as possible. Funds will go towards activities such as replacement of Automatic Weather Observation System at the Nadi Airport, upgrading the Nadi Rader Weather Antenna, capitalising the Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation Fund for mobilising timely disaster emergency relief and upgrading and maintaining evacuation centres (\$6.6 million).

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ON CLIMATE CHANGE: COP23 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

From the start of its Presidency of COP23, Fiji has been engaged in pursuing outcomes that will assist Fiji and the Pacific in dealing with climate change. In addition, Fiji, in its role as President of the COP23 negotiations in Bonn, guided progress on certain key aspects of the negotiations and oversaw the launch of a number of new initiatives. Details of these are as follows:



Negotiation Outcomes

2018 Talanoa Dialogue: The flagship legacy of the COP23 Presidency, the Talanoa Dialogue is an inclusive and participatory process that allows countries, as well as non-state actors, to share stories and showcase best practices in order to urgently raise ambition – including pre-2020 action – in nationally determined contributions (NDCs). This is ultimately to enable countries to collectively move closer to the more ambitious Paris Agreement goal of keeping the rise in global temperature to 1.5 degrees Celsius. The first phase was a phenomenal success with numerous participants from state and non-state parties. This has generated enhanced momentum and guidance for the second phase of the Talanoa Dialogue, known as the Political Phase, to be held at COP24 in Poland.

Implementation Guidelines: COP23 made significant progress towards clear and comprehensive implementation guidelines of the Paris Agreement that is expected to: (i) provide common metrics so that commitments from different countries can be compared side by side; (ii) hold all countries accountable and make sure governments' actions are in line with their words; and (iii) establish a mechanism that reviews collective efforts and leads to governments scaling-up their actions over time. The guidelines are essential for determining whether total world emissions are declining fast enough to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement. These include boosting adaptation and limiting the global temperature increase to well below 2°C, while pursuing efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C. The implementation guidelines must be completed at COP24 in Poland.

Finalisation of the Gender Action Plan: COP23 saw the finalisation and adoption of the first-ever Gender Action Plan (GAP) to support gender-responsive climate action. The GAP articulates activities to be conducted over the next two years in the following key areas: (i) capacity-building, knowledge sharing and communication; (ii) gender balance, participation and women's leadership; (iii) coherence; (iv) gender-responsive implementation and means of implementation; and (v) monitoring and reporting.

Historic Breakthrough in Agriculture: the "Koronivia joint work on agriculture" was successfully adopted at COP23, providing a strong foundation for discussions and actions pertaining to agriculture under the UNFCCC processes. As a country heavily reliant on the agricultural sector for economic activity and food security, Fiji can greatly benefit from this historic agreement. The Koronivia joint work on agriculture provides a platform for exchange and collaboration with experts and organisations on adaptation and mitigation potential of the agricultural sector.

Finalisation of the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform: The Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (Platform) was established to strengthen knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts of local communities and indigenous peoples to addressing and responding to climate change. The Platform mainly ensures that the rights of

indigenous peoples and local communities are respected, promoted and considered when implementing climate action. Under Fiji's leadership at COP23, countries were able to successfully conclude discussions on aspects regarding the operationalisation of the Platform.

For Fijians, this platform provides us with an opportunity to share experiences, lessons learnt and best practices in addressing and responding to climate change. The platform also addresses capacity constraints of indigenous peoples and local communities which hinder their representation and engagement in various climate change processes including the UNFCCC processes. Furthermore, the platform will facilitate the integration of diverse knowledge systems and practices in developing and implementing international, regional and national climate actions, in a manner that ensures the rights and interests of local communities and indigenous peoples are respected.

Adaptation Fund: The replenishment of the Adaptation Fund by US\$93.3 million has been one of the major highlights of the Fijian COP23 Presidency. This was instrumental in reaching the landmark consensus at COP23 that the Adaptation Fund shall serve Paris Agreement. The Adaptation Fund is the only dedicated financial mechanism under the UNFCCC to exclusively address climate adaptation – a major priority for Small Island Developing States.

First Open Dialogue between Governments and Non-State Actors: The Fijian COP23 Presidency presided over the first-ever Open Dialogue between governments and non-state actors (including civil society, local and regional governments and businesses) within the formal climate negotiations. The dialogue focussed on how non-state actors can help countries design and implement more ambitious NDCs and how non-state actors can be better integrated into the climate negotiations processes.

Suva Expert Dialogue on Loss and Damage: The dialogue, requested by parties during COP23 took place during the May 2018 climate change meetings in Bonn. Experts discussed the gaps in the way loss and damage is being assessed and compensated around the world, and discussed options to bridge these gaps. The lack of financial mechanisms including the lack of technical and institutional capacities emerged as the biggest concerns. The findings of the Suva Expert Dialogue will inform the review of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage in 2019.

Launch of the Fiji Clearing House for Risk Transfer: Launched at COP23, the Clearing House serves as a repository for information on insurance and risk transfer, in order to facilitate the efforts of countries to develop and implement comprehensive risk management strategies. "Risk Talk" - an online community and open to anyone who needs to know more about risk transfer - is a prominent feature of the Clearing House. The Clearing House also includes case studies, knowledge products and tutorials that help show how risk, such as those from climate impacts, threatens sustainable development and offers solutions to reduce that risk.

Domestic Initiatives in Fiji

Low-income Household Insurance: work is underway on the development of insurance products that provides tropical cyclone insurance coverage for low-income households. Fiji is receiving support from the World Bank, International Finance Corporation and the InsuResilience Global Partnership for this initiative.

Sovereign Green Bond: Fiji became the first emerging market – and third in the world – to issue a sovereign green bond to support climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives. The Fiji Sovereign Green bond is an innovative financial instrument that has helped finance a multitude of initiatives and projects in the 2017-2018 National Budget. As of June 2018, total Green Bonds of \$86 million has been floated by the Reserve Bank of Fiji in three tranches. Each tranche was oversubscribed reflecting investor confidence in the Fijian economy and the Fijian financial sector.

Legal Readiness for Climate Finance: the transition to a more resilient and net zero emissions economy will require reforms across major public policies. With the support of the Asian Development Bank a major study was undertaken on the barriers that exist in accessing global public finance and attracting private sector finance in climate action.

GCF Accreditation of the Fiji Development Bank: The Green Climate Fund (GCF) accredited the Fiji Development Bank (FDB) as the first development bank in the Pacific region to be a “direct access entity.” The accreditation type is “micro”, which allows FDB to apply for funds up to and including US \$10 million for an individual project or an activity within a programme. This means Fijian projects now have direct access to GCF funds at the national level through the FDB.

The NDC Implementation Roadmap: The Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Implementation Roadmap has been developed to operationalise Fiji’s NDC commitment of reducing carbon emissions by 30% by 2030. The Fijian Government is working with the Global Green Growth Institute to develop bankable investment proposals for the interventions and investments outlined in the NDC Roadmap.

Launch of the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Framework: The Fijian Government is approaching its NAP as a continuous, progressive, and iterative process to ensure a systematic and strategic approach to adaptation in all government decision-making. The NAP Framework launched at COP23 is the basis for developing a comprehensive NAP for Fiji that will build resilience for the poorest and most vulnerable people, communities, and ecosystems.

Expanding the Ministry of Waterways: The establishment of Ministry of Waterways (MoW) in 2017-2018 was to support a coordinated and holistic approach to managing Fiji's waterways. The Fijian Government is now partnering with GIZ to undertake a conceptual assessment of waterways with a focus on improved climate resilience through climate adaptation and an integrated perspective on water resource management.



Launch of Fiji's Climate Vulnerability Assessment: Launched at COP23, the Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) provides a holistic economy-wide analysis of Fiji's vulnerability to major climate-induced natural hazards. In doing so, the CVA uses innovative scenario-based modelling to determine the economic, social, infrastructure and institutional gaps needed to be overcome to climate sensitise Fiji's development aspirations outlined in the 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan. The modelling has established that Fiji will need to expend approximately \$9.3 billion over the next 10 years to climate sensitise its development targets. The CVA is fast becoming an important reference for informed planning and decision-making at the national and subnational level.

Fiji Rural Electrification Fund: Fiji has successfully established the Fiji Rural Electrification Fund (FREF) which aims to use stand-alone mini-grid solar solutions to provide reliable and clean electricity to rural communities, particularly those in the Maritime Division. FREF is made up of a unique partnership between the Fijian Government, Energy Fiji Limited, Sunergise, the Fiji Locally Managed Marine Area (FLMMA) network and the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation. FREF is based on a revolving fund structure that will recycle the electricity fees paid by communities for renewable energy back into the construction of clean energy systems for additional communities. The Fund has engaged Viti Renewables as its technical and implementing partner and is on the verge of electrifying Vio Village as the first of 10 initial villages around Fiji.

Regional Initiatives

Climate Action Pacific Partnership (CAPP): Ahead of COP23 last year, Fiji hosted the Climate Action Pacific Partnership (CAPP) Conference from 3 – 4 July in Suva. This event was held to strengthen the participation of Pacific Island Countries in the global climate action agenda. The CAPP Event was organised by the Fijian COP23 Presidency, under the leadership of Fiji's High-

Level Champion – Honourable Minister Inia Seruiratu. A wide range of issues were discussed during the conference, which was attended by more than 300 participants representing governments, civil society, non-governmental organisations, international and regional organisations, faith-based organisations, academic institutions, and the private sector. The outcomes of the CAPP Event identified, *inter alia*, priorities of climate action for the Pacific Region and our commitment to the full and rapid implementation of the Paris Agreement. A second CAPP event will be held in 2018.

Launch of the NDC Regional Hub: With the help of key donor countries, the global NDC Partnership has laid the foundations for the formation of Regional Pacific NDC Hub to be based in Fiji. The Hub is envisaged to provide expertise for developing regional solutions to mitigate global warming and enhance efforts by Pacific islands to adapt to climate change. The NDC Regional Hub will enhance the implementation of the Pacific NDCs.

Blue Carbon for the Pacific: The Government of Australia pledged AUD\$6 million in support of blue carbon action in the Pacific to strengthen data collection, build knowledge and capacity in the Pacific, the integration of this new data into national greenhouse gas accounting and climate policy.

Pacific Climate Finance and Insurance Incubator (the “Drua Incubator”): At COP23, the Fijian Government launched the Pacific Climate Finance and Insurance Incubator – known as the Drua Incubator – to develop finance and insurance products that are tailor-made to the needs and circumstances of vulnerable and low-income households in Fiji and other Pacific island countries. The incubator will be housed with the Climate Change Division of Ministry of Economy and will oversee the development of the Low-Income Household Insurance package being developed by the Fijian Government. The Government of Luxembourg has committed initial funding of 1 million euros to operationalise the Dura Incubator.

Global Partnerships

Launch of the Ocean Pathway Partnership: The Ocean Pathway Partnership is a blueprint for incorporating oceans as a permanent agenda item in the UNFCCC negotiation space to enable an oceans-inclusive UNFCCC process. The Oceans Pathway creates the opportunity to have the ocean as part of the UNFCCC agenda items, and a full work programme by 2019, as well as the inclusion of our oceans in NDCs.



Ocean and climate initiatives provide the opportunity to manage critical coastal and marine ecosystems through current and emerging climate change funding under the UNFCCC. This will help improve livelihoods of coastal communities through healthier oceans-building resilience against the impacts of climate change, and help mitigate future climate threats.

Launch of InsuResilience Global Partnership: based on a similar concept as the Dura Incubator, the InsuResilience Global Partnership is envisaged to be global source of technical expertise and financing for innovative insurance solutions that create climate resilience in vulnerable communities around the world. With a financial backing of US \$164 million from European countries, the Partnership was launched at COP23 with particular emphasis on providing insurance-based assistance to Small Island Developing States. The Partnership is expected to intimately connect with the Dura Incubator to effectively scale up successful pilot insurance products.

Bonn-Fiji Commitment: Local and regional leaders gathered to officially adopt the Bonn-Fiji Commitment to deliver the Paris Agreement at all levels, a pledge that signals their commitment to advancing a critical shift in global development. The Bonn-Fiji Commitment highlights the pledge to raise collective ambition for climate action, which includes: implementation of the Paris Agreement; enhancement of resilience of communities; identification of concrete opportunities for greater climate ambition; expansion of support and partnerships across borders and continents; and initiation and use of project preparation facilities, subnational financial hubs of expertise that support development of bankable projects and pipelines for local infrastructure projects.

Health Initiative for the Vulnerable: The World Health Organisation (WHO), in collaboration with the UNFCCC and the Fijian COP23 Presidency, launched a special initiative to protect people living in Small Island Developing States from the health impacts of climate change. This initiative has led to greater emphasis and involvement of the WHO to bridge the Nexus between climate change and health, particularly in the Small Island Developing States.

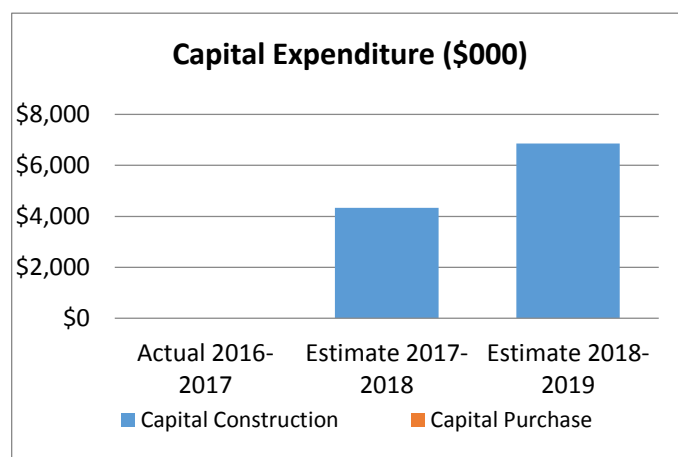
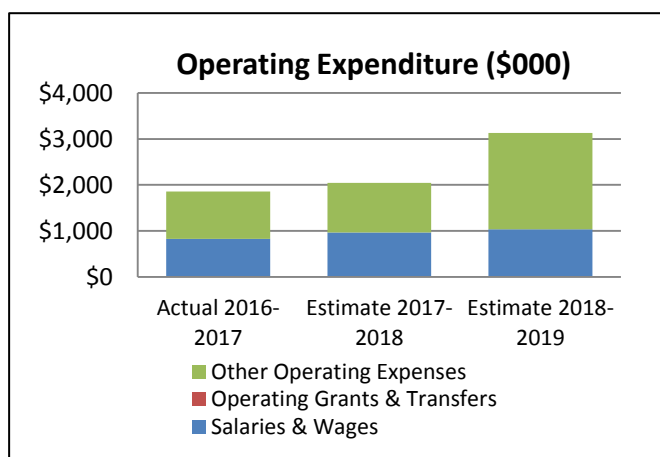


The Fijian Government Office the President 2018-2019 Budget Highlights

The Office of the President provides administrative and logistical support to the Head of State in the performance of his official duties.

These duties include: signing bills passed by Parliament into law, opening each session of Parliament, attending ceremonial functions, serving as Commander-in-Chief of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces, conducting state visits and carrying out an active community engagement programme.

The Office's operating budget supports the President's Constitutional functions, state visits, and community engagements. It also covers the upkeep and maintenance of the presidential properties in Suva, Deuba and Lautoka and the administration of the Fijian Honours and Awards system, which aims to recognise the efforts of both Fijian citizens and non-citizens who contribute to Fiji's development as a nation.



The budget for Office of the President in 2018-2019 is **\$3.3 million** comprising **\$3.1 million** for operating expenditure and VAT of **\$200,000**. Another **\$5.1 million** is allocated for capital expenditure under Head 50.

New Initiatives

- New construction:
 - \$2.0 million is allocated for the upgrade and Construction of President's Office to address urgent maintenance and construction of aging facilities within His Excellency's office, the Administration Block and Support Services Facilities.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Community engagements:
 - Service Medal and the Fiji College of Honour: logistical arrangements for special ceremonies for when the President has determined that significant contributions made by an individual to the nation are worthy of recognition (\$200,000).
 - Ceremonial and Hospitality Expenses: hosting of ceremonial functions including the opening of Parliament, presentation of credentials and celebrations for Fiji Day, Constitution Day and Commonwealth Day (\$150,000).
- State visits:
 - Overseas Travel: funding for official state visits by the President to strengthen Fiji's diplomatic relations and enhance Fiji's standing in the world (\$600,000).
- Maintenance of state assets:
 - State House Refurbishment: continue with the major upgrade works on the State House in 2018-2019, which are necessary to restore and preserve the historic residence, which was built in 1928 (\$3.0 million).



The Fijian Government

Office of the Prime Minister

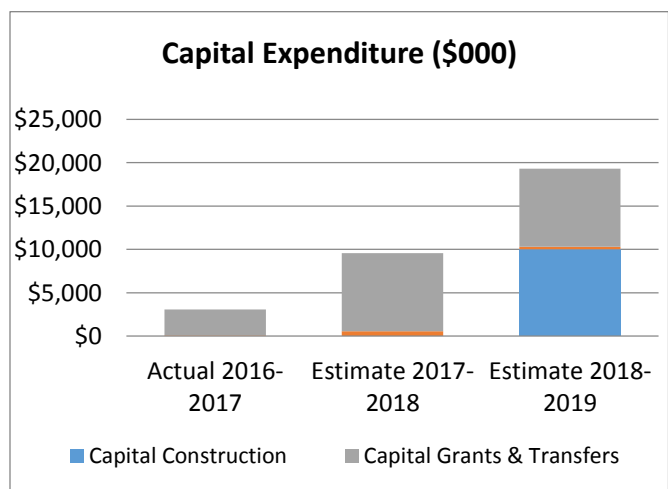
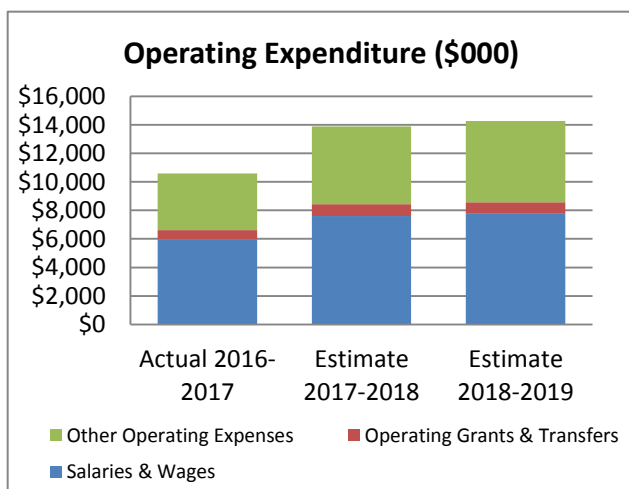
2018-2019 Budget Highlights

The Office of the Prime Minister assists the Prime Minister in the role of Head of Government and Chairperson of Cabinet by providing administrative and logistical support. The Cabinet Office of the OPM provides Cabinet and the Prime Minister with secretarial support to ensure timely decisions for the effective running of Government.

The OPM also administers the implementation of a number of programmes, including the development of the mahogany industry, small grants and the coordination of donor funding for community development projects (particularly in rural areas and outer islands) and the administration of the Rotuma, Rabi and Kioa Island Councils.

The OPM has authority over the Department of Immigration, which is responsible for managing the flow of people across Fiji's borders. This includes passport issuance for Fijian citizens, entry and departure permits and the processing of applications for citizenship.

The budget for OPM in 2018-2019 is **\$24.1 million**, comprising **\$14.3 million** for operating expenditure, **\$9.3 million** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$500,000**. Another **\$8.2 million** is allocated under Head 50 for construction and upgrading works.



New Initiatives

- \$50,000 is allocated for Citizenship Ceremonies. Under the Citizenship Act 2009 and Citizenship Regulation 2009, it is regulated that applicants are required to make the oath to the Minister as a condition to the granting of certificate of naturalisation or registration. These ceremonies fulfil this obligation, and provide a proper and official welcome to new Fijian citizens.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Raising the standard of living for the Fijian people:
 - Prime Minister's Small Grants Scheme (\$9.0 million):
 - a) Education: as part of Government's ongoing commitment to improving the education sector in Fiji, this upgrades school buildings (including kindergartens, classrooms and teachers' quarters), sports grounds, and walkways/footpaths. This allocation also covers the installation solar and water systems and funds the purchase of school furniture, equipment and technology.
 - b) Community Development: upgrades and constructs evacuation centres, procures sports equipment for youth groups, funds women's empowerment programmes through resource centres, constructs infrastructure projects (water, solar power, rural electrification, drainage improvement and bus shelters), and supports income generation projects, including the procurement of boats and outboard engines.
 - Rotuma, Rabi and Kioa Island Councils: provides logistical and administrative support to the various councils (\$465,000).
 - Grant to Melanesian Vasu-i-Taukei: provides grants to support development in the Melanesian Vasu-i-Taukei community (\$100,000).
- Ensuring that Fiji's mahogany industry is developed sustainably and equitably:

- Fiji Mahogany Trust: supports the development of the mahogany industry and the activities of the Trust, which represents iTaukei landowners (\$250,000).
- Maintaining and improving office facilities to improve the services that are delivered to the public:
 - Prime Minister's Office Complex: The Prime Minister's Office is one of the most heavily trafficked government buildings by the general public, and construction works are being carried out on a new office complex that is more capable of serving the Fijian people and supporting the wide-ranging functions of the OPM (\$8.0 million).
 - Upgrade of Prime Minister's Official Residence: The Prime Minister's Official Residence suffers from serious structural defects due to age, and construction works are ongoing to prevent further deterioration of the residence (\$158,000).
- Improving access to immigration services and managing flows of people into Fiji in an effective and secure fashion:
 - Biometric Verification System and e-Passport Issuance: improves access to immigration services. This will install new systems for passport issuance under the Integrated Border Management System (IBMS) and improve access to services (\$300,000).



The Fijian Government

Office of the Attorney-General

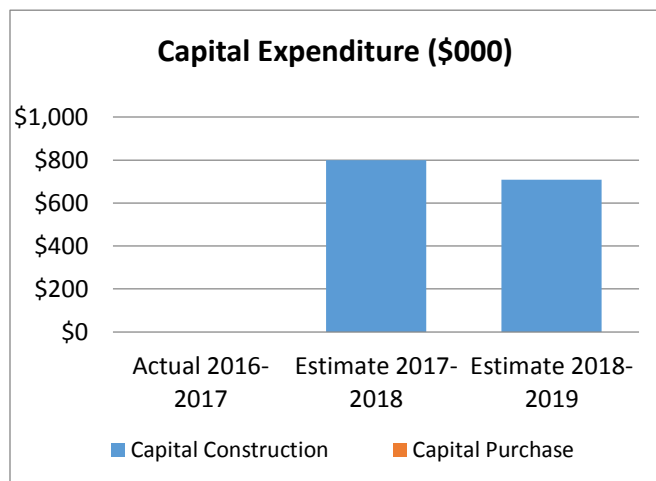
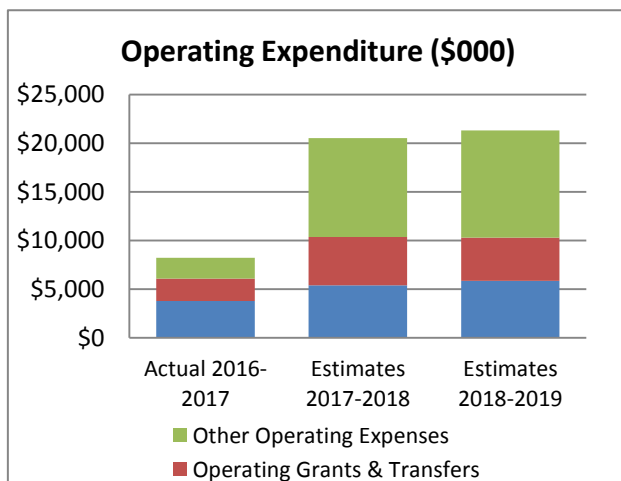
2018-2019 Budget Highlights

The Office of the Attorney-General, under the management of the Solicitor-General, supports the Attorney-General in carrying out the role of chief legal advisor to the Government. The office provides legal advice to Government and to all holders of public office on request, represents the State in court proceedings to which the State is a party (with the exception of criminal proceedings), drafts laws for Government, maintains the publicly-accessible register of all written laws and performs other functions assigned by law, Cabinet or the Attorney-General.

The roles and functions of the Office of the Attorney-General are pivotal to ensuring that Government operates within the law at all times and that Fiji's laws and legal practices are aligned to the Fijian Constitution, as well as to international conventions and best practices.

The Department of Civil Aviation also comes under the Office of the Attorney-General and is responsible for expanding access to reliable aviation services for the Fijian people by regulating aviation activities in Fiji.

The total budget for Office of the Attorney-General in 2018-2019 is **\$14.9 million**, comprising **\$13.7 million** for operating expenditure, **\$700,000** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$0.5 million**.



New Initiatives

- \$300,000 is provided to upgrade the existing Ono-i-Lau airstrip buildings and infrastructure. This includes demolition and rebuild of waiting shed, storage shed, upgrade of existing amenities and repair and maintenance of existing fence.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Reforming and modernising Fiji's legal framework to address emerging challenges through:
 - Drafting of Laws: the drafting of Bills, as directed by Cabinet or the Attorney-General, for tabling in Parliament (\$500,000).
 - Law Reform: reviews laws and make recommendations for reform. Reviews are currently being carried out on the Copyright Act, the legal implications of climate change and land leasing agreements (\$750,000).
 - Revision of Laws: continuous revision of written laws to incorporate new amendments by Parliament or new regulations by Government (\$450,000).
- Supporting transparent and accountable institutions, including the development of robust and professional media organisations and services in Fiji:
 - Operational Grant to Freedom of Information Commission: advances the public's right to access Government information and facilitates the adoption of a freedom of information law for Fiji (\$100,000).
- Regulating air transport in Fiji and expanding access to aviation services for the Fijian people through:
 - Operational Grant to Civil Aviation Authority: supports the operations of the Civil Aviation Authority to regulate activities of airport operators, air traffic control, air navigation service providers, airline operators, pilots, aircraft engineers, technicians, airports, airline contracting organisations and international air cargo operators in Fiji (\$1.5 million).

- Domestic Air Services Subsidy: ensures reliable and affordable air services to Fiji's outer islands, minimising the cost of Fijians to travel more freely and visit their families while expanding access to tourism (\$1.85 million).
- Upgrade and Refurbishment of Office: continues the upgrade and refurbishment of office space at Levels 3, 5 and 7 of Suvavou House, creating a more modern and productive working environment (\$400,000).



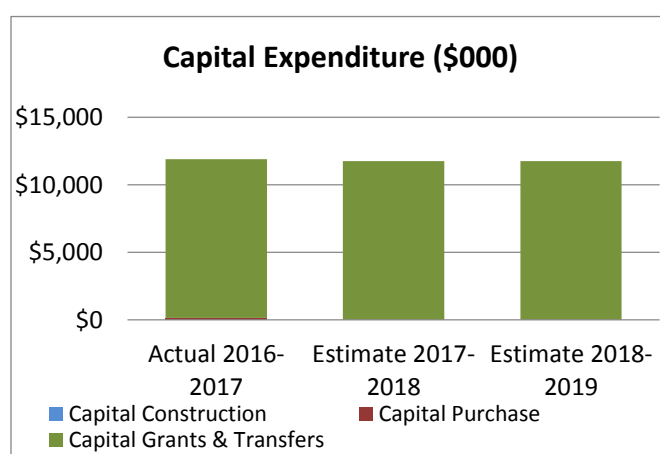
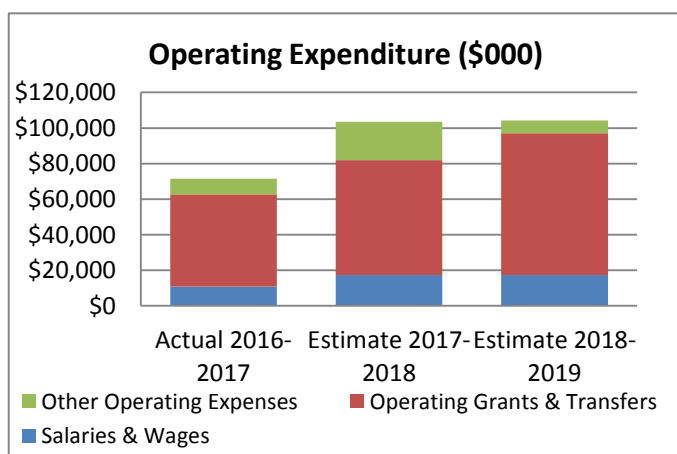
The Fijian Government Ministry of Economy 2018-2019 Budget Highlights

The Ministry of Economy is responsible for managing public finances in accordance with the Fijian Constitution and the Finance Management Act 2004.

The Ministry carries out economic and financial forecasting and analysis; manages Government's national budget, debt and financial and physical assets, oversees fiscal policy and tax collection; conducts financial management reforms; and ensures that Government can procure the goods and services required to maximise services delivered to the Fijian people.

Through its various functional units, the Ministry promotes sound management of the Fijian economy through analysis, efficient budgeting and proactive planning. This includes the prudent management of financial assets and debts and the administration of fiscal policy and tax collection through the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service.

The total budget for the Ministry of Economy in the 2018-2019 Budget is **\$120.4 million**, comprising **\$109.6 million** for operating expenditure, **\$10.0 million** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$900,000**.



The increase of **\$3.2 million** in the Ministry's 2018-2019 Budget is mainly attributed to:

- an increase of \$2.0 million to cover adjustments in salaries and wages, the restructure of the Ministry and the creation of new positions, allowing for better service to the Fijian public;
- an increase in the grant for the Fiji Revenue and Customs Services (FRCS) by \$15.8 million;
- an increase in other operating expenditure by \$400,000 for travel and communications, maintenance and purchase of goods and services; and
- an increase in the grant to Fiji Aftercare Fund to include new recipients who will be retiring in new financial year and will access the Aftercare Fund (\$700,000).

New Initiatives

- \$350,000 is allocated to strengthen the Construction Implementation Unit through the establishment of a database to monitor the implementation of all capital projects coordinated by the Unit.
- \$300,000 is allocated to take inventory at primary and secondary schools all throughout the country, ensuring that Fiji's education facilities are stocked with modern tools for teachers and students. This responsibility, previously falling under the Ministry of Education, Heritage and the Arts, has been streamlined under the Ministry to root out the inefficiencies and waste of the old system by allowing head teachers to submit ledgers electronically, to be complemented with in-person checks as necessary. The new system will create a continuously-updated database to track the needs of schools, ensuring that they are reliably serviced.
- \$100,000 is allocated towards the Oceans Policy Framework to sustainably manage and conserve Fiji's ocean ecosystem. It will realise the commitments Fiji made at the 2017 Ocean Conference and provide pathways for continued ocean action.
- \$2.0 million is allocated to conduct the 2018 Household, Income and Expenditure Survey. The HIES is carried out every five years to collect information about the social economic reality of the country by collecting households' annual income and expenditure, allowing Government to better target its economic initiatives.

Ongoing Initiatives

- To further enhance revenue collection, border protection and trade and travel facilitation:
 - Capital Grant to Fiji Revenue and Customs Service: covers the capital expenses for the construction of a new Nadi Office, the establishment of a national tax information system and human resource information system and the procurement of first defender equipment for customs checks (\$10.0 million).
- To administer government pensions, gratuities and benefits:
 - Fiji Serviceman's Aftercare Fund: administered by the Accounting Services Division for the monthly allowances and medical/educational assistance to ex-servicemen or their beneficiaries (\$11.7 million).
 - Pensions: oversees the payment of Government pensions, including ex-prime ministers, presidents and parliamentarians, retired judges and all service pensioners and their beneficiaries, as well as re-engagement benefits for military and corrections officers and forest guards (\$46.2 million – allocated under Head 51).
- To ensure effective management of major physical assets through:
 - National Asset Management Framework: coordinates the implementation of the framework to improve the recording and maintenance of government assets (\$207,143).
 - Vehicle Leasing: caters for the cost of leasing vehicles to Ministries, Departments and Statutory Authorities (\$28.0 million – allocated under Head 50).
 - Construction Implementation and Management of Public Buildings: coordinates major capital construction or maintenance works. This includes:
 - a) management of public buildings, including rental and administration of housing allowance (\$33.0 million);

- b) construction of funeral rites facilities at Lautoka and Labasa and the construction of gas crematorium at Raralevu Cemetery in Nausori (\$1.0 million – allocated under Head 50); and
- c) office refurbishment, which includes the refurbishment and relocation of offices for Ministries and Departments to improve access and quality of services (\$3.5 million – allocated under Head 50).
- d) the construction of public restrooms around Fiji, particularly along major highways, Queen's Road and King's Road (\$500,000 – allocated under Head 50).



The Fijian Government

Ministry of iTaukei Affairs

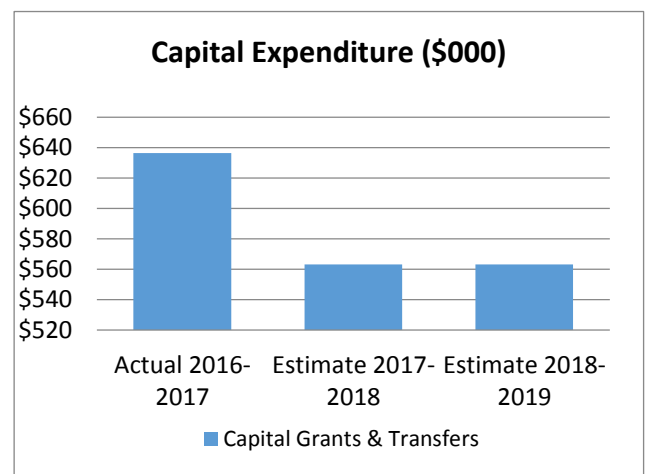
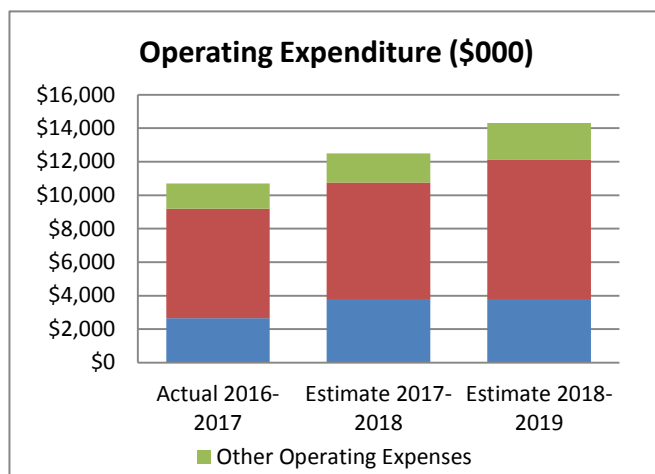
2018-2019 Budget Highlights

The Ministry of iTaukei Affairs is responsible for upholding the inalienable rights of iTaukei as enshrined in the Fijian Constitution, including over their land and fishing grounds.

Through its work, the Ministry ensures that iTaukei institutions operate with the best interests of all iTaukei in mind, and that the Fijian Government's commitment to promote and preserve iTaukei culture, customs, traditions and language is realised. The Ministry also works to empower iTaukei landowners to make sustainable and productive use of the land so that they raise the standard of living in their communities, enabling the evolution from "asset-rich" to cash-rich.

To support the iTaukei Land Trust Board [TLTB], which is the trustee responsible for the administration of customary land on behalf of all iTaukei landowners, the Ministry provides policy advice and other support to the Prime Minister and Minister of iTaukei Affairs, who serves as chairperson of the TLTB.

The total budget for the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs in 2018-2019 is **\$15.8 million**, comprising **\$15.1 million** for operating expenditure, **\$600,000** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$200,000**.



The increase of **\$2.6 million** in the Ministry's 2018-2019 Budget is mainly attributed to:

- an increase in the operating grants and transfers due to the Jobs Evaluation Exercise increase for the iTAB and Provincial Councils; and
- increases in other operating expenditure for travel and communications, maintenance and purchase of goods and services.

New Initiatives

- \$100,000 is dedicated to supporting the Tabua Shop's mission to protect and promote the Fijian cultural heritage, while promoting sustainable development in terms of monitoring and regulating the circulation of tabua in accordance with its prominence within iTaukei culture. The cost will include the purchase of an engraving machine and other recurring costs; and
- \$50,000 for National iTaukei Resource Owners Council: legislated under the Environmental Management Act of 2005 to advise the National Environment Council on any environmental matters affecting iTaukei resource owners. Funding will be utilised on allowances, transportation, publications, and for the hosting of meetings.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Operational Grants to iTaukei Affairs Board (TAB), Provincial Councils, Turaga-ni-Koros, Mata-ni-Tikinas and Na Mata: funds the operations of the TAB and Provincial Councils and covers the monthly allowances of Turaga-ni-Koros to better support their roles in developing communities. The grant to iTAB and Provincial Councils increased due to salary readjustments after the Jobs Evaluation Exercise, along with additional funding that has been set aside for the operational cost for the Provincial Councils (\$9.1 million).
- Operational and Capital Budget for iTaukei Lands and Fisheries Commission: funds the operations of the iTaukei Lands and Fisheries Commission and covers capital expenditure, namely the demarcation of unsurveyed land, the survey of demarcated land and the demarcation of village boundaries. Planned works include the demarcation in Serua (scheduled

for completion by 2018), Macuata and Lau (scheduled for completion by 2020), Serua and Yasawa (scheduled for completion by 2020) and the continued demarcation and registration of another 80 villages in the Register of iTaukei Villages (\$2.6 million).

- Institute of Language and Culture: funds the activities of the Institute, charged with preserving and spreading the iTaukei culture and language in an era of globalisation and modern technologies. This also funds the Cultural Mapping Programme, Special Revitalisation Programme, Cultural Awareness Programme and the iTaukei Dictionary (\$1.2 million).



The Fijian Government

Ministry of Defence and National Security

2018-2019 Budget Highlights

The Ministry of Defence and National Security is the foremost Government entity charged with the responsibility of ensuring public security. It places high priority on public safety, national security and the defence of Fiji's national sovereignty and territorial integrity. The Ministry has policy oversight for the two major disciplinary forces, the Republic of Fiji Military Forces and the Fiji Police Force.

The Ministry comprises four divisions: the Corporate Services Division, the Security Forces Division, the National Assessment Division and the Security Division.

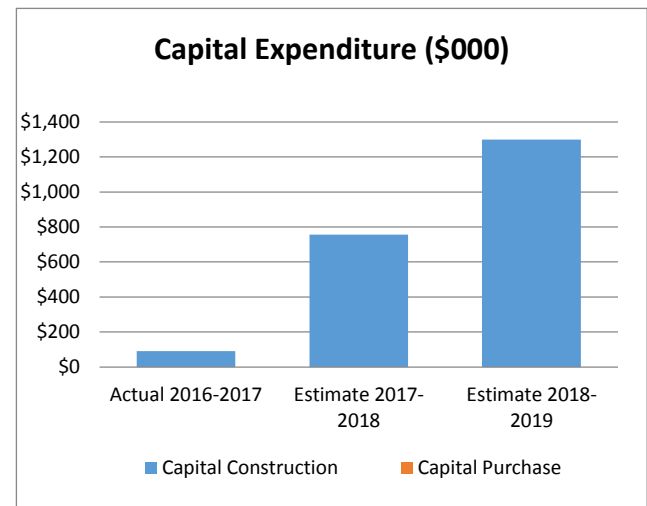
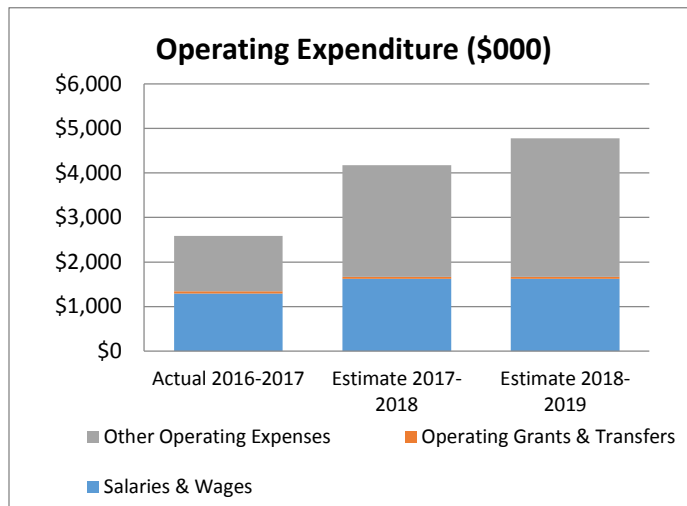
The Corporate Service Division provides administrative and financial support, along with information analysis and advice.

The Security Forces Division provides support services to the Republic of Fiji Military Forces and the Fiji Police Force and oversees Fiji's international obligations that relate to search and rescue, defence and law and order.

The National Assessment Division provides advice to Government on matters pertaining to national intelligence, and the Security Division provides advice regarding the review and enactment of all laws and policies that relate to national security. The Ministry also coordinates national events throughout Fiji, including Fiji Day and Remembrance Day.

The National Security and Defence Review [NSDR] Secretariat is responsible for technical support to National Security and Defence Council, which coordinates the implementation of Fiji's National Security Strategy.

The total budget for the Ministry of Defence and National Security in 2018-2019 is **\$6.3 million**, comprising **\$4.6 million** for operating expenditure, **\$1.3 million** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$400,000**.



The increase in the budgetary allocation by **\$1.0 million** in the 2018-2019 Budget is mainly attributed to:

- an increase due to creation of two positions for National Security and Defence Review and the hosting of additional Fiji Day Celebrations throughout the country;
- increases in other operating expenditure for travel and communications, maintenance and purchase of goods and services; and
- an increase in the capital expenditure due to a new initiative to undertake preliminary works for relocating facilities, a move that will enhance radio transmissions to mariners.

New Initiatives

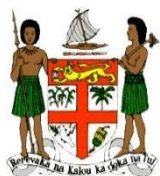
- \$1.0 million is allocated for the relocation of the 3DP Coastal Radio Station. This project involves the relocation of current 3DP Coastal Radio Station from Togalevu training Base, the Rescue Coordination Center and Hydrography Services from Walu Bay to Government

Shipping Services facility in Lami in order to enhance radio transmissions to mariners, making Fijian waters a safer environment for seafaring.

- \$20,000 is allocated to promote the functions of Black Rock to serve not only as a pre-deployment training centre, but also as a regional Humanitarian and Disaster Rehabilitation centre. The funds will be used to host visiting delegations from around the world who would potentially finance this valuable project—one that would bring international humanitarian aid closer to the doorstep of effected Fijians and citizens of other climate-vulnerable nations in the Pacific.

Ongoing Initiatives

- To coordinate the implementation of the National Security Strategy:
 - National Security and Defence Review (NSDR) Secretariat: funds the operations of the Secretariat to strengthen their capacity to implement the National Security Strategy (\$1.1 million).
 - UN Military Advisor: funds the deployment of a senior military officer to the Office of the Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York to directly handle any issues arising from Fiji's expansive peacekeeping deployments around the world (\$400,000).
- To commemorate important events in Fijian history:
 - Fiji Day Celebrations: for the hosting of celebrations in additional areas of Fiji, namely Nausori, Sigatoka, Nadi, Rakiraki, Labasa, Taveuni, Levuka and remote areas of Fiji (\$250,000).
 - Remembrance Day Celebrations: for the hosting of the event which is commemorated yearly at the 12 ex-servicemen branches around the country (\$120,000)
 - Continuation of National War Memorial Project: involves the construction of a "Statue of an Unknown Soldier", a main gate and guard room, the renovation of quarters and retention payment for ground drainage upgrades and plumbing works (\$300,000).



The Fijian Government

Ministry of Employment, Productivity & Industrial Relations

2018-2019 Budget Highlights

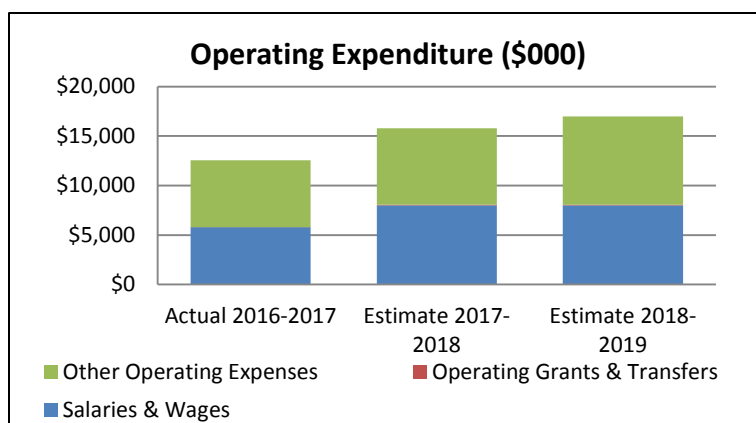
The Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations is responsible for upholding every Fijian's constitutional right to economic participation, a just minimum wage, humane treatment in the workplace and proper working conditions.

The Ministry aims to preserve and protect workers in Fiji. It works to reduce national unemployment, protect the fundamental rights of workers and employers, and develop regulations and incentives to make workplaces across Fiji more equitable, inclusive and productive. It administers and enforces the Employment Relations Promulgation 2007, Health and Safety at Work Act 1997, National Employment Centre Decree 2009 and the Workers Compensation Act.

The Ministry implements labour reforms that improve relations between workers, employers and Government, while boosting overall productivity.

The Ministry will work to ensure compliance with the National Minimum Wage, which is under regular revaluation to strike a precise balance that provides fair, market-driven compensation while preventing pricing inflation of goods, the impact of which would be felt most heavily by Fiji's informal workers and small business owners.

The total budget for the Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations in 2018-2019 is **\$16.7 million**, comprising **\$16.0 million** for operating expenditure and VAT of **\$700,000**.



The increase in the allocation by **\$200,000** in the 2018-2019 Budget is mainly attributed to:

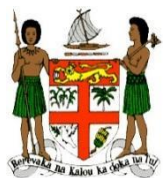
- An increase in the Seasonal Work Programme (AUS/NZ) for the engagement of Liaison Officers at the Australia and New Zealand Offices. The officers will provide pastoral care to seasonal workers, track remittances and market towards clients in Australia;
- increases in other operating expenditure for travel and communications and purchase of goods and services; and
- a decrease in the Workmen's Compensation allocation, as effective from 1 January, 2019 this programme will be administered by the Accident Compensation Commission of Fiji.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Promoting the rights of all workers in Fiji to prevent inhumane treatment and uphold safe working conditions:
 - Labour Services: to assist the Ministry in enforcing the National Minimum Wage, including the ten sector-based minimum wage rates (\$3.4 million).
 - Occupational Health and Safety Unit: funds the operations of the Unit and covers the enforcement of safe diving regulations (\$5.3 million).
 - Workmen's Compensation Programme: ensures that compensation is paid out to workers employed by Government who have suffered temporary or permanent job related injuries (\$1.75 million).
- Providing employment opportunities for the Fijian people to acquire relevant skills and improve their standard of living:
 - Apprenticeships: funds the four-year apprenticeships to provide apprentices with technical skills to help further their careers (\$400,000).
 - Foreign Employment Service Unit: promotes foreign employment opportunities through the seasonal work programme and other direct employment opportunities. The seasonal

work programme provides Fijians in rural and maritime areas with the opportunity to work abroad to earn cash and develop valuable skills they can use upon their return to Fiji for the betterment of themselves and their communities. In the past financial year, 431 Fijians were deployed overseas for foreign employment opportunities (\$882,639).

- Fiji Volunteer Service Scheme: a regional volunteer scheme that sends retired teachers to neighbouring island states that request assistance. More than 150 volunteers will be engaged through this scheme for up to two years (\$1.2 million).
- Promoting good-faith employment relations, health and safety, productivity and social justice in the workplace:
 - Mediation Services: services under the Employment Relation Promulgation that support timely and effective resolution of workplace disputes between employers and employees (\$1.1 million).



The Fijian Government Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2018-2019 Budget Highlights

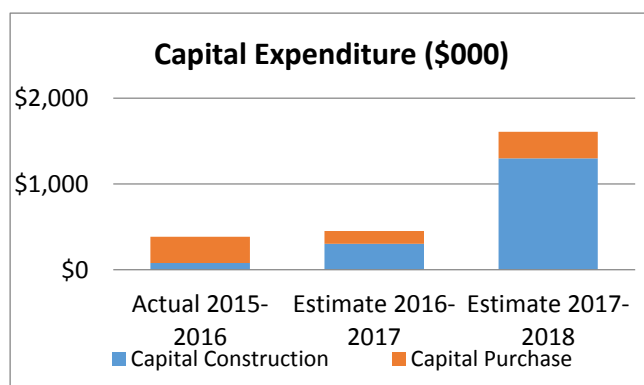
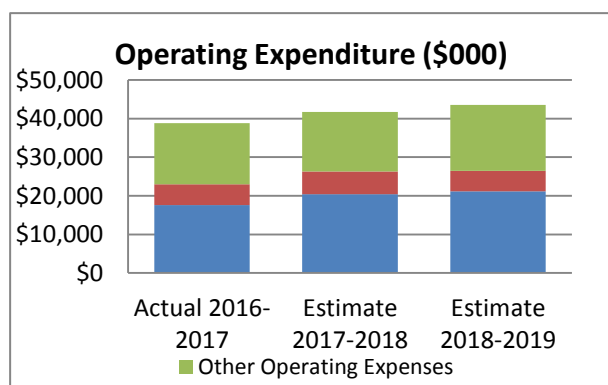
The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for carrying out Fiji's foreign policy agenda by maintaining and deepening Fiji's diplomatic relations, building bridges of cooperation with development partners and increasing trade with other nations through its 17 overseas missions plus one roving ambassador.

Fiji has established formal diplomatic relations with 182 countries. In recent years, our nation has emerged as a globally-renowned leader on the international stage, advocating for small-island nations, combatting climate change, and championing the preservation of the world's oceans and coral reefs.

Fiji will continue to strengthen its leadership role in the region, working with its neighbours to resolve the great challenges Pacific Island Countries face in developing their economies and improving the lives of their people, bilaterally and through institutions such as PIDF and MSG.

The Ministry also provides consular services to Fijians living overseas, organises high-level meetings and visits to Fiji, as well as being charged with the logistical coordination of international events and conferences that take place on our shores.

The total budget for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2018-2019 is **\$47.0 million**, comprising **\$43.6 million** for operating expenditure, **\$1.6 million** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$1.7 million**.



The increase of **\$3.1** million in the Ministry's 2018-2019 operational expenditure is mainly attributed to:

- increases in other operating expenditure by \$1.1 million for travel and communications, maintenance and purchase of goods and services; and
- salary adjustments to executive positions, totalling \$600,000.

New Initiatives

- \$300,000 is allocated for United Nations Human Rights Elections, where Fiji intends to contest for a seat in the UN Human Rights Council Elections in October 2018 in Geneva. The two missions, Geneva and New York, will be lobbying for support for Fiji;
- \$1.0 million is allocated for the upgrade of Wellington Mission; and
- \$160,000 is allocated for the digitisation of the document management system to improve information and document management.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Maintaining Fiji's strong leadership role in regional and international organisations, and working to meet the goals of various international agreements:
 - Membership in Regional and International Forums: maintains Fiji's membership and representation in international and regional forums, such as the United Nations and Melanesian Spearhead Group (\$3.9 million).
 - Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF) Secretariat: funds the operation of the PIDF Secretariat in Suva. The PIDF is a regional partnership platform where leaders and representatives of Pacific Small Island Developing States and territories can address regional development challenges (\$1.3 million).
- Advancing Fijian interests through overseas and consular services:
 - \$150,000 is allocated for capital procurements of office equipment and furniture for all the missions based on priority needs.

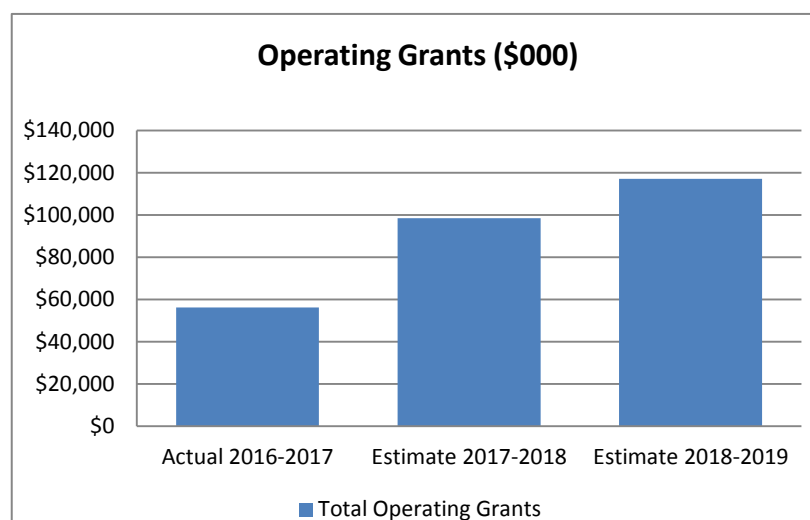


The Fijian Government Independent Bodies 2018-2019 Budget Highlights

Fiji's Independent Bodies operate autonomously from any other office and, along with Independent Commissions, make up the system of checks and balances that upholds the rule of law, ensures representative government and provides external oversight to secure and maintain transparent and accountable governance.

These Independent Bodies are: Office of the Auditor-General (OAG), Fijian Elections Office (FEO), the Judiciary, the Parliament, and Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP).

The budget for Independent Bodies in 2018-2019 comprises an operating grant of **\$115 million**.



The increase of **\$16.3 million** in the Independent Bodies 2018-2019 Budget is mainly attributed to:

- an increase in the operating grant for Office of the Auditor-General for the adjustments to salaries and wages, creation of additional positions, hosting of 28th INTOSAI Working Group on IT Audit meeting in 2019, acquisition of a new Accounting and Payroll software and purchase of capital equipment;

- an increase the operating grant for the Judiciary to fund adjustments in salaries and wages, upgrade existing courts and construct new courthouses around Fiji; and
- an increase in the operating grant for Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions to fund adjustments in salaries and wages, travel and communication, maintenance and procurement of IT equipment to replace the current IT infrastructure and purchase of a generator.

Office of the Auditor-General

The Office of the Auditor-General is an independent office established under section 151 of the Fijian Constitution. The Constitution also requires that the Auditor-General to audit and report to Parliament annually on the public accounts of the State, the control of public money and public property of the State and all transactions with or concerning the public money or public property of the State.

The budget of the Auditor-General in 2018-2019 comprises an operating grant of \$6.6 million. The increase of \$2.0 million is due to adjustments to salaries and wages, and other operational expenses.

Fijian Elections Office (FEO)

The FEO, along with the Electoral Commission, is responsible for the independent preparation work and conduct of national elections for Parliament every four years and any other election assigned under law.

The budget of the FEO in 2018-2019 comprises an operating grant of \$20.4 million. The decrease of \$1.7 million is attributed to an operating grant reduction for 2018 General Elections preparations, reflecting progress already completed by the Office to lay the groundwork for a transparent and accountable democratic process.

Media Industry Development Authority (MIDA)

The Media Industry Development Authority promotes a balanced, high-value media coverage to help cultivate a well-informed and civically-engaged Fijian public.

The budget of MIDA in 2018-2019 comprises an operating grant of \$300,000.

Judiciary

Section 96 of the Fijian Constitution vests the judicial authority of the State in Fiji's courts to resolve disputes and uphold the rule of law, subject only to the Constitution and the law. Parliament must also ensure that the courts have adequate resources to perform its functions and exercise its powers properly.

The budget for the Judiciary in 2018-2019 comprises an operational grant of \$69.2 million. The increase of \$14.8 million is due to adjustments in salaries and wages, the upgrade of existing courts and the construction of new courthouses around Fiji.

New Initiatives

- \$6.6 million is allocated for the adjustments in salaries and wages and creation of new positions.
- \$100,000 is allocated for the creation of 11 project positions, allowing for the trust fund to clear its longstanding backlog of reconciliations.
- \$500,000 is allocated to undertake consultancy and designing works for the extension of Nadi Court House. The extension will include construction of a magistrate's chamber, courtroom, and multi-purpose court.
- Another \$500,000 is provided to upgrade the Government Building cell blocks.

Ongoing Initiatives

- \$500,000 is allocated for rehabilitation and construction at the Nadi Court House, to include the upgrading of cell blocks, roof slab waterproofing and repair of roof gutters, refurbishments to Chief Registrar's office, a new judges common room at the existing high court and concreting of the car park.
- \$8.0 million is provided to start construction works on a new two-storey court in Nasinu, equipped with modern amenities and services for legal aid, family court and counselling services.
- \$5.0 million is provided to continue the construction of the new Veiuto Court Complex, which involves the upgrade of four administration buildings at the old parliament complex.
- \$4.0 million is allocated for consultancy services and the commencement of construction works for the new Lautoka High Court, with an additional \$3.0 million provided to commence the construction works for the relocation of the Ba Magistrates Court.
- A further \$1.0 million is allocated under the Executive Residences programme in Head 50 for the upgrading of the official residence of the Chief Justice, aimed at addressing structural defects and preventing further deterioration of the building.

Parliament

Section 46 of the Fijian Constitution establishes a democratically-elected Parliament with "the authority and power to make laws for the State." Parliament is the voice of the Fijian people, and it is responsible for ensuring representative government, openly debating relevant issues and providing oversight of Government's activity.

The budget for Parliament in 2018-2019 is comprised of an operating grant of \$10.8 million. There is a decrease in this budget cycle of \$197,800, which is mainly attributed to the completion of capital works.

Director of Public Prosecutions [DPP]

The Office of the DPP is an independent office established under the Constitution to institute and conduct criminal court proceedings in Fiji.

The budget of DPP in 2018-2019 covers an operational grant of \$7.7 million. The increase of \$1.4 million in 2018-2019 is due to adjustments in salaries and wages, and other operational expenses.

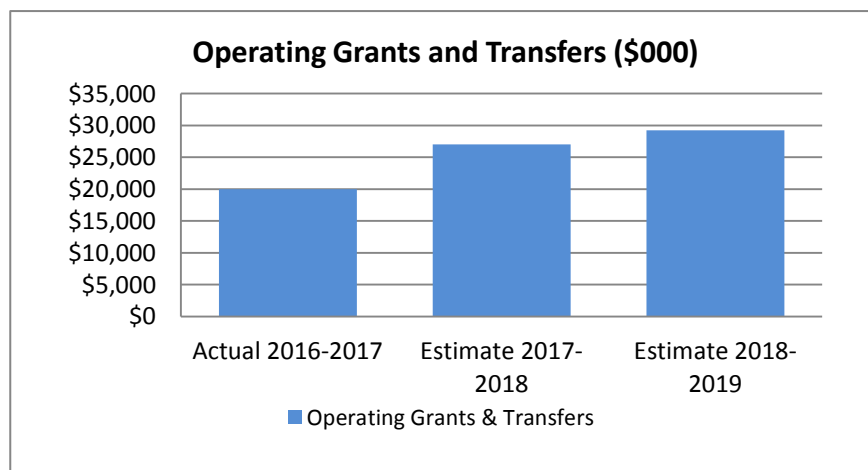


The Fijian Government Independent Commissions 2018-2019 Budget Highlights

Fiji's Independent Commissions serve the Fijian people in specialised areas where objective, technical judgment is essential. They apply the law independently and are valuable tools for transparent and accountable governance. They uphold Fijian's constitutional rights by keeping the institutions and people who serve them accountable.

The independent commissions are the: Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission, Accountability and Transparency Commission, Constitutional Services Commission, Public Service Commission (PSC), Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC), Legal Aid Commission, Accident Compensation Commission of Fiji and Online Safety Commission.

The budget of Independent Commissions in 2018-2019 comprises **\$31.0 million** in operating grants. The increase of **\$4.0 million** in 2018-2019 is attributed to increments for salaries and wages, other operational expenses and the inclusion of operating grants for the Online Safety Commission.



Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission

The Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Commission has independent authority under the Constitution to promote the protection and observance of, and respect for, human rights in all spheres of life, and to take steps to secure appropriate redress for any human rights violations. This includes initiating investigations and court proceedings and monitoring compliance by the State with human rights treaties and conventions.

The budget of HRADC in 2018-2019 is maintained at 2017-2018 level comprising an operating grant of \$2.4 million.

Accountability and Transparency Commission

The Accountability and Transparency Commission is established as an independent commission under the Constitution to carry out roles and responsibilities assigned to it under any laws enacted by Parliament.

The budget of the commission in 2018-2019 comprises an operating grant of \$500,000.

Constitutional Services Commission

The Constitutional Offices Commission is responsible for providing independent advice to the President for the appointment of constitutional offices, including the chairperson and members of most independent commissions and offices as well as the Commissioner of Police, Commissioner of Corrections and the Commander of the Republic of Fiji Military Forces.

The budget of the commission in 2018-2019 comprises an operating grant of \$50,000.

Public Service Commission [PSC]

PSC is responsible for setting consistent service standards across the Fijian civil service by enforcing guidelines and administering the Procedural Review Process and Performance Assessment Framework for Permanent Secretaries.

The budget of PSC in 2018-2019 comprises an operating grant of \$7.3 million. The increase of \$1.0 million in 2018-2019 is attributed to the establishment of ten new permanent secretary positions in 2018-2019.

Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption [FICAC]

FICAC, Fiji's independent anti-corruption agency, is responsible for investigating and prosecuting alleged corruption and bribery offences. FICAC is also responsible for examining the practices and procedures of any public bodies in order to eliminate corrupt practices, assist any persons, on request, on the ways in which corrupt practices may be eliminated and carry out public awareness to educate communities about the dangers of corruption.

The budget of FICAC in 2018-2019 is maintained at 2017-2018 levels, comprising an operating grant of \$8.5 million.

Accident Compensation Commission of Fiji [ACCF]

Fiji Accident Compensation Commission independently administers a no-fault compensation scheme for all motor vehicle accidents. The scheme provides victims of motor vehicle accidents with the option of either receiving compensation or pursuing their claims through legal proceedings.

The budget of ACCF in 2018-2019 comprises of an operating grant of \$1.7 million, an increase of \$700,000. As of 1 January 2019, the ACCF will expand to include workers compensation.

Legal Aid Commission

Every person arrested or detained in Fiji has the right under the Constitution to communicate with a legal practitioner. The Legal Aid Commission is established and empowered under the Constitution with the independent authority to provide free legal services to Fijians who cannot afford them.

The budget of the commission in 2018-2019 comprises an operating grant of \$10.4 million. The increase of \$2.0 million in 2018-2019 is attributed to increased efforts to expand the reach of quality legal services for the Fijian people through:

- \$300,000 to meet the rental payment for the following offices: Nasinu, Suva, Korovou, Tavua, Rakiraki, Taveuni, Levuka, Seaqaqa, Nadi, Kadavu, Rotuma, Vunidawa and Nausori.
- \$700,000 is allocated to cater for the shortfall in current salaries and FNPF.
- \$226,000 is allocated to meet other operational expenses, including travel and communications, advertisement and security expenses.
- \$90,000 is allocated to provide trainings for professional and corporate staff and for brief out matters to provide assistance on the legal proceedings of the cases.

Online Safety Commission

- \$300,000 is provided for the Online Safety Bill for the establishment of an Online Safety Commission. As more of Fijians are gaining access to technology and communicating through social media, this Commission will work to ensure the promotion of online safety by combatting abusive, hateful, and illegal behaviour online.



The Fijian Government

Ministry of Disaster Management and Meteorological Services

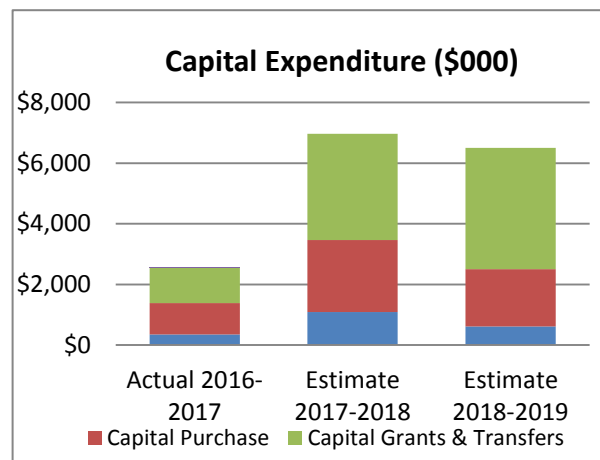
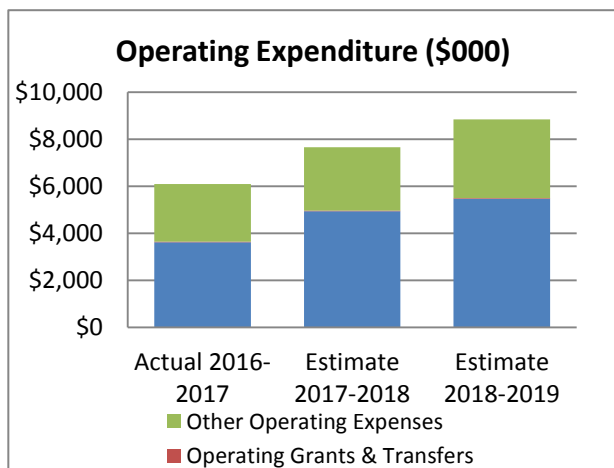
2018-2019 Budget Highlights

The Ministry of Disaster Management and Meteorological Services coordinates and integrates the services that support natural disaster preparedness, response and recovery.

Due to the effects of climate change, severe weather events are anticipated to become stronger and move more slowly, causing more damage. In recent history, Fiji has experienced the effects of this firsthand, seeing widespread devastation from the damaging winds and torrential rain and flooding caused by Cyclones Winston, Gita, Keni and Josie.

In light of these projections, the Ministry will work to more seamlessly coordinate preparedness and emergency response operations before and during the aftermath of natural disasters, and to improve Fiji's resilience to the worsening effects of climate change.

The Ministry will also provide timely and reliable weather, hydrology and climate information directly to the public to improve Fijians' overall preparedness before a natural disaster strikes. The budget of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Meteorological Services in 2018-2019 is **\$15.5 million**, comprising **\$8.9 million** for operating expenditure, **\$6.0 million** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$500,000**.



The increase of **\$1.8 million** in the Ministry's 2018-2019 operational expenditure is mainly attributed to:

- an increase due to the recruitment of additional staff to strengthen the operations of the Disaster Management Office; and
- increases in other operating expenditure for travel and communications, maintenance and purchase of goods and services.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Providing support to affected Fijians in the aftermath of a disaster:
 - Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation Fund: funds immediate response, relief or rehabilitation efforts during national disasters (\$1.0 million).
- Building up Fiji's resilience to disasters:
 - Disaster Risk and Climate Change Adaptation Fund: constructs or upgrades seawalls in low-lying areas that are particularly vulnerable to disaster risk (\$1.0 million).
 - Upgrade and Maintenance of Evacuation Centres: constructs evacuation centres and retrofits existing halls to help vulnerable communities minimise climate risks and ensure the safety in time of calamities or disasters (\$1.5 million).
- Providing timely and reliable meteorology and hydrology information:
 - Multimedia Publication Awareness Program: funds the development of resource materials to educate students about meteorology, particularly on terms used in disaster warnings (\$99,000).
 - Upgrade of Outer Island Stations on Yasawa-i-Rara and Vunisea: secures the equipment, instruments and buildings at meteorological outstations to ensure that reliable information can be received in times of disaster for the entire Fiji Group. Funds

will also go towards preserving a safe working environment for station officers and their families on-site (\$460,000).

- Installation of Water Level & Rainfall Telemetry Equipment: involves the continuous procurement and installation of water level and rainfall telemetry instruments at all hydrological stations located near major rivers around Fiji for proactive flood monitoring (\$370,000).
- Automatic Weather Observation System (AWOS) Replacement Project at the Nadi and Nausori International Airport: funds the replacement of AWOS at Fiji's two international airports to improve weather monitoring for the aviation sector (\$1.0 million).
- Upgrade of Nadi Radar Antenna: funds the complete upgrade of the Nadi Radar Antenna in the upcoming budget cycle, which is a critical instrument used for domestic and regional weather forecasting (\$500,000).



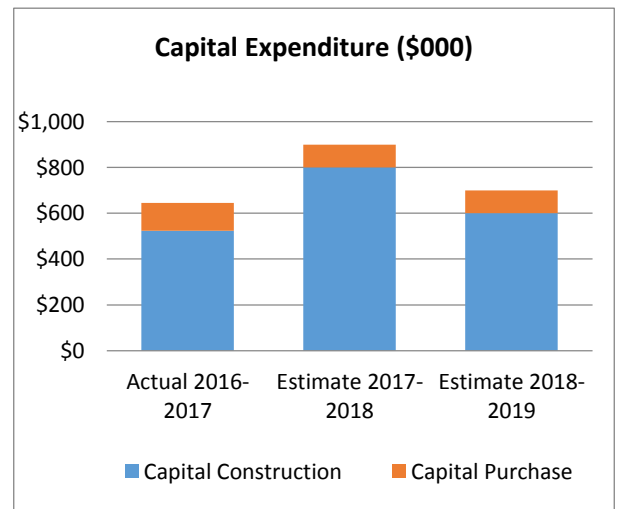
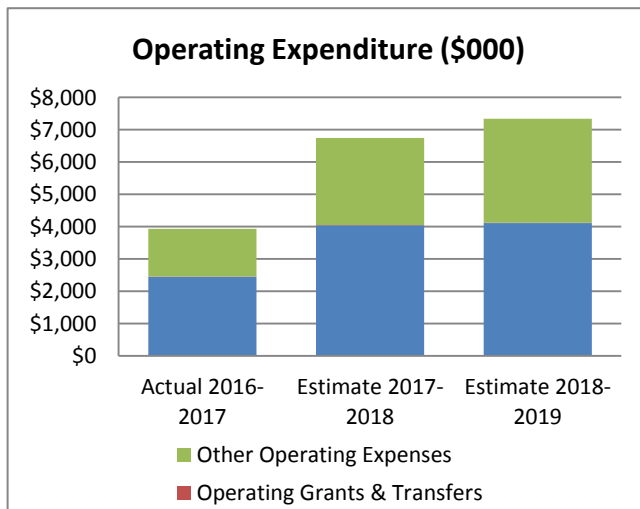
The Fijian Government

Ministry of Justice

2018-2019 Budget Highlights

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for the administration of law and justice in Fiji. The Ministry delivers judicial services through registries established by law to maintain official records of legal documents, registering companies, businesses, credit unions, money lenders, justices of the peace, titles, deeds, births, deaths and marriages.

The total budget for the Ministry of Justice in 2018-2019 is **\$8.1 million**, comprising **\$7.1 million** for operating expenditure, **\$700,000** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$300,000**.



The increase of **\$165,900** in the Ministry's 2018-2019 operational expenditure is mainly attributed to:

- the creation of a new allocation for Operational Cost for Official Receiver's Office to support the operational cost for OR's Office (\$300,000); and
- increases in other operating expenditure by \$130,000 for travel and communications, maintenance and purchase of goods and services.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Improving access for the Fijian people to high quality judicial services through:
 - Decentralisation of Births, Deaths and Marriages (BDM) Services: funds the opening of new registry offices around Fiji, equipment for the new offices and staff salaries to man the new offices (\$300,000).
 - Office Upgrade and Refurbishment – HQ: upgrades the main Registrar of Titles Office at Civic Tower in Suva to ensure proper storage and improve the quality of services through easier access to titles and deeds for public searches (\$300,000).
 - Digitisation Programme: digitises all Ministry companies, titles and BDM records under the Ministry of Communications’ DigitalFiji initiative, aimed to better preserve information, improve access for the public and facilitate other business through e-Government services. This allocation caters for overtime payment for 60 clerical officers, who are scanning and uploading millions of pages of existing paper records. This digitisation will create a more secure, efficient and transparent recording system (\$1.0 million).
- Ensuring effective policy oversight of the law and justice sector through:
 - Anti-Corruption Activities: ensures appropriate networking and coordination between various agencies responsible for duties related to rooting out money laundering and corruption, including financial reporting, law enforcement, immigration and customs (\$100,000).
 - Consumer Tribunal: provides a flexible and easily-accessible redress mechanism for consumers who do not have the option to seek justice through the courts because of the nature of the legal system and costly legal fees (\$200,000).



The Fijian Government

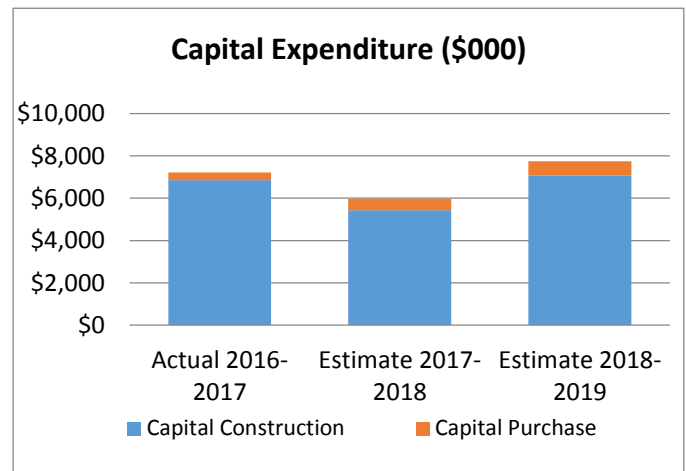
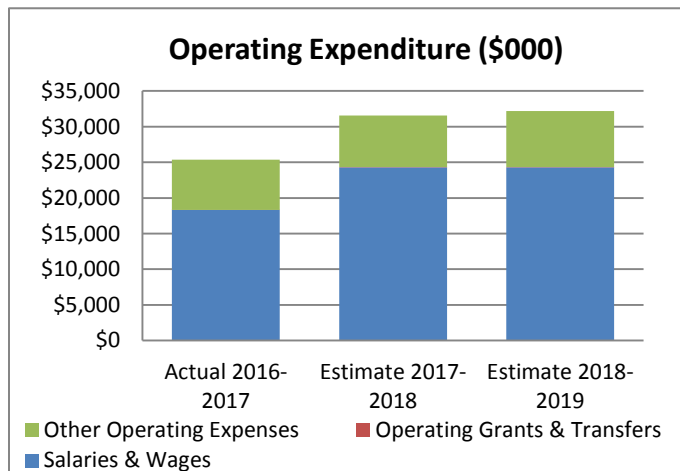
Fiji Corrections Service

2018-2019 Budget Highlights

The Fiji Corrections Service is responsible for properly and safely detaining and rehabilitating persons sentenced to a term of imprisonment or placed on remand pending trial by the courts at its correctional centres.

FCS is committed to meeting international standards and best practices, including compliance with all human rights obligations for the treatment of inmates. Currently in the midst of a number of capital construction projects and a modernisation programme, FCS is leveraging technology to improve the operations of its correctional centres and improve the quality of its rehabilitation works.

The total budget for the FCS in 2018-2019 is **\$41.1 million**, comprising **\$31.9 million** for operating expenditure, **\$7.8 million** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$1.4 million**.



The increase of **\$2.4 million** in the FCS's 2018-2019 Budget is mainly attributed to:

- an increase in capital expenditure for Demolition of Suva Main Cell Block and Civil Works for Medium Correction Centre; and

- increases in other operating expenditure by \$590,000 for maintenance and purchase of goods and services.

New Initiatives

- \$500,000 is allocated to construct the Infirmary at Lautoka Remand Centre.
- \$100,000 is allocated to construct a new visiting room for the Lautoka Remand Centre;
- \$120,000 to construct a new 50-personnel timber barrack open floor training classroom at the Naboro Complex;
- \$275,000 to replace all locks at the Naboro Maximum, Medium, Minimum, Suva, Nasinu and Lautoka CC; and
- \$100,000 for the installation of boulders at the Naboro creek running adjacent to the Minimum CC and the TMA office, main gate and vegetable farms, which is essential for controlling the flow of water during intense rainy periods.
- \$100,000 is to undertake the preparatory works at the new Supervisor's Office in Labasa.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Operating modern, functional corrections facilities run by well-trained staff:
 - Established Staff: ensures compliance with UN minimum standards for the treatment of inmates under the Geneva Convention to provide one officer for every four inmates. This allocation funds the staff to operate the correction facilities throughout the country, and covers corresponding allowances (\$24.2 million).
 - Various allocations to make the new Lautoka facilities fully operational by the end of 2017:
 - a) Lautoka Remand Centre Upgrades: upgrades the existing infirmary at the Lautoka Correctional Centre to accommodate more remand detainees (\$500,000).

- b) K9 Dog Unit: funds for the completion of the Facilities by the end of 2017 (\$400,000).
- Electrical Upgrade Works: to continue the upgrade works at Naboro, Nasinu, and Korovou. The completion of this project will reduce the funds spent on annual electricity supply (\$250,000).
 - Civil Works: after the completion of extensive consultations on landslide mitigation at Naboro Medium Correctional Centre, this programme has been expanded to fund the construction of a gabion wall near the Naboro Medium Correctional Centre in order to protect the facility from natural disasters in the future (\$25 million).
 - Upgrade and Maintenance of Institutional Buildings and Repair and Maintenance of Institutional Infrastructure: funds the preliminary work on access roads to Naboro and Lautoka and will begin upgrade works on the maximum and pre-release facilities, following the completion of the Naboro Medium Facility (\$900,000).
 - Institutional Boundary Fencing: constructs new fencing for the Naboro Medium Facility (\$600,000).
 - CCTV: funds the installation of complete CCTV cameras at all correctional centres in Fiji to improve security at correctional centres (\$200,000).
 - Upgrade of Commissioner's Residence: covers the cost of upgrading the official residence of the Commissioner of Corrections to prevent further deterioration and ensure continued use the property (\$150,000 provided under Head 50).



The Fijian Government

Ministry of Communications

2018-2019 Budget Highlights

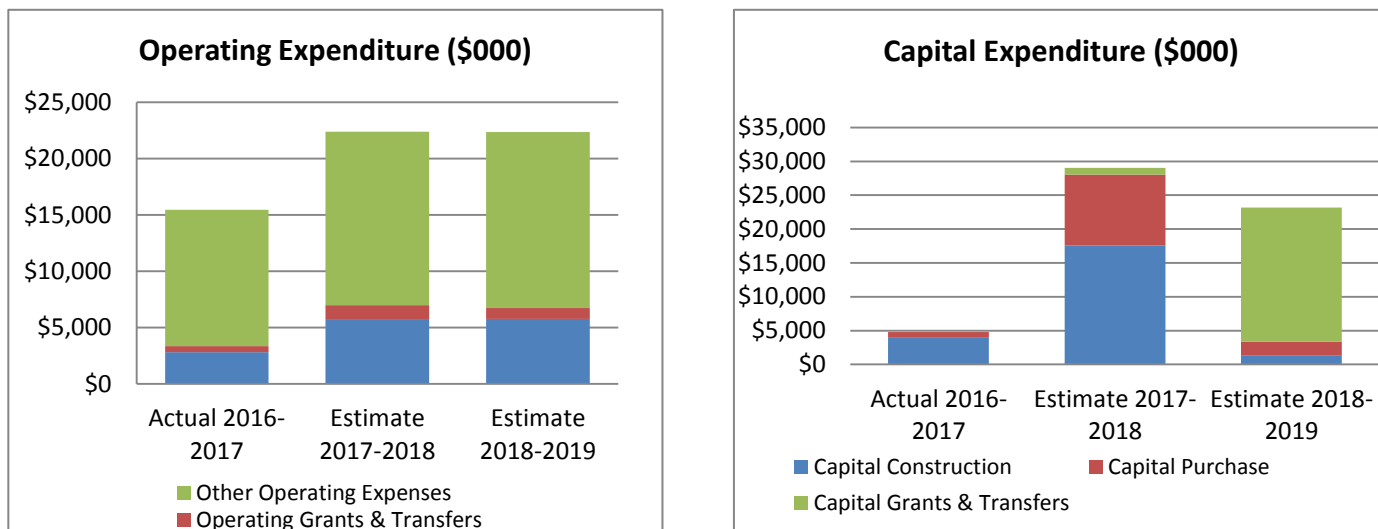
The Ministry of Communications is responsible for keeping Fijians connected to each other and to the outside world by providing efficient, competitive, cost-effective and accessible telecommunication and postal services. It is also responsible for supporting the development of Fiji's Information, Communication and Technology Sector by providing technical and strategic support to the industry.

The Ministry engages with the general public over radio, and in print and online media to keep the Fijian people updated on Government's plans and policies, and to quickly alert the public to important information relating to public safety and security.

Through the Ministry, Government funds the Walesi digital television platform, which provides a package of high-quality free-to-air television stations, reachable by satellite absolutely anywhere in Fiji. Walesi has fundamentally changed the media landscape in Fiji, granting Fijians throughout the nation, particularly those in deep-rural and maritime communities, with unprecedented access to information and entertainment, free of charge. Through Walesi, the Ministry aims to cultivate a more knowledge-based and civically-engaged society, and give Fijians the chance to enjoy high quality television with their families and communities.

The Ministry also manages all ICT systems in the Fijian Government. The Ministry is currently undertaking a significant investment programme to improve the reliability and efficiency of the Government network to ensure that government data is more secure against cyber threats. The Ministry comprises the Department of Information, Department of Communications and the Information Technology and Computing Services (ITC).

The total budget for the Ministry of Communications in 2018-2019 is **\$65 million**, comprising **\$23.8 million** for operating expenditure, **\$38 million** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$3.2 million**.



The increase of **\$3 million** in 2018-2019 is mainly attributed to:

- a new allocation covering Government's grant to Walesi, which allows Fijian families from absolutely anywhere in our country to access a package of free-to-air television stations via satellite or mobile device;
- the cost of setting up new telecentres and expanding internet access to schools across Fiji, creating the infrastructure for a more knowledge-based and modern society and;
- Fiji's ongoing digital Government transformation, DigitalFiji. Born from collaboration between the Fijian Government and Singapore Cooperation Enterprise, an agency of the Singapore Government, DigitalFiji is the flagship programme in this overarching transformation of the delivery of Government services. It will consist of the streamlining of processes of a number of government agencies such as the Office of Births, Deaths and Marriages and the delivery of a host of mobile applications that aim to bring Government services to the fingertips of all Fijians. This will enhance the way all Fijians engage with Government.

New Initiatives

- \$19.0 million is allocated to Walesi programme to cater for the completion of the rollout and enhancement of services to include provision of data delivery and OTT services, including its expansion to a new, free mobile platform.
- \$300,000 is provided to expand internet connection to a total of 371 schools, equipping teachers and students with access to technology that will help improve learning outcomes and prepare for future e-learning initiatives. This initiative will provide unprecedented access to information to Fijian students, bringing them into the fold of a modern economy and expanding their horizons.
- \$100,000 is allocated for Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) Implementation Project. The funding will be utilised to purchase hardware equipment, software and licensing, hosting of awareness programmes, compliance to certifications and standard accreditations and subscriptions to organisational membership. The CERT will be responsible to carry out assessments and incident handling functions and provide advice on measures to resolve issues and mitigate cyber threats and risks for the Government.
- \$500,000 is allocated for new setup of six telecentres (three in Viti Levu and three outside of Viti Levu). This allocation will also cover the telecentres' operational costs.
- \$150,000 allocated for public awareness expenses for Constitution Day and other awareness programmes.
- \$500,000 is allocated for the upgrade of Data Centre Infrastructure.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Raising public awareness on the services, assistance and other opportunities that are available to the Fijian people:
 - Film and Video Materials: produces publicly-released video news summaries, increasing engagement and awareness around Government activities and initiatives. This includes

publicising the range of services and assistance that are available to Fijians, and promotes greater accessibility to national and international events (\$250,000).

- Continuing the liberalisation of the telecommunications market to improve access to affordable and reliable mobile services:
 - Cable Connection to Vanua Levu (World Bank): funds the final phase of construction for the Suva-Savusavu cable connection via the new Samoa-Fiji cable, dramatically increasing Vanua Levu's broadband capacity and internet connectivity (\$950,000).
 - Implementation Analogue to Digital Roadmap: supports the transition from analogue to digital throughout Fiji by subsidising the purchase of set-top boxes for low-income households (\$2.0 million).
 - Operational Grant to Telecommunications Authority of Fiji: ensures proper monitoring and regulatory compliance in the ICT sector (\$600,000).
- Upgrading ICT infrastructure to gradually improve and expand e-Government services:
 - National Switch and Fiji Pay Account: funds the launch and implementation of the National Switch and Fiji Pay Account following the successful enactment of the Fiji Interchange Network in February 2017. Banks and financial institution will be required to connect to the network, giving consumers access to superior online financial services and lower transaction costs (\$800,000).
 - Government Fibre Optic Network Project: makes critical upgrades to the Govnet network to provide a more stable online environment (\$500,000).
 - Digitisation of BDM, Companies and Titles Office: digitises public records programmes. There are currently three ongoing digitisation projects in the Companies, Titles and BDM offices (\$1,000,000).
 - Storage System Capacity: ensures that the Primary Data Centre has adequate storage capacity to meet present and future requirements (\$250,000).



The Fijian Government Ministry of Civil Service 2018-2019 Budget Highlights

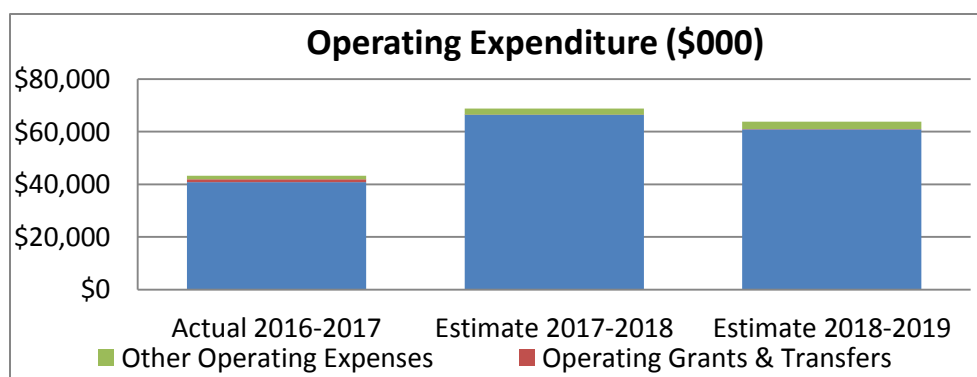
The Ministry of Civil Service's primary responsibility is to provide guidance for consistent implementation of the central regulations governing hiring, evaluation, promotion, compensation, training and discipline of public employees in line with Government's Civil Sector Reform.

To improve the overall standard of performance in the civil service, the Ministry provides various training and career development opportunities that are open to all civil servants, including courses on leadership, governance, project management, and human resources.

The Ministry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health and Medical Services, has established a Customer Care Call Centre to receive and effectively manage customer feedback for issues arising from Fijian patients, teachers, and students. By establishing a direct line of communication with Fijians who utilise their services, this enables Government ministries to create a more transparent and accountable system of self-improvement.

The Ministry is charged with leading Fiji's planning and hosting responsibilities for the 52nd Asian Development Bank (ADB) Annual Meeting in 2019.

The budget for the Ministry of Civil Service in 2018-2019 is allocated **\$52 million** comprising operational expenditure of **\$51.7 million** and VAT of **\$300,000**.



The decrease of **\$17 million** in the Ministry's 2018-2019 Budget is attributed to an adjustment in doctors salaries due to a staggering of doctors recruitment

New Initiatives

- \$140,000 is allocated for the creation of additional four positions to support the Ministry's operations through its Corporate Services Division, Finance, Transportation, administration of MCS and Doctors Payroll and the Training Division.

Ongoing Initiatives

- To facilitate core skills training for civil servants to improve the services delivered to the Fijian people:
 - Leadership Training: enhances management and leadership capacity in the civil service (\$240,000).
 - Training of Doctors: funds skills development and training for doctors employed in the Ministry of Health and Medical Services (\$1.6 million).
 - In-service Training: funds professional skills development across the civil service. This allocation covers core skills development for civil servants; including ongoing training on the Open Merit Recruitment and Selection guideline and the standard rules and operating procedures of the civil service (\$150,000).
 - 52nd Asian Development Bank [ADB] Annual Meeting - This provision is to meet the costs for the hosting of the annual meeting for the ADB Board of Governors in May 2019. As the largest international gathering to ever be hosted on Fijian soil, this meeting will bring thousands of business- and development-minded leaders from around the world to gather in Nadi. Fiji will take the spotlight as a country of choice to invest in and do business, and the meeting will showcase our nation's capacity as a first-class destination for hosting not only tourists, but also large-scale, logistically-complex international conferences. Fiji will be the first-ever Pacific Developing Member Country to host the ADB Annual Meeting (\$10.0 million - Funding under Head 50).



The Fijian Government

Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development

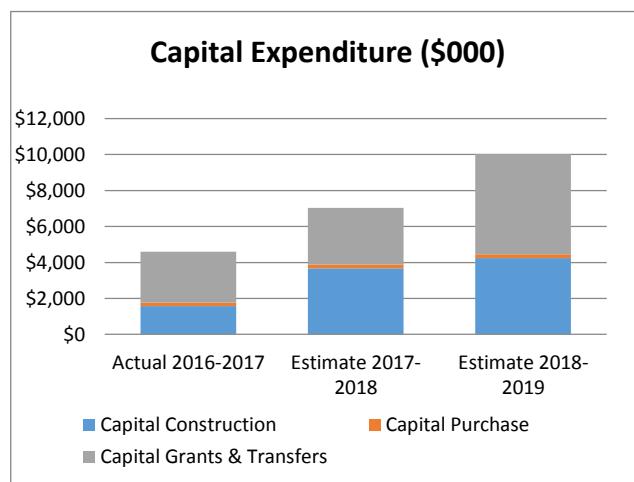
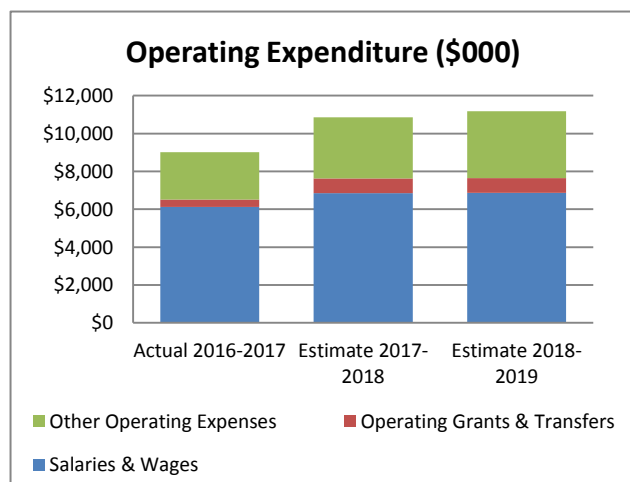
2018-2019 Budget Highlights

The Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development is responsible for implementing development strategies that bring Fijians living in rural and maritime regions the same level of access to essential services and economic opportunity that is enjoyed elsewhere in Fiji. It addresses community needs and raises the quality of life for Fijians living in these remote areas.

The Ministry works to target rural and maritime communities with specifically-catered development strategies to generate economic growth and improve living standards by providing easy access to Government services, expanding rural infrastructure, carting water in times of drought, and uplifting and empowering individuals and communities.

The Ministry also provides hands-on support services to rural and maritime communities, ensuring that Fijians living in these areas are brought into the fold of Fiji's ongoing economic development and the betterment of Government services. This outreach includes the registration of births, deaths and marriages, the issuance of licenses and the collection of licenses and permit fees.

The total allocation for the Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development in 2018-2019 is **\$21.7 million**, comprising **\$11.2 million** for operating expenditure, **\$9.5 million** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$1.0 million**.



The increase in expenditure of \$4.9 million in the Ministry's 2018-2019 Budget is mainly attributed to:

- an increase in other operating expenditure by \$305,000 for travel and communications, maintenance and purchase of goods and services; and
- an increase in capital expenditure of \$4.2 million to complete all ongoing construction projects and commence new ones.

New Initiatives

- \$486,239 is allocated to carry out civil, fencing and landscaping works for the construction of new assistant district offices at the Namarai and Korolevu Government Stations, to better serve the people of Nakorotubu in the province of Ra and the Tikina i Wai, including Malolo and Vatulele in the Nadroga province.
- \$1.7 million is allocated to commence construction of the district office and quarters for the Kavala and Vanuabalavu Government Station to improve access to government services in Kadavu and Vanuabalavu.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Upholding the right of every Fijian—regardless of location or socioeconomic background— to access transportation networks, essential services and reliable infrastructure:
 - District Advisory Councillor Allowance: funds the biannual meetings of the 17 district advisory councils and monthly allowances for 287 district advisory councillors to take action on the concerns and needs of the communities they represent (\$740,030).
 - Government Road Shows in Remote Rural Locations: raises awareness of Government services and expands the reach of services offered by Government, the private sector and NGOs directly to communities in remote rural locations (\$200,000).
 - Water Carting: increases water supply to remote rural and maritime areas by carting water during prolonged drought periods (\$500,000).

- Community Access Roads, Footpaths and Footbridges: improves community access to the main transportation network, markets and essential services. These access roads are not the rural roads used by public transport that are being upgraded by the Fiji Roads Authority; they are smaller access roads connecting rural communities, including farmers, to Fiji's main centres (\$2.0 million).
- Grant to Self-Help: funds community projects that support socioeconomic development in rural and maritime areas, namely water and sanitation projects, walkways, agriculture and fisheries projects and the provision of outboard and inboard engines (\$1.5 million).
- \$2.8 million is allocated to complete the construction of Vunidawa, Wainikoro, Kubulau and Wainua Government Station.



The Fijian Government

Republic of Fiji Military Forces

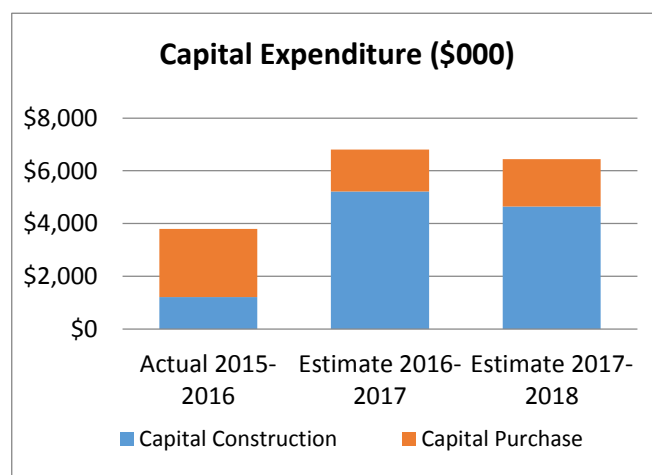
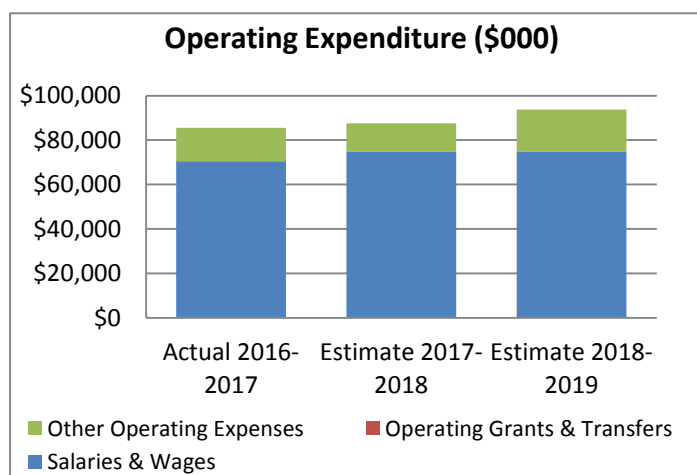
2018-2019 Budget Highlights

The Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) is responsible for the security and defence of Fiji and the Fijian people at all times by employing the latest technologies and defence strategies to address emerging security threats, and supporting the international community to reduce conflict and forge peaceful solutions.

The Fijian Government supports RFMF in developing a capable military force by investing in training, modern equipment and facilities, and maintaining their critical role in international peacekeeping missions through the United Nations.

The RFMF also implements a number of projects and programmes in rural and maritime regions in Fiji. As part of its contribution to the wellbeing of the Fijian people, the RFMF's Engineering Corps carries out an extensive range of development projects across the country that improves the living conditions of ordinary Fijians.

The total budget for the RFMF in 2018-2019 is **\$103.3 million**, comprising **\$6.9 million** for operating expenditure, **\$900,000** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$500,000**.



The increase of **\$7.1 million** in 2018-2019 is mainly attributed to:

- a \$341,000 increase in operating expenses for greater travel and improved communication;
- a \$931,000 increase in maintenance and operations cost to ensure ongoing operations of equipment and machines;
- an increase of \$4.5 million for the purchase of goods and services to better equip and prepare RFMF personnel, which includes:
 - Overseas Training (Disciplined Services) – increased by \$800,000
 - Local Training – increased by \$300,000,
 - Messing – increased by \$1.1 million,
 - Capability Stores – increased by \$650,000,
 - Personnel Equipment – increased by \$1.3 million; and
- an increase in the special expenditure due to the inclusion of new expenditure items including: Officer Training Cadet (\$600,000), Naval Basic Recruit Course (\$240,000) and National Trading Account (\$150,000).

New Initiatives

- \$500,000 is allocated to renovate and upgrade the existing RFMF quarters and barracks. There are a total of 95 quarters and barracks within RFMF, 74 of which require maintenance. The funding in 2018-2019 will be used to undertake renovation and upgrading works for priority facilities.
- \$90,000 is allocated to purchase a back-up generator for the RFMF camp at QBE, Nabua to address ongoing power outages. This is needed to prevent damages to electrical machineries

and equipment for the core units of RFMF, namely: the Logistic Support Unit, 3 FIR and Land Force Command.

- \$300,000 is allocated for upgrade and replacement of kitchen equipment at eight RFMF camps.
- \$150,000 allocated for the purchase of scaffolding to assist RFMF Engineers in undertaking renovation work and the storage of materials and equipment. This will increase RFMF Engineers' involvement in rural development through the construction of roads, bridges, schools and health centres.
- \$100,000 is allocated for the purchase of Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HADR) equipment, giving the Territorial Force Engineers the tools they need for highly-responsive rehabilitation works in the wake of natural disasters.
- \$634,940 is allocated to cater for the cadet training of 70 TFs, who are expected to be absorbed in 2018-2019. This training is compulsory for any officer to be absorbed into the Force.
- \$50,000 is allocated for the operation and maintenance expenses for the maritime surveillance centre.
- \$235,000 is provided to cater for the naval basic recruit course for the recruitment of 50 personnel.
- \$150,000 is allocated to fund an existing bank account in Australia which is used to provide quick access to funds for purchases of parts and equipment that are exclusive to Australia.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Supporting the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations in conflict zones around the world:
 - Blackrock Medical and Disaster Recovery Centre: operates as a facility to house and train troops who are deployed on peacekeeping missions as ongoing capital works are carried out to make the centre fully operational. This allocation will fund the Phase 2 civil

works (road, water and electricity), construction of a mess hall and the upgrading of existing infrastructure for troops being deployed (\$1.0 million).

- Peacekeeping Missions: funds to support the deployment of RFMF personnel deployed in peacekeeping missions in Syria, Iraq and the Sinai. There are currently 864 RFMF and Fiji Police Force personnel serving in conflict zones (\$78.8 million – allocated under Head 49).
- Empowering and uplifting the Fijian people by carrying out an extensive range of development projects across the country:
 - Tools and Equipment for RFMF Engineers: provides effective tools and equipment to the RFMF Engineers to implement rural and maritime development projects. This project is being carried out in phases, and was boosted by tools received from Australia and New Zealand to carry out TC Winston rehabilitation works in 2017-2018 (\$150,000).
- Modernising RFMF facilities to better utilise technology and high-quality infrastructure to maintain the safety and security of the Fijian people:
 - Completion of the construction of RFMF magazine: the new magazine will be used to more safely store explosives and munitions (\$300,000).
 - Upgrading and Renovation of RFMF Armoury: upgrades the armoury to more securely store RFMF weapons at the Queens Elizabeth Barracks (\$350,000).
 - Renovation/Upgrade of Existing RFMF Infrastructure: upgrades the Force Training Group infrastructure (\$398,743) and Logistic Support Group complex (\$300,000).
 - General Facility Upgrades: funds the upgrade of the Sukanaivalu and Lautoka camps (\$700,000).
 - High Frequency Communication Equipment: upgrades RFMF communication systems by replacing field sets and installing LAN/WAN at all RFMF camps (\$500,000).



The Fijian Government

Fiji Police Force

2018-2019 Budget Highlights

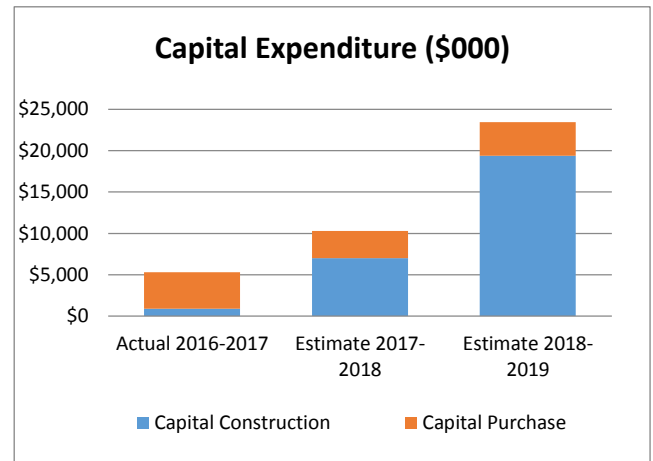
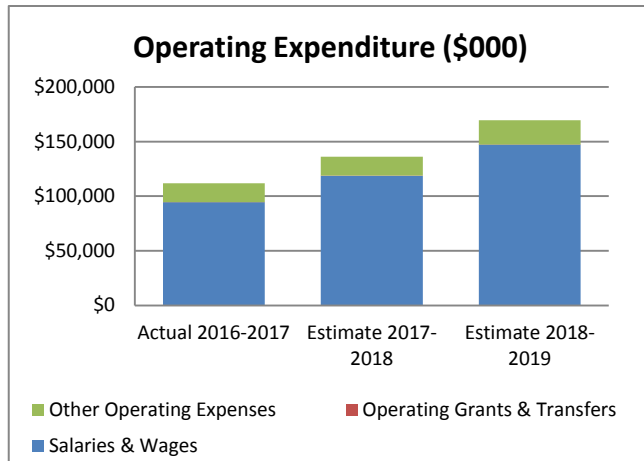
The Fiji Police Force is responsible for maintaining law and order in Fijian society by employing best practices in police work and using modern technologies and innovative strategies to prevent criminal activity.

The Force engages in a wide range of activities to maintain professional personnel that are well-trained and well-equipped to handle evolving criminal threats.

The Force is presently pursuing to expand the reach of its services through the construction of new facilities, and aims to improve response times and investigative effectiveness by procuring new specialised equipment, including vehicles, communication equipment and forensic science tools. It is also actively working to enhance its operational capabilities to better serve Fiji's many maritime communities.

The Force is seeking out and integrating new technologies to help fight crimes of increasing levels of sophistication. To adapt to Fiji's evolving criminal landscape, the Force is increasingly focussed on preventing cybercrimes and combatting the distribution and use of illegal drugs.

The total budget for the Fiji Police Force in 2018-2019 is **\$193.5 million**, comprising **\$165.6 million** for operating expenditure, **\$23.8 million** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$4.1 million**.



The increase of **\$46.6** million in 2018-2019 is attributed to:

- a \$24.6 million increase in salaries and wages, which will be phased over five years commencing from 2018-2019. The activities planned for Phase 1 will include the regularisation of the 621 established positions to adapt to new policing challenges.
- an increase in other operating expenses by \$2.8 million for travel, subsistence, communications, maintenance and purchase of goods and services;
- an increase in special expenditure due to a new allocation for 2018 General Election Operations (\$2.0 million); and
- an increase in capital construction programme by \$14.0 million for the upgrading of existing facilities and construction of new police stations.

New Initiatives

- \$2.0 million allocated to fund police operations during the conduct of the 2018 General Elections operations.
- \$1.0 million is allocated to commence construction of the new Nalawa Police Station which was damaged by TC Winston.
- \$500,000 is provided for the construction of new living quarters for community posts and rural stations.

- \$720,000 is allocated for the purchase of police boats and outboard engines to provide maximum maritime security for port of entry, efficient and cost effective border management services, timely and effective response to criminal activities and disasters in open waters.
- \$150,000 for the procurement of a generator for forensic services to provide back-up power supply to the Forensic Science Services (FSS) Building in Nasova.
- \$300,000 is provided to supply and install video-recorded interview machines. This will support the reform of police procedures and practices following the United Nations Convention against torture and other cruel inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and also improve overall efficiency of police interviews.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Improving operational support for more effective criminal prosecutions:
 - Increased allocations for court witnesses fees, training, witness and suspect meals and prisoner meals (\$593,000).
- Expanding the reach of law enforcement by constructing new police stations and posts and improving existing posts to better protect Fijians:
 - Police Station Construction: funds the commencement of the construction works for new police stations in Nakasi, Nadi and Lautoka (\$15.0 million).
 - Station Upgrades: begins consultancy, design scoping and early civil works for Kadavu Police Station and upgrade of Nasese garage (\$680,000).
 - Police Quarters Upgrades: begins design scoping and tender processes for the upgrade of institutional police quarters, covering the planned works for quarters at the priority posts and stations (\$800,000).
 - Remote Stations and Posts Management: funds the installation of three solar power units annually in maritime and remote stations and posts (\$309,000).

- Providing officers, posts and stations with proper equipment to effectively detect criminal activity and take swift action to uphold public safety through:
 - Communication Equipment: funds the procurement of equipment that will improve response times and surveillance of public areas (\$400,000).
 - Road Safety: funds the procurement of modern technology and equipment to make Fiji's roads safer for commuters (\$600,000).
 - Standard Equipment Procurement: ensures that officers are well-equipped to confront criminal threats by procuring basic policing tools (\$500,000).
 - Specialised Equipment Procurement: ensures that officers have the equipment necessary to conduct specialised operations to prevent criminal activity (\$298,000).
 - IT Equipment Procurement: funds the procurement of IT equipment for police stations, posts and other facilities to improve the recording of police reports for investigations for use in trial, including complaints by victims and witness statements (\$200,000).
- Providing officers with technical expertise and specialised equipment to conduct thorough and effective investigations of crime scenes:
 - Forensic Bio and DNA Lab: covers quality assurance systems for the Lab, upgrades the IT Database, allows the purchase of technical equipment, and funds training exercises (\$500,000).
 - Analytical Forensic Chemistry Equipment: purchases laboratory equipment for toxicology analyses, trace evidence analyses and arson case sample analyses (\$200,000).
- The Fijian Government will continue to fund the deployment of Fiji Police Force personnel to carry out their important role in the nation's worldwide peacekeeping operations, bringing real-world training and great pride to the Force (\$1.9 million - under Head 49).