



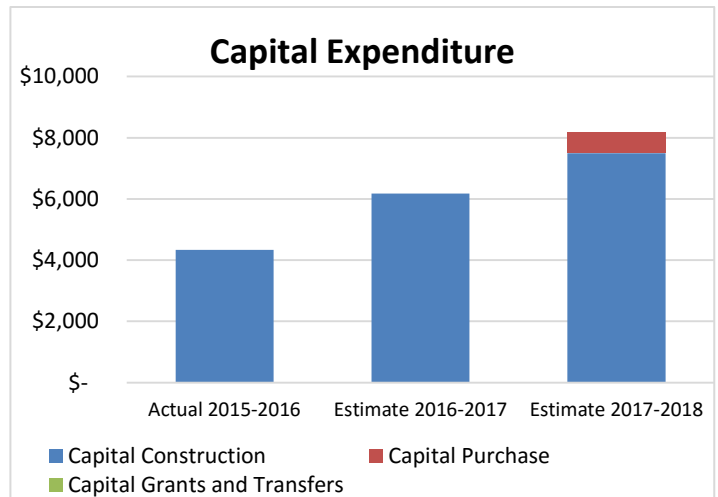
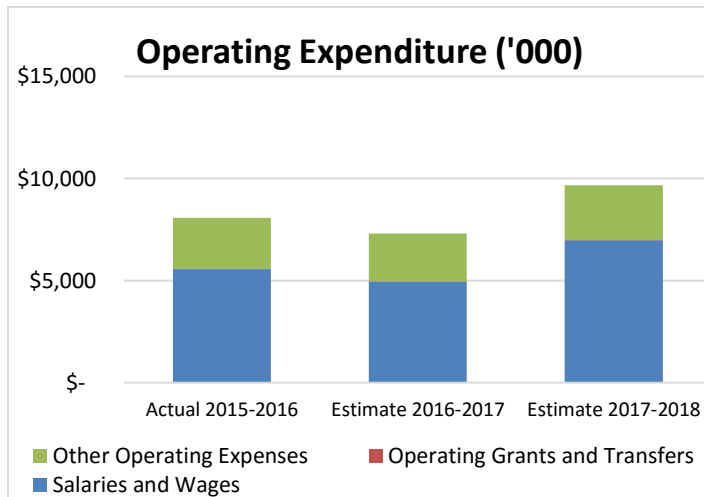
The Fijian Government
Ministry of Fisheries
2017-2018 Budget Highlights

The Ministry of Fisheries is responsible for the sustainable management of Fiji’s marine resources, and the role they play in preserving the Fijian way of life. The Ministry monitors and protects the health of marine populations in Fijian waters in order to protect the livelihoods of communities that rely on fishing.

Through its work, the Ministry helps Fiji meet its international obligations as part of the global effort to combat overfishing and prevent the extinction of marine species that are currently at-risk.

The Ministry runs 24 stations throughout Fiji and operates through five functional divisions: Offshore Fisheries Management; Research and Development; Aquaculture; Extension and Advisory Services; and Fleet Technical services.

The total budget for the Ministry of Fisheries in 2017-2018 is **\$18.8 million**, comprising **\$9.7 million** for operating expenditure, **\$8.1 million** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$1.0 million**.



The increase of **\$4.6 million** in the Ministry’s 2017-2018 Budget is mainly attributed to:

- an increase in operating expenditure due to salary adjustments as part of Civil Service Reforms; and

- an increase in capital expenditure due to increases in the number of ice plants to be constructed and upgrading works to be carried out on fisheries hatcheries.

New Initiatives

- \$340,000 is allocated for the upgrading of the Lekutu Fisheries Station to a Rural Fisheries Service Centre. The new upgrade will include a cold storage and fishing area facility, and a fibre glass boat.
- \$440,000 is allocated for the replacement of the ice machine at the Wainibokasi Ice Plant.
- \$50,000 is allocated for the preparatory works for a new Wainigadru Ice Plant.
- \$225,000 is allocated for the procurement of a new aluminum boat and a 500HP engine for the Northern Division. The project is to ensure compliance, support effective monitoring and strengthen the enforcement against illegal fishing in the Northern Division.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Supporting the sustainable growth of aquaculture industries through:
 - Aquaculture Development Programme: supports the expansion of aquaculture through infrastructural upgrade of the Naduruloulou Hatchery, Ba and Sigatoka Hatchery and rehabilitation of the Dreketi Hatchery and farmer training and awareness at village/community level (\$350,000).
 - Brackishwater Development Programme: funds infrastructure development at Galoa Station to ensure consistent supply of shrimp post larvae to farmers and those interested in shrimp farming. Funds will also cover the training and advisory support provided to local farmers on proper shrimp farming (\$380,000).
 - Seaweed Development Programme: supports commercial seaweed production and provides a sustainable income generating venture for rural coastal and maritime communities (\$259,225).
 - Ongoing Construction of Multi Species Hatchery – Ra: rehabilitation of the Coboni Hatchery which was damaged by Tropical Cyclone Winston (\$400,000).

- Food Security Program – Aquaculture: subsidy support on a one-third two-third basis provided by Government to assist farmers to develop sustainable aquaculture farms (\$250,000).
- Providing more efficient and more expansive advisory services on inshore/coastal fisheries through:
 - Coastal Fisheries Development: strengthens inshore fisheries development in the maritime and coastal communities by providing advisory services to fishermen on quality control, fish handling and marketing, deployment of Fish Aggregate Devices (FAD), compiling and collating of inshore data and repair of outboard engines (\$672,380).
 - Construction of Cicia Ice Plant: funding provided for preparatory works that will include site leveling, construction of an office building, staff quarters (Grade VI) and installation of a solar system (\$852,930).
 - Construction of Moala Ice Plant: preparatory works that will cover site leveling, construction of office building, construction of staff quarters (Grade VI) and the installation of a solar system (\$852,930).
- Supporting extensive research and resource assessment on fish commodities and products through:
 - Makogai Mariculture Development Centre: funds purchase of equipment for the Centre including a research boat, reseeding and spawning equipment, and trainings and awareness for local fishermen (\$262,160).
 - Pearl Oyster Research and Development: supports the development of the Fiji Pearl Farming Industry by conducting feasibility surveys of potential spat collection sites, procuring spat materials, conducting training on spat collector farming and business planning, harvesting of spat from community based farms, the development of the spat/pearl database and the review of the draft Pearl Management Plan (\$295,200).
 - Marine Resource Inventory Survey: funds the survey of six iQoliqoli out of the 210 iQoliqoli yet to be surveyed. There are a total of 410 iQoliqoli of which 200 iQoliqoli

have been surveyed. The survey will provide data for management plans that will assist and inform resources owners on sustainable fishing practices (\$300,000).

- Ongoing Cyclone Rehabilitation of Fisheries Office and Quarters: undertakes rehabilitation works on infrastructure that sustained damage during TC Winston that will rebuild infrastructure to a higher standard. Sites targeted for rehabilitation includes the Ovalau fisheries Station and the Mariculture Centre in Makogai. Construction at the Mariculture Centre will include a new office and staff quarters (\$1,600,000).
- Ongoing Upgrade of Institutional Office and Quarters: carries out upgrading works at Galoa Station, Lakeba Office and quarters, Lautoka Fishermen's Market and Dreketi fencing (\$630,000).