

The Fijian Government Ministry of Public Enterprises 2017-2018 Budget Highlights

The Ministry of Public Enterprises oversees and implements reform programmes and monitors the performance and operations of public enterprises to increase their efficiency and effectiveness. The guiding legal framework for the Ministry is the Public Enterprises Act 1996 and the Public Enterprise Amendment Act 2002.

Government commercial companies include Fiji Broadcasting Corporation, Airports Fiji Ltd, Fiji Public Trustee Corporation Ltd, Food Processors (Fiji) Ltd, Post Fiji Ltd, Fiji Rice Ltd, Unit Trust of Fiji Ltd, Viti Corp Corporation Ltd, Yaqara Pastoral Company Ltd and Fiji Hardwood Corporation Ltd.

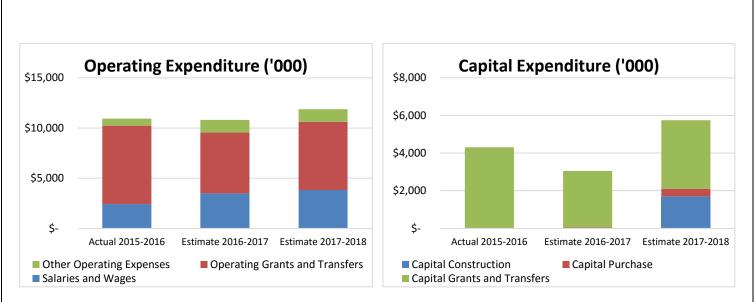
Commercial Statutory Authorities include the Fiji Electricity Authority, Fiji Meat Industry Board, Housing Authority, Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji, Water Authority of Fiji and Public Rental Board. Majority Owned Companies are Fiji Pine Limited, Pacific Fishing Company Ltd, Copra Millers Fiji Ltd and Air Terminal Services.

The Ministry is modernising and reforming these entities to improve overall economic and public sector efficiency, stimulate capital market development and maximise service delivery to the public.

The Ministry will continue to review its policies and processes to further streamline and modernise its monitoring as well as its divestment processes. Government, through the Ministry, will also continue to attract private sector participation to make these public enterprises more efficient.

Additionally, the Ministry oversees the Government Printing and Stationery Department (GPSD), whose functions include providing printing & stationery services to Government ministries & departments, statutory bodies and the general public on semi commercial practices. The Ministry is also in the process of finalising the sale of GPSD.

The total budget for the Ministry of Public Enterprises in 2017-2018 is **\$17.9 million**, comprising **\$11.9 million** for operating expenditure, **\$5.7 million** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$0.3 million**.



The increase of **\$3.9 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 the construction of the PAFCO seawall and the purchase of machine and equipment for FMIB and Fiji Rice Ltd.

New Initiatives

- \$1,700,000 is allocated for the repair of the Pacific Fishing Company Ltd (PAFCO) seawall which is adjacent to the new cold storage building. Extreme damages were sustained during TC Winston posing immediate risks to the entire PAFCO processing plant.
- \$108,000 is allocated for the purchase of a Hog Dehairing Machine for the Fiji Meats Industry Board (FMIB) Nasinu Abattoir. This will allow the abattoir to process more than 300 pigs per day compared to the current system of manual scraping that processes only 100 pigs per day.
- \$301,700 is allocated for the purchase of two refrigerated delivery trucks for FMIB to efficiently deliver beef to the Western and Central Division. Currently both divisions have one delivery truck each servicing their individual areas.
- \$260,000 is allocated to support Fiji Rice Ltd by covering the purchase of two new electrical dryers, the engagement of a HACCP Consultant to upgrade the Mill to meet international food and safety requirements and the construction of a storage warehouse to accommodate the increased supply of rice by farmers.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Ensuring the Biosecurity Authority of Fiji has the capacity and capability to safeguard Fiji against any biological threat through:
 - Biosecurity Authority of Fiji Capital Grant: This will allow the Authority to effectively deliver its services, including quarantine control and protection against the incursion of biological threats. The grant will fund the setup of treatment bays and mobile treatment facilities in Kadavu, Vanuabalavu and Natuvu; operational activities of the Asian Subterranean Termite Programme; and the construction of transit facilities (\$3,376,666).
 - Biosecurity Authority of Fiji Operating Grant: covers the operational costs of BAF, specifically wages and salaries of staff (\$6,787,540).