



The Fiji Government

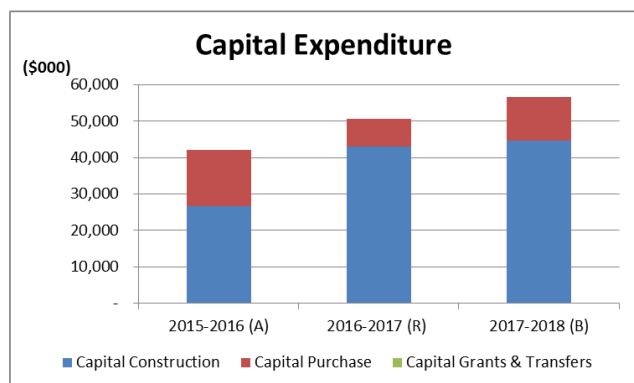
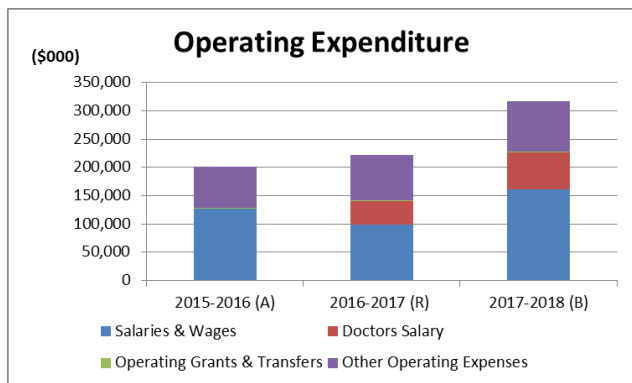
Ministry of Health and Medical Services

2017-2018 Budget Highlights

The Fijian Constitution enshrines health as a fundamental right for all citizens. The Ministry of Health and Medical Services is responsible for ensuring that all Fijians have access to reliable, high quality health and medical services, regardless of where they reside in Fiji, and have the knowledge to be proactive about their own health and wellbeing. This mandate covers the primary, secondary and tertiary levels of healthcare service delivery.

A healthy population is both a powerful driver and key outcome of sustainable development. The health of a population is also a key indicator that people-oriented, rights-based, inclusive and equitable development is being achieved. Investment in health, on the prevention side, is critical to supporting Fiji's development, and the Ministry is working to raise awareness of healthy lifestyle choices alongside its efforts to expand access to reliable medical services.

The total budget for the Ministry of Health and Medical Services in 2017-2018 is **\$321.2 million**, comprising of **\$251.6 million** for operating expenditure, **\$56.7 million** for capital expenditure and VAT of **\$13.0 million**.



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¹ The allocation covering doctor salaries is reflected under the Ministry of Civil Service due to the reforms being undertaken to improve service delivery. However, doctor's salary allocations for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 are incorporated in the graph above to illustrate Government's overall investment in the health sector.

The increase of **\$77.2 million** in the Ministry's 2017-2018 Budget is mainly attributed to:

- an increase in the recruitment of doctors, nurses and ancillary workers;
- the hiring of skilled healthcare workers to ensure that the ratio of doctors, nurses and midwives per 1000 population is improved; and
- Government's effort to boost access to high quality medical services by investing in the upgrading and maintenance of existing health facilities, construction of new facilities and properly equipping all health facilities in the country.

New Initiatives

- \$300,000 is allocated for maintenance work at the Fiji Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Services Centre (FPBS). This includes resealing the existing warehouse front yard, repairing the security fence and repainting the facility.
- \$500,000 is allocated to fund the Ministry's work with ITC Services to procure a Logistics Management Information System to improve supply chain management for medicines. The system will improve the accuracy of stock forecasting, procurement and distributional efficiency and financial management of medicinal supplies.
- \$1.0 million is allocated for construction of a new National Kidney Research and Treatment Centre. The Centre will act as a national hub for treatment and prevention of kidney disease, and provide patients with the most economical access to the treatment of kidney disease.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Improving the administration of health and medical services and the quality of health services in Fiji through:

- Doctor Salaries: caters for the filling of 350 positions currently vacant. This will improve the doctor to patient ratio, which will increase the number of patients that receive treatment and reduce mortality. In Phase 1 of recruitment, 143 doctors have successfully been recruited (\$65,348,250).
- Expenses of Local and Overseas Medical Consultancy Services: boosts access for patients to overseas treatments, particularly for cancer and cardiac treatments that are not available in Fiji (\$1.3 million).
- Overseas Visiting Medical Teams: funds overseas medical teams to work to meet increased demand for specialised medical services and train local medical practitioners to deliver health and medical services (\$500,000).
- In-service Training: builds capacity of health service employees to better meet the health needs of the general public (\$492,480).
- Kidney Dialysis Treatment: supports the treatment of patients who require dialysis treatment (\$300,000).
- Outsourcing Services: covers the cost of outsourcing janitorial and security services for Fiji's health facilities (\$3,359,670).
- Health Information Unit: upgrades the Ministry's Information System to strengthen the surveillance of and response to communicable diseases (\$400,000).
- Public Health Services: addresses the rise of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and strengthens preventative/outreach programmes relating to NCDs, HIV/AIDs, family health, adolescent health, child health, environmental health and mental health (\$3,628,000).
- Charter of Aircrafts: works to meet the increased demand for medical evacuation of high-risk patients, especially those residing in rural and maritime regions (\$2,220,000).

- Consumables and Medicine: includes the purchase of items such as drugs, consumables as well as the continuation of the free medicine programme to assist Fijians with an annual income below \$20,000 to access the medicines they need to maintain a healthy and productive life. The free medicine programme currently covers 172 medicines (\$26,700,000).
- Developing modern health facilities around the country to improve access to high quality health services through:
 - Upgrade and Maintenance of Urban Hospitals and Institutional Quarters: involves the upgrading and maintenance of three divisional hospitals (Lautoka, Labasa and CWM) and two specialised hospitals (St. Giles and Twomey) (\$3,940,000).
 - Extension of CWM Hospital Maternity Unit: begins construction on the extension of the CWM maternity unit (\$9.5 million).
 - Maintenance of Sub-Divisional Hospitals, Health Centres and Nursing Stations: funds the upgrade of the Nadi, Nabouwalu and Rakiraki subdivisional hospitals; Daviqele health centre; Vunisea nursing station; and the nurse's residence at Rakiraki subdivisional hospital (\$4,829,773).
 - Navua Hospital Landscaping and Civil Works: completes the landscaping for Navua hospital, including the boundary fence and storm water drainage (\$4.0 million).
 - Defect Liability Payment for Low Risk Makoi Maternity Unit: construction of the Maternity Unit has been completed. This allocation is a retention payment of the defect liability period (\$727,646).
 - Completion of New Ba Hospital: completes the construction of the hospital, including landscaping and signage (\$6.0 million).

- Construction of Navosa Sub-Divisional Hospital: begins the construction of the hospital following the completion of preliminary works (\$7.5 million).
- Completion of New Nakasi Health Centre: completes the construction of the health centre (\$1,396,070).
- Upgrade and Extension of Rotuma Hospital: completes the upgrading of the hospital (\$2.0 million).
- Cyclone Rehabilitation Health Facilities: continues with the rehabilitation of health facilities damaged during TC Winston and improves resilience to severe weather events (\$1.0 million).
- Divisional Development Projects: implements projects identified and prioritized through the rural development machinery. These include construction of New Nacula and Votualevu Health Centre, upgrading of Tawake Nursing Station and institutional quarters for Ravitaki and Tawake Nursing Stations, Naduri and Seaqaqa Health Centres, and Nabouwalu Sub-Divisional Hospital. This allocation is to undertake the preliminary works required before actual construction can begin (\$2.5 million).
- Equipping all health facilities with modern, state of the art technology and equipment to support the delivery of quality health care through:
 - Purchase of Equipment for Urban Hospitals: ensures hospitals have the necessary equipment to support efficient and effective delivery of health services. Equipment includes medical beds, trolleys, boilers, fire equipment and furniture and fittings for the new Makoi Maternity Unit (\$890,000).
 - Purchase of Equipment for Sub-Divisional Hospitals, Health Centres and Nursing Stations: purchases medical beds, and furniture and fittings for the new Ba hospital and Nakasi health centre (\$1,905,000).

- ICT Infrastructure and Network: covers the purchase, installation and replacement of ICT equipment to support the Patient Information System for hospitals and health centres (\$694,800).

- Purchase of Dental Equipment for Urban Hospitals and Sub-Divisional Hospitals: ensures that health facilities have the appropriate dental equipment to efficiently and effectively provide dental services to all Fijians. Procurement is undertaken to replace unserviceable dental equipment, purchase new equipment for dental laboratories to assist in making dental prostheses, purchase spare parts and accessories (\$500,000).

- Purchase of Bio-medical Equipment for Urban and Sub-Divisional hospitals: ensures that health facilities have the appropriate bio-medical equipment and anaesthetic equipment to efficiently and effectively provide health services to all Fijians. The procurement of biomedical equipment for the new Ba hospital forms a major component of the purchases to be made (\$7,510,500).