

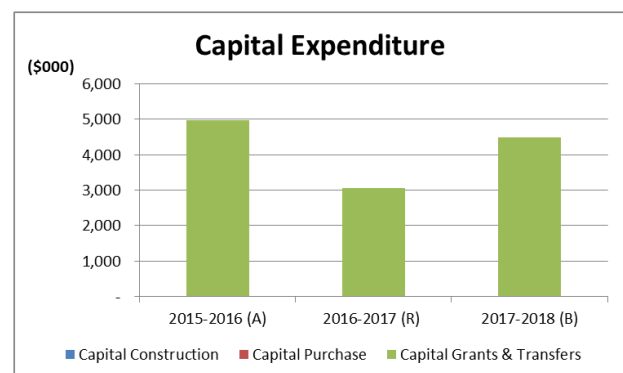
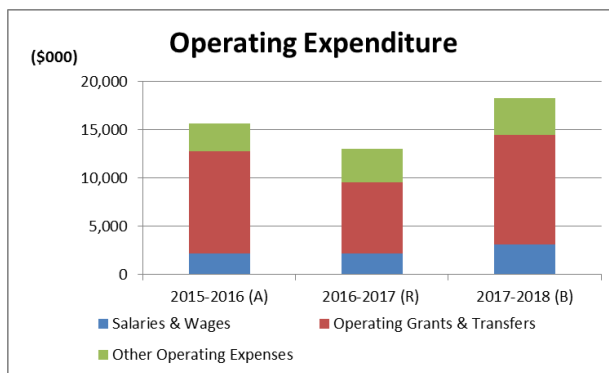


The Fijian Government Ministry of Youth and Sports 2017-2018 Budget Highlights

The Ministry of Youth and Sports is responsible for engaging with Fiji's young people to help develop skills that help them reach their full potential and access greater opportunity to better themselves and uplift their communities. The Ministry carries out work to foster and support community networks and run initiatives that help young people build character, learn valuable life lessons and promote entrepreneurship and innovation.

The Ministry also drives sporting development in Fiji to encourage healthy lifestyle choices among the Fijian people and to maintain Fiji's position as the hub of athletic competition in the Pacific. The Ministry's work falls within the framework of a number of existing policies that govern national sporting development.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports has been allocated a budget of **\$23.1 million** for 2017-2018, of which **\$18.3 million** is for operating expenditure, **\$4.5 million** is for capital expenditure. The difference of **\$0.3 million** accounts for VAT.



The increase of **\$6.7 million** in the Ministry's 2017-2018 Budget is mainly attributed to:

- an increase in support to national teams attending overseas competitions;
- more international sporting tournaments being hosted in Fiji;

- the ongoing construction of Vunisea (Kadavu) and Sawaieke (Gau) integrated sports complexes under the Rural Sports Complex Programme; and
- movement towards completion for the ongoing upgrade works of various youth training centres (Valelevu, Naleba, Naqere, Nasau and Yavitu).

New Initiatives

- \$194,680 is allocated for the engagement of 20 district youth workers. The youth workers will work directly with communities at the district level to assess the areas for youth development and network, training and monitoring of youth programmes at the grassroots level.
- \$120,000 is allocated in sports grants for persons living with disabilities to increase physical activity and encourage greater participation in national sports activities, in line with Government's commitment to ensure social inclusion in sports for all Fijians.
- \$80,000 has been allocated to support the operations of the Fiji Boxing Commission to revive the sport of boxing in Fiji.
- \$10,000 is provided to the National Sports Commission to carry out an assessment on improving the administration of national sporting organisations in order to strengthen governance and improve its potential to attract corporate sponsorship.

Ongoing Initiatives

- Supporting community based capacity building initiatives for youth through:
 - Youth Capacity Building and Training Programme: encourages youths to become productive members of society by funding training and supporting income generating projects, such as Seeds of Success, Empowerment Training, Youth Feed the Nations and Multi Skills/Mobile Skills training programmes (\$1,025,688).

- Youth Voluntary Organisation Training Programme: encourages volunteer work and community work among Fijian youth, this programme is implemented in partnership with non-government youth organisations (\$200,000).
- Upgrading of Youth Training Centres: increased funding of \$1,917,429 has been provided to upgrade five Youth Training Centres i.e. Nasau (Sigatoka), Yavitu (Kadavu), Naleba (Macuata), and Naqere (Savusavu), and the National Youth Band Centre in Valelevu. The upgrades will increase the capacity of the facilities to undertake training.
- Promoting the participation of youths in leadership and decision making processes, at all levels through:
 - National Youth Policy: review of the National Youth Policy to ensure it can be effective in addressing emerging challenges faced by young people (\$50,000).
 - Duke of Edinburgh International Awards: continues the Programme to develop life skills, promote physically activity and encourage community service among 14 to 24 year olds (\$30,000).
- Promoting the development of sports at all levels through:
 - Fiji National Sports Commission: supports the development of sports in Fiji (\$900,000).
 - Engagement of International Coaches: supports the engagement of international coaches to foster the development and participation of Fijians at the international level. Through this initiative, more Fijians are being exposed to a higher level of professional coaching, thereby improving the participation of athletes at international competitions. This programme has already contributed towards winning Fiji's first-ever Olympic gold medal during the 2016 Rio Olympic Games in Brazil (\$1,510,000).
 - Overseas Sports Tournaments: supports the participation of national teams in international tournaments. Some of the key events include the 2017 Rugby League

World Cup in Australia, 2018 Commonwealth Games in Australia, National Rugby Cup in Australia and the Pacific Mini Games in PNG (\$4,628,230).

- Hosting International Tournaments: Fiji will host a number international tournaments in the upcoming budget cycle, including the Oceania Men's and Women's 7s Tournament, 2017 World Cadet Challenge (Table Tennis), Junior Pan Pacific Games (swimming), Fiji National Regional Games (Special Olympics) and Fijian Rugby 15's Team international matches (\$2,928,000)¹.
- Short-Term Experts: caters for the engagement of local and international experts to assist with the development of minor sports in the country (\$307,875).
- Sports Outreach Programme: funds a week long sports development programme in rural communities to hone basic skills in a range of sports and identify clear career pathways for young people (\$250,000).
- Sports Scholarships: supports the development of elite athletes by providing sports scholarships for promising athletes (\$221,000).
- National Anti-Doping Organisation: supports the operation of the National Anti-Doping Organisation to test and conduct anti-doping education and awareness nationwide (\$90,000).
- Expanding access to sporting infrastructure for the Fijian people to encourage healthier living through:
 - Rural Sports Field: develops sporting fields in rural schools to provide more opportunities to develop rural sporting talents (\$500,000).

¹A further \$12.55 million is allocated under Ministry of Industry and Trade for the Fiji International Golf Tournament and International Super Rugby Event.

- Rural Sports Complex: funds the construction of the rural sporting complexes in Kadavu and Gau in line with Government's long-term plan to establish modern sporting facilities around the country to provide all athletes with the opportunity to further develop their skills in a wide range of sports (\$2,085,120).