

## iTaukei land is safe: Bainimarama



*Land fully cultivated by a landowner from Veisaru, Ba*

AS we come to the close of 2018, the Prime Minister Hon. Voreqe Bainimarama, who is also the Chairman of the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB), wishes to assure the people of Fiji, especially to the iTaukei landowners that itaukei land is safe.

“Do not feel insecure or threatened because your rights are protected under the Constitution,” is the message from the Prime Minister. Marketing of itaukei land has been made attractive to increase the confidence of potential investors on itaukei land. A way to do this was through the Board’s issuance of longer commercial and agricultural leases.

According to the 2013 constitution preamble, it says “we the people of Fiji recognise the indigenous people or the iTaukei, their ownership of iTaukei lands,

their unique culture, customs, traditions and language.” Therefore, the people of Fiji need not fear, for the protection of their land and resources is paramount to the Government.

The Government, through the TLTB has then implemented the Equal Rent Distribution policy to ensure that all land owning unit members receive a fair share of what is due to them. The TLTB has also initiated programmes like the SEED Fund Grant which is a form of financial assistance to help the landowners to lease their own land.

All these initiatives, programmes and policies are implemented to raise the standard of living for iTaukei landowners and ensure the safety and security of itaukei land. ■

## Vision for the future

BOARD Member Mr Isikeli Tikoduadua presented the Expectations of the TLTB Board of Trustees at the recent 2019 Strategic Planning Workshop in Deuba and can be put simply as:

### Short Term Expectations - Within a Year:

- ◆ Review of Board’s Legislative Framework
- ◆ Review of Corporate Governance & Operation
- ◆ Setting realistic achievable and measurable targets
- ◆ Implementation of the TLTB’s Human Capital Management (HCM) Strategy / Staff Work life Balance (Ongoing)
- ◆ Excellent Management of Risks - Financial Liability & Reputational Risk
- ◆ Excellent Customer Services to meet the expectation of all Stakeholders (New Lease Application/ Reassessment/ Dealings/ Corporate/Tourism Strategy/ Risk/IT & Growth)

### Medium Term Expectations - Within 3 Years:

- ◆ Exploring better opportunities for landowners
- ◆ Automation and digitalization
- ◆ Embedding risk and good governance Conscious Culture at TLTB
- ◆ Excellent IT systems and functions for efficient online services

### Long Term Expectations - Within 5 Years:

- ◆ Fully digital online land management services provider
- ◆ Fully embedded risk and good governance conscious culture
- ◆ A more linear organisation structure. ■




*Board Member Mr Isikeli Tikoduadua*

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## From the CEO's Desk



AS expected, the last quarter of 2018 has been a very busy period for us.

A key feature was the opening of the new Nausori Sub-Regional Office which was officiated by the Prime Minister and TLTB Chairman Hon. Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama. At the same time, we also managed to launch the revamped new-look TLTB website and also distributed seed fund grants of around \$350,000 to 71 landowners and landowning groups from around the country.

For the first time, we also invited and gathered senior estate officers, team leaders and senior managers from our regions and sub-regions to The Pearl Resort for the Strategic Corporate Planning Workshop. The idea was to get them involved in how we are planning our work for 2019 and was a success.

TLTB continued its business excellence journey and participated again at the 2018 FBEA Awards. As expected we closed the gap between and we can safely say that we were only a few points away from the top – the President's Award. TLTB will continue to drive this initiative and see that most of the FBEA activities in terms of its building blocks are 5S House-Keeping, QC, Continuous Business Process Re-Engineering, Benchmarking, Governance & Risks, etc. – as these when implemented effectively and embedded as part of TLTB organisation culture will translate into value added land based products and services.

Tevita Kuruvakadua  
Chief Executive Officer

## Climate finance to meet COP24 goals

AS COP 23 President, Fijian Prime Minister Hon. Voreqe Bainimarama said, "Fiji was pleased to oversee the historic decision that the Adaptation Fund shall serve the Paris Agreement. But we need more ambition to make climate finance available to meet the goals of the Agreement. And the world must make it a particular priority to free up the finance needed by the climate vulnerable to boost adaptation and resilience measures under their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC's).

In order to achieve this, the government has launched a Low Emission Development Strategy at the COP 24. This involves an economy-wide assessment of emission sources. Our current emissions in Fiji is negligible, it is 0.006%. "Nevertheless, we must lead the world by example," said the Prime Minister.

While the meeting did not leave anyone truly happy, most accepted the outcome as solid basis to continue the work on global climate regime that is meant to govern national efforts for the next decades. The show resumes next year in Chile for COP 25.

Mr Bainimarama urged all Fijians that, "we must all come to the collective realisation that many more projects like this remain

to be funded, not just in Fiji, but all around the world. We must as a matter of urgency increase the pool of finance available for this purpose and ensure that it actually flows to those communities in need".

Nearly 23,000 delegates descended on the coal-tinged city of Katowice in Poland this month with a deadline for hashing out the Paris Agreement "rulebook", which is the operating manual needed when the global deal enters into force in 2020.

This was mostly agreed, starting a new international climate regime under which all countries will have to report their emissions – and progress in cutting them – every two years from 2024. This was a major accomplishment when 196 governments agreed on this rulebook to implement the 2015 Paris Agreement. ■



COP 23 President and  
Fijian Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama

## New office opens in Nausori

THE Prime Minister who is also Minister for iTaukei Affairs and Chairman of the TLTB Board, Mr Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama, opened the new Nausori sub-regional office on 17th of October 2018.

In his opening address, he said, "I'm glad to stand before you today to celebrate with you the success of TLTB's expansion in trying to reach out to the Fijian people; to meet their land needs and improve their standard of living".

There used to be a TLTB office in Nausori. Unfortunately, this had to be closed way back in 1999. Mr Bainimarama thanked the TLTB management for choosing to establish another sub-regional office to serve the people of the greater Nausori area. "This is in line with the Government's major goal to ensure that basic services are improved and enhanced," he added.

The new office will provide land management services to the people of Naitasiri, Rewa and Tailevu. The decision to set up this office is in recognition of the great opportunities that are available from the 42,000 acres of land, out of which only 36% is being leased.

These opportunities include the extension of Nausori Airport, land development at the Millennium Subdivision, housing development at Naqeledamu and the

commercial development of the Old Nausori Bus Stand by the landowners and an investor under a joint venture partnership and the renewal of the Nausori Hospital lease, to name a few.

Mr Bainimarama said, "the Nausori Sub-Regional Office will make life easier for you and for landowners we now have the best of opportunities to utilize our land given the full support provided by the eight senior staff that will be manning this new office".

The Prime Minister urged all those who were present to make good use of the services provided by the new sub-regional office, in the hope of fully utilising iTaukei land to improve the standard of living of the iTaukei landowners and other stakeholders. ■



Prime Minister & TLTB Chairman Hon. Voreqe  
Bainimarama, CEO Mr Tevita Kuruvakadua,  
with pioneering staff of the Nausori Sub-Regional  
Office after its opening ceremony in September

## TLTB wins FBEA Prize



CEO Mr Tevita Kuruvakadua and the Senior Managers, Business Excellence Committee and Champions with the prestigious Prize Award at the 2018 Fiji Business Excellence Award at Sheraton Fiji in Nadi

*"I receive this Award on behalf of the landowners, our tenants and all our stakeholders."*

TLTB CEO, Mr Tevita Kuruvakadua

THE iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB) won the prestigious Prize Award at the 2018 Fiji Business Excellence Award at Sheraton Fiji in Nadi in November. While receiving the award chief executive officer Mr Tevita Kuruvakadua said "I receive this award on behalf of the landowners, our tenants and all our stakeholders.

To all our landowners and tenants who are listening out there tonight though we may have disappointed you a lot but this

award that we are receiving tonight is dedicated to you all.

It is also a show of our commitment as part of our journey to continue to aspire to improve on our services and all that we are mandated to carry out for you.

"I also take this opportunity to thank FNU for supporting us and also for allowing to participate in this business excellence competition and to use the Baldrige model which has been a very useful guide and

source of inspiration for our leadership team and to all our staff; guiding us in terms of the seven categories of the model. "Also it has enabled most of our young leaders to use the leadership and people management tools for strategic planning which has enabled us to progress and achieve this milestone tonight.

"I also take this opportunity to congratulate all the other award winners." ■

## \$1.8m for hurricane victims

THE iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB) has received a sum of more than \$1.8 million from the Ministry of Economy to assist TLTB agricultural and residential tenants who were affected by Tropical Cyclone Joyce and Gita earlier this year.

TLTB chief executive officer Mr Tevita Kuruvakadua said this rent assistance under the Lease Care Programme covers annual rent and lease administration fees for 2018.

"Those tenants who had paid rental for 2018; your eligible amount will be credited into your lease account next year (2019)," he added.

TLTB recognises with appreciation the assistance by Government to tenants who have been victims of natural disasters such as tropical cyclones, earthquakes and heavy rainfall causing severe landslides and floods are



Commercial and agricultural properties were damaged during Hurricane Josie and Gita

increasing in frequency and intensity that have devastated small islands nation's economy and livelihoods of its people including Fiji.

Natural disasters pushed back progress by years and; the frequency

of such by decades. There is a strong and vocal push on global climate change agenda where Fiji has stood up in the world stage, our Prime Minister and TLTB Chairman being the President of COP23, as a voice for small island states, especially those surrounded by oceans, on their vulnerability to climate change impacts from global warming, ocean acidification and rising sea level.

And we the people of the Pacific whose existence are threatened by climate change impacts demand developed countries to cut backs on their carbon emission through green growth framework and alignment to SDG's 17 goals.

Such assistance provided financial relief to the affected tenants and directly benefits the itaukei landowners who will actually receive these rent payments from TLTB on time. ■

# Landowners give land for sugarcane



*Cane farm preparation at Nasarawaqa*

FROM the mid-1990's, the non-renewal of land leases had become a major contributing factor to a drop in cane production but now the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB) is working closely with the Fiji Sugar Corporation (FSC) together with the landowners to salvage the industry.

Good fertile land that has been sitting idle since the mid-1980s in Nasarawaqa, Bua, is now being converted into

sugarcane fields by the Fiji Sugar Corporation.

Two landowning units from the Yavusa Drakiniwai in Nasarawaqa, Bua have signed a Joint Venture (JV) agreement with FSC to cultivate sugarcane. They have offered 360 acres of their land while Mataqali Veikurakura offered 110 acres.

Under this JV programme, FSC will take full responsibility to develop and cultivate the land but there is a revenue sharing agreement with the landowning unit who will receive 70 percent of the profit while FSC retains the 30 percent. A total of 352 acres has been made available to FSC and out of this 180 acres of land preparation has already commenced.

FSC Chief Operating Officer Mr Navin Chandra expressed appreciation to the landowners for having faith in the sugar industry and coming on board at a time when there are growing numbers of positive changes occurring within the industry aptly backed by focused

Government support.

"Such partnership is built on mutual trust and genuine desire to succeed. The landowners have entrusted their faith in FSC to not only develop their land but also to provide them the necessary training on cane farming.

"People of Nasarawaqa have been travelling great distances for employment and now they will have this available on their doorsteps.

Turaga ni Mataqali and other representatives of the yavusa Drakiniwai expressed their appreciation to the FSC during a ground breaking ceremony in September.

For the people of Nasarawaqa this is a dream come true, not only for the current generation but also the generations to come.

A clan representative, Ratu Josaia Tunaosara said: "The land was put under use in the 1980's. Since then, the land has been sitting idle with a number of projects mooted but nothing materialized. ■

## Silver at the National QC Convention 2018

THE annual National Quality Convention (NQC) has become an important event in the calendar of events of the iTaukei Lands Trust Board. A significant reason for this is because the NQC brings together quality and productivity practitioners who have experienced success in implementing productivity tools.

2018's Convention was held at the Pearl Resort in October where teams from seven (7) organisations participated in the competitive category. TLTB was represented by Team Jetsetter from the South West Region and Team Tosovov from the Head office.

It was a proud moment for the Board as Team Tosovov of the Reserves department won the Silver Award and Finau Tabuakuro of Team Jetsetters scooped the Best Team Manager Award. Both teams dedicated their awards to the TLTB staff and management.

It is great to witness that the competition keeps expanding and this year was no exception which saw two (2) additional organisations participating for the first time.

They are Sofitel Resort and Spa;



*(L-R) Reserves Officer Vakaola Puleiwai, Reserves Officer II Koini Vamosi, Payrol & OSH Officer Fane Gucake & Reserves Attachee Talei Whippy at The Pearl Resort with their Prize Award*

and South Pacific Distilleries (SPD). Both teams did well and were recognised for their great work with Team Spirit from SPD winning Bronze and Team Vakasaqa from Sofitel scooping the best team presentation award. ■

## FIVEM honours

MEMBERS of the Fiji Institute of Valuation & Estate Management (FIVEM) were acknowledged for their contribution by the organization at Sofitel Fiji Resort in Nadi in November.

Out of the four recipients of the inaugural Special Recognition Award were two of our own: SEOC-CE Ms Sereana Tuisabeto and DGMORD Mr Solo Nata.

The other recipients were Ms Kelera Gadolo and Mr Sandeep Narayan.

In a statement released by the Institute, Ms Tuisabeto was awarded for her extensive involvement with the institute for the last three years and is a role model for young members.

Mr Nata who is the FIVEM President was recognized for his role in growing and promoting the institute among key stakeholders in Fiji.

Recipients for the award were selected by the institute's 8-member council.

According to the statement when selecting recipients the council considered the individual's achievement in light of the goals of the institute, contribution towards research and knowledge base in the property sector, positive contribution made by recipients at their respective workplace and representing FIVEM. ■

## Formalisation of squatters up a notch

THE iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB) has been working very closely with the Ministry of Local Government, Housing and Environment in the areas of settlement upgrading and resettlement program through the formalization of existing squatter settlements.

Deputy General Manager Operations Research & Development Mr Solo Nata said most of these squatter settlers have been occupying these lands for more than 50 years without a lease which also developed a few but major problems.

"Firstly, they have an unplanned housing scheme - they just built anyhow, anywhere, as long as they have the approval of one or some landowners or landowning units.

"Secondly, their waste management is hazardous as they do not have proper waste care management.

"Thirdly, very few landowners or landowning units were benefitting from these illegal squatting. Consequently, there was insecurity by the squatter settlers as they were always at the mercies of the landowners.

"In addition to all these is the stigmatization of the squatter settlements. The crime rate is often high, there is poor infrastructure, the land is mostly devalued and the squatter neighbourhoods seem to be the most feared by the general public.

Under Goal 4.2.3 of the People's Charter for Change that was established



*A Settlement from the West close to Nakavu Village in Nadi*

in 2010 one of the objectives is to "facilitate for accessible, decent and affordable housing for all citizens with a particular focus on low income groups."

For TLTB and the Ministry of Housing there is a strategy to solve all these problems and in 2013

thematic committees were formed and meetings were held to find out possible solutions where the Government can realize its vision.

Mr Nata said in support of this initiative TLTB started acquiring sites; the first of the many to come was Ledrusasa in Nadi.

"The government was the developer but we issue the leases. To date we

are able to formalise 30 squatter settlements," he said.

"Formalising squatter settlements have changed all the above negatives. The landowners and landowning units have equally benefitted as we charge premium to the Government in addition to the lease that is paid by each tenant. The leases have also provided tenants with security to access loans, better infrastructure, improved health and hygiene services and a better life," he added.

TLTB have now formalised settlements in Nadi, Ba, Suva, Nausori, Labasa and are still working on allotting other areas to accommodate the others. ■

## 2019 planning workshop focuses on landowners



*The Tui Nadi, Ratu Vuniyani Dawai during the SCP Workshop at the Pearl Resort*

FOR the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB) Strategic Planning is when the board members, executive management, the senior managers and the senior officers meet to discuss, set priorities, focus energy and resources, strengthen operations, establish agreement around intended results and assess the Board's direction in response to a changing environment.

The strategic planning workshop was held at the Pearl Resort in Pacific Harbour in November. This year took a different turn when the organiser and secretariat invited the landowners to present ideas for future development.

Ms Makereta Konrote, who is the Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Economy, was Chief Guest at the event. In her opening address, she said "I am pleased to be part of a workshop such as this and to witness an institution such as

TLTB bringing together its stakeholders to be part of their planning process. It shows that TLTB is open to new ideas and are ready to leap into the future with a lot of enthusiasm".

The Tui Nadi, Ratu Vuniyani Dawai who presented at the workshop, said "we value our people that are registered in the VKB, our natural resources, our way of life, our culture and tradition and our mission is to fully utilise the proceeds of our resources for the benefit of the VKB members".

TLTB invited its stakeholders because it believes that strategic management is the continuous review of ongoing activities and processes that the organisation uses to systematically coordinate and align resources and actions with mission, vision and strategy throughout the organisation. ■

# IN BRIEF

## Invest Now While You Can

TLTB was represented at the Retirement Expo that was held in various places in Suva, Lautoka and Labasa. At the Expo, Mr Tevita Gade of the Reserve Bank of Fiji stated that FNPF had carried out a survey on all FNPF members and found out that 73% of current employees within the age of 50 and over will only have \$10K in their available balance when they reach retirement age. This is alarming and may require some serious thoughts as we contemplate our retirement sooner or later. The Expo was organised by the Fiji National Provident Fund (FNPF) and the Reserve Bank of Fiji (RBF).

## Diwali Celebration



*Staff came with their special attire to celebrate Diwali the festival of lights*

Mr Shavneel Shivam, the Internal Audit Assistant, delivered a very moving speech about the meaning of Diwali and ended his talk with an educational video of the same. The CEO, Mr Tevita Kuruvakadua, in his response, wished all staff, especially our Hindustani brothers and sisters a Happy Diwali and said that we must live up to the values of this renowned festival.

## 58th Survey Congress

The Fiji Institute of Surveyors invited TLTB to deliver the keynote address at the opening of its 58th Survey Congress. In his speech, the Deputy General Manager Operations, Mr Solomon Nata said that TLTB is moving forward with land surveyors and partners regardless of the issues and problems faced. "Our land lease registration can no longer be downplayed, we must attend and address them now," he added. The TLTB is working on creating an online portal which can link all agencies involved in land subdivision and survey plan to cut costs and improve efficiency in surveying which is a major cause to the delay in processing land lease applications.

## Library Week

Library Week was celebrated for the first time at TLTB in the first week of September to coincide with the World Literacy Day. Since this is a fairly new idea to the staff, a display was set up at the TLTB's newly opened Resource Centre for staff information relating to the importance of reading. A book drive was also organised where staff were encouraged to donate books to the Centre and where 60 books were collected.

## Fiji Day Celebration - Sydney



*PA-Consulate General Ana Raratabu, MTD Peni Qalo, AAT Viema Vakarau*

The TLTB was invited by the Prime Minister's office to be part of the Fiji Day celebration at Liverpool Park in Sydney. Representing TLTB were Manager Tourism, Mr Peni Qalo and Ms Viema Vakarau from the Trust Unit. It was an opportunity to serve our Fijian Community living in Australia and respond to their queries regarding itaukei land matters. The duo were delighted to have also been a part of the official opening of the Consulate General and Trade Commission office in Sydney.

## RKS sponsorship



*Mr Paul Christopher (HOD Languages and Editor of RKS Tatamusuki Magazine) receiving a sponsorship cheque from MIT Mr Epeli Ravula*

RATU Kadavulevu School management and teachers were very grateful and humbled by the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB) support in sponsoring a page in 2018 Tatamusuki Magazine - an annual school magazine. Receiving the sponsorship cheque from TLTB was Mr Paul Christopher who is the Head of the English Department and editor of the publication. Giving the award is one of the RKS old boys at TLTB and Manager IT Mr Epeli Ravula.

## Fiji Law Society Convention

Our Legal Team led by Manager Legal, Mr Paul Yaqona represented TLTB at the Fiji Law Society's Annual Convention that was held at the Intercontinental Resort & Spa in September. The two day event consisted of panel discussions and key note speakers which gave the attendants the opportunity to criticise and question their presentations. One of the speakers was Mr Claudio Visco who is the chairman of the International Bar Association's Bar Issues Commission. And of concern was the challenges of maintaining the confidentiality of information by law firms and lawyers in general due to the increasing threat of external cyber-attacks and weak internal controls.

## Mangrove Planting at Luvunavuaka Village



*TLTB Head Office Staff with CEO Tevita Kuruvakadua at Luvunavuaka for Tree Planting initiatives*

300 mangrove seedlings were planted by TLTB under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme at Luvunavuaka Village in September. Assisting them on the day were Ministry of Forests staff, REDD+ staff and the villagers of Luvunavuaka in Tailevu. This initiative will greatly impact the lives of people in the village as it is a preventative measure against impacts of tidal erosion. In addition, the place is a habitat for other living organisms like fish, hence, increasing food production for the village consumption.

## Data Cleaning

The data cleaning team has reached its expected target to update 90% of the TLTB records from 42,000 given datasets. This is a great achievement by the Data Cleaning Team and the regional staff and all acknowledgement and credit to the senior managers for their support. Despite the busy schedule, everyone worked together to reduce the number of files due for cleaning. One of the key purpose of the data cleaning project is to correct inaccurate data in the TLTB system so that the idea of digitalisation and improved customer service delivery is achieved. Leading the team is Mr Guo Ying Luo who scooped the CEO's Employee of the Year and the Best Corporate / Support Services Employee Award.

## PM distributes grants to 71 landowners

PART of the opening of the Nausori sub-regional office was the distribution of the SEED Fund Grant by the Prime Minister Hon. Voreqe Bainimarama to the successful applicants.

This funding assistance is part of the TLTB's initiative to share its profits with the landowners. It is also a part of the Board's Commercial Social Responsibility (CSR) program. This partnership is to encourage the landowners to lease their own land and make a living out of it.

Due to the success of last year's SEED Fund assistance, the Board then approved for the amount to be increased to \$350,000 which was distributed to 78



*A landowner receiving his seed fund grant from the Prime Minister*

successful applicants during the opening of the new Nausori office.

For aspiring SEED Fund applicants that are hoping to apply for future assistance

need to consider the following:

- i) Applicant to be an LOU member.
- ii) Applicant to Lease Own Mataqali Land and lease to be existing for less than 5 years.
- iii) Application form to be duly signed and witnessed.
- iv) Applicant needs to be less than 55 years old ( $\leq 55$ ).
- v) Applicant is not a past recipient and currently not receiving any form of Government Grant.
- vi) fLOU projects to be established on its own LOU Land.
- vii) Pictures of project/business undertaken to be submitted. ■

## Fiji needs to update its datum

FIJI truly needs to update its datum. Geospatial Information Officer North-West, Ms Vikatoria Wiliame made this observation at the annual Fiji Institute of Surveyors Congress that was held at the Uprising Resort in Pacific Harbour from 31st August to 1st September, 2018.

"There is a need for Fiji to update its geodetic datum and there have been collaborating efforts by the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources with the South Pacific Community (SPC) and other relevant stakeholders to set up the GNSS CORS Network which will define the parameters that will be used to correct Fiji's datum and spatial data," she said.

Acting Geospatial Information Coordinator Ravi Singh said there were quite a lot of interesting topics discussed and even some learning experiences used that could be useful for the improvement and advancement of our Geospatial Information System (GIS) Unit at TLTB.

One of the issues which TLTB is facing is the slow survey of leases and with the current rate of 1000 leases per year it will take almost 30 years to complete the surveying of existing leases. However, one of the Presenters showed that with this upcoming plan, a large area such as Vunivau and Sakoca can be surveyed within 10 days, which will be a huge improvement and cost saving measure. ■

## Fiji Pine renewal of leases boost performance

THE landowners whose land has been taken up by the pine plantations under the management of the Fiji Pine Ltd have renewed the Fiji Pine leases on 26,575.9 hectares – thanks to the iTaukei Land Trust Board (TLTB) and the renewed trust of the landowners concerned.

Within the last eight years Fiji Pine Ltd under the umbrella of the Fiji Pine Group has changed the way it is running its business all with the aim of increase the earning potential of the landowners going into the future.

According to a statement released by the Fiji Pine the company has now paid off all its loans which were in the tune of \$56.5m up to 2010.

Riding on this success, Fiji Pine has also started to pay lease bonuses to landowners since 2013 where they distributed around \$347,000 which the landowners have been

deprived off in the early days of Fiji Pine Ltd. This year alone landowners shared a total of \$7m as lease bonuses from the company. It has also been agreed with the Government that from 2019, all leases bonuses will be distributed equally to all living members of each landowning units as currently used by TLTB under the Equal Rent Distribution Policy.

Although the planting of pine had been ceased for a number of years but in the last seven years Fiji Pine have started planting again and have since planted 14,764 hectares.

New sawmills in Drasa (Lautoka) and Wairiki (Bua) have been installed and is similar to saw mills in Australia and New Zealand.

Fiji Pine is jointly owned by the Fiji Government and the landowners. ■

## \$174.2m given to landowners under ERD

ABOUT \$174.2 million has been distributed to the 51,366 registered landowners on a monthly basis since the beginning of the Equal Rent Distribution (ERD) in 2015.

iTaukei Land Trust Board CEO Mr Tevita Kuruvakadua said that from this amount, approximately \$32.6 million has been deposited with the HFC bank for those under the age of 18 (minors).

While distributing lease monies individually is encouraged as per the requirements of the Decree, the Board had also considers Mataqalis with less lease monies (due to less number of leases) but had large number of LOU members. Distributing a total sum of lease monies of \$500 per annum to more than 100 members, for example, would be unrealistic. For these landowning units, an option for them was to make use of the "Assignment of lease funds" provision available under Section 14 (3) (e) of the Act.

The assignments of their lease monies are considered on a case by case basis and must focus on projects that would benefit all its current and future mataqali members. The Board mostly considered requests for Assignment towards Housing Schemes, establishment of mataqali businesses, repayments towards projects or loans that had already been committed prior to the commencement of the equal rent distribution policy. ■

# INVEST IN iTAUKEI LAND

## Types of Leases & Licences

1



### Residential Leases

2



### Commercial Leases

- Development
- Entertainment (Cinemas, etc.)
- Retail & Wholesale
- Services (Banks, etc.)
- Commercial

3



### Industrial Leases

- Heavy Industrial
- Mining-related leases
- Quarries
- Assembly plants
- Sawmills
- Textiles factories

4



### Commercial Agriculture Leases

5



### Agriculture Leases

6



### Special Leases

- Educational
- Government/Local Government
- Recreational
- Religious
- Tourism
- Filming
- Other cable/pipeline, way leaves, tramways and easements

7




### Sand & Gravel Extraction Licence & Leases

## Our Service


- ★ Administer and control *itaukei* land for the benefit of all landowners;
- ★ Issue and administer *itaukei* land lease contracts;
- ★ Collect and distribute premiums, rent and royalties derived from leased land;
- ★ Ensure that sufficient *itaukei* land is "reserved" for the use, maintenance and support of its owners;
- ★ Control and manage extinct *mataqali* land including monitoring and compliance with leases and licences conditions;
- ★ Support potential internal and external investors on developments on *itaukei* land;
- ★ Regularly consult with landowners and provide sound advice to all tenants;
- ★ Provide efficient and professional service to all stakeholders of TLTB;
- ★ Maintain good relationships and understanding with tenants and landowners;
- ★ Empower landowners through financial literacy programmes, investment and business advisory as well as the facilitation of Government projects.

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