CFE-DM

REPUBLIC OF FIJI

Disaster Management Reference Handbook

August 2026



CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT & HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
WWW.CFE-DMHA.ORG

Acknowledgements

CFE-DM would like to thank the following people for their knowledge and support in developing this resource:

Solomon Kantha, Esaroma Lagoni, Angela Kim Saunders, and Pooja Shrestha, International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Brandon Bukunt, National Weather Service, Pacific Region Headquarters

Lt Col Christopher Leroy, Nevada National Guard State Partnership Program – Tonga, Fiji, Samoa

Vanessa Adams, U.S. Embassy Suva, Regional Environmental Office

CDR Nate Baladad, U.S. Military Group, U.S. Embassy Suva – Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, Tuvalu

Katalaine Duaibe, Jessica Howard, Nemaia Koto, and Olga Prorovskaya, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA)

Emma Jayne Conlan, Diego Alejandro Flores Gonzalez, and Alexander James Thomas, World Food Programme (WFP)

Front Cover

Navala Village, Fiji by Rafael Ben-Ari on Adobe Stock.
https://stock.adobe.com/141620704

Disaster Management Reference Handbook Series:

Download books at https://www.cfe-dmha.org/Publications/Disaster-Management-Reference-Handbooks

Disclaimer

This publication has been prepared in good faith based on resources available at the time of production. Information was gathered from the public domain, from local sources, from various governments, and from subject matter experts. Where possible, a link to the original source is provided in the endnote (reference) section at the end of the document. While we have made every attempt to ensure the information is relevant and accurate, the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (CFE-DM) does not guarantee or warrant the accuracy, reliability, completeness, or currency of the information in this publication. Each publication is a working document and will be updated periodically as new and significant information becomes available.

Invitation for Feedback

We hope that you find our publications useful in understanding disaster management and response. We invite your feedback to improve our documents and enhance their future utility.
Please email comments to indopacom.jbphh.indopacom.mbx.cfe-dmha@us.navy.mil.

Use and Citation

All parts of this publication may be reproduced, stored, and transmitted without the permission of the publisher. Please visit our website to download copies of this publication and other products (https://www.cfe-dmha.org). For the CFE-DM's own tracking purposes, notice to indopacom.jbphh.indopacom.mbx.cfe-dmha@us.navy.mil with a webpage URL (as available) would be appreciated if this publication is used for any other means. We recommend that information found in this publication refer to the original source, as found in the reference section.

Other references may cite this publication using the following format:
CFE-DM. Title. Year. Date Accessed. URL

August 14, 2026 (20260814v2.0)
ISBN 978-1-955429-90-0

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements **2**

Letter from the Director **6**

About the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance **7**

Executive Summary **8**

Country Overview **9**

Geography and Environment 9

Society and Demographics 12

Government 17

Economic Profile 18

Disaster Profile **20**

Hazards 20

Disasters by Numbers 24

Recent Disasters 25

Disaster Management Policy, Planning, and Response **31**

National Disaster Management System 31

Subnational and Local Implementation 37

Civil-Military Coordination in Disaster Response 41

International / Regional Organizations 44

Other Disaster Management Partners 49

Critical Infrastructure for Disaster Management **53**

Transportation 53

Airports 53

Seaports 57

Roads 60

Railways 62

Navigable Waterways 62

Communications 63

Early Warning Systems and Information Sharing 63

Telecommunications Infrastructure 64

Mass and Social Media 66

Utilities 67

Power 67

Water and Sanitation 68

Health Systems 70

Shelter and Housing 71

Food Security 73

Conclusion **75**
Appendices **76**
Risk Indices 76
INFORM Risk Profile 76
U.S. Government Disaster Management Engagement 77
U.S. Country Team 77
Large-Scale Responses 78
DoW DMHA Engagements 79
Additional Resources 83
Acronyms and Abbreviations 85
Endnotes 89

Figures

Figure 1: Map of Fiji 10
Figure 2: Fiji's Seasonal Temperature and Precipitation 11
Figure 3: Population by Province 13
Figure 4: Tropical Cyclone Tracks 23
Figure 5: Percent of Disaster Events, by Hazard Type (2000–June 2026) 24
Figure 6: Occurrence of Disasters, by Hazard Type and Month of Onset (2000–June 2026) 25
Figure 7: Number of People Affected by Disasters, by Hazard Type and Year (2000–June 2006) 26
Figure 8: National Disaster Risk Management Council Structure 33
Figure 9: National Controller and National Coordinator 34
Figure 10: Emergency Response Operations 35
Figure 11: Fiji's National Cluster System 37
Figure 12: Subnational and Local Implementation 38
Figure 13: Subnational Disaster Risk Management Coordination 41
Figure 14: INFORM Risk Dashboard, Fiji (2026) 77

Photos

Photo 1: Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Temple 14
Photo 2: Tropical Cyclone Yasa 28
Photo 3: Armed Forces Participate in Disaster Week Exercise 43
Photo 4: C-130 Hercules at Nadi Airport 56
Photo 5: Port of Suva 58
Photo 6: Power Lines and Trees Block Roads after a Storm 62
Photo 7: Pacific Partnership 2026 Schoolhouse Construction Project 79
Photo 8: National Emergency Operations Center 81
Photo 9: Stakeholders Discuss Disaster Preparedness 82

Tables

Table 1: Urban and Rural Poverty Rate 15
Table 2: Aerodromes and Helicopter and Water Landing Sites 54
Table 3: Fiji's Airports 55
Table 4: Fiji Roads, by Division 61

Letter from the Director

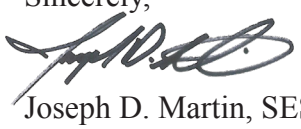
The Republic of Fiji is a vital operational partner for multilateral disaster response in the Blue Pacific Continent. It manages a highly complex geography of over 300 islands that are vulnerable to compounding meteorological, geological, and climatic hazards. Devastating events, such as 2016's Category 5 Tropical Cyclone Winston, have proven that natural hazards in this region do not occur in isolation; they trigger rapid, cascading failures across critical infrastructure, isolate remote maritime communities, and severely disrupt regional supply chains. The Government of Fiji is proactive in planning and cooperation to counter its own and the region's vulnerabilities.

Due to its domestic progress on holistic disaster management, Fiji has been transformed into an increasingly active contributor to regional disaster response operations. The Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) has deployed to support disaster response operations in Australia's Black Summer bushfires in 2019-2020, Tonga following the 2022 Hunga Tonga–Hunga Ha'apai volcanic eruption and tsunami, in Vanuatu after Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin in 2023, and in New Zealand following Cyclone Gabrielle in 2023. These missions demonstrate the value of Pacific-led collective action. Building on this operational expertise, Fiji continues to shape interoperability by actively contributing to the Pacific Response Group. By supporting this multinational military element, Fiji ensures that regional disaster deployments provide immediate stabilization while aligning with civilian humanitarian objectives and host-nation authorities.

Because major disasters trigger cascading consequences that transcend localized boundaries, maintaining stability requires more than just deploying assets; it demands unified multilateral action to optimize resources, shared data to drive a common operating picture, and pre-established trusted networks necessary to move at the speed of crisis. The Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (CFE-DM) is proud to support these efforts alongside the Government of Fiji, the RFMF, U.S. Pacific Command, United Nations agencies, and our international partners. Through joint exercises and engagements like Pacific Partnership and Exercise Longreach, targeted civil-military training, and policy development support, CFE-DM remains committed to strengthening the multilateral interoperability necessary to secure a resilient Blue Pacific Continent.

To navigate this dynamic environment, this updated Disaster Management Reference Handbook provides a comprehensive picture of Fiji's disaster management architecture, socioeconomic vulnerabilities, hazard profile, and logistical infrastructure.

Sincerely,



Joseph D. Martin, SES
Director

About the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance

Overview

The Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance (CFE-DM) is a United States (U.S.) Department of War (DoW, also known as Department of Defense) organization comprised of nearly 30 subject matter experts that provide academic research, civil-military coordination training, and operational insights to support decision making before, during, and after crises. The Center is designed to bridge understanding between humanitarians, civilian, and military responders. CFE-DM partners with a diverse group of governmental and non-governmental actors, as well as academic institutions to increase collaborations and capabilities in humanitarian assistance and disaster response. While maintaining a global mandate, the Indo-Pacific region is our priority of effort and collaboration is the cornerstone of our operational practice. The Center is a direct reporting unit to U.S. Pacific Command (US PACOM) and is located on Ford Island, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii.

Vision

Resilient Joint Forces, Allies, and Partners that are fully prepared to respond across the spectrum of humanitarian crises.

Mission

CFE-DM builds crisis response capacity in US, Allies and Partner militaries across the Indo-Pacific to save lives before, during, and after emergencies.

Contact Information

Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance
456 Hornet Ave
JBPHH, HI 96860-3503
Telephone: +1 (808) 472-0518
https://www.cfe-dmha.org

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Republic of Fiji (hereafter Fiji) is a diplomatic, economic, and logistics hub in the South Pacific. It hosts many international organizations' regional and sub-regional headquarters. However, its archipelagic geography and complex socioeconomic landscape create significant vulnerabilities to natural hazard impacts. Disasters routinely damage the critical coastal tourism sector, wipe out subsistence agricultural yields, and force an already over-leveraged state to finance recovery operations.

While the country holds upper-middle-income status, national averages mask severe localized hardship, with nearly 30% of Fijians living below the basic needs poverty line. Informal urban squatter settlements are exceptionally prone to flooding and waterborne disease outbreaks due to insufficient municipal infrastructure. Meanwhile, remote maritime and rural farming communities frequently experience cyclonic and rainfall-driven damage to their livelihoods. For responders, a primary operating challenge is logistical access. Damaged unsealed rural roads, washed-out bridges, and limited domestic shipping capacity sever supply lines and make the rapid deployment of route clearance and maritime assets essential to reaching isolated populations.

Fiji manages crises through one of the most mature, whole-of-society disaster frameworks in the Pacific Islands region. It was modernized by the National Disaster Risk Management Act (NDRMA) of 2024. This landmark legislation transitioned the country from a reactive emergency response model to a proactive disaster risk reduction (DRR) and resilience-focused governance framework.

Disaster management (DM) is multi-tiered but strictly civilian-led. Strategic policy formulation and centralized coordination originate in Suva under the National Disaster Risk Management Council (NDRMC), under leadership from the Ministry for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management (MRMDDM), and the National Disaster Risk Management Office (NDRMO). Operational execution relies heavily on a decentralized network of Divisional Commissioners, Provincial Administrators, District Officers, and local Community Disaster Risk Management Committees (CDRMC) to manage the crucial first hours of a crisis.

Because civilian logistics commonly cannot meet the demands of an emergency due to the country's dispersed geography, civil-military coordination is a key component of the national response architecture. The Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) serves as a critical operational partner, providing the ground logistics, engineering, and maritime capabilities required to restore mobility.

When domestic capacities are exhausted, Fiji integrates international assistance through formal diplomatic channels, coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in close coordination with the NDRMO. To manage the influx of external assistance efficiently, the government utilizes the Single Window International Facilitation Team (SWIFT) to expedite customs clearances and route international responders directly into the government-led Fiji Cluster System. Under the NDRMA, international humanitarian actors seeking to work in the country must register under the formal Humanitarian Actors Registry and Volunteer Organisations Registry to ensure legal recognition and regulatory compliance. This international integration is further strengthened by Pacific regional humanitarian coordination efforts.

Successfully integrating into this sophisticated national and regional response architecture requires comprehensive preparation by incoming responders. To facilitate this understanding, this Fiji Disaster Management Reference Handbook serves as a foundational planning guide. It provides baseline information on Fiji's hazard profile, socioeconomic vulnerabilities, critical infrastructure capabilities, and multi-tiered governance structures.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

Fiji is an archipelagic nation in the Southwest Pacific. It comprises hundreds of islands and islets. Its mountainous volcanic interiors and low-lying coastal atolls create a complex disaster risk profile. Fiji is heavily exposed to hydrometeorological hazards, particularly tropical cyclones (TC), floods, and droughts, all of which are driven by the tropical climate and the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO). Additionally, its location near tectonic plate boundaries introduces seismic and tsunami threats.

Beyond physical exposure, Fiji's vulnerability is driven by intersecting socioeconomic and administrative factors. While Fiji has stabilized democratically under its current government, its governance has historically been disrupted by four coups over the last 40 years amidst changing combinations of ethnic politics, civil-military relations, and competing interpretations over national interest. This political instability has hindered long-term economic development and resilience. Nearly 60% of the population resides in urban areas, often expanding into dense, hazard-prone informal settlements. In rural and maritime regions, heavy reliance on subsistence agriculture and the geographic dispersion of the population create logistical bottlenecks for emergency access.

Geography and Environment

Fiji is approximately 4,450 kilometers (km; 2,765 miles [mi]) southwest of the Hawaiian Islands and 1,770 km (1,100 mi) north of New Zealand.[1] While its total land area is roughly 18,272 km^2 (7,055 mi^2),[2] its Exclusive Economic Zone spans 1.26 million km^2 (486,000 mi^2).[3] Furthermore, the islands are surrounded by an extensive coral reef system; over 10,020 km^2 (3,869 mi^2) of marine inshore reefs act as a physical barrier to deep-draft vessels and make navigation hazardous.[4]

The country comprises more than 330 islands and 522 smaller islets; about 110 are permanently inhabited.[5] Approximately 85% of the total landmass and most of the population are concentrated on the two largest islands: Viti Levu and Vanua Levu. Viti Levu is Fiji's largest and most populous island, with 10,390 km^2 (4,011 mi^2) of land. It is home to the capital, Suva, and urban areas. It features Fiji's highest peak, Mount Tomanivi, which reaches 1,324 meters (m; 4,344 feet [ft]). Vanua Levu is 64 km (40 mi) to the northeast of Viti Levu and has 5,538 km^2 (2,138 mi^2) of land.[6] It is also home to major towns.[7] Both islands are mountainous, covered with tropical rainforests, especially on the eastern side, where heavy rainfall results in dense forest cover. Lowlands on the western portions of the islands are sheltered by the mountains and have a dry season favorable to crops such as sugarcane.

While the main islands are mountainous, many outlying eastern islands, such as the Lau Group, are low-lying coral atolls and reef islands that are susceptible to coastal erosion, damage from storm surges, and flooding. Other notable islands and island groups include Taveuni, the Mamanuca Group, the Yasawa Group, the Lomaiviti Group, and the Lau Group. An outlying region of Fiji is Rotuma, about 640 km (400 mi) to the north of the main islands. Rotuma is politically incorporated into Fiji but retains a distinct cultural and administrative identity.[8]

Figure 1 shows a map of Fiji and where it is situated in the South Pacific Ocean.[9]

The steep, high-elevation interiors of the main islands drain into short, powerful river systems prone to rapid flash flooding during heavy rains. This hydrology amplifies disaster risk as high-velocity floodwaters can cause significant riverbank erosion, trigger landslides, and destroy critical infrastructure, thereby isolating inland populations. In coastal delta regions, river flooding can collide with storm surges, and together they can cause prolonged backwater flooding.[10]

The Rewa River Basin in eastern Viti Levu

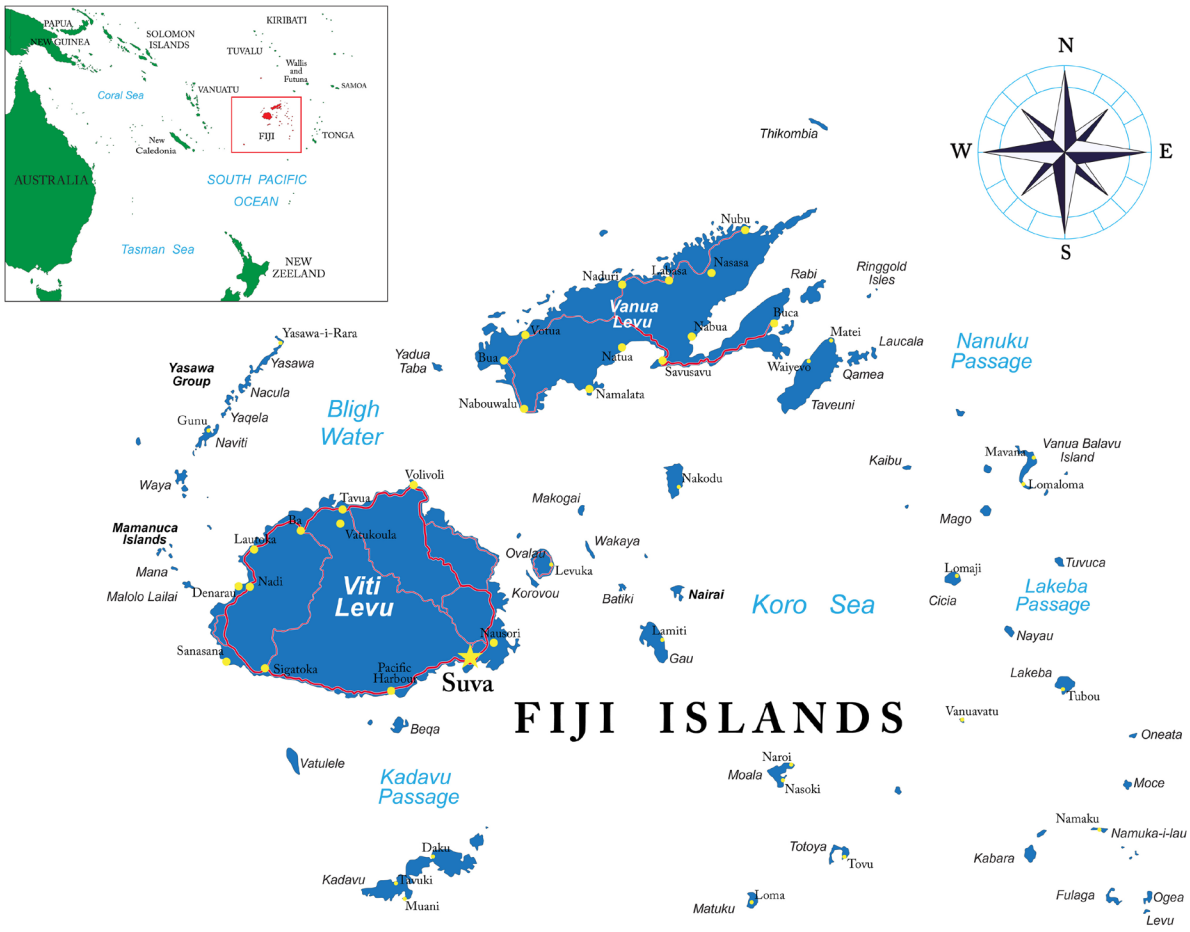


Figure 1: Map of Fiji

is the country's longest and widest river system. The river flows for more than 160 km (90 mi) from Mount Tomanivi to a delta at Laucala Bay near Suva. Its tributaries are the Waidina, Waimanu, Wainimala, and Wainibuka rivers, which contribute to its extensive drainage basin and help sustain agricultural lands.[11] The Rewa's tributaries sustain commercial forestry, cattle, pasture, and vegetable farming. High rainfall, steep topography, and relatively large catchments combined with intensive agricultural use of lowlands have made Fiji susceptible to riverine flooding.[12]

Fiji is situated along the boundary of the Pacific Plate and the Australian Plate, near the zone where the Pacific Plate is subducting beneath the Australian Plate. The interaction between these plates results in a complex tectonic setting, making Fiji prone to earthquakes of varying magnitudes.[13]

This location at a tectonic boundary means Fiji also has some volcanoes. Taveuni is the youngest of a series of volcanoes that formed around the margins of the Koro Sea. Fiji's third-largest island and home to around 15,000 people,[14] the island has seen at least 36 eruptions since people inhabited the island,[15] and there is a high probability of future eruptive activity. Kadavu, Fiji's fourth-largest island, is about 80 km (50 mi) south of Viti Levu. The volcano Nabukelevu (also known as Mount Washington) is Kadavu's highest peak and last erupted in the 17th century. It also poses a potential source of volcanic hazard.[16]

Fiji's tropical maritime climate is characterized by consistently warm temperatures and highly variable rainfall. The climate is fragmented by the complex topography of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu. While overarching climate drivers such as the southeast trade winds and the broader ENSO cycle affect the entire archipelago, their impacts manifest in different ways depending on specific geographic locations.

Temperature and humidity are largely uniform at sea level but vary with elevation. During the wet season (November to April), the winds are northerly, and the weather is wet and warm, with daytime highs peaking between 30°C and 33°C (86–91.4°F). The dry season (May through October) sees average temperatures around 23–25°C (73–77°F), as southeast winds are steady and the climate is cool and dry.[17] Mountainous interior areas, such as Nadarivatu at 800 m (2,625 ft) of elevation, can experience temperatures as low as 10°C (50°F). In July 2025, Nadarivatu recorded its coldest temperature in nearly 40 years – 8.3°C (45°F).[18] Figure 2 shows Fiji's average monthly temperature and precipitation for the period 1991-2020.[19]

Rainfall is highly variable spatially and temporally and is heavily influenced by topography, the South Pacific Convergence Zone (SPCZ), TCs, and the prevailing southeast trade winds.

The mountainous geography of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu creates two distinct precipitation patterns. As southeast trade winds carry high levels of ocean moisture, they condense as they hit the mountain peaks. This dynamic splits Viti Levu and Vanua Levu into distinct "wet" and "dry" zones. Wet zones such as Nadarivatu and Monasavu can receive annual rainfall averaging over 5,000 millimeters (mm; 197 inches [in]).[20] Meanwhile, Suva receives an average of over 3,000 mm (118 in) of rain annually. In contrast, the leeward western and northern coasts lie in a pronounced rain shadow, where rainfall averages 1,800 mm (71 in).[21]

Western areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu – Sigatoka, Momi Bay, and Labasa – experience severe dry seasons, making them the agricultural heartland for sugarcane but also highly vulnerable to seasonal drought and brush fires. They are still vulnerable to heavy rainfall from low-pressure systems and storms.

The SPCZ is a Southern Hemisphere atmospheric circulation feature that contains an expansive and persistent convective cloud band. It is the main rainfall producing system for the region. During the wet season, the SPCZ lies over Fiji. In the dry season, the SPCZ moves northeast and weakens.[22] The historical flood

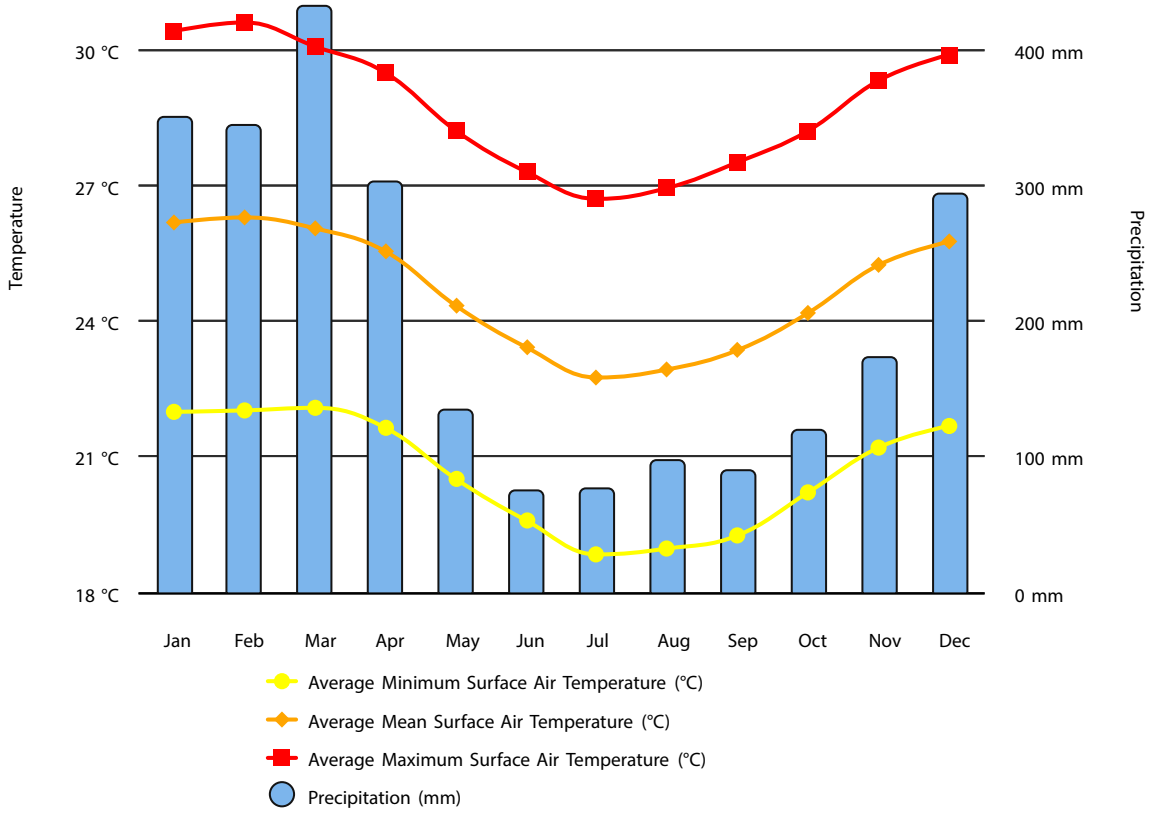


Figure 2: Fiji's Seasonal Temperature and Precipitation

record shows that major floods in Fiji have resulted from several different meteorological phenomena or combinations of phenomena, including a southwestward displaced SPCZ, an embedded tropical depression in a trough of the SPCZ, and merging synoptic systems – e.g., SPCZ and a cold front.[23] Furthermore, the position and intensity of the SPCZ fluctuate based on the ENSO cycle and can drastically alter Fiji's seasonal rainfall.

The Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) is a driver of short-term, intra-seasonal weather variability in Fiji and can be a catalyst for TC formation. The MJO is an eastward propagating disturbance that travels along the equator over a period of about 30-60 days.[24] As this system progresses, it alternates between an enhanced convective phase (bringing cloudiness and heavy rain) and a suppressed convective phase (bringing dry, stable air).[25] A strong MJO pulse can bring heavy rain and flooding, such as Fiji experienced in January 2024 when a strong MJO pulse caused flash flooding across the Central and Western Divisions and another strong pulse in October and December 2024 caused flooding and landslides.[26]

ENSO is the principal driver of year-to-year climate variability in Fiji. The phases of ENSO occur in irregular cycles of 2-7 years. El Niño and La Niña are the oceanic components, while the Southern Oscillation is the atmospheric counterpart.[27] El Niño events are associated with warming of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. They usually result in less-than-average rainfall in Fiji. La Niña events are associated with cooling of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. Usually, La Niña results in wetter-than-normal conditions for Fiji, which occasionally experiences flooding during these phases. Often, there is a lag effect on Fiji's climate – i.e., once an El Niño or La Niña event is established in the tropical Pacific, it may take 2-6 months before its impact is seen in Fiji, and when finished, it can take 2-6 months for the climate to normalize.[28]

Society and Demographics

Fiji's demographic profile strongly influences disaster vulnerability and response requirements. While the country's total population is relatively small, communities are dispersed across numerous islands, and this dispersal creates significant challenges for emergency communications, logistics, evacuation operations, and service delivery.

Fiji's last official census was in 2017, and the recorded population was 884,887.[29] However, the Fiji Bureau of Statistics projects the 2026 population to be 902,623.[30] Approximately 100 of Fiji's islands are inhabited,[31] but the population is highly concentrated in urban areas of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu. Nearly 56% of the population resides in urban areas; this percentage marks an increase from 50.7% in 2007.[32] Figure 3 shows Fiji's population by Province, as of the 2017 Population and Housing Census.[33]

Approximately 70% of Fijians reside on Viti Levu, with over 300,000 residents living in the greater Suva area, including the towns of Suva City (93,870), Nasinu (92,043), Nausori (57,882), and Lami (24,637). Lautoka is the second largest city on Viti Levu; it has a population of approximately 53,000 people. Labasa is the largest city in Vanua Levu; it has a population of about 28,000 people.[34]

The 2023-2024 Employment and Unemployment Survey records around 432,500 males and 413,309 females resident in the country.[35] The Survey's population distribution by age group shows larger population sizes for younger age cohorts. Nearly 70% of the population were under the age of 40 years and the median age was 27.5 years.[36] About 158,687 people were in the 5-14-year age range.[37]

Fiji's multiethnic fabric features two primary groups: the iTaukei (indigenous Fijians of Melanesian and Polynesian descent) and Indo-Fijians (descendants of colonial-era Indian laborers).[38] As of the 2017 census, iTaukei made up about 63% of the population, Indo-Fijians were about 33% of the population, and others including the Rotumans (who have a distinct Polynesian identity and administrative framework), Chinese, European, and other Pacific Islanders made up about 4.5% of the

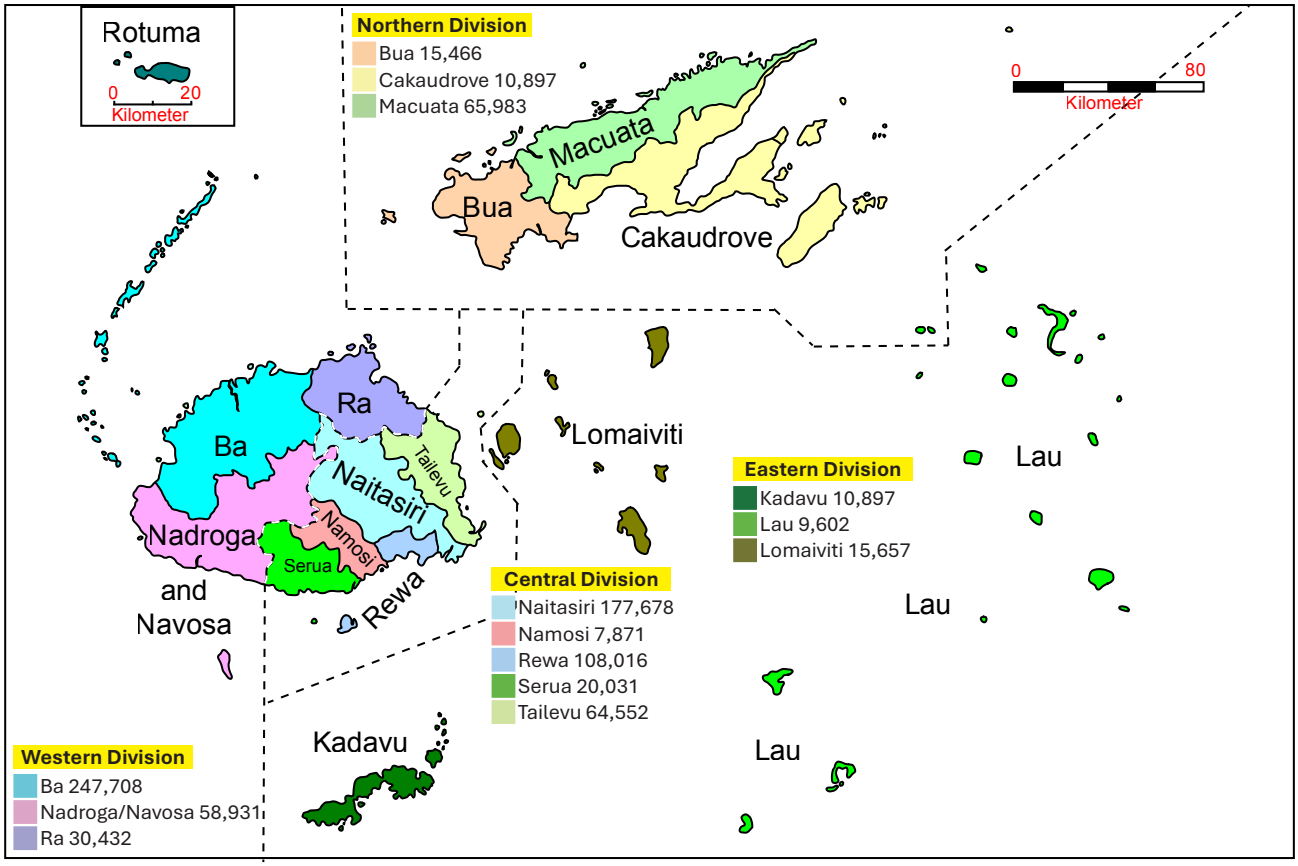


Figure 3: Population by Province

population.[39] The presence of Indo-Fijians dates to British colonial rule when laborers were brought in from various parts of India to work on sugar plantations. Between 1987 and the early 2000s, political persecution, discrimination, and land-lease insecurity drove tens of thousands of Indo-Fijians to emigrate and reduced the Indo-Fijian population from nearly 50% of the population in the mid-20th century to about 33% today.

Land ownership in Fiji is highly protected. Most land is communally owned by iTaukei and cannot be legally sold. Consequently, the non-indigenous population must rely on regulated leaseholds. This structural separation of land ownership remains a source of political, economic, and ethnic tension.

English, Fijian, and Hindi are the official languages, and English serves as the primary language for government, business, and disaster early warnings.[40] Among the many dialects, Bauan Fijian is the most used. It originated in Bau (Mbau), an island with political supremacy at the start of colonial rule. English was introduced by British merchants and explorers ahead of British colonial rule and is still used in government, business, and education. Indian laborers arrived during British colonial rule and spoke different Hindi dialects; so, Fijian Hindi reflects various influences.[41]

The Constitution mandates the separation of religion and state and protects freedom of religion, conscience, and belief. The major religious groups are Christian (612,415), Hindu (212,346), and Muslim (50,925). Most iTaukei are Christian, and they belong to various congregations. Most Indo-Fijians are Hindu, but approximately 20% are Muslim and 6% are Christian. Other religious groups account for approximately 9,200 people and include Sikh, Bahai, Confucian, and other groups.[42] Photo 1 shows Nadi's Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami temple, the largest Hindu temple in the Southern Hemisphere.[43]

Vulnerable Groups

The impact of hazard events on individuals



Photo 1: Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami Temple

and the coping strategies they employ depend heavily on socio-economic status, cultural norms, and access to resources, among other factors.

Fiji's NDRMA legally mandates the inclusion and protection of specific vulnerable groups during disaster planning and response. It recognizes that crises disproportionately impact marginalized demographics. The NDRMA identifies individuals or groups of people at heightened risk; they include people living with disabilities, women, children, youth, elderly, people living in poverty, people of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity and expression and sex characteristics, and the landless. Vulnerability is often intersectional, driven by a combination of economic status, geography, gender, and physical ability. The categories below are not comprehensive and are not mutually exclusive.

During declared disasters, when heightened social instability and displacement increase the vulnerability of populations, emergency response and humanitarian operations must be guided by Fiji's robust legal protection framework, including the Child Welfare Act 2010, the National Child Safeguarding Policy, and the Fiji National Service Delivery Protocol for Responding to Cases of Gender-Based Violence.

Relocating Communities

Relocating vulnerable communities to safer, elevated grounds is neither a straightforward logistical exercise nor a "magic bullet" for disaster risk management (DRM). Instead, it is an incredibly complex, slow-moving social process that touches on elements of identity, customary law, and postcolonial land politics.

Within Fiji's socio-demographic landscape, the relocation of highly vulnerable populations to safer areas presents a profound DRM challenge that cannot be treated as a simple technical or logistical solution. Because over 80% of Fiji's land is held under customary tenure, any physical relocation touches upon the concept of the Vanua—the connection between the physical environment, the social clan (Mataqali), and the ancestral heritage. Relocation can disrupt subsistence-based livelihoods by separating coastal communities from the sea. Consequently, planned relocation remains a measure of last resort, requiring intensive consultation, adherence to customary protocols, and deep, culturally sensitive engagement to prevent secondary social and

economic vulnerabilities.

The relocation of villages started with 160 villagers from Vunidogola village on the island of Vanua Levu. They were forced to relocate 2 km (1.24 mi) inland after exposure to inundation events, storm surge, and saltwater intrusion. Around 2006, floods and erosion began to destroy homes, ruin farms, and wash away land. Mangroves that used to cover the coast were completely overtaken by the sea. In another village, Tukuraki Village, a landslide buried half of the village in 2012. The community was then affected by Cyclone Evan around a year later but the impact of Cyclone Winston in 2016 finally caused the community to abandon their village permanently. Another village, Narikoso village on Kadavu Island, has also been relocated due to sea level rise, which caused the shoreline to recede by 15 m (49.21 ft) over 20 years, as well as the occurrence of TCs. Other villages have also been forced to relocate, and at least 42 vulnerable communities have been identified for possible relocation.[44]

People Living in Poverty

Poverty in Fiji is multidimensional; it is not merely a lack of income but a lack of access to resilient housing, secure land tenure, infrastructure, and financial safety nets. According to the latest Household Income and Expenditure Survey, around 30% of Fiji's population lives below the national basic needs poverty line of 41.91 Fijian dollars (US$18.49) per adult equivalent per week. Individuals living below this national poverty line cannot afford to buy the essential food and non-food items for active living. Table 1 provides the numbers of people living in poverty in rural and urban areas.[45]

Poverty is geographically skewed. There are distinct vulnerability profiles for rural and urban populations. The incidence of poverty in rural areas (41.5%) is roughly double that of urban centers (20.4%). The poorest regions are concentrated in the Eastern and Northern divisions. Rural poverty is heavily tied to subsistence agriculture and small-scale fisheries, as well as a lack of basic needs such as grid electricity and piped water access. The rural poor have better access to public services on Viti Levu, but they often work in low wage jobs.

In Fiji, educational attainment can be a significant determinant of a household's economic mobility. Low educational attainment limits economic opportunity, thereby limiting household economic resilience. It also limits the ability to access and participate in hazard and risk information and early warning. An estimated 50,000 people have acquired less than primary education; they are a vulnerable segment of the population with limited access to formal employment opportunities.[46]

An acute intersection of poverty and disaster risk is found within Fiji's informal squatter settlements. An estimated 140,000 people reside in over 200 informal settlements, primarily concentrated around the urban corridors of Suva, Nadi, and Lautoka.[47] Because formal

Area	Estimated Population	Population in Poverty	Poverty Rate
National	861,132	258,053	29.9%
Rural	386,632	160,450	41.5%
Urban	477,500	97,602	20.4%
Rural Central	101,422	41,178	40.6%
Rural Eastern	32,724	13,911	42.5%
Rural Northern	98,550	39,579	40.2%
Rural Western	153,936	65,782	42.7%
Urban Central	260,037	46,588	17.9%
Urban Eastern	3,550	1,569	44.2%
Urban Northern	37,415	8,240	22.0%
Urban Western	176,498	41,206	23.3%

Table 1: Urban and Rural Poverty Rate

housing can be unaffordable for low-income wage workers, people in this socioeconomic class, commonly migrants, are forced to build makeshift homes on marginal, hazard-prone lands that are generally deemed unfit for formal development. These zones include riverbanks, steep hillsides, and coastal mangrove fringes.

Dependent Population

The dependent population, including children ages 0-14 years and the elderly (aged 60 years and up), experiences heightened vulnerability due to a combination of physical limitations, physiological differences, social structures, and economic dependency. As of the 2017 census, there were over 340,270 individuals in these age brackets. When combined with people living with disabilities, these groups represent a significant segment of the population that requires targeted, inclusive DRM strategies. Fiji's NDRMA legally mandates the inclusion and protection of these specific groups in all DRM planning, recognizing that generalized response efforts often fail to meet their unique survival and recovery needs.

Children have distinct physiological and developmental needs that make them vulnerable during a disaster. Because children rely entirely on caregivers for evacuation from at-risk areas, nutrition, and decision-making, the loss or separation of family members during a rapid-onset event (e.g., flash flood or tsunami) places them at extreme risk of injury or exploitation.

During a disaster, overcrowded evacuation centers can present serious safety risks for children. Under the Child Welfare Act 193 and the National Child Safeguarding Policy, all responding personnel are legally bound to prevent, identify, and report any signs of child abuse, neglect, or exploitation.[48]

Elderly populations also face unique challenges due to physical limitations for those with restricted mobility, frailty, or chronic illness. Additionally, many elderly do not have active incomes and, therefore, have limited economic safety nets. The physical decline associated with aging – reduced mobility, poor eyesight, and diminished hearing – drastically impairs elder persons' ability to evacuate quickly or secure their homes ahead of a hazard event even with warning.

Women

Females make up nearly half the population of Fiji. While the Fijian Constitution guarantees gender equality and the NDRMA legally mandates gender-inclusive response operations, women and girls remain highly vulnerable during emergencies. Addressing these vulnerabilities requires moving beyond viewing women as passive victims to recognizing them as vital, active agents of community resilience.

In Fiji, gender roles tend to follow traditional lines. Societies within Fiji are patriarchal, and men are predominantly the politicians and the traditional leaders. In traditional iTaukei structures, land is mostly communally owned and managed by male-headed clans (mataqali). In some cases, women may have user rights, but this arrangement is rare. Women are more likely to carry out domestic and childcare duties. Much of the work that women do is in the informal sector, such as subsistence agriculture. During a disaster, the roles and responsibilities of women are multiplied. When basic services like electricity and piped water are severed, the time and physical effort required to perform household tasks increase exponentially.

Temporary evacuation shelters often present unsafe environments if they are not designed with gender-sensitive protections. Overcrowded relief centers lacking secure partitions or gender-segregated facilities elevate the risk of sexual harassment. Additionally, natural disasters act as a catalyst for gender-based violence. Following major cyclones, extreme psychological trauma and resource scarcity frequently manifest in severe domestic violence, with local crisis lines historically reporting surges of up to 300% in calls following catastrophic storms.

Realizing that domestic and gender-based violence often spikes during displacement, the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection operates critical emergency lifelines, including the National Domestic Violence.[49]

Furthermore, Fiji's National Service Delivery Protocol provides a strict, survivor-centered roadmap. It mandates exactly how first responders, medical teams, and camp managers must coordinate to provide safe, confidential, and immediate medical and psychosocial support to survivors of GBV within affected communities.[50]

Foreign Workers

Fiji's role as the primary economic and logistics hub of the South Pacific has led to a significant increase in its foreign labor force. While Fiji experiences a severe domestic "brain drain" as highly skilled local tradespeople, nurses, and engineers migrate to Australia and New Zealand, it relies heavily on foreign contract workers to fill critical vacancies.

According to the 2026 National Skills Gap Assessment Survey, foreign workers are predominantly recruited from South and East Asia, with Bangladeshi nationals making up 26.2% of registered foreign workers; they are followed by Indian, Indonesian, Chinese, Filipino, and Sri Lankan nationals. While these workers are vital to Fiji's primary economic sectors, they represent a highly vulnerable demographic during disasters. They occupy a precarious space characterized by legal dependency, social isolation, and exclusion from national disaster response mechanisms.

Fiji's multi-hazard early warning systems are broadcast almost exclusively in English, Bauan Fijian, and Fijian Hindi. Foreign workers may miss emergency warnings, evacuation orders, or updates. Lacking integration into local community networks, foreign workers often remain entirely unaware of the location of public evacuation centers or emergency contacts.

Government

Fiji is a parliamentary republic with a unitary system of government. Political authority is highly centralized in the capital, Suva, which allows for rapid strategic decision-making and international assistance coordination during disasters. Simultaneously, its decentralized subnational structures provide the grassroots network necessary for early warning, localized immediate response, and granular post-disaster damage assessments.

Governed under the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji (promulgated in 2013), the government is structured into three separate arms: the Executive, the Legislature (Parliament), and the Judiciary. Political stability is a vital prerequisite for consistent disaster management policy and regional civil-military cooperation. After a history of political instability and four military coups between 1987 and 2006, the 2013 Constitution established the current framework. Regular democratic elections have been held since 2014, with the 2022 elections resulting in a peaceful transfer of power.

The Executive is the administrative arm of government and is responsible for putting into operation the laws passed by Parliament and for administering the programs and services that are delivered by the Government of Fiji (GoF). Executive authority is vested in the president, who is head of state and Commander-in Chief of the RFMF.

The Government is formed by members of Parliament from the political party with a majority of members in Parliament. The leader of the political party with a majority of members of Parliament becomes the Prime Minister, who is the head of the Government.

Fiji has a unicameral Parliament.[51] There are currently 55 elected Members of Parliament (MP); however, the Fiji Electoral Commission reviews the parliamentary composition at least one year before a general election and may increase or decrease the total number of members to maintain proportion with the population. MPs are directly elected by the people of Fiji every four years and may belong to a political party or serve as independents.[52] Fiji has a single national electoral roll, and the elected members of Parliament represent voters across the whole country based on an open-list proportional representation system.[53] Parliament makes laws, represents the community, investigates issues of importance

to the community, and scrutinizes the actions of government.

Subnational Administrative Structure

While national disaster decision-making and international assistance coordination are concentrated in Suva, Fiji relies on a cascading administrative structure to implement DM plans across its vast archipelago. There is a dual-administrative framework that bifurcates public administration into state-directed track and a traditional iTaukei track.

The state-directed track operates from the national level down to localized divisions, provinces, districts, and urban centers.[54]

Each division is headed by a government-appointed Divisional Commissioner who advances various national-level policies Additionally, Divisional Commissioners play an integral role in the coordination of disaster operations at the divisional level.[55]

Fiji is further divided into Provinces and Rotuma (Rotuma is not an official Province, but a self-governing dependency). Provincial administrations serve as an important link between national authorities and local communities, particularly in rural and maritime areas. The Provinces are governed by Provincial Councils, which promote health, peace, order, welfare, and good government.[56]

In tandem with the administrative structure, a highly structured traditional governance system is overseen by the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs and functions within indigenous iTaukei communities. This system is centered on hereditary chiefs of villages, districts, and tribes, as well as the traditional land-owning mataqali. The iTaukei Affairs Board under the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs administers the Provincial Councils, as well as 190 districts (Tikinas) and 1,172 village councils.[57] Council members are elected or nominated for three-year terms by the iTaukei population of the province.

At the village level, the Turaga ni Koro (village headman) often serves as the primary point of contact between government authorities and local communities. These traditional systems are particularly important in rural and maritime communities where government presence may be limited.

Economic Profile

Fiji is the economic, transport, and academic hub of the South Pacific,[58] but its macroeconomic structure harbors deep vulnerabilities that degrade its disaster response capacity. Despite achieving upper-middle-income status,[59] the nation's high sovereign debt, narrow reliance on coastal tourism, and significant dependency on imported food and fuel limit its fiscal space. Fiji's economic history is intrinsically tied to two main types of shocks – natural and political. Political shocks have historically led to sharp declines in tourism and major economic instability, such as the nearly 8% drop in real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) following a coup in 2000.[60] When natural disasters strike, a widespread lack of household financial buffers forces the heavily indebted government to shoulder the primary burden of recovery, a situation that perpetuates a cycle of economic fragility.

Classified as an upper-middle-income country since 2014, Fiji ranked as the 159th largest economy globally in 2024.[61] Following a severe macroeconomic contraction caused by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and the compounding impacts of TCs Harold, Yasa, and Ana, the economy rebounded impressively.[62] Growth surged in 2022 and stabilized moderately through 2025 on the strength of the construction and tourism sectors. However, this growth remains structurally vulnerable to external shocks, pre-election uncertainties, and geopolitical conflicts that threaten global supply chains.

A primary constraint on Fiji's economic outlook is its high debt repayment burden, which limits fiscal flexibility and places downward pressure on living standards.[63] While general government gross debt is estimated at 82.5% of GDP,[64] lower than the pandemic-era peak of 90%, it remains substantially higher than pre-COVID levels. Consequently, a significant portion of the annual national budget is legally earmarked for debt servicing

rather than proactive resilience – i.e., disaster mitigation or climate adaptation. This external debt is heavily weighted in foreign currencies, comprising predominantly U.S. dollars (85.8%), alongside Japanese yen (5.8%) and Chinese yuan (8.4%).[65] This composition exposes the national budget to foreign exchange risks and severely limits the government's ability to self-finance emergency recovery operations following a catastrophic weather event.

The national economy and labor market are heavily dependent on two geographically exposed sectors: coastal tourism and rural agriculture. The 2023-2024 Employment and Unemployment Survey found that Fiji had a labor force of 314,898 individuals, with 296,825 employed and 18,073 unemployed.[66]

Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries remain the largest collective employers, sustaining 69,087 workers.[67] This sector provides vital export revenue through commodities such as kava, taro (dalo), ginger, mahogany, and timber. Favorable weather in recent years supported agricultural exports, and the export of fresh and frozen agricultural products (excluding sugar) increasing to 16,720 Metric Tons (MT; 18,430.62 tons) in 2025 (a 17.1% increase from 2024).[68] The sector remains highly sensitive to climate variability. Cyclones routinely decimate crop yields and lead to sudden localized income losses, acute food insecurity, and a heavy reliance on government food rations. For rural laborers, a single storm can wipe out a year's worth of financial progress.

The services sector has evolved into the primary driver of national GDP. Wholesale and retail trade employs 59,092 workers, while accommodation and food services employ 21,817.[69] Tourism expansion continued into 2025 with visitor arrivals reaching 986,367 (up from 982,938 in 2024),[70] driven by marginal increases from North American and European markets that offset slight declines from Australia and New Zealand. The country's heavy reliance on tourism creates immense geographic fragility because visitor infrastructure is highly concentrated along exposed coastlines. Hazards that damage hotel infrastructure or disrupt airport operations in the Western Division can bring the entire national economy and tax base to a sudden standstill.

A critical vulnerability in Fiji's economic resilience is the pervasive emigration of highly skilled workers. While Fiji possesses high literacy rates and serves the region's academic hub, a severe mismatch exists between local wages and foreign earning potential. High-skilled workers frequently migrate to Australia and New Zealand via skilled migration pathways.[71]

This emigration has a dual economic effect.

1. Positive Financial Inflow: It generates vital foreign remittances, which spiked from 5.7% of GDP in 2019 to 9.5% of GDP in 2021,[72] when it provided a crucial safety net for local families.
2. Negative Operational Impact: It creates severe domestic shortages in critical technical professions, including construction, health care, telecommunications, engineering, and aviation safety.[73]

The 2026 National Skills Gap Assessment Survey revealed increasing vacancies in professional and regulatory fields and identified technical trades such as electricians, plumbers, and construction workers among the country's most urgently needed skills.[74] This structural dynamic limits the upward economic mobility of the broader domestic workforce, which remains heavily weighted toward lower-wage service and informal agricultural roles. This structural drain restricts the domestic talent pool available for specialized technical recovery efforts following a disaster and may increase the reliance on expensive foreign contractors for complex reconstruction.

DISASTER PROFILE

Fiji experiences disasters caused by a range of hazards. Disasters have affected many people in the country, caused significant infrastructure damage, and resulted in heavy economic losses. Major disasters that impacted Fiji from 2011 until 2020 affected around 854,449 people.[75] Thousands of those affected were displaced. Between 2008 and 2015, there were 58,800 displacements, and between 2016 and 2023, displacements rose to 154,440.[76] Storms have been the main causes of displacement. TC Winston (2016) displaced around 62,000 people.[77] Meanwhile, entire villages have been permanently relocated due to recurring natural hazards and disasters.

The economic burden has also been heavy, with disasters impacting the country's GDP and threatening economic growth and development. Total average annual losses (AAL) due to disasters stood at US$343.77 million in 2020, and AAL as a percentage of GDP stood at 8.82%.[78] Even a single disaster can have significant impacts. For instance, economic damage from TC Winston was US$900 million or 20% of GDP.[79] Annually, natural disasters push around 25,700 people into poverty.[80] This loss reinforces a cycle of socioeconomic vulnerability by making portions of the population increasingly susceptible to further impacts from disasters and undermining preparedness and recovery.

Hazards

Fiji is affected by a range of hazards, including drought, earthquake, epidemics, floods, landslides, sea level rise, tsunamis, and TCs. Its location and geography expose it to major hydrometeorological hazard events. With its population concentrated in coastal and urban areas, especially on Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, the country's people and assets are susceptible to harm. Due to a reliance on rain for agricultural activities, the agriculture sector is vulnerable to drought and floods. Meanwhile the health sector is strained as climate-sensitive diseases such as dengue, typhoid, and diarrheal diseases, which tend to spread after floods and cyclones.

Disease Outbreaks

Since 2016, Fiji has been repeatedly affected by biological hazard events, including outbreaks of dengue, diarrheal diseases, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), leptospirosis, measles, meningococcal, and typhoid, in addition to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dengue is the most common driver of outbreaks.

A major multi-pathogen outbreak of dengue, leptospirosis, and typhoid started in April 2024 and lasted until July. During this period, there were 2,033 cases of dengue fever reported, 429 leptospirosis cases, and 78 cases of typhoid fever.[81] A previous concurrent outbreak of these same three diseases, alongside a major spike in diarrheal illness, occurred in April and May 2020 following TC Harold, which hit Fiji on 8 April.[82] Other dengue outbreaks occurred in 2018 and 2019.[83]

Drought

Drought is one of the primary hazards affecting the region, and drought exposure is highly significant in Fiji, where the country has repeatedly experienced the devastating effects of prolonged dry periods. Two primary types of droughts affect Fiji; they are meteorological drought, which is associated with a severe precipitation deficit, and hydrological drought, which involves a critical deficit in surface and subsurface water flow.[84]

The dry season typically runs from May to October, and the ENSO cycle heavily influences rainfall patterns across the country. Most historic droughts are associated with strong El Niño events, which often result in severe rainfall deficits.[85]

Drought directly impacts agricultural production, food and water security, and livelihoods throughout Fiji. Historically, the 1997/1998 drought was one of the most severe

on record. Described as a 1-in-100-year event, it was characterized by rainfall failure across two consecutive dry seasons. The effects of this drought were widespread, resulting in reduced agricultural production, livestock deaths, uncontrolled wildfires, saline water intrusion into coastal aquifers, a loss of soil fertility, and widespread public health crises. During this drought, Fiji's sugarcane harvest was 50% below normal, with some crops completely destroyed. Nutritional deficiencies and some health problems also surged due to food and water shortages. Economic losses for the agricultural sector alone reached approximately US$65 million, while total economic losses were estimated at US$275 – 300 million.[86]

While El Niño is generally associated with drier conditions, not all El Niño events result in severe drought. The Fiji Meteorological Services (FMS) noted that the 2023-2024 El Nino, despite being categorized among the five strongest events recorded globally, did not trigger drought conditions in the country. The FMS notes that no two El Niño events are the same, and they may not affect Fiji's microclimates in the same way.[87]

Earthquakes

Although Fiji is not frequently affected by destructive, shallow-focus earthquakes, the underlying seismic risk is high, particularly around the main islands, which are situated within a highly active tectonic zone on the Fiji Platform, a complex, remnant island arc that lies inside a diffuse plate boundary zone between the active Pacific and Australian tectonic plates. According to a report by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), there is a 39% probability that a major earthquake will displace approximately 1,100 people in Fiji over the next 50 years.[88]

From 1970 through 2016, 10 earthquake events occurred in which 5 people were killed; there were also 2 tsunamis. Although tsunamis have been rare and have been less deadly, in September 1953, a Moment Magnitude Scale (Mw) 6.8 earthquake occurred off the southeast shore of Viti Levu and triggered a tsunami that damaged infrastructure and killed eight people.[89]

In 2018, Fiji was hit by two major earthquakes roughly a month apart. On 18 August, an 8.3-Mw earthquake struck close to Fiji and Tonga at a depth of 560 km (348 mi) and 270 km (167 mi) east of Levuka. Fijian authorities reported that the earthquake was widely felt, but no damages were reported due to the quake's depth. The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) also reported that the quake was too deep to have triggered a tsunami.[90] A 7.8-Mw quake then struck offshore on 6 September; it was around 100 km (62.13 mi) from Suva at a depth of 608 km (378 mi). Due to the depth, the United States Geological Survey reported only light ground shaking, and the PTWC issued no tsunami alerts.[91] Although neither event caused casualties or damage, these consecutive, high magnitude earthquakes illustrate the seismic risk Fiji faces.

Floods

Fiji is highly exposed to flooding, particularly coastal inundation, and flooding is the second most frequent hazard to impact the country after TCs. Fiji is generally affected by flash floods brought on by sudden heavy or constant rain and by riverine flooding where rivers overflow their banks after a period of heavy precipitation. Flooding from storm surges and sea level rise also pose a significant threat because many communities are located near the coast. The government has suggested that the scale of flood risk in the country is generally underreported due to the number of small-scale events that are not recorded.[92] An average of 3,614 people could be displaced by flooding events each year, according to the IDMC.[93]

Past flooding incidents have been closely associated with La Niña events, which typically bring wetter-than-normal conditions. These events are often exacerbated by the heavy and prolonged rainfall associated with TCs, which trigger both riverine and surface flooding. Additionally, flooding events are caused by dynamic ocean forces, including storm surges generated by TCs and large and long-period swells driven by depressions and high-pressure

systems.[94]

There have been several historically significant floods, including in January 2012, when heavy rain sparked severe flooding across western and northern Viti Levu. The flooding left 11 people dead and affected over 13,000 people; 8,000 were displaced. Economic damage to infrastructure, housing, and agriculture was estimated at US$100 million.[95] Photo 4 shows a Fijian girl walking over flooded land in Fiji.[96]

Sea Level Rise

Sea level rise is a major threat to Fiji, particularly since many of the country's islands are low-lying, and the country's lengthy coastline is vulnerable to inundation, erosion, and saltwater intrusion into freshwater sources. Sea level rise and saltwater intrusion also affect coastal farmlands by increasing soil salinity and reducing fertility.[97] Coastal communities are of course at particular risk, as they directly face the challenge of rising sea levels.

Some 76% of the population live within 5 km (3.1 mi) of the coast.[98] For some communities, this level of exposure has meant abandoning villages after repeated inundation, storm surges, and erosion. From 1994 through 2024, the sea level around Suva rose an estimated 29 centimeters (cm; 11.41 in), and projections are for an additional 18 cm (7 in) rise by 2054.[99]

The World Bank notes that coastal development projects have increased vulnerability to sea level rise. These projects have resulted in the clearing of mangroves, an action that eliminated a natural barrier to inundation and erosion, while unplanned development in coastal areas has altered natural coastal processes. Sea level rise is likely to continue to have a range of impacts on Fiji's islands, including potential inundation, coastal erosion, and saline intrusion, and the risks of storm surges and king tides may also be exacerbated.[100]

Sea level rise is also the primary driver of coastal erosion, another hazard that impacts Fiji's shoreline and coastal communities. Many coastal and low-lying villages regularly experience flooding and erosion. Coastal erosion is a significant threat, especially in areas with high wave energy and soft sediment coastlines. This combination has led to land loss, infrastructure damage, loss of crops, impacts to trees and foliage, loss of fishing grounds, and the disruption of livelihoods. Coral bleaching and ocean acidification also threaten reefs, which normally help form a natural protective barrier against erosion.[101] Additionally, while mangroves also serve as a natural buffer for coastal flooding, significant coastal erosion often leads to the loss of mangroves, which will further endanger coastal populations as natural barriers are lost.[102]

Suva has been identified as one of the coastal capitals in the Pacific highly susceptible to coastal erosion.[103] Other areas, such as Narikoso village on Ono Island in Kadavu province, have also been on the frontlines of the effects of sea level rise and coastal erosion. Villagers have seen the coastline shift by 15 meters (49 feet) in the past 30 years, forcing the government to relocate the community. The village was moved to an area away from eroded and inundated areas but with some proximity to the older village to maintain cultural ties and newly built, with homes that were safer from flooding.[104]

Tropical Cyclones

TCs are the most frequent and damaging hazard for the islands. They bring powerful winds, damaging storm surges, and heavy rain. TCs and secondary effects such as landslides and storm surges present significant risks to coastal infrastructure, housing, and agricultural land.

Fiji is highly exposed to TC activity and experiences frequent and severe TCs that result in loss of life, injuries, and substantial infrastructure and economic damage. The wet season, also known locally as the cyclone season, runs from November until April.[105] The islands of Fiji experience the direct or indirect effects of cyclones each year, including often being impacted multiple times in a year. According to the FMS, Fiji is affected by an average of seven TCs per season.[106] Figure 4

from the United States (U.S.) National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office for Coastal Management's Hurricane Tracks show TC tracks around Fiji between 2000 and 2025.[107]

The risk from storm surge is high around Viti Levu, particularly on the west coast around Nadi Bay where there is a 33% probability that in the next 20 years the area may experience storm surge of 3-4 m (9.84 – 13.12 ft.). Fiji's displacement risk from hazards is highest with storm surges. An average of 3,614 people may be displaced by flooding per year, according to the IDMC.[108]

The worst TC in recent history to impact Fiji was Winston in February 2016. TC Winston was one of the most severe storms to ever hit the South Pacific. It affected over 540,000 people and left at least 44 people dead. It was also the first Category 5 storm to directly affect Fiji. The GoF reported over 30,000 houses, 495 schools, and 88 health clinics and medical facilities were damaged or destroyed. The cyclone also destroyed agricultural crops, and many areas were flooded by storm surge.[109]

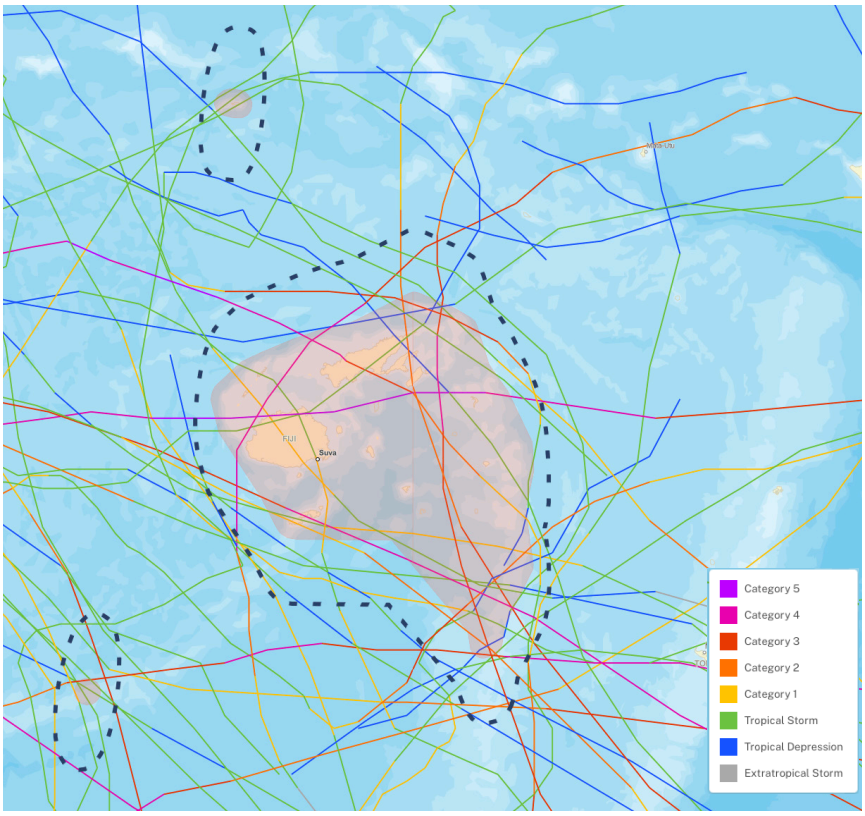


Figure 4: Tropical Cyclone Tracks

Due to cyclone risk and exposure, in November 2023, the GoF released its Fiji National Anticipatory Action Framework for Tropical Cyclones. Stakeholders began developing the framework following the inaugural Pacific Anticipatory Action week in March 2023; held in Nadi, the event selected Fiji as a pilot country for an anticipatory action initiative funded through the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and coordinated by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA). Anticipatory action "involves taking steps ahead of predicted hazards to prevent or reduce acute humanitarian impacts before they fully unfold."

The framework establishes a strategic plan that allows the government and stakeholders to begin taking action if certain "triggers" (i.e., projected TC wind speeds) are met. It allows for financing and proactive measures to take effect with the goal of mitigating impacts and supporting vulnerable populations before disasters occur.[110] The GoF, UN OCHA, other UN entities, and partners such as the Fiji Red Cross Society (FRCS), helped develop the framework. The pilot phase was launched in November 2023 and lasted for two years. It was approved by the UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC) on 15 December 2025 and endorsed by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator of UN OCHA on 17 December 2025.[111]

Tsunamis

Fiji is exposed to tsunamis due to its location astride and in the wider region of plate boundaries and its geography, which includes many stretches of low-lying coastal areas. The potential run-up of a tsunami in Fiji is estimated to be 5-8 m (16.4 – 26.24 ft) for most at-risk areas.[112] The run-up is

the maximum height a tsunami reaches on shore and any runup over 1 m (3.28 ft) is considered dangerous.[113] The highest risk is thought to be on northeastern Vanua Levu, where waves could rise to more than 10 m (32.8 ft).

While Fiji's coral reefs provide some natural protection, the effect of tsunamis can be exacerbated by high or king tides.[114] Additionally, rising seas will also worsen the risk of tsunami events by increasing the frequency and intensity of flooding during a tsunami, as tsunamis will be able to travel farther inland. This effect could mean that future smaller tsunamis may have the same impact as larger tsunamis today. Sea level rise can also weaken natural barriers such as mangroves, which absorb some of the tsunami energy. Erosion and higher seas mean coastlines will also be moved further inland, and the distance that tsunamis will need to travel to reach coastal communities will decrease, potentially resulting in more infrastructure damage.[115]

Disasters by Numbers

An examination of data about past disasters in a country can indicate how future hazard events may impact the country's people, economy, and land. This section breaks down available statistics from disaster events in Fiji since the year 2000 to illuminate trends over time and space to understand what types of events may necessitate an appeal for international assistance and, therefore, potential international military support to civilian responders. Moreover, it may support practitioners working toward Fiji's preparedness and capacity to mitigate hazard impacts.

The data used in this section come from the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters' Emergency Events Database (EM-DAT). The EM-DAT collects and makes available to the public data on the occurrence of disasters globally. It considers disasters to be events involving an unexpected and overwhelming harmful impact on human beings and limits inclusion of events in the database by the following thresholds:

- At least 10 deaths (including dead and missing)
- At least 100 affected (people affected, injured, or homeless)
- A call for international assistance or an emergency declaration[116]

The data in EM-DAT derive from multiple sources, including UN agencies, national statistics and disaster offices, and national and international technical agencies and organizations. Because of the specific criteria set out by the database and its sources, there are data limitations.[117] In fact, for small island developing states like Fiji, even small numbers of people affected may mean that a significant portion of their population sustained impacts from a hazard event. Moreover, a hazard event with minimal human impacts may still wreak devastation on livelihoods that, in a larger state, would be easily absorbed by national economic and political capacity. Nonetheless, EM-DAT data are used in this section because of their standardization and clarity.

EM-DAT records 30 disasters in Fiji for the period 2000-2026 (June). All events originate from natural hazards rather than anthropogenic ones.

Of the 30 disasters recorded, 21 were storms (70%), 7 were floods (23.33%), and drought and epidemics counted for 1 event each (3.33%). Figure 5 illustrates the proportions of disasters by hazard type for the 26-year period.

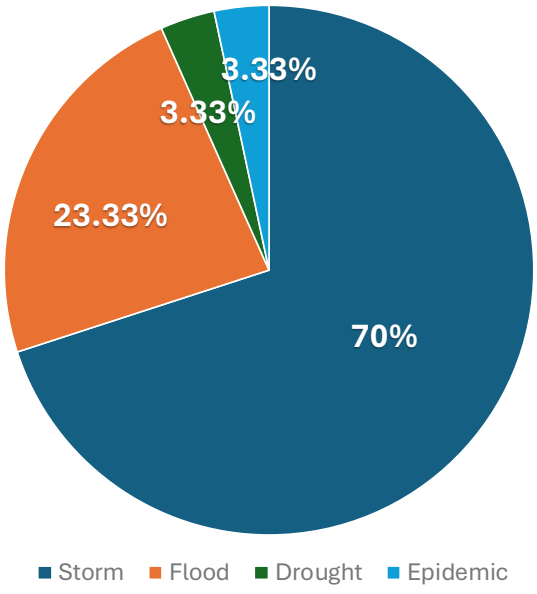


Figure 5: Percent of Disaster Events, by Hazard Type (2000–June 2026)

The timing of a disaster's onset is often linked to seasonal cycles in the country. The influence of wider regional climate and weather patterns means that the most common hazard type – storms – generally occurs during the TC season, which runs from November until April. Most of the recorded TC disasters occurred during the months of December (5), January (6) and April (7). The months of November, February, and March had one TC occurrence each month. As expected, the storm events fell within a typical cyclone or wet season between the months of November and April.

Floods mostly took place during the wet season, which coincides with the cyclone season. A majority of the flood events were recorded in the early part of the year, in January (2), February (2), and March (2). The one outlier event was a flash flood that was triggered by heavy rains in early June.

In addition to the 21 TC events and 7 flood events over the past quarter century, Figure 6 also illustrates the timing of the drought and epidemic occurrences.

The most common hazard type – TCs – is also the one that affects the most people and has accounted for the most fatalities. The 21 TCs recorded in the dataset from 2000 through June 2026 each affected thousands of people across the country. The TCs' heavy rain, powerful winds, flooding, storm surges, and landslides impacted infrastructure, agriculture, food and water supplies, and health, and damaged the overall economy.

The most impactful cyclone event was TC Winston in February 2016. It affected over 540,400 people. TC Mal affected a total of 230,000 people in November 2023, and TC Harold affected 180,000 people in April 2020.[118] These powerful storm events impacted a significant portion of the population; for instance, TC Winston affected 62% of Fiji's total population. Even less powerful storm systems often affect tens of thousands of people on the islands.[119]

TCs have not only affected the greatest number of people but have also been responsible for the most deaths from disasters. TC Winston recorded the highest number of fatalities – 45 – within the dataset. The next highest number of deaths recorded for a disaster in Fiji was from TC Ami in January 2003; it left 17 people dead and affected around 30,000 people.[120]

Because of its relatively small population, a single event – usually a powerful TC – can have far-reaching effects. TC Winston was estimated to have caused US$900 million in economic damage, a whopping 20% of the country's GDP.[121]

Figure 7 illustrates the prevalence of storms as the hazard with the greatest number of people affected in Fiji.

Recent Disasters

The following is a list of the significant natural disasters in Fiji over the last 10 years (2016 – June 2026).

TC Vaianu – April 2026

TC Vaianu passed close to the western coasts of Fiji between 6 and 8 April 2026. It caused damage and displaced 1,284 people. Authorities opened 46 evacuation centers. At least five houses were reported damaged by the passing

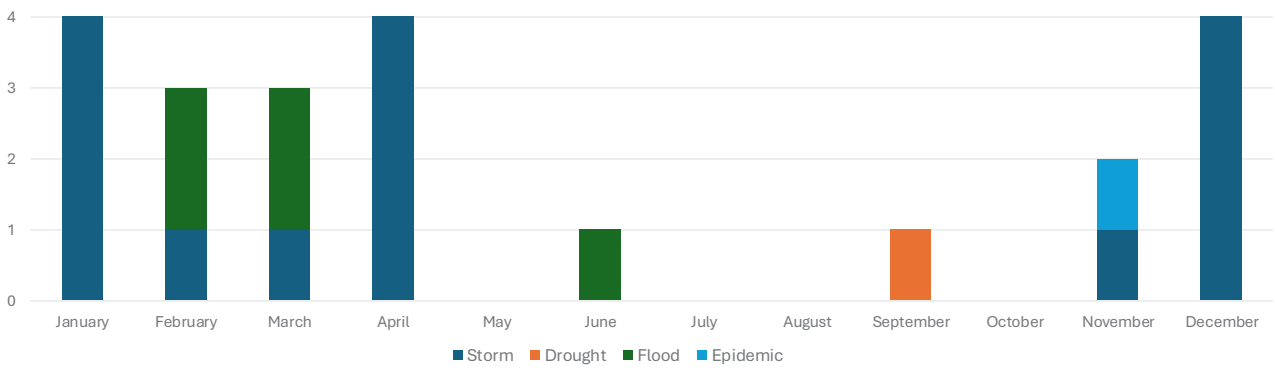


Figure 6: Occurrence of Disasters, by Hazard Type and Month of Onset (2000–June 2026)

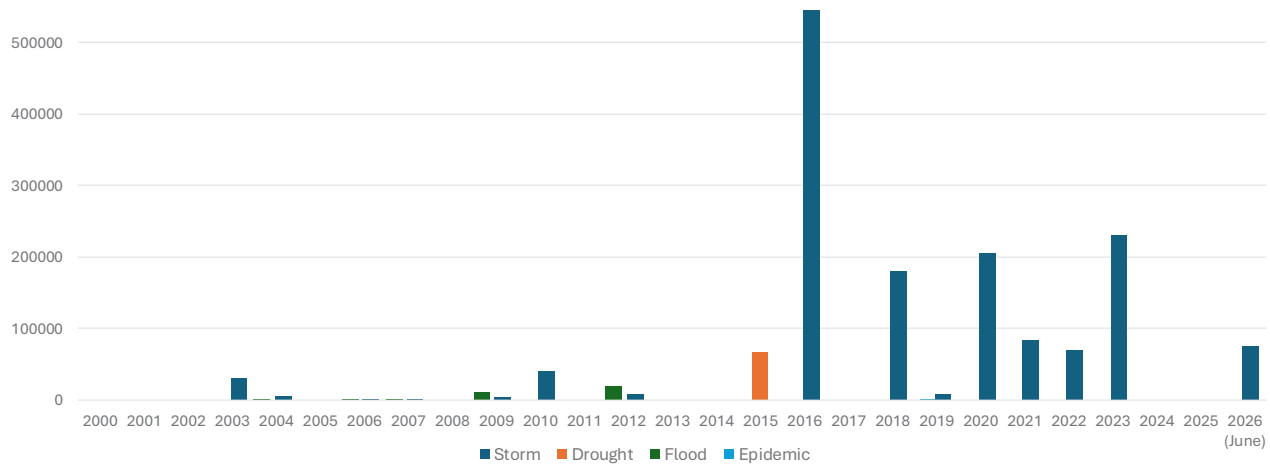


Figure 7: Number of People Affected by Disasters, by Hazard Type and Year (2000–June 2006)

storm.[122] Agriculture was reportedly the hardest-hit sector with preliminary economic damage estimated at around US$30 million. Initial assessments revealed widespread damage to food crops and plantations.[123]

Dengue Outbreak – 2025

In 2025, Fiji experienced a major dengue outbreak, with a reported 11,599 confirmed cases and 8 deaths. The cases were reported throughout the country from 1 January to 27 July. Of the cases, 5,124 were reported in the Western Division, 2,957 in the Central Division, 3,198 in the Northern Division, and 320 in the Eastern Division. The outbreak was declared over in August 2025, following a decrease in the number of cases recorded. The outbreak was part of a region-wide surge in cases, with outbreaks reported in American Samoa, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Samoa, Tonga, and Tuvalu. Children under 18 years of age were the most affected age group.[124]

HIV Outbreak – January 2025

The GoF declared a national HIV outbreak in January 2025 due to an alarming increase in the number of people living with HIV. In 2025, there were 2,016 new cases reported.[125] In 2024, the Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) reported that, in the first nine months of that year, there had been 1,093 new cases, a three-fold increase compared to 2023 and a nine-fold increase over totals in 2020. According to MHMS data, half of the cases in 2024 were contracted through injection drug use. Due to the increased incidence, Fiji had the second fastest growing HIV epidemic in the Asia-Pacific region at the time.

In January 2025, the government resorted to a 90-day containment plan to help curb transmission. It also used a HIV Surge Strategy approved in September 2024 that would guide the response until 2027.[126] At the root of the outbreak, in addition to drug users sharing needles, the number of people living with HIV in the country was estimated at around 5,900 people in 2024. Only 36% were aware of their status, and only 24% were receiving treatment. These levels of identification and treatment meant thousands could be living with HIV and not know it. According to the 2025 UNAIDS Global AIDS Update, since 2010, Fiji recorded a 3,091% increase in estimated new HIV infections.[127]

Dengue, Leptospirosis, and Typhoid Fever Outbreaks – April–July 2024

On 29 April 2024, the MHMS declared outbreaks of dengue fever in the Western Division and Ovalau and leptospirosis in the Western Division and Kadavu. Up to mid-July, there were 1,245 leptospirosis cases with 13 deaths reported. There were 429 leptospirosis cases reported by the Central Division, 378 in the Northern Division, 389 in the Western Division, and 49 in the Eastern Division, with 36 cases from Kadavu. During the same period, 2,033 cases of dengue fever were reported.

There were 893 cases reported in the Central Division, 557 in the Western Division, 428 in the Northern Division, and 155 in the Eastern Division, with 132 cases reported in Ovalau. On 23 July, the Ministry announced the end of the outbreaks after case numbers went down to expected levels for the time of year. Amidst these outbreaks, authorities also reported 78 cases of typhoid fever spread across the Central, Western, and Northern Divisions.[128]

Floods – March 2024

Heavy rains began impacting Fiji from 16 March 2024. It caused floods that resulted in displacements and damage. The most affected areas were the main islands of Vanua Levu and Viti Levu. The flooding resulted in school closures and power and water outages. Ba Town was completely flooded due to the overflowing of Elevuka Creek. At least 230 people were displaced to 12 evacuation centers.[129]

TC Mal – November 2023

On 15 November, TC Mal passed Fiji as a Category 3 storm and affected some 230,000 people. One landslide and power outages were reported, along with minor damage primarily from flooding and some crop damage. No deaths or injuries were reported.[130] The TC delivered 65 km per hour (kph; 40mi per hour [mph]) sustained storm-force winds and gusts up to 93 kph (58 mph).[131]

TC Cody – January 2022

A Category 1 storm, TC Cody brought significant rain the week of 8-15 January 2022. The Western Division was affected by extensive flooding, while some communities in the Central and Eastern Divisions, particularly the district of Wainibuka and the island of Ovalau, were also affected.[132] The TC affected 59,564 people. As the response occurred during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, safety protocols were in place including some movement restrictions. Communications and coordination meetings relied on virtual platforms, while COVID-19 standard operating procedures (SOP) were in place in evacuation centers.[133]

COVID-19 – April 2021

Fiji did not experience significant local transmission of COVID-19 until mid-2021. According to the Johns Hopkins University of Medicine Coronavirus Resource Center, as of 10 March 2023, when the Center stopped collecting data, Fiji had recorded 68,898 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 883 deaths. A total of 1,553,134 doses of the COVID-19 vaccine were administered, with 79.41% of the population receiving at least 1 dose.[134] The pandemic impacted relief efforts for some natural disasters that affected Fiji, especially in 2021 and 2022, due to restrictions placed by the government to curb the spread of the virus.

TC Ana and TC Bina – January 2021

In late January 2021, two TCs struck Fiji over the course of two days. They impacted communities still recovering from TC Yasa, which had struck in December 2020. On 30 January 2021, TC Ana made landfall as a Category 2 storm. It claimed one life[135] and caused damage across Vanua Levu and Viti Levu. TC Ana damaged crops and houses and caused power outages. Heavy rain triggered river flooding, and storm surges brought coastal inundation.[136] A day after TC Ana's arrival, TC Bina arrived. Although it did not make landfall on the islands, it brought more heavy rain. The accumulated rainfall from TC Bina, TC Ana, and TC Yasa caused flooding across all four divisions, and it left people in urgent need of shelter, health services, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services, and livelihoods assistance.[137] The storms resulted in the displacement of around 14,755 evacuees in 422 evacuation centers during the initial response. However, later recovery efforts were hampered by widespread community transmission of COVID-19 in mid-April 2021. Restrictions by the government to halt the spread of the virus effectively suspended FRCS relief operations from mid-April until mid-September.[138]

TC Yasa – December 2020

TC Yasa made landfall on northern Vanua Levu on 17 December 2020 as a Category 5

storm with maximum sustained winds of 240 kph (149 mph), and it brought powerful winds, heavy rains, and storm surge. The landfall prompted authorities to declare a state of natural disaster and a nationwide curfew. A landslide was reported in Tailevu province in western Viti Levu. Major roads were flooded in Vanua Levu, northern Viti Levu, and other islands in the Northern Division. The cyclone left at least four people dead and displaced thousands of others. Economic damage was estimated at US$226.9 million.[139] It affected a total of 97,000 people. More than 23,000 people were forced to shelter in 183 evacuation centers.[140] Photo 2 shows TC Yasa as its eye heads towards Fiji.[141]

Leptospirosis, Typhoid, Dengue, and Diarrhea (LTDD) – April–May 2020

On 28 April 2020, the MHMS warned the public of the rise in LTDD diseases following TC Harold, which hit Fiji on 8 April.[142] On 25 May, the Ministry reported that seven people had died from leptospirosis for the year-to-date, and it also stated that the country had recorded 791 cases of dengue fever between January and April, with most cases in the Central and Northern Divisions. The MHMS noted that LTDD were climate-sensitive diseases with a spike in cases during wet weather, which was evident in Kadavu, Lau, and some coastal communities in the Western Division, as well as in the north and central parts of the country.[143]

Flooding – April 2020

On 28 April 2020, Fijian authorities announced that floods had caused road closures in parts of the country after heavy rains fell on areas that had been badly hit by TC Harold earlier that month. Areas affected included Vanua Levu, Taveuni, smaller islands in the Lau and Lomaiviti groups, the eastern and western parts and the interior of Viti Levu, and Kadavu.[144]

TC Harold – April 2020

On 8 April 2020, TC Harold entered Fiji waters as a Category 4 cyclone. Moving from the west, the storm made its way towards southern Fiji. It brought rain to the islands and sparked widespread flooding. On 12 April, the government announced a Declaration of Natural Disaster in several divisions. Landslides were reported on Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, but no significant infrastructure damage was reported. Significant damage was reported on the island of Kadavu and islands in Southern Lau. The storm displaced at least 1,700 people to 61 evacuation centers in Central, Western, and Eastern Divisions. More than 2,740 houses were completely or partially damaged in the

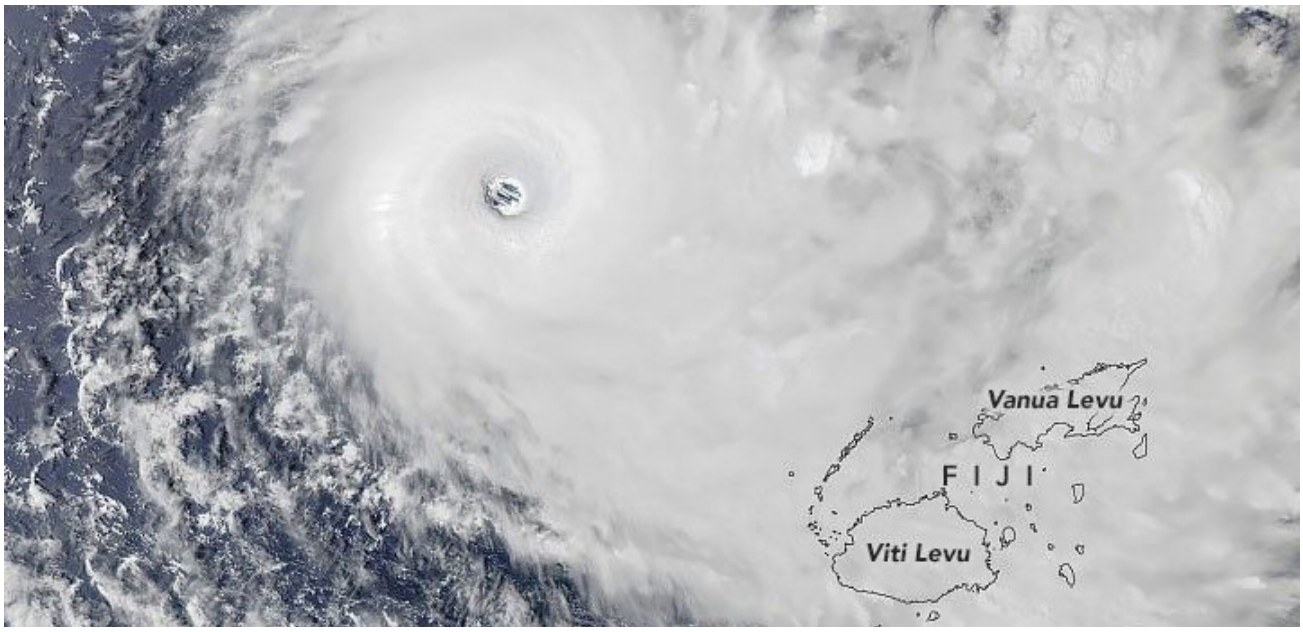


Photo 2: Tropical Cyclone Yasa

Western, Central, and Eastern Divisions. Major damage to school infrastructure and facilities was reported on Kadavu Island, in Suva, and on Vatulele Island.[145] The cyclone affected around 180,000 people, and at least 2 people died due to the storm.[146]

Landslides – March 2020

On 20 March 2020, Fijian officials reported that three people died and one was injured after rains triggered a landslide in Namosi on Viti Levu. The National Disaster Management Office (NDMO, the former name of the NDRMO) also noted flooding closed roads in low-lying areas of Viti Levu.[147] By 23 March, flood waters had cut road access, isolating communities in the town of Nausori, and flooding damaged buildings in Navua Province.[148]

Measles – November 2019–January 2020

From November 2019 until early January 2020, Fiji experienced a measles outbreak. Authorities reported 28 cases from 7 November to 6 January, when the last locally transmitted case was reported. All cases were in the Central Division, with the most cases in the Serua/ Namosi and Suva subdivisions.[149]

TC Sarai and TC Tino – December 2019–January 2020

In late 2019 and early 2020, Fiji was affected by two Category 2 cyclones about a month apart. On 24 December 2019, Fiji was hit by TC Sarai and then on 18 January 2020 by TC Tino. Both cyclones brought heavy rain, strong winds, flooding, and landslides in parts of the Central, Western, and Northern Divisions. The worst affected areas saw the destruction of crops and livestock. Housing was damaged in some areas, and four community evacuation centers were activated. The National Disaster Management Council (the former name of the NDRMC) declared a state of alert for the country, and Emergency Operation Centers (EOC) were activated at national and sub-national levels.[150]

Dengue Outbreak – 2018-2019

On 3 September 2019, Fiji's Minister of Health stated there had been more than 2,500 cases of dengue fever in the country that year. At least one person died from the mosquito borne disease.[151] In 2018, nine people in the country had died from dengue, and there were 4,000 cases officially recorded.[152]

TC Keni – April 2018

On 10 April 2018, TC Keni passed to the west of Viti Levu as a Category 3 storm. It brought destructive winds, heavy rainfall, and flash flooding, particularly on the island of Kadavu. More than 8,000 people were displaced.[153] Fiji's NDMO stated that 804 houses were damaged on the island of Kadavu, and 201 houses were destroyed.[154] Up to 2,031 people reportedly sheltered in 104 evacuation centers.[155] TC Keni compounded the devastation TC Josie had wrought the previous week. The Northern Division suffered more than US$3 million in damage from TC Josie and TC Keni. The cyclones caused about US$1 million in damage to agriculture and US$700,000 in damage to roads and other infrastructure in Northern Division, where two schools were damaged. The sugar industry was particularly hard hit with damage to farms and the Labasa sugar mill amounting to some US$1.2 million.[156]

TC Josie – March-April 2018

TC Josie formed on 31 March 2018 close to Fiji, and it strengthened as it moved southeast as a Category 1 TC.[157] It continued to pass to Fiji's southwest on 1 April.[158] Parts of Fiji, including Kadavu, Matuku, and Ono-i-Lau, felt damaging gale-force winds.[159] TC Josie led to six fatalities, primarily on Viti Levu. It also sent more than 2,300 people seeking shelter in 40 evacuation centers and drove flooding that affected 3,000 people in the Northern, Western, and Central Divisions.[160] Ba was one of the worst hit areas, and the tourist town of Nadi was inundated.[161] An additional 3,000 people were affected by floods in Wainikoro, Malu, Vunika and Macuata.[162]

Meningococcal Outbreak - March-September 2018

On 20 March 2018, the MHMS declared an outbreak of meningococcal C. The last confirmed case was reported in September. From 1 January to 25 November, there were 85 cases, of which 36 were laboratory confirmed, 10 were probable, and 39 suspected cases. There were six confirmed deaths, of which five were children under the age of 5 years. The National Meningococcal Disease Taskforce coordinated the response to the outbreak, including strengthening surveillance, laboratory diagnostics, clinical management, public health interventions, and risk communications.[163]

TC Gita – February 2018

TC Gita affected several countries, including Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, and Vanuatu. It entered Fiji's territorial waters on 13 February 2018 and passed the Southern Lau Group.[164] Residents on low-lying islands said several homes were flattened and crops were wiped out when the cyclone pounded their villages. Although Fiji was not directly hit, thousands of people on islands in the Lau Group faced wind gusts of up to 190 kph (118 mph) and lost communications.[165] No casualties or injuries were reported in Fiji, but three buildings were completely destroyed and four were partially damaged on Ono-I-Lau island.[166]

Tropical Depression 04F, Flooding, and Landslides – December 2016

As Tropical Depression 04F passed close to Fiji in December 2016, it brought heavy rain that flooded roads, inundated sugarcane fields, and caused landslides. Across Fiji, 1,716 people sought refuge in 46 evacuation centers.[167] Many roads and fields were underwater nationwide, including the main road linking Suva to the international airport in Nadi. Rakiraki, in the north of the country's largest island, suffered major flooding. The worst-hit areas in western Fiji were still recovering from TC Winston, which had struck in February. Around 50,000 people faced water disruptions in the Central Division after the tropical depression triggered landslides, which damaged a main pipe transporting water from the Waimanu pumping station to the Tamavua Water Treatment Plant. The initial assessment of damage from the tropical depression totaled more than US$5.3 million.[168]

TC Zena – April 2016

As the country struggled to recover from TC Winston, TC Zena impacted Fiji on 7 April 2016. The Category 1 TC left three people dead and damaged essential services in Western Division where flooding started before the arrival of the storm. More than 12,000 people, most of them in the Western Division, took shelter in 244 evacuation centers because of the flooding. The country's key vegetable growing area, the Sigatoka Valley, was badly flooded. Agricultural rehabilitation work in the Northern and Western Divisions after TC Winston was substantively set back or lost in the flooding.[169]

TC Winston – February 2016

On 20-21 February 2016, TC Winston, a powerful Category 5 storm, crossed over Fiji's main islands, where it left at least 44 people dead and at least 126 injured. Winston was one of the most severe storms to have hit the South Pacific with maximum average wind speeds reaching 233 kph (145 mph) and wind gusts peaking at around 306 kph (190 mph).[170] It was also the first Category 5 storm to directly affect Fiji. As the storm tracked through populated areas of Fiji's two main islands, around 540,000 people, or around 62% of the country's total population, were estimated to have been directly affected by the storm. Over 51,000 people were displaced and sheltered in more than 811 evacuation centers across the country. The GoF reported 30,369 houses, 495 schools, and 88 health clinics and medical facilities were damaged or destroyed. In addition, the cyclone destroyed crops on a large scale. An estimated 60% of the population had their livelihoods damaged. Many areas, including Koro Island and the southern coast of Vanua Levu, flooded with waters reaching almost 200 m (656 ft) inland in some areas.[171]

DISASTER MANAGEMENT POLICY, PLANNING, AND RESPONSE

Fiji maintains a robust, civilian-led disaster management architecture designed to coordinate rapid response while prioritizing long-term risk reduction. Operations are centrally directed by the National Controller and coordinated through the NDRMO in Suva. This national framework cascades down to localized execution via Divisional Commissioners, Provincial Administrators, and District Officers who manage early warnings and immediate relief.

When civilian response capabilities are overwhelmed, the RFMF is integrated seamlessly through the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) to provide critical engineering, communication, and maritime support. Internationally, Fiji aligns with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and proactively manages an expansive network of UN entities, non-governmental organizations (NGO), and bilateral and multilateral partners. This integration is managed using the Fiji Cluster System and expedited SWIFT customs protocols to ensure external aid remains demand-driven and effectively coordinated under host-nation oversight.

National Disaster Management System

Fiji's national DM system is a comprehensive framework designed to manage and mitigate the risks associated with disasters. The system is guided by a robust legal and policy framework, with clear structures for coordination and response at the national, subnational, and community levels. Officially led by the NDRMC, operationalized by the NDRMO, and legally anchored by the NDRMA, the system ensures a unified national posture. At the national level, coordination is facilitated through Disaster Service Liaison Officers (DSLO) who ensure government agencies maintain active disaster preparedness plans, coordinate directly with the NDRMO, and report directly to the NEOC during a crisis.

National DM responsibilities are vested in the Minister responsible for DM(the Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management), the NDRMC, the National Controller, and the NDRMO under its Director, who serves as the National Coordinator. These entities are supported by sectoral ministries, divisional and district authorities, and the NEOC, which serves as the central coordination hub during emergencies. Together, these organizations provide strategic leadership, operational coordination, resource management, information sharing, and international engagement across all phases of the disaster cycle.

Legal Policy and Framework

Fiji overhauled its legal framework by introducing the NDRMA in 2024. The new law represented a fundamental shift in national policy from "disaster management" to "disaster risk management." The Act legislates a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, ensuring that disaster governance respects constitutional rights, formally recognizes traditional land ownership and indigenous cultural practices, and adheres strictly to the core humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, independence, and impartiality.[172]

The NDRMA introduced a paradigm shift from a reactive to proactive approach. While the Act that NDRMA superseded was primarily focused on response and recovery after a disaster occurred, the new legislation emphasizes understanding and reducing disaster risk before a hazard materializes. It also places strong emphasis on community-level engagement and empowerment, recognizing that communities are first responders and are central to building local resilience by establishing CDRMCs. The new framework is also designed to be inclusive, addressing the specific needs

and vulnerabilities of different groups.

The NDRMA legally defines specific agencies responsible for warning systems and hazard-specific plans:

- The NDRMO is supported by all other agencies as directed by the NDRMC in relation to all natural hazards.
- The Ministry responsible for Agriculture and the Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF) are responsible for implementing programs to reduce the vulnerability of the agriculture sector, including biohazards affecting plants and animals.
- The MHMS oversees disease outbreaks, epidemics, and pandemics.[173]

Complementing these overarching legal pillars are a suite of targeted national plans, strategies, and SOPs that operationalize disaster management principles for specific sectors and scenarios. These documents translate high-level policy into practical, actionable guidance, including:

- The Fiji National Disaster Management Plan (1995): The nation's foundational operational blueprint. Designed to manage post-disaster response, it established core emergency protocols, resource mobilization strategies, and civil-military-NGO coordination mechanisms.[174] (Note: Under the NDRMA, a modernized National DRM Plan is mandated to replace this document)
- The National Humanitarian Policy for Disaster Risk Management: Governs and coordinates humanitarian action across the DRM cycle, ensuring all actions adhere to the core principles of humanity, neutrality, and impartiality.[175]
- National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2018-2030: Outlines national priorities for reducing existing risk and preventing new risks, fully aligning Fiji with regional and global frameworks like the Sendai Framework.[176]
- The National Emergency Operations Centre SOP: Outlines the precise command, control, and coordination functions of the national response hub to ensure a disciplined flow of information and resources.[177]
- National Tsunami Response Plan: Details specific warning, evacuation, and response protocols unique to tsunami threats.[178]
- The Fiji Shelter Handbook (2019): Developed by the Fiji Shelter Cluster, this handbook provides technical, inclusive, and community-led guidance for building resilient temporary and permanent shelters.[179]
- The Logistics Manual: Details procedures for warehousing, transport, prepositioned supplies, and partner distribution networks.[180]
- The Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) SOP Fiji WASH Sector: Provides systematic, harmonized guidance for assessing post-disaster needs in the WASH sector to ensure "Build Back Better" recovery.[181]
- Fiji National Anticipatory Action Framework for TCs: Represents the latest evolution in Fiji's strategy by shifting from reaction to anticipation. This framework uses scientific weather forecasting to trigger the rapid release of pre-arranged financing and protective actions before a cyclone makes landfall to save lives and protect livelihoods.[182]

Lead Agencies, Roles, and Responsibilities

Fiji's national DRM structure is a highly integrated system designed to address the escalating complexities of multi-hazard threats. This structure clearly delineates responsibilities across policymaking, strategic oversight, operational coordination, and emergency command. The multi-layered system is led by the NDRMC and coordinated by the MRMDDM and its operational arm, the NDRMO.

National Disaster Risk Management Council (NDRMC)

The NDRMC serves as the principal national DRM policy and oversight body. Operating at the cabinet level, the Council's primary mandate is to approve all national DRM policies, strategies, and plans. It advises the Cabinet

and the Prime Minister on critical matters, including the formal declaration of a National State of Disaster and the allocation of emergency funding.

The NDRMC is chaired by the Minister responsible for DRM (the Minister for Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management), with the National Controller (the PS of the MRMDDM) serving as the Deputy Chairperson. Membership is designed for whole-of-government alignment, including all Government PSs, the Solicitor-General, the Commander of the RFMF, the Commissioner of Police, the Chief Executive Officer of the National Fire Authority (NFA), the Director of the FRCS, and representatives from civil society via the Fiji Council of Social Services (FCOSS).[183] Figure 8 illustrates the NDRMC's structural hierarchy and composition.[184]



Figure 8: National Disaster Risk Management Council Structure

To manage the distinct demands of long-term disaster mitigation versus active crisis response, the NDRMC delegates strategic oversight to two specialized sub-committees, both chaired by the National Controller:[185]

- The DRR Committee: A permanently active body tasked with coordinating and monitoring mitigation, prevention, and preparedness policies. It collaborates with ministries and the private sector to mainstream risk reduction into engineering, urban planning, and agricultural standards. It also oversees public awareness and multi-hazard early warning platforms. Members include government and non-government leaders to ensure comprehensive planning.[186]
- The Emergency Committee: Activated immediately prior to, during, and after a disaster. It exercises national-level control over all operational resources, governs the operations of the NEOC, and makes rapid decisions regarding emergency stockpiles, humanitarian aid distribution, and the mobilization of international assistance.[187] Members include top-level officials and FRCS and FCOSS.[188]

National Controller and National Coordinator

Fiji's DRM model relies on clear personal accountability and defined command roles during active emergency declarations. It divides daily administrative management from emergency command authority. Figure 9 shows the divisions of responsibility.[189]

National Disaster Risk Management Office (NDRMO)

The NDRMO, headquartered in Suva, operates as the permanent administrative and operational heart of Fiji's disaster management system. Serving as the secretariat to the NDRMC, the NDRMO translates high-level national policy into daily practice. The office is responsible for drafting, reviewing, and updating the National DRM Plan every three years.

During normal conditions, the NDRMO monitors hazards, coordinates preparedness activities, supports community-based DRM initiatives, and builds capacity across all administrative levels. During emergencies, the

National Controller / Permanent Secretary

- Advises the Minister, facilitates adequate resources to NDRMO, and oversee implementation of NDMC decisions
- Through the National Coordinator: advise and assist agencies on DM; disseminate information and advice on matters relating to potential or actual emergency, and train required personnel
- Overall command during an emergency operations, including responsible for controlling and coordinating activities of GoF agencies, allocating resources
- Requests the PS for Foreign Affairs call for international assistance

National Coordinator / NDRMO Director

- Implement policies of the NDRMC
- Manage the NDRMO
- Advise the National Controller
- Coordinate planning and execution of DM activities
- Ensure personnel, material and services are readily available to carry out DM, then direct and control on DM
- Coordinate and advise DSLO, cluster leads and co-leads on DM
- Prepare and revise the National DRM Plan, DRM Support Plan, and Hazard Support Plans, review and strengthen Agency DRM Support Plans
- Under direction of National Controller, leads the NEOC, disseminates information and advice, and trains personnel to support DM coordination

Figure 9: National Controller and National Coordinator

office expands to run the national response, managing operational information and facilitating international assistance.[190]

National Emergency Operations Center (NEOC)

The NEOC is the physical focal point for operational coordination during disasters. Managed by the NDRMO in Suva, the NEOC collects, analyzes, and disseminates information while coordinating response activities across government agencies, humanitarian organizations, and international partners. The NEOC maintains the national common operating picture, consolidates situational reports from divisional and district authorities, and manages resource requests. It serves as the primary interface between national authorities and external actors, including UN agencies, NGOs, foreign governments, and military partners.

Under the NEOC SOP, the NEOC may activate progressively based on the severity of the hazard. Depending on the circumstances, there may not be a need to fully activate the NEOC; for example, it will not fully activate if a disaster is limited to a small area or is of a limited scope.[191]

During routine monitoring periods, staffing remains limited and focused on information gathering and preparedness activities. As threats increase, staffing expands to include representatives from key ministries and agencies. During major disasters, the NEOC operates continuously and may include personnel from government ministries, the RFMF, the Fiji Police Force, the NFA, humanitarian organizations, and technical agencies.

Emergency Activation and Response Operations

Disaster response operations in Fiji begin well before hazard impacts occur. The FMS continuously monitors weather systems throughout the Southwest Pacific. It provides forecasts, advisories, and warnings to government authorities. When a tropical disturbance or other hazard poses a credible threat to Fiji, the NDRMO initiates enhanced monitoring and begins coordinating preparedness activities with relevant agencies. A National State of Disaster may be declared by the Cabinet on the advice of the NDRMC before or after impact.

The NEOC activates progressively using a four-tier color-coded system:

- Alert (White) – NEOC is on standby and disseminates information on disaster threat and action to be taken. The Emergency Committee will convene to review response preparedness arrangements.
- Warning (Yellow) – NEOC is activated

with minimal staff to monitor the situation. This level may reflect situations where an emergency is limited to a small area or is of a limited scope.
- Action (Red) – NEOC is fully activated to prepare to respond to disaster. The NEOC is on 24-hour operations.
- Step Down (Green) – The National Controller declares that the emergency operation and associated activities can be terminated.[192]

During a declared State of Disaster, all government ministries and departments become subordinate to the National Controller and execute pre-defined roles as laid out in the National DRM Plan. This integration extends formally to FRCS and NGOs, such as members of the FCOSS. All NGO assistance must be coordinated through the official government-led system to ensure aid is distributed equitably and according to national priorities.

Full activation generally occurs when significant impacts are anticipated or have already occurred. At that stage, the NEOC is staffed on a 24-hour basis by the NDRMO and government agencies. The NEOC operates continuously and begins coordinating national response activities. When activated, the NEOC's Operations Room Team works on 8-hour shifts. The team is comprised of 13 officers from various Ministries and agencies; it includes a team leader, planning officer/deputy team leader, two recorders (clerical officer or equivalent level), technical support staff, general support staff, information media liaison officer, displays officer, skilled personnel (from RFMF, FRCS, and Police), plotting officer and radio operator (Fiji Navy provides skilled personnel), telephone/fax operator, RFMF DSLO, and a Police DSLO.[193] Figure 10 shows the flow of emergency response operations.

Key Civilian First Responders

Beyond the administrative coordination of the NDRMO and NEOC, immediate tactical response relies on the Fiji Police Force and the NFA, both of which serve as the government's

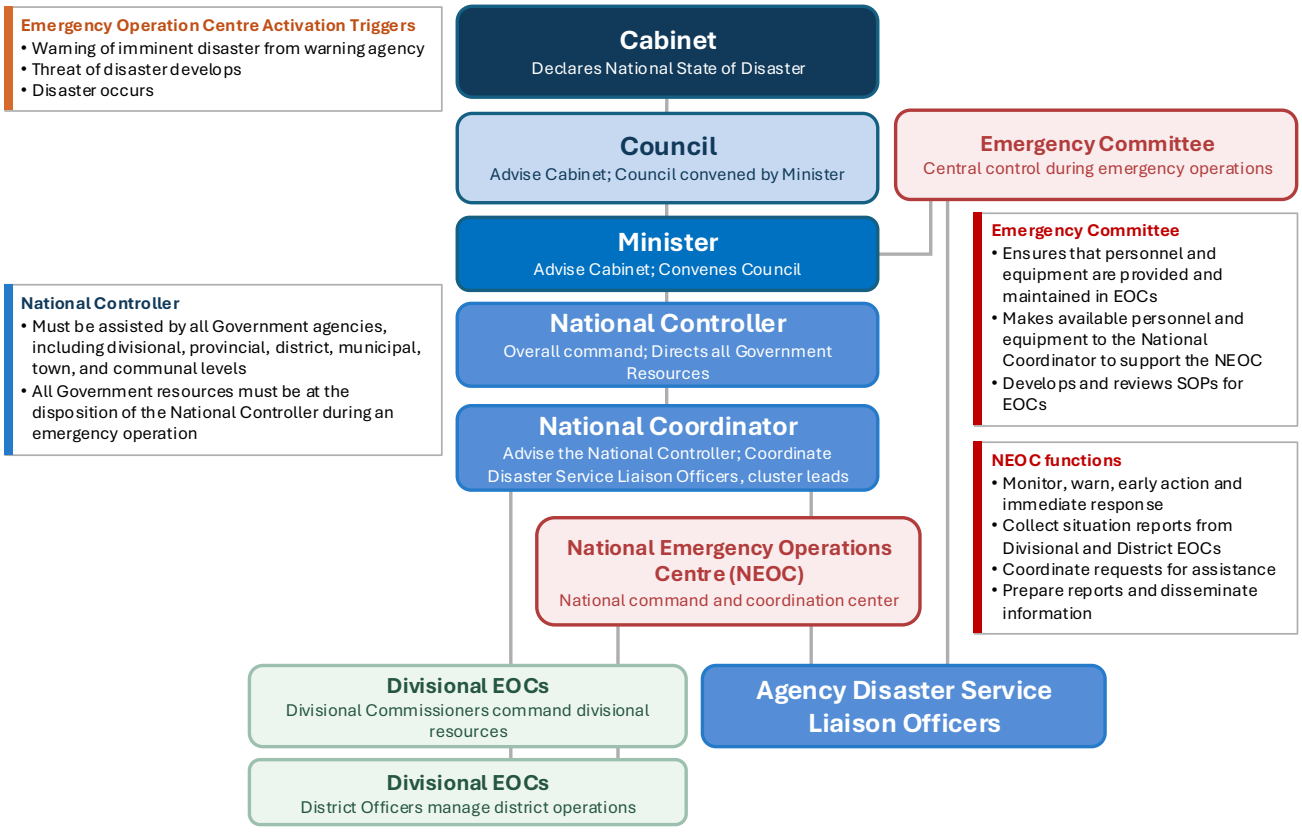


Figure 10: Emergency Response Operations

primary civilian first responders. Under the NDRMA, the Commissioner of Police and the Chief Executive Officer of the NFA hold permanent statutory seats on the NDRMC and Emergency Committee. During a declared disaster, both agencies deploy dedicated DSLOs to the NEOC to maintain a unified common operating picture.

The Police Force's primary responsibilities during a disaster include maintaining law and order, controlling traffic to keep evacuation and supply routes open, and securing evacuated areas. When a State of Disaster is declared, the National Controller is granted the authority to restrict public movement and mandate evacuations and relies on police to enforce these directives. Additionally, the police are tasked with supporting localized land-based search and rescue operations.

The NFA's primary disaster response roles center on immediate urban search and rescue including the rescue of people trapped in collapsed buildings, vehicle wreckages, or hazardous environments, alongside their traditional duties of fire suppression and the containment of hazardous materials. The NFA also has a critical early recovery function – utilizing their high-pressure pumps and tenders to wash down and clear hazardous debris from essential public facilities to facilitate the rapid restoration of essential services.

To address the growing complexities of urban disasters, NFA's operational capabilities are continuously modernized through international partnerships. Notably, in April 2025, it formalized a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Taiwan's National Fire Agency.[194] This agreement established a formal plan for long-term collaboration[195] and to enhance Fiji's emergency medical services.[196]

Coordination Mechanisms

To prevent operational duplication, prevent the siloing of resources, and ensure a unified national response, the government enforces highly structured coordination mechanisms across the civil service and the international humanitarian community. The NDRMA established several committees and systems to ensure effective coordination across all sectors and levels of government, from the DRR and Emergency Committees to the DSLO System, to the Fiji Cluster System, then down to committees at the subnational level.[197]

The DSLO system was first established in 1995, and this mechanism requires every government ministry and key agency to appoint a senior DSLO. This officer serves as the single point of contact between their agency and the NDRMO, ensures their agency's internal plans align with national directives, reports on available resources, and facilitates the smooth flow of information and directives during an emergency.

While the DSLO system coordinates action within government, inter-agency and non-governmental coordination is primarily managed through the Fiji Cluster System. The Fiji National Clusters were adopted in December 2012, in response to TC Evan. There are currently nine clusters: Logistics; Food Security and Livelihood; Communications; Safety and Protection; Infrastructure; Health and Nutrition; WASH; Education; and Shelter.[198]

In Fiji, the clusters are led by the relevant government ministry and co-led by an international partner (such as a UN agency or NGO)[199] to coordinate humanitarian actors within specified sectors from the national level to the community level.[200] It also solicits resources to support the implementation of priorities approved by the Council. This structure ensures an organized and accountable response that leverages the expertise of all partners while preventing the duplication of effort. Ministries maintain leadership roles for their respective sectors and work closely with UN agencies, NGOs, and technical partners. This arrangement reinforces national ownership of disaster response operations while ensuring that international support is aligned with government priorities.

Figure 11 shows a visual breakdown of Fiji's National Cluster System.[201]

To ensure that disaster relief operations remain transparent, targeted, and directly

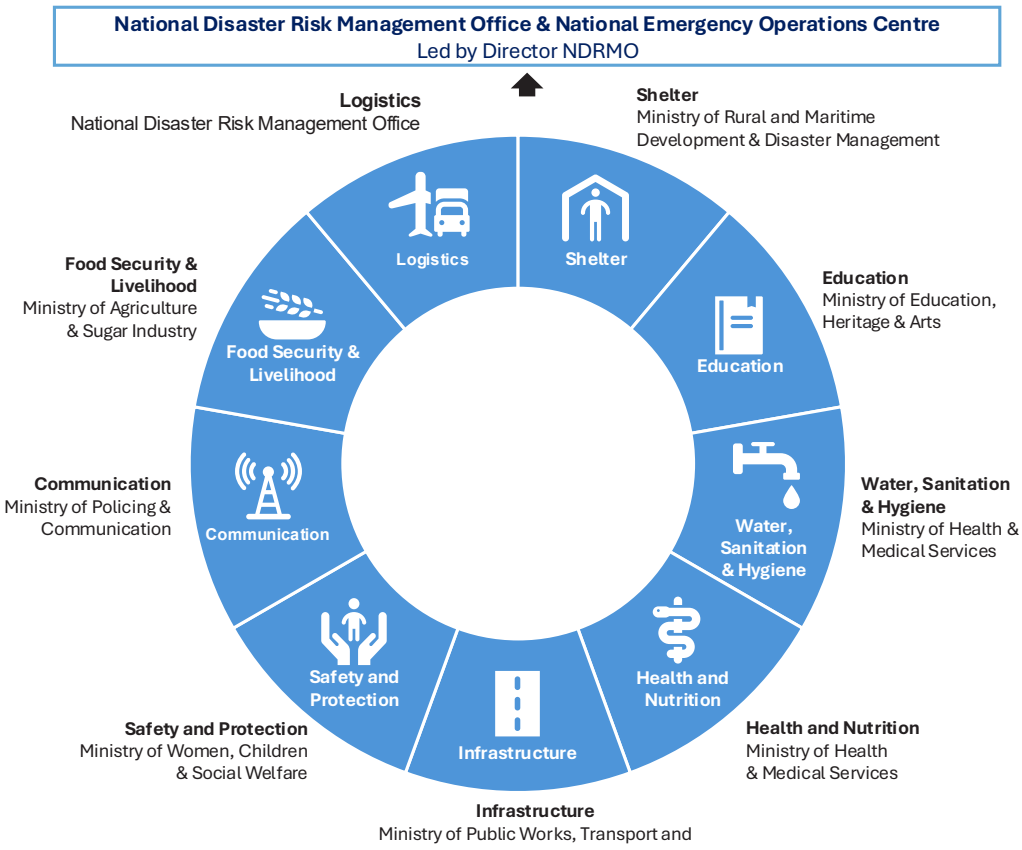


Figure 11: Fiji's National Cluster System

responsive to the experiences of affected populations, Fiji's coordination framework integrates a robust National Community Feedback and Complaint Mechanism. Led by the FCOSS, the national umbrella body for civil society organizations (CSO). This collective mechanism bridges the gap between grassroots communities and national-level responders. By gathering real-time feedback and grievances directly from hazard-affected populations, FCOSS produces localized situational reports that inform humanitarian partners of immediate gaps in aid delivery. Community members and humanitarian actors can log complaints or request urgent intervention via the dedicated FCOSS hotline (1414), ensuring that contributions reach the right people at the right time.[202]

Requests for International Assistance

The GoF maintains primary responsibility for disaster response and requests international assistance only when national capabilities are exceeded. When significant capability gaps are identified, the National Controller recommends that the Government seek external assistance.

These requests are coordinated through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and formally communicated to bilateral partners, regional organizations, UN agencies, and international humanitarians. The National Controller then coordinates consultations with donor countries to outline specific relief and recovery requirements. Once international assistance is triggered, coordination among the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT), the UNRC, and national response systems is initiated.

To ensure rapid support, Fiji utilizes long-standing bilateral agreements with traditional allies, such as Australia and New Zealand. These arrangements allow Fiji to rapidly mobilize emergency response funds directly through their respective embassies in Suva.[203]

Subnational and Local Implementation

While DRM policy and strategic direction are established at the national level, tactical

implementation occurs through a nested network of subnational divisional administrations, district offices, municipal councils, provincial institutions, and community organizations. This system is designed to bridge strategic directives with localized execution to ensure a whole-of-society approach. It formalizes a clear chain of command that cascades from the national level to community-based first responders and integrates government agencies, traditional leadership, and humanitarian partners into a single, unified operational structure. Figure 12 shows the chain of command from national to Division, Province, District, and Municipal and traditional levels.

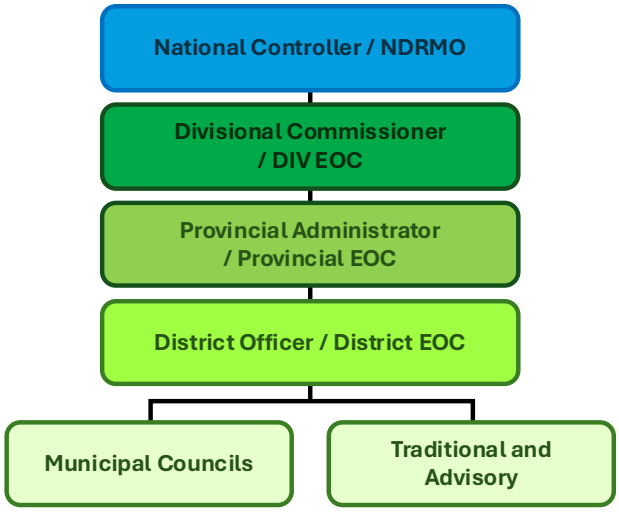


Figure 12: Subnational and Local Implementation

The system relies heavily on local authorities and community networks during the initial stages of an emergency. Following major disasters, communities are frequently the first responders, district and divisional authorities provide the first organized government response, and national resources are subsequently deployed to support local efforts. This model is particularly important in remote maritime areas where transportation disruptions may delay external assistance for several days.

Divisional Administration

Led by the Divisional Commissioner, the divisional level represents the primary subnational operational hub within Fiji's DRM framework. Fiji is organized into four administrative divisions: Central, Eastern, Northern, and Western. Each Division is led by a senior civil servant called the Commissioner, who is appointed by the central government.

During a declared disaster, the Divisional Commissioner serves as the operational commander for their division and possesses delegated powers equivalent to those of the National Controller for the control of divisional emergency operations.[204] Divisional Commissioners are subordinate to the National Controller, the NDRMC, and the National Emergency Committee.

Each Divisional Commissioner and their staff are responsible for the Divisional EOCs (Div EOC). Under the NDRMA, the Divisional Commissioners are responsible for establishing subnational EOCs at the divisional, provincial, and district levels; an EOC may be established at the municipal level by special administrators or in consultation with the Divisional Commissioner and the National Coordinator or at the community level by the Turaga ni koro or Advisory Councilor in consultation with the Divisional Commissioner and the National Coordinator.[205] During emergency operations, the Divisional Commissioner activates the Div EOC for 24-hour operations to monitor the situation, direct departmental resources, and transmit consolidated situation reports (SITREP) to the NEOC.

Mandated by the NDRMA, Divisional DRM Offices were established as a suboffice of the NDRMO. These offices manage daily DRM, DRR, and multi-hazard early warning and early activation systems under the direction of a Divisional DRM Officer.[206] The Divisional DRM Officer will liaise with the National Coordinator to advise Divisional Commissioners on matters related to DRM, DRR, and a multi-hazard approach.

The NDRMA also directs each Divisional Commissioner to establish a Divisional DRM Committee to implement the NDRMC's policies at the subnational level. The Divisional DRM Committee also supports NDRMO's community-based DRM training and capacity building; implements DRM Plans; facilitates

immediate relief assistance to affected people; organizes damage assessments and submits them to the NEOC; and coordinates with the National Coordinator on relief and rehabilitation efforts at the subnational level. The Divisional DRM Committee includes the Divisional Commissioner, Divisional Planning Officer, Divisional DRM Officer, Divisional heads of government departments, representative of the Municipalities, FRCS, Divisional Council of Social Services, and representatives from vulnerable groups.[207] Planning at this level is integrative; the Divisional Commissioner, supported by a Divisional DRM Officer, develops a Divisional DRM Plan that aggregates contributions from all subordinate agencies and levels.

Emergency Operations

If a localized emergency escalates, the Divisional Commissioner communicates the situation to the National Coordinator, who briefs the National Controller and the Minister, who convenes a meeting of the NDRMC for a decision before advising the Cabinet on the need for a national disaster declaration. The Divisional Commissioner can initiate an emergency operation in one or more Districts or in the entire Division. They will then assume responsibility for coordination and control of the emergency operation by directing departments to make government resources available and requesting supplies, equipment, and personnel from the National Controller. The Divisional Commissioner will also convene the Divisional DRM Council to coordinate and direct emergency operations. Unlike the national-level NDRMC who oversees all disaster operations of the National Controller and NDRMO, the Divisional DRM Committee is subordinate to the Division Commissioner.[208]

Operating directly under the Divisional administration, the Provincial and District levels serve as the frontline for coordination and immediate relief. Provincial Administrators and District Officers are tasked with managing disaster activities within their respective jurisdictions, including the provision of immediate relief assistance at designated evacuation centers. While they hold operational control, they remain subordinate to the Divisional Commissioner's command.

Provincial and District Disaster Management

The Provincial Administrator is mandated to draft and regularly review a Provincial DRM Plan that consolidates localized plans submitted by each District Officer and government agencies within the province. Once finalized, the Provincial DRM Plan is submitted to the Divisional Commissioner for inclusion in the Divisional DRM Plan.

During a crisis, the Provincial Administrator activates the Provincial EOC and chairs the Provincial DRM Committee, which includes local District Officers, heads of government departments, and the Roko Tui (the executive head of the provincial council), who serves as the Deputy Chairperson to ensure alignment with traditional iTaukei provincial governance. The Provincial DRM Committee mirrors the divisional structure and positions the Provincial Administrator as a primary coordinator for key provincial stakeholders.

Traditional governance structures continue to shape community decision-making throughout much of the country, particularly within iTaukei communities. Provincial Administrations, traditional leaders, and community representatives frequently assist government authorities with public outreach, dissemination of warnings, identification of vulnerable populations, and coordination of relief activities. These institutions also provide important channels for communication between communities and government agencies. Roko Tui serve as Deputy Chairperson of the Provincial Committee.

District authorities support preparedness activities, facilitate dissemination of warnings, coordinate local assessments, and assist with evacuation and relief efforts. During emergencies, they provide situational updates to divisional authorities and help identify vulnerable populations, infrastructure damage, and urgent humanitarian needs. Their local

knowledge and established relationships with community leaders often make them critical sources of information during rapidly evolving situations.

The District Officer is the primary tactical actor responsible for executing evacuations, establishing local emergency communications, and deploying local first responders. During a declared emergency, all government resources, personnel, and agency assets within a district are placed under the direct command of the District Officer. This unified command overrides normal departmental silos to streamline the localized response. While the District Officer possesses significant autonomy to execute immediate life-saving operations, they must report directly to the Provincial Administrator and Divisional Commissioner to request operational reinforcements.

Key responsibilities of the District Officer include:

- Drafting and maintaining a District DRM Plan that synthesizes plans developed by Municipal and Community DRM Committees
- Commanding the District EOC to manage search and rescue, coordinate localized evacuations, and compile detailed SITREPs
- Collecting, verifying, and synthesizing localized damage reports from community leaders within 48 hours of disaster impact to guide regional and national aid prioritization[209]

Nine remote district EOCs in Fiji's Northern Division have strengthened their disaster communication capabilities with the installation of new HF radios, funded by the Japanese Government. These HF radios – operating across Labasa, Seqaqa, Lekutu, Kubulau, Nabouwalu, Saqani, Tukavesi, Savusavu, and Taveuni – address previous communication failures experienced during events such as TC Yasa, when major infrastructure was damaged. HF radio is critical in disaster response because it remains operational even when traditional networks fail.[210]

The importance of municipal DM has increased as urban populations have grown and informal settlements have expanded around Lautoka, Nadi, Nasinu, Suva, and other urban centers. Municipal authorities oversee services and infrastructure that are directly relevant to emergency operations; some examples include drainage systems, local roads, waste management, building regulation, public facilities, and urban planning.

Fiji's DRM framework heavily emphasizes grassroots and urban engagement to ensure resilience programs reach the most vulnerable populations. Municipal DRM Committees, chaired by municipal council heads, tailor disaster preparedness and response to urban environments. They develop municipal plans that feed directly into broader District and Division plans. The membership of Municipal DRM Committees includes the head of the municipal council, a representative of the Business Houses, a representative of the FRCS, a representative of NGOs, and representatives of vulnerable groups.[211]

Because over 80% of Fiji's land is held under customary ownership, traditional governance is not only cultural, but it is an operational necessity for disaster response. Indigenous iTaukei communities are organized under the Vanua (a hierarchical structure connecting people, land, and custom) and divided into Mataqali (clans) and Yavusa (tribes). At the village level, the Turaga ni Koro (also known as village mayor) serves as one of the most important local actors. In indigenous iTaukei villages, the Turaga ni Koro acts as the official, government-salaried administrative liaison. Working in consultation with hereditary chiefs and elders, they communicate early warnings, report immediate disaster impacts, coordinate evacuations, and manage village-level relief.

In non-indigenous, rural, and farming communities, appointed Advisory Councilors serve as the primary administrative link to the District Officer.

At the grassroots level, Community DRM Committees merge modern administrative needs with traditional leadership to manage localized risks. These committees are uniquely structured

to reflect local governance, led by the Turaga ni Koro in iTaukei communities and Advisory Councilors in other communities.[212] In times of crisis, community leaders can establish a Community EOC to manage localized emergency operations and interface with higher-level response efforts. Figure 13, adapted from the NDRMA shows the relationships between national, division, province, district, municipal, and community levels of committees and EOCs.[213]

NGOs are highly valued contributors to Fiji's subnational operations. The NDRMA mandates that FRCS and NGO representatives hold formal seats on the Divisional, Provincial, and District DRM Committees to ensure civil society has a direct voice in localized preparedness and response planning.

During an active emergency, the guiding operational principle is strict subordination to the government's command structure. NGOs do not operate independently; their personnel and resources fall under the direction of the designated government disaster controller, such as the District Officer or Divisional Commissioner.

Civil-Military Coordination in Disaster Response

Civil-military coordination is a critical component of Fiji's disaster management architecture. The country's dispersed archipelago, reliance on maritime transportation, and exposure to natural hazards create operational demands that frequently overwhelm local civilian capacities. During major crises, the RFMF, alongside the Fiji Police Force, NFA, and international military partners provide the heavy logistics, engineering, and rapid mobility required to save lives. For international responders, understanding Fiji's coordination framework is essential; military assets operate strictly in support of civilian government priorities and are integrated through established national mechanisms, rather than operating parallel command structures.

Civil-military coordination occurs entirely within the broader framework laid out in the NDRMA and consistent with international best practice. When a disaster strikes, the NEOC serves as the principal hub where military and civilian actors exchange information,

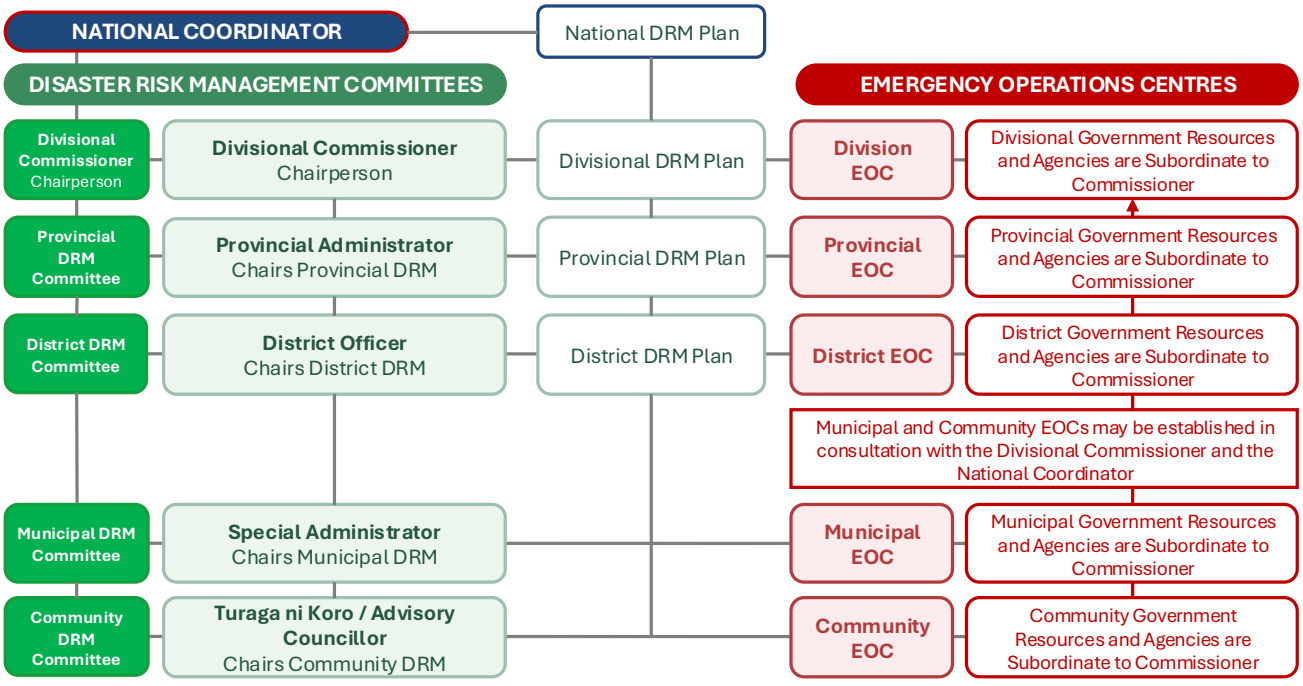


Figure 13: Subnational Disaster Risk Management Coordination

identify capability gaps, prioritize resources, and conduct joint operational planning. During major emergencies, military liaison officers are embedded directly into these coordination structures to facilitate real-time communication, ensuring that military deployments remain aligned with national priorities and strict humanitarian objectives.

Under the 2013 Constitution, the RFMF is mandated to "ensure at all times the security, defense, and well-being of Fiji and all Fijians."[214] Civilian authorities control the RFMF, which reports to the Minister for Defense and Veterans' Affairs. The Fijian President acts as the commander-in-chief and appoints the RFMF's commander on the advice of the Constitutional Offices Commission.[215]

Although the RFMF's primary mission is national security and defense, disaster response and humanitarian assistance have become increasingly important components of its operational responsibilities. The GoF's National Development Plan directs that in addition to traditional security challenges, holistic security means protecting Fijians from environmental risks and natural disasters.[216] Fiji's National Security Strategy 2025-2029 includes as a core priority a focus on addressing the impacts of climate change and to be ready not just to respond, but to anticipate, prevent, and build resilience.[217] Furthermore, a 2024 National Security and Defence Review recommended amendments to the RFMF Act of 1949 to improve civilian oversight and interagency coordination, enabling lawful and coordinated military support during national emergencies.[218]

The RFMF's domestic disaster operations are executed through the Joint Task Force Command (JTFC), which coordinates directly with the NDRMO. The RFMF Land Force Command assists in disaster response, while the Maritime Command maintains some key capabilities. The RFMF Force Development and Strategic Planning Directorate works on policy development.[219] The RFMF possesses capabilities that are essential when civilian infrastructure is damaged, including ground transportation assets, combat engineering support, secure communications, and command-and-control structures capable of operating in austere environments.

Fiji's maritime environment presents unique access challenges, as numerous communities are located on islands accessible only by sea. The Republic of Fiji Navy (RFN) provides indispensable capabilities for maritime disaster response. Headquartered at the multi-agency Vuvale Maritime Essential Services Centre,[220] RFN assets include patrol vessels (such as the RFNS Savenaca and RFNS Tino), navy divers, and Search and Rescue (SAR) Air Riders.[221] RFN vessels patrolling Fiji's maritime domain have the capability to anchor along the coastlines of remote rural areas to execute evacuations, coastal damage assessments, and the resupply of isolated maritime populations.[222]

The practical application of these capabilities is visible across Fiji's history of major disasters:

- TC Winston (2016): Military resources enabled a rapid scaling-up of response operations far in advance of what civilian capabilities alone could achieve, including the coordination of foreign military assets.[223]
- TCs Yasa, Ana, and Bina (2020/2021): RFMF engineers deployed alongside the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and French Armed Forces in New Caledonia to rehabilitate 29 schools in the Northern Division. Concurrently, RFN divers facilitated the transport of personnel across flooded flats, and the RFNS Savenaca delivered emergency food and sanitary supplies to families on Naqelelevu Island. [224]
- TC Urmil (2026): The JTFC deployed teams to clear debris at the Loloma Home in Nadi, clean classrooms alongside the NFA at Votua Catholic School in Ba and conduct vital road clearance operations in the Central Division to restore access for emergency services.[225]

To ensure seamless integration, the NDRMO and RFMF collaborate ahead of disasters. For example, in November 2025, the NDRMO conducted a focused 2-day training and awareness program for the RFMF JTFC. It aimed to strengthen operational

readiness and reinforce JTFC's ability to support national response efforts. The training covered provisions in the NDRMA, the Fiji Incident Management System, and civil-military coordination. Participants also gained insights into IDAs, relief interventions, and distribution procedures.[226] The RFMF JTFC and RFN also participated in 2023 National Disaster Awareness Week (NDAW) Simulation Exercise (SIMEX), which tested tsunami and earthquake preparedness and emergency operation procedures. In addition to planning and executing operations during the SIMEX, the RFMF JTFC was also tasked with coordinating foreign military assistance.[227] Photo 3 shows the RFMF JTFC participating in the 2023 NDAW SIMEX.[228]

Foreign military assistance is requested through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in consultation with the NDRMO and National Controller, only after domestic capability gaps are verified. Upon arrival, foreign forces are coordinated with national authorities through the NEOC, NDRMO, and relevant RFMF liaison arrangements. This approach helps maintain national ownership of disaster response activities while ensuring that specialized military capabilities are used effectively and in accordance with humanitarian principles.



Photo 3: Armed Forces Participate in Disaster Week Exercise

A range of multilateral agreements allow for regional operational cooperation on disaster response; for example, the FRANZ Arrangement among France, Australia, and New Zealand allows the signatory states to coordinate civilian and military responders.[229] To ensure the rapid deployment of foreign military assets during crises, Fiji has proactively strengthened its international military partnerships:

- Blackrock Camp: Redeveloped with a US$6.7 million investment under the Australian Government's Pacific Step-up program,[230] the Headquarters JTFC at Blackrock Camp in Nadi serves as the premier regional hub for peacekeeping and disaster response. It features a HADR warehouse, Level 1+ hospital, UN standby arrangement facilities, and rapid response capabilities.
- Status of Forces Agreements (SOFA): Fiji signed reciprocal SOFAs with Australia[231] and New Zealand[232] in 2022. These agreements dramatically streamline immigration, customs, and civil/criminal jurisdiction, and they allow Australian and New Zealand forces (including Royal Australian Navy amphibious vessels and Air Force strategic airlift) with an established legal framework that can facilitate the rapid entry and operation of forces once assistance has been requested and deployment approved.
- Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA): In 2024, the U.S. and Fiji formalized an ACSA at Blackrock Camp. This critical logistics agreement facilitates the reciprocal exchange of fuel, supplies, and services and drastically enhances joint readiness during major regional emergencies.[233]
- Bilateral Equipment Grants: In 2026, the Japanese Government bolstered the RFMF's medical response capabilities with a US$2.4 million equipment grant, providing advanced ambulances, medical field tents, and defibrillators to the JTFC.[234]

Australia, France, and New Zealand have historically been among Fiji's most important military partners during disaster response operations. These countries have regularly provided aircraft, naval vessels, engineering teams, and logistical support following major emergencies. In July 2025, the JTFC participated in a joint exercise with French Armed Forces, New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF), and ADF across Viti Levu and the Yasawa islands corridor. The exercise brought together regional and local partners to train JTFC staff in planning and executing disaster response operations to enhance civil-military collaboration, interoperability, and collaborative planning, and strengthen the RFMF's role in responding to disasters.[235]

Fiji is not merely a recipient of international aid; it is an increasingly capable regional contributor of disaster relief across the South Pacific. The RFMF's Strategic Plan Beyond 2022 explicitly prioritized the establishment of a fully deployable regional response capability. This mandate has been repeatedly exercised: the RFMF deployed engineering and medical platoons to Australia during 2020 bushfires,[236] to Tonga following the 2022 volcanic eruption and tsunami,[237] and to Vanuatu following a 7.4-Mw earthquake in 2024.[238]

This commitment to regional resilience culminated in the formation of the Pacific Response Group (PRG), an initiative of the South Pacific Defence Minister's Meeting (SPDMM). The PRG is a standing multinational coordination/support arrangement, uniting forces from Australia, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and Tonga. The PRG co-locate during the high-risk weather season with a small rapidly deployable team available to support civilian authorities in an affected state to plan a disaster response and identify potential military follow-on tasks.[239] By training and deploying as a unified block, the PRG leverages not only combined military logistics but also the shared cultural experiences and nuances of Pacific nations to ensure that regional disaster response is not operationally overwhelming and is deeply culturally integrated.[240]

Effective civil-military coordination in Fiji requires all responding foreign and domestic military forces to strictly observe the foundational humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence. Central to the preservation of these principles is the concept of "Do No Harm." Adapted from the medical Hippocratic Oath into the humanitarian sector, this imperative dictate that responders must critically examine their operations to anticipate, mitigate, and negate any unintentional negative consequences of their assistance.[241] If military relief pipelines are deployed without a localized understanding of these social dynamics, they risk inadvertently bypassing the most vulnerable or creating secondary conflicts over resources.[242]

International / Regional Organizations

As the diplomatic, economic, and logistics hub of the South Pacific, Fiji is deeply integrated into the global humanitarian and development architecture. The GoF engages proactively with international organizations, UN agencies, and regional Pacific bodies to augment its domestic capacity. Fiji aligns its national policies with global risk reduction standards while simultaneously acting as a vocal advocate for Pacific Island nations on the world stage, particularly regarding the nexus of climate change and natural hazards.

Global Frameworks and Commitments

Fiji's domestic disaster policies – e.g., the National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy (2018-2030), the National Development Plan 2025-2029, and Vision 2050 – are explicitly designed to implement international best practices and global agreements. The country is a signatory to several foundational global frameworks:

- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015–2030): Fiji's National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy (2018–2030) serves as the localized implementation of the Sendai Framework. It codifies the shift from reactive disaster response to proactive

risk management, mandating the integration of DRR across all government sectors and development planning.

- Sustainable Development Goals (SDG): Fiji aligned its National Development Plan 2025–2029 with the UN's 2030 Agenda, recognizing that eradicating poverty (SDG 1), ensuring clean water (SDG 6), and taking climate action (SDG 13) are intrinsic to reducing disaster vulnerability.
- SAMOA Pathway (2014): As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), Fiji operates under the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, which recognizes the unique vulnerabilities of these states to external economic shocks and natural disasters, and prioritizes international finance and technical capacity-building for island nations.[243]

Regional Frameworks and Organizations

The regional system combines Pacific-led organizations, UN agencies, bilateral partners, and humanitarian actors into a network designed to support national governments during emergencies while respecting national sovereignty and leadership. Fiji is a major participant in this architecture and frequently hosts regional planning meetings, training activities, exercises, and humanitarian coordination initiatives.

Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)

The PIF plays an increasingly important role in regional disaster response coordination. In recent years, Forum members have sought to strengthen Pacific-led crisis response mechanisms capable of supporting member states during disasters and other emergencies.

At the regional level, Fiji's strategic alliances are anchored within the PIF's political architecture, specifically through the Biketawa and Boe Declarations. The Biketawa Declaration, established in 2000, provides the regional security framework for collective Pacific action during crises, historically invoked to coordinate regional military and police interventions, but increasingly adapted to manage climate-induced security threats and coordinate regional humanitarian response. This regional solidarity was modernized through the 2018 Boe Declaration on Regional Security, which redefined security in the Pacific to place climate change as the single greatest threat to regional survival. Action to implement the Boe Declaration works to align Pacific military, intelligence, and disaster response agencies to create unified regional positions on climate security, maritime border protection, and joint resource management.[244]

The Pacific Community (SPC)

SPC is one of the most important technical organizations supporting DRM in the Pacific Islands region. Headquartered in Nouméa with a significant regional presence in Suva, SPC provides scientific, technical, and operational support to Pacific Island governments across a wide range of sectors relevant to disaster management.[245]

SPC plays a leading role in DRR, geospatial information management, risk assessment, climate resilience, emergency communications, and humanitarian coordination support. Through its Geoscience, Energy and Maritime Division (GEM), SPC assists governments with hazard monitoring, disaster preparedness planning, post-disaster needs assessments, and recovery planning. The organization also maintains regional technical expertise that can be deployed in support of national response operations.

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

SPREP champions ecosystem-based adaptation to mitigate disaster risks. It focuses on nature-based solutions, such as restoring coastal mangrove forests to act as natural storm-surge buffers, and supports the FMS in upgrading its long-term climate projections.

University of the South Pacific (USP)

The USP functions as a key research and capacity-building partner. Through its Pacific Centre for Environment and

Sustainable Development, the university conducts specialized research on local climate change impacts. Concurrently, its geography departments and student networks frequently support Fiji's NDRMO in ground-truthing satellite data and mapping hazard exposures within dense, informal urban settlements.

Frameworks and Initiatives

Fiji is embedded within a broader Pacific regional framework that has evolved significantly over the past two decades. This framework reflects the reality that many Pacific Island countries face similar hazard profiles, limited response capacities, and shared logistical challenges. Regional cooperation therefore plays an important role in strengthening preparedness and facilitating collective responses to large-scale emergencies.

Recent reforms have increasingly emphasized Pacific-led response mechanisms, reflecting a broader effort to strengthen regional ownership and reduce reliance on ad-hoc international arrangements. Fiji utilizes several multilateral platforms to coordinate mutual aid and pool regional resources:

- 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent: Serving as the overarching strategic roadmap for the region, this framework identifies climate change and associated natural disasters as the greatest threat to Pacific security and livelihoods. It emphasizes Pacific regionalism, collective action, sovereignty, and Pacific-led approaches. It requires regional resilience-building efforts and ensures that foreign interventions strengthen local and sovereign capacities.[246]
- Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP) 2017–2030: An integrated regional framework that provides high-level strategic guidance to different stakeholder groups on how to enhance resilience to climate change and disasters. Fiji uses the FRDP to harmonize its national climate adaptation strategies with neighboring Pacific Island countries.[247]
- Pacific Humanitarian Warehousing Program (PHWP): This initiative was designed to overcome the geographic and transportation bottlenecks faced by Pacific Island countries. By establishing a decentralized network of disaster response warehouses, the program prepositions essential humanitarian supplies and non-food items closer to vulnerable populations. Prepositioning reduces response times and enables host nations to launch immediate, autonomous relief.[248]
- Pacific Resilience Facility (PRF): Fiji is a key proponent of this regional financing mechanism. The PRF is designed to provide rapid, accessible disaster support funding directly to Pacific communities and bypassing the traditionally slow bureaucratic hurdles of global climate finance institutions. In May 2026, Australia and Fiji ratified the Pacific Resilience Facility Treaty, paving the way for the initial call for proposals.[249]
- Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility (PRFCM): Endorsed by PIF Leaders in 2023, PRFCM provides a regional guide for addressing climate-related migration, displacement, planned relocation, and staying in place. It promotes a rights-based, people-centered, and culturally appropriate approach to climate mobility across the Pacific. The framework recognizes that climate challenges are affecting people's ability to remain in their homes and seeks to protect human rights, livelihoods, culture, and identity. It also supports regional cooperation while respecting national sovereignty and Pacific values. Fiji and Tuvalu were the Co-Chairs that oversaw the development and endorsement of the Framework.[250]
- Pacific Humanitarian Response Coordination Mechanism (PResCOM): Endorsed by Pacific disaster ministers, PResCoM is a virtual, "on-request" regional coordination hub managed by SPC to support civilian-led disaster

responses. It is designed to augment, rather than replace, national capacities by coordinating international humanitarian assistance, logistics, and supply chains directly through the host nation's National Disaster Management Office. Core partners, including Australia, New Zealand, SPC, and UN OCHA, work through this mechanism to ensure that incoming surge support is timely, respects national sovereignty, and aligns with localized plans.[251]

- Pacific Response Group (PRG): The PRG was endorsed at the 2024 SPDMM. It is the region's first formalized multinational military asset dedicated to disaster response and humanitarian assistance. The group comprises rapidly deployable specialist planners and military personnel from Fiji, Australia, France, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and Tonga. When requested by a disaster-affected nation, the PRG can provide vital civil-military coordination, integrated logistics, and specialized engineering support to assist civilian authorities in managing large-scale emergency responses.
- Weather Ready Pacific (WRP) Decadal Programme of Investment: Endorsed by the PIF Leaders at the 51st PIF Meeting in August 2021,[252] then subsequently endorsed by the Pacific Meteorological Ministers in August 2023. The WRP Decadal Programme of Investment is the key regional vehicle for implementing the UN Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative in the Pacific.[253]

United Nations

The UN maintains a significant presence in Fiji and serves as one of the most important international partners in disaster management. Several UN agencies maintain regional offices in Suva, making Fiji a major humanitarian coordination hub for the Pacific Islands region.

The UN supports Fiji across the full disaster management cycle, including mitigation, preparedness, emergency response, recovery, climate adaptation, and resilience-building. During major emergencies, UN agencies provide technical assistance and surge personnel, humanitarian supplies, information management support, and funding mechanisms that supplement national response efforts.

The presence of multiple regional UN offices in Fiji allows humanitarian resources and expertise to be mobilized rapidly following disasters both within Fiji and elsewhere in the Pacific.

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

UN OCHA serves as the primary UN agency responsible for humanitarian coordination. Through its Pacific office in Suva, OCHA supports preparedness planning, contingency planning, information management, humanitarian coordination, and emergency response throughout the region.

During disasters, OCHA assists governments and humanitarian partners by facilitating coordination among responding organizations, supporting information management activities, and helping mobilize international assistance when requested by affected states. The organization also supports humanitarian needs assessments, operational planning, and resource mobilization efforts.

In Fiji, OCHA works closely with the NDRMO, humanitarian partners, and regional organizations to strengthen preparedness and coordination mechanisms before disasters occur. During major emergencies, OCHA may deploy additional surge personnel and activate regional humanitarian support arrangements as required.

Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT)

The PHT is a regional coordination mechanism that brings together UN agencies, international NGOs, regional organizations, and humanitarian partners operating throughout the Pacific Islands region. The PHT has 10 cluster support teams working in different sectors and supports national clusters.

The PHT functions as the primary humanitarian coordination platform supporting Pacific governments during disasters. The

system mirrors many of the functions associated with global humanitarian coordination structures while adapting them to Pacific realities and national government leadership.

When major disasters occur, the PHT can mobilize technical expertise, coordinate humanitarian actors, support assessments, facilitate information sharing, and assist with resource mobilization. UN OCHA is the secretariat for PHT, and members include representatives of UN agencies, NGOs, and the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement through the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).[254]

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF's mission is to defend children's rights. It also provides development and humanitarian aid and has a multi-country headquarters based in Suva.[255] UNICEF integrates into Fiji's National Cluster System to support disaster response; it is a priority player in the protection and well-being of the most vulnerable, including children, pregnant women, and new mothers. Following TC Winston in 2016, UNICEF assisted with the rollout of child-friendly spaces in evacuation centers.[256] In 2017, Fiji's NDMO and UNICEF signed an agreement related to disaster management.[257] The signing initiated the use of the RapidPro platform to assist the Fijian government's efforts in DRM. RapidPro's applications, which are produced by UNICEF in partnership with universities and software creators, are constantly updated as new challenges emerge.[258]

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

IOM and GoF signed a Cooperation Agreement in 2015, and IOM established an office in Suva in 2017. IOM is working across Fiji to save lives and protect people on the move, drive solutions to displacement, and facilitate regular migration, including supporting efforts related to migration, disaster preparedness, and emergency response.

IOM leads the PHT's regional cluster on Evacuation Centre Management and Displacement and has global expertise on issues related to displacement management in humanitarian contexts, in addition to driving solutions to displacement. IOM plays a critical role in managing human mobility and displacement before, during, and after crises, including putting the safety, dignity, and protection of people first and reducing the risks and impacts of climate change, environmental degradation, and instability for communities affected by or at risk of displacement.

By utilizing its Displacement Tracking Matrix, IOM helps the NDRMO systematically monitor populations residing in temporary evacuation centers, assess the structural safety of these facilities, construct and retrofit evacuation centers, and track the long-term needs of communities facing planned relocation due to sea level rise and coastal erosion. IOM's Risk Index for Climate Displacement is implemented to help the government, and partners anticipate climate displacement by integrating macro-level hazard, exposure, and vulnerability data with micro-level, people-centered insights. These efforts are complemented by supporting early warning systems as well as displacement forecasting that supports anticipatory action, informed evacuation planning, targeted assistance, effective disaster response and as well as facilitating durable solutions, reliance and strengthened livelihoods.[259]

World Food Programme (WFP)

The WFP is an important operational partner within Fiji's DRM and emergency response architecture. WFP's multi-country office for the Pacific was established in Suva in late 2015. It is a presence that was rapidly solidified following the devastation of TC Winston in February 2016.[260]

At the core of WFP's operational mandate is its leadership of the Pacific Logistics Cluster regional leadership of the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster, and co-leadership of the Food Security Cluster (alongside the Food and Agriculture Organization). Domestically, it acts as a co-lead for the Fiji National Logistics Cluster. Leveraging its

global expertise in end-to-end supply chain management, WFP works to strengthen Fiji's domestic supply chains, preposition emergency stockpiles, and coordinate the transportation of life-saving cargo to remote islands when local commercial transport is severed.[261] WFP also collaborates with Fiji to strengthen adaptive social protection, focusing on anticipatory action frameworks and cash payouts.

Other Disaster Management Partners

While Fiji possesses a highly capable domestic response architecture, catastrophic hazard events frequently require the mobilization of a broad network of international and regional partners to augment sovereign capabilities. This DM support network is comprised of key bilateral partners, such as Australia, France, New Zealand, and the U.S., alongside Suva-based UN agencies and numerous local and international NGOs. When a disaster overwhelms domestic resources, the GoF formally initiates requests for international assistance through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, working in close coordination with the NDRMO to manage the influx of external aid.

Under the framework established by the NDRMA, the FRCS is legally recognized and explicitly designated as a primary response agency, auxiliary to national authorities. It is deeply integrated into the government's disaster management infrastructure as a member of the NDRMC.[262] The NDRMA also gives FRCS membership in the DRR Committee, Emergency Committee, Divisional DRM Committee, Provincial and District DRM Committees, and Municipal DRM Committee.

Fiji Red Cross Society

FRCS is part of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and is dedicated to delivering humanitarian support, emergency response, and essential services across Fiji. The FRCS utilizes its network of 16 branches and hundreds of trained volunteers to execute localized distributions before national relief supplies can arrive. The organization achieves this rapid response by managing 36 strategically positioned container sites fully stocked with essential non-food items, including heavy-duty tarpaulins, water purification tablets, and hygiene kits, while also providing community-level first aid and psychological support in the immediate aftermath of a crisis.[263]

Mechanisms for Coordinating International Assistance

The process of mobilizing international assistance begins with a formal recognition of need. Under the NDRMA, disaster governance is multi-tiered but strictly civilian-led. The National Coordinator, in consultation with Divisional Commissioners and the Fiji Cluster System, assesses the national response capacity and advises the NDRMC on whether external assistance is required. Offers of international assistance are directed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who consults with the NDRMC about accepting or declining offers. Registered humanitarian organizations notify the National Coordinator of contributions from their affiliated international organizations or members, and all donations must be reviewed before shipment to Fiji.[264]

Single Window International Facilitation Team (SWIFT)

To facilitate international assistance, the NDRMA created the SWIFT. This unit is designed to manage incoming external assistance by expediting customs clearances, tax exemptions, and logistics bottlenecks.

During a declared national disaster, the influx of international NGOs, UN agencies, and foreign militaries can quickly overwhelm local ports and administrative bodies. To manage this, Fiji activates SWIFT. Comprising representatives from Foreign Affairs, Customs, Immigration, Biosecurity, and Telecommunications, SWIFT serves as a one-stop clearinghouse for international responders. Possible facilities it executes include:

- Expedited customs clearance for disaster consignments
- Exemptions for customs duties, taxes, and

governmental fees on relief goods
- Temporary waivers of licensing requirements for emergency telecommunications equipment
- Priority bandwidth allocation and satellite access
- Waivers of standard quarantine requirements for international search and rescue dogs[265]

The Humanitarian Actors Registry and Cluster Interoperability

The 2024 Act set eligibility of an assisting international actor to include state or intergovernmental organizations whose offer of assistance is accepted by the Ministry responsible for foreign affairs and international or domestic NGOs declared eligible by the National Controller, with a Registry of Eligible Actors maintained and updated by the National Coordinator.[266] Once approved, international responders are fully integrated into the Fiji Cluster System.

To ensure accountability, the NDRMA mandates a Registry of Eligible Actors. International NGOs and intergovernmental organizations must be vetted and approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the National Controller before operating in disaster zones. Under the NDRMA, registered humanitarian organizations are designated as "Eligible Actors," a status that unlocks special SWIFT-coordinated legal facilities, including expedited border clearances and customs duty exemptions.

Multilateral Arrangements

The FRANZ Arrangement was established in 1992 and offers France, Australia, and New Zealand a mechanism for coordinating disaster response and relief in the Pacific.[267] The agreement establishes a framework for the three countries to coordinate their civilian and military responses to natural disasters when a disaster-affected Pacific Island partner country requests assistance. By dividing operational responsibilities, sharing meteorological and early warning data, and pooling physical assets, the FRANZ signatories prevent duplication of effort, optimize logistical footprints, and ensure a rapid, synchronized response to sudden-onset disasters across the region.[268]

The Quad Partnership for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) in the Indo-Pacific region brought together the foreign ministers of Australia, India, Japan, and the U.S. to activate the Quad Guidelines for HADR, a dedicated framework for coordinated humanitarian response in the region. Quad partners commit to responding only when requested by the affected state, coordinating through joint or individual support, and emphasizing respect for sovereignty and inclusion of vulnerable groups.[269]

Bilateral Partners

Bilateral partnerships are critical components of the logistics side of Fiji's international disaster response network. Rather than acting in isolation, sovereign partners deploy assets, personnel, and financial resources that are directly integrated into Fiji's domestic coordination mechanisms and subordinated to civilian authority.

Australia represents Fiji's most significant and heavily integrated bilateral disaster management partner, anchored by the comprehensive Vuvale Partnership. The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) coordinates extensive civilian and military deployments, working seamlessly with the ADF to provide heavy airlift, amphibious sealift, and engineering support during crises. Under a reciprocal SOFA signed in 2022, Australian military assets can bypass standard diplomatic delays to rapidly enter Fijian territory quickly after a disaster is declared.

Australia heavily underwrites Fiji's long-term preparedness, notably financing the redevelopment of Camp Blackrock into a premier regional humanitarian training hub. Concurrently, Australia's multi-year Disaster Resilience Program prepositions essential emergency relief supplies in Fiji's remote islands to ensure local populations have immediate access to life-saving materials following a cyclone. To bolster Australian capability to support regional disaster

preparedness and response, Fiji is also part of Australia's integrated deployable civilian capacity, Australia Assists. Australia Assists has over 750 skilled humanitarian experts able to work with overseas partners.

The Australian DFAT is the lead agency for managing and delivering Australian humanitarian and disaster management deployments and is responsible for coordinating participation in relief efforts by various Australian government agencies, including the ADF.[270] In 2025, Australia supported Fiji with a new Disaster Resilience Program that will run 2025-2029 and is aimed at strengthening DRR and humanitarian action. In August 2025, the Australian Deputy High Commissioner launched the next phase of the program and hand over humanitarian emergency relief supplies that will be prepositioned in Levuka to support humanitarian responses across the Lomaiviti Group.[271]

New Zealand maintains a deeply historical and highly operational disaster response relationship with Fiji. It is coordinated through New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Operating as a core pillar of the trilateral FRANZ Arrangement, the New Zealand Defence Force historically deployed its P-3 Orion and C-130 Hercules aircraft to conduct the critical initial aerial damage assessments required by the Fijian government in the immediate hours following a storm. New Zealand's response profile is characterized by the rapid deployment of multi-role naval vessels, specialized water purification teams, and emergency medical personnel. Solidified by a 2022 military cooperation agreement, New Zealand not only provides immediate post-disaster funding and tactical logistics but also collaborates extensively with the RFMF in peacetime to develop national maritime security strategies and enhance inter-agency disaster preparedness.

Japan has steadily elevated its DRM support to Fiji by formalizing the Japan-Fiji Lomavata Kizuna Partnership in 2025 to structure long-term strategic and defense cooperation.[272] Drawing on its own extensive domestic experience with seismic and meteorological hazards, Japan operates primarily through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to provide highly technical capacity-building and infrastructure grants. Following major disasters, Japan has donated millions of dollars in specialized, heavy-duty emergency equipment directly to the RFMF and the NFA. Concurrently, Japan invests heavily in proactive mitigation, funding vital upgrades to Fiji's hydrometeorological early warning systems to improve the tracking of tsunamis and severe tropical depressions.

The U.S. engages with Fiji's disaster response sector through a combination of civilian humanitarian funding and robust military-to-military interoperability. The U.S. State Department's Bureau of Disaster and Humanitarian Response (DHR) serves as the primary civilian conduit, providing immediate emergency funding to local and international NGOs operating on the ground following catastrophic storms. On the security front, the U.S. Department of War (DoW), specifically through US PACOM, conducts extensive capacity-building exercises and engineering projects with Fijian forces. This bilateral relationship was significantly deepened in 2024 with the signing of an ACSA at Camp Blackrock. The agreement establishes a formal logistical framework for the reciprocal exchange of fuel, supplies, and services and drastically enhances the ability of U.S. and Fijian forces to operate jointly during major regional disaster responses.[273]

Civil Society

Finally, CSOs provide the indispensable grassroots coordination required to deliver aid to the last mile.

Fiji Council of Social Services (FCOSS)

The FCOSS coordinates local community-based organizations through District DRM Committees. It acts as the umbrella body coordinating local NGOs and community-based groups across the archipelago. By establishing localized district committees that mirror the

government's administrative structure, the Council coordinates community-led rapid assessments. This ensures that highly granular, household-level data regarding vulnerable individuals – such as child-headed households or the isolated elderly – are fed directly into the NEOC, preventing marginalized pockets from being overlooked in state relief efforts.

Fiji Business Disaster Resilience Council (FBDRC)

The FBDRC integrates the private sector into the response architecture, coordinating with telecommunication firms, commercial banks, and logistics companies to donate transportation capacity and ensure business continuity for local economic recovery. It provides critical business continuity training to small and medium enterprises, which are vital for local economic recovery. During emergencies, the council partners with major local transport and logistics companies to donate trucking capacity, shipping space, and warehousing to support the national government's relief distribution pipelines.

Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises and Development (FRIEND)

In the realm of food security and long-term rehabilitation, the Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises and Development, commonly known as FRIEND,[274] is one of Fiji's most operationally impactful grassroots organizations. Headquartered in the disaster-prone Western Division, FRIEND possesses a sophisticated logistical network capable of packaging and distributing thousands of emergency food rations to communities isolated by floods or cyclones. Beyond immediate relief, FRIEND is a pioneer in sustainable livelihood restoration. Following major storms, the organization distributes specialized agricultural tools, organic seeds, and home-gardening kits to rural families in the sugarcane belt, and it helps them transition from acute dependency on government rations to sustainable, localized food production.

Women's Groups

Addressing the critical intersections of gender, protection, and human rights during humanitarian crises is a specialized network of feminist and women-led CSOs, including the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre (FWCC), the Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM), and FemLINKPacific. These organizations co-lead the national Gender-Based Violence in Emergencies sub-cluster alongside the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection. The FWCC and FWRM manage the national domestic violence helpline, provide rapid clinical and legal referrals, and conduct active protection monitoring in evacuation centers to mitigate the catastrophic post-disaster surges in intimate partner violence. Simultaneously, FemLINKPacific utilizes its regional community radio network, FemTALK 89.2FM, to broadcast critical climate change, weather alerts, and disaster preparedness information in local vernacular languages, amplifying the voices and leadership of rural women during emergency planning phases.

People Living with Disabilities

To guarantee that physical infrastructure is accessible to all, the Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation (FDPF) and the Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) work as critical technical advisors within the National Shelter Cluster. These organizations were instrumental in drafting the Fiji Shelter Handbook, a landmark document that codifies the standards for inclusive and accessible shelter planning. The FDPF and PDF ensure that evacuation centers are audited for accessibility barriers, and they advocate for the mandatory installation of ramps, handrails, well-lit segregated corridors, and accessible sanitation facilities. Through these efforts, these disability-advocacy groups ensure that the specific needs of people living with sensory, intellectual, and physical impairments are legally protected, challenging the paternalistic notion that they are passive victims, and instead positioning them as active designers of national resilience.

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Fiji's critical infrastructure serves as a vital lifeline for disaster response yet faces constant degradation from the archipelago's climate and rugged topography. While the national network is relatively extensive for a Pacific Island nation, the two international airports, several deep-water commercial seaports, and expanding telecommunications network are highly concentrated on the main islands of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu. Nadi International Airport and the deep-water Port of Suva act as the primary, high-capacity gateways for international entry and logistics nodes. From these hubs, emergency logistics move via a coastal highway system with single-lane bridges and unsealed rural feeder routes. Access to Fiji's outer islands depends on vulnerable jetties, domestic airstrips, and specialized shallow-draft vessels. While Fiji boasts a robust telecommunications capacity, TC winds can down cellular towers and power grids, temporarily blind the NEOC, and force responders to rely on redundant satellite and high-frequency (HF) radio networks to maintain public safety.

Transportation

Fiji's transportation network is a multimodal system of aviation, maritime, and road infrastructure essential for emergency logistics, population evacuation, and humanitarian access. The network's capacity relies heavily on critical international entry points, primarily Nadi International Airport and the deep-water ports of Suva and Lautoka, which capably accommodate strategic heavy-lift aircraft and large commercial cargo vessels. However, the system is highly vulnerable to impacts from extreme weather. Ground movement on Viti Levu depends on coastal highways, which are prone to floods, landslides, and blockages. Furthermore, reaching Fiji's inhabited outer islands requires transitioning from these primary hubs to short domestic airstrips, inter-island ferries, and exposed shallow-draft jetties. Rapid restoration of roads and maritime landings are a top priority after any disaster in the country.

Airports

Air transport plays an essential, time-critical role during the immediate aftermath of a disaster. Airports serve as the primary Aerial Ports of Debarkation (APOD) for international search and rescue teams, emergency medical personnel, and high-priority relief supplies. While air transport in Fiji is generally reliable year-round, heavy rainfall and TCs can severely impact operations. During a major crisis, designated airports may establish a Reception Departure Centre (RDC) to facilitate the rapid entry of humanitarian assets, manage customs and immigration clearances under the SWIFT mechanism, and minimize the operational bottleneck caused by a sudden influx of international responders.

The importance of aviation within Fiji cannot be overstated. Many communities in the Eastern Division, Lau Group, Kadavu, Rotuma, and other remote islands are separated by considerable distances and depend upon aviation for rapid transport of personnel, medical supplies, government services, and emergency assistance. During disasters, aviation assets often become the fastest and most reliable means of conducting assessments, transporting relief supplies, and reaching isolated populations.

The Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji (CAAF) is the statutory regulatory body responsible for overseeing Fiji's civil aviation industry and the government's focal point to international civil aviation bodies like the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) General Assembly, Pacific Islands Aviation Office, and Pacific Islands Air Services Agreement, among others. The CAAF ensures the safety, security, and efficiency of all aviation operations

and manages certification of aerodromes and landing sites. As of 2026, CAAF issued 23 Certificates of Aerodrome Operators: 2 International Aerodromes, 13 Government Domestic Airports, and 10 Private Aerodromes. Additionally, there are six registered helicopter landing sites (HLS) and three registered water landing sites (WLS).[275] Table 2 shows the aerodromes, HLS, WLS, and private aerodromes registered with CAAF in 2023.

The state-owned enterprise Fiji Airports Limited (FAL) operates the ground facilities at 15 aerodromes across the country, including the remote islands. FAL also provides Air Traffic Management services within the Nadi Flight Information Region, which includes the sovereign air spaces of Tuvalu, New Caledonia, Kiribati, and Vanuatu.

In 2024, FAL worked to upgrade outer island airport runways at Labasa, Savusavu, Rotuma, Matei, and Lakeba; the work involve resurfacing existing chip-seal runways and new line markings.[276] In 2024, JICA provided US$8.38 million in support of improving aviation safety facilities, which included the provision of equipment and technical support including five airport fire engines for Nausori, Labasa, Savusavu, and Matei Airports, and three rescue boats for Nadi International Airport.[277] Table 3 shows some specifications of Fiji's primary and secondary airfields.[278]

Fiji's aviation network also contains a unique sub-sector of private aerodromes and resort airstrips. Luxury resorts and private island owners have constructed their own private airfields to bypass the need for boat transfers. These airstrips are generally restricted to private charter flights, resort-owned aircraft, and pre-approved private jets.

The Fiji Revenue and Customs Service controls all customs clearance processes for commercial and humanitarian goods into Fiji and sets all procedures and tariff determinations, as well as exemptions. Normally, incoming goods are handled through brokers or the Fiji Procurement Office (FPO) for government-consigned goods. During an emergency, the FPO handles all goods consigned to the NDRMO and the GoF and facilitates expedited clearance, securing additional warehouse space to handle increased volumes. FPO has a warehouse in Walu Bay for sea freight and at Nadi Airport for air freight.

Nadi International Airport

Nadi International Airport is in Ba Province on the western coast of Viti Levu. It is about 192 km (119 mi) northwest of Suva. The airport's high pavement classification number, Airport Rescue and Firefighting Services, long runway and extensive apron space enable operations by large commercial and military aircraft, including the C-17 Globemaster III, C-130 Hercules, Boeing 747 freighters, and other strategic airlift platforms commonly used during disaster response operations. Following TC Yasa striking Fiji in December 2020, emergency relief supplies arrived in Nadi on four ADF

Aerodromes Operated by FAL	HLS	WLS	Private Aerodromes
Bureta Domestic **Cicia Domestic** **Gau Domestic** **Kadavu** **Koro** **Labasa** **Lakeba** **Matei Domestic** **Moala Domestic** **Nadi International** **Nausori International** **Ono-i-Lau Domestic** **Rotuma Domestic** **Savusavu Domestic** **Vanuabalavu Domestic**	Fiji Marriott Resort Momi Bay HLS Likuliku Lagoon Resort Vunabaka HLS Sheraton Tokoriki HLS Nanuku Resort HLS Tokoriki Island Resort HLS Island Hoppers (IHL Denarau) Kokomo Island HLS Vomo Island Resort HLS Likuliku Lagoon Resort HLS	Turtle Island WLS Nadi Bay WLS Kokomo Island WLS	Cicia Aerodrome Kaibu Aerodrome Laucala Aerodrome Mana Aerodrome Mago Aerodrome Malalo Lailai Aerodrome Matei Aerodrome Nanuku Aerodrome Wakaya Aerodrome Yasawa Aerodrome

Table 2: Aerodromes and Helicopter and Water Landing Sites

Airport and IATA/ICAO Code	Runway Length and Type	Elevation	Maximum Sized Aircraft	Refueling Capacity	Total Aircraft Parking Area (m^2)	Storage Area (m3)
Nadi International Airport NAN / NFFN	3,273 m x 46 m (10,738 ft x 151 ft) Asphalt 2,136 m x 46 m (7,008 ft x 151 ft) Asphalt	8 m (26 ft)	A380	JET A-1, AVGAS 100, Single Point Refueling	8,000 m^2 (86,111 sq ft)	2,500 m3 (88,287 cu ft)
Nausori International Airport SUV / NFNA	1,868 m x 30 m (6,129 ft x 98 ft) Asphalt 1,748 m x na Asphalt	5 m (17 ft)	A380	JET A-1, AVGAS 100	10,000 (107,639 sq ft)	3 Hangars
Labasa National Airport LBS / NFNL	1,073 m x 30 m (3,520 ft x 98 ft) Asphalt	13 m (44 ft)	B737-800	NA	NA	NA
Savusavu Airport SVU / NFNS	1,000 m x 40 m (3,281 ft x 131 ft) Asphalt	4 m (14 ft)		NA	NA	NA
Bureta Aerodrome / Levuka Airfield	640 m x 30 m (2,100 ft x 98 ft) Gravel	3 m (11 ft)		NA	NA	NA
Gau Airport NGI / NFNG	754 m x 19 m (2,474 ft x 62 ft) Dirt / Grass	3 m (10 ft)		NA	NA	NA
Kadavu Aerodrome KDV / NFKD	915 m x 25 m (3,002 ft x 82 ft) Asphalt	2 m (6 ft)		NA	NA	NA
Koro Airport KXF / NFNO	790 m x 23 m (2,592 ft x 75 ft) Sealed	109 m (357 ft)		NA	NA	NA
Lakeba Airport LKB / NFNK	723 m x 24 m (2,372 ft x 79 ft) Sealed	85 m (285 ft)		NA	NA	NA
Moala Airport MFJ / NFMO	579 m x 30 m (1,900 ft x 98 ft) Dirt / Grass	4 m (13 ft)		NA	NA	NA
Ono-i-Lau Airport ONU / NFOL	800 m x 35 m (2,625 ft x 115 ft) Dirt / Grass	34 m (111 ft)		NA	NA	NA
Rotuma Island Airport RTA / NFNR	1,494 m x 45 m (4,902 ft x 148 ft) Asphalt	13 m (42 ft)	ATR 72-600	NA	NA	NA
Vanuabalavu Airport VBV / NFVB	960 m x 45 m (3,150 ft x 148 ft) Dirt	0 m (0 ft)		NA	NA	NA

Table 3: Fiji's Airports

C-17A Globemaster aircraft. Photo 4 shows a C-130 Hercules taxing down a runway at Nadi International Airport, brought by U.S. Army during a 2019 military exercise.[279]

Nadi International Airport has equipment that is well maintained and operators who are trained and efficient. The airport features customs and immigration, terminal building, passenger terminal, cargo terminal, passenger transport to airfield, control tower, weather facilities, base operating room, airport radar, and non-directional beacon and instrument landing systems. Having customs and immigration allows the airport to serve as an RDC. In 2016, following TC Winston, Nadi Airport served as the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) RDC, processing incoming international aid from Australia, New Zealand, and France transports.



Photo 4: C-130 Hercules at Nadi Airport

Nausori International Airport

Although significantly smaller than Nadi, Nausori plays an important operational role during emergencies because of its proximity to government decision-makers and national coordination structures. The airport serves as a critical hub for domestic air services and supports rapid movement of assessment teams, government officials, emergency personnel, and humanitarian actors between Viti Levu and other parts of the country.

Nausori Airport is about 23 km (14.3 mi) northeast of Suva. The airport serves about 400,000 passengers annually. In November 2021, a runway extension project expanded the runway from 1,868 m (6,128 ft) to 2,148 m (7,047 ft), taxiways were widened, and a new parking apron was created in preparation for future phases of planned terminal upgrades. Improvements allow larger aircraft, including fully loaded Boeing 737s, to land.

Because of its location within the Rewa River floodplain region, access routes to Nausori may be affected by flooding during severe weather events. Nonetheless, the airport remains an important component of Fiji's disaster response infrastructure and provides valuable redundancy within the national aviation system.

Regional Airports and Domestic Airfields

Beyond Nadi and Nausori, Fiji maintains a network of regional airports and domestic airfields that support transportation to remote communities throughout the archipelago. Facilities at Labasa, Savusavu, Matei (Taveuni), Kadavu, and Rotuma provide essential links between outer islands and national and international networks. Although these airports handle significantly lower traffic volumes than Fiji's two primary gateways, they often become critically important during disaster response operations because they provide access to areas that may otherwise be isolated.

Labasa Airport serves as the principal aviation facility for the Northern Division and frequently supports humanitarian operations on Vanua Levu. Savusavu Airport provides access to eastern Vanua Levu and surrounding communities. Matei Airport on Taveuni serves one of Fiji's most hazard-exposed islands. Rotuma Airport is particularly important because it provides the only rapid transportation link to Fiji's most remote administrative dependency, 465 km (289 mi) north of the main island group.

Numerous smaller airstrips throughout the Lau Group, Lomaiviti Group, Kadavu, and other maritime islands provide additional access to isolated communities. While many of these facilities have operational limitations, including short runways, limited lighting, minimal support infrastructure, and restricted fuel availability, they can be indispensable for humanitarian air operations following disasters.

For disaster responders, Fiji's aviation system offers significant operational advantages but also presents several constraints. Nadi International Airport provides one of the most capable humanitarian aviation hubs in the Pacific Islands region and is likely to serve as the primary APOD for most international response operations. However, onward movement from Nadi to affected communities may require additional air, maritime, or ground transportation depending on the location and severity of impacts.

Responders should anticipate that outer-island operations may be constrained by

limited airfield capacity, weather conditions, fuel availability, and aircraft availability. Airfield damage assessments, restoration of communications, and re-establishment of air services are often among the earliest priorities following major disasters. Because many remote communities depend heavily on aviation for access to essential services, restoring air connectivity can have immediate humanitarian benefits and significantly accelerate response and recovery operations.

Helicopters often play a vital role in disaster response operations, especially in outer islands surrounded by shallow coral reefs that prevent large ships from docking. Fiji Ovalau usage of local commercial helicopter charters with heavy-lift assets from international partners for rapid-response air bridge during disasters. Following TC Winston in 2016, two New Zealand Air Force NH90 helicopters were delivered to Fiji via HMNZS Canterbury and operated out of Nausori Airport to support New Zealand medical assistance to Fiji's remote islands.[280] Similarly, following TC Yasa in 2020, Australia deployed MRH-90 Taipan helicopters to deliver supplies to Fijian communities in Vanua Levu and outlying islands cut off by the damage caused by the storm.[281]

Seaports

As an archipelagic state, Fiji depends heavily on ports, shipping services, wharves, and jetties for the movement of people, food, fuel, construction materials, and emergency supplies. While aviation often provides the initial means of accessing affected areas following a disaster, maritime transportation is an important mechanism for sustaining response and recovery operations.

Seaports handle the mass-volume transport of essential commodities, including virtually all imported fuel, construction materials, heavy equipment, and bulk food. Furthermore, major naval vessels – e.g., amphibious landing docks, hospital ships, and heavy logistics ships – require deep-water berths or stable anchorages to deploy assets safely. During crises, ports serve as the primary mobilization bases from which smaller domestic vessels distribute aid to Fiji's outer islands. These facilities are critical to national resilience because many islands depend almost entirely on maritime transportation for access to food, fuel, medical supplies, and essential services.

Fiji's maritime sector operates under a cooperative governance model designed to ensure safety and international compliance:

- Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji (MSAF): The primary regulatory authority, MSAF monitors and ensures that all vessels registered in Fiji comply with International Maritime Organization (IMO) standards. It is responsible for maritime safety regulations, search and rescue coordination, and marine environmental protection (including oil spill response). MSAF succeeded the former Fiji Islands Maritime Safety Administration (FIMSA) and assumed its functions and duties.
- Fiji Ports Corporation Pte Limited (FPCL / Fiji Ports): A proprietary company, FPCL operates under the Seaports Management Act 2005. It manages the commercial infrastructure of Fiji's major ports. The company is owned through a public-private partnership; the Fijian Government holds 41% of the shares, the Fiji National Provident Fund (FNPF) holds 39%, and Aitken Spence PLC holds 20%.
- Fiji Ports Terminal Pte Limited (FPTL): The terminal operator responsible for cargo handling, stevedoring, and vessel operations at the primary ports.
- Government Shipping Services (GSS): Operating under the Ministry of Public Works, Meteorological Services, and Transport, GSS maintains a fleet of 12 vessels. These ships provide regular administrative transport, government cargo delivery, and critical emergency transport to the outer islands during disasters.[282]

Fiji has five ports of entry. Suva and Lautoka are the primary strategic channels for large-scale international relief efforts. They are equipped with full customs, immigration, and quarantine

facilities. The storage facilities at the ports of Suva and Lautoka cater for transit, warehouse, and cold storage goods, as well as general storage.

Deep-water anchorages at Levuka, Malau, Wairiki, and Vuda Point (part of Lautoka) undertake commercial export activities only of wood chips and fish and do not operate as international import points. Savusavu, Levuka, and Rotuma are smaller Roll-on/Roll-off (Ro-Ro) ports. The minor ports provide only basic services for inter-island traffic and are often weather and tide constrained. Other port facilities include a few privately-owned terminals for the handling of petroleum, gas, bulk sugar, molasses, and wood chips. There is also a fishing port that services the requirements of local fishermen.

Suva Port

The Port of Suva is a natural harbor on the south coast of Viti Levu, operated commercially by FPTL with a total land area of 6.6 hectares (16.3 acres). The harbor approach channel allows for deep-draft navigation with a minimum depth of 60 m (196.8 ft) and a navigable width of 450 m (1,476 ft).[283]

It has improved shore facilities, modern plant and equipment, and efficient port services coupled with fast shipping turnaround and cargo flow. The Port of Suva can accommodate a wide range of conventional commercial vessels; however, vessel dimensions and draft are constrained by berth characteristics and available alongside depth.[284] The port provides pilotage, safe anchorage, stevedoring, general cargo handling, cargo container storage including freezer and cooler, loose cargo warehousing, fumigation, incineration, and weighbridge facilities. Photo 5 shows the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Munro at the Port of Suva.[285]

The upgraded container yard in the Port of Suva has facilitated container storage and greatly improved efficiency. It is equipped with two container cranes to load or offload containers, and there are forklifts.[286] The Port has six storage sheds providing 6,100 m^2 (65,660 ft^2) of storage area. However, provisions are also made for open yard storage depending on the nature of the cargoes. There are facilities for transshipment cargo. Inland Freight stations are operated to supplement the port storage space and facilitate the removal of uncleared cargo from the wharves.

The port's maximum allowable deadweight tonnage (DWT)—a measure of how much weight a ship can safely carry, including cargo, fuel, and crew—is capped at 68,456 DWT. The port boasts three alongside berthing facilities with a maximum dredged depth of 12 m (39.4 ft), providing the capacity to accommodate vessels carrying up to 3,500 TEUs[287] (Twenty-foot Equivalent Units, the standard industry measure for shipping containers) or Handymax-sized general cargo vessels (typically bulk carriers in the 35,000 to 50,000 DWT range).

King's Wharf is the main berth offered to large vessels that call in Suva. Approximately 300 m (984 ft) of this berth is constructed as modern quay facility whilst 196 m (643 ft) still remains on piles.[288] Traffic congestion in and around the King's Wharf can be severe, as trucks carrying containers to and from the King's Wharf must pass through the center of Suva at a very slow pace.[289]

Adjacent to King's Wharf are two critical cross berths. Walu Bay Wharf is annexed to accommodate medium-sized vessels with drafts under 9 m (29.5 ft) and 28.5 m (93.5 ft) of the



Photo 5: Port of Suva

beam. Princess Wharf serves as the secondary cross berth, catering primarily to the domestic fishing fleet and smaller inter-island transport ships.

Lautoka Port

The Port of Lautoka, situated on the northwest coast of Viti Levu, is Fiji's second-largest port of entry. It functions as the primary export gateway for the nation's key industrial commodities, handling the bulk of Fiji's sugar, molasses, timber, and woodchip exports, alongside a significant volume of containerized and general cargo. The port encompasses a total land area of approximately 2 hectares (4.94 acres) and features an approach channel that can accommodate vessels with a maximum draft of 10.5 m (34.4 ft).

To facilitate rapid trade and clearance, primary border control agencies—including the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service[290] and the Biosecurity Authority of Fiji (BAF)[291]—maintain permanent offices directly inside the Lautoka port facility.

The port occupies a total land area of approximately 2.0 hectares (4.9 acres or 215,278 sq ft). Its maritime approach channel is designed to safely accommodate vessels with a maximum draft of 10.5 m (34.4 ft). The Port of Lautoka features three alongside berthing facilities with a maximum depth of 11.0 m (36.1 ft), providing the capacity to host cargo ships carrying up to 2,800 TEUs or standard Handymax-sized general cargo vessels.[292] FPTL operates two storage transit sheds at Lautoka, providing 4,020 m^2 (43,271 ft^2) of covered warehouse space.[293]

The West Coast Multimodal Node: Lautoka's close proximity to Nadi International Airport—located just 24 km (15 mi) away—creates Fiji's most critical multimodal aviation-to-maritime logistics node. During a catastrophic event where the eastern division or the capital (Suva) is heavily impacted, high-priority international relief cargo arriving via strategic airlifters (like the C-17 Globemaster) at Nadi can be trucked to Lautoka. From there, the cargo can be loaded onto landing craft or regional vessels for rapid maritime distribution to affected outer islands, bypassing the need to navigate congested trans-island roads.

Northern Division Ports

The ports of Malau and Savusavu provide essential maritime connectivity for Vanua Levu and Fiji's Northern Division. Although considerably smaller than Suva and Lautoka, these facilities play a critical role in supporting communities, industries, and government services throughout northern Fiji.

The Port of Malau, located on the northwest coast of Vanua Levu near the town of Labasa, serves as the primary heavy commercial maritime gateway for the Northern Division. Malau supports agricultural exports, fuel imports, and general cargo movements. Malau is a highly specialized bulk commodity port for Vanua Levu sugar cane farmers.[294]

Located on the south coast of Vanua Levu within the Cakaudrove Province, Savusavu functions as an official Port of Entry. Savusavu provides additional maritime access and supports both commercial activities and government operations within the region. It serves as a vital staging hub for regional yachts, light passenger ferries connecting to Viti Levu, and localized copra shipments processed by Copra Millers of Fiji.[295]

While Labasa Airport (North) and Savusavu Airport (South) support light air bridges, the primary road connecting them (the Cross Island Road) traverses extremely steep, mountainous volcanic terrain. Following a severe TC (such as TC Yasa in 2020), this road is highly prone to landslides and washouts. This forces responders to divide Vanua Levu into two separate operational zones, relying on the Port of Malau to supply the north (Labasa) and the Port of Savusavu to supply the south (Cakaudrove/Savusavu).

Jetties and Landings

While major commercial harbors like the Port of Suva and the Port of Lautoka act as primary deep-water nodes for international strategic sealift, regional jetties and landings are critical secondary hubs. Fiji Roads Authority is

responsible for the planning, maintenance, and development of 32 jetties and landings.

Because Fiji consists of over 100 inhabited islands spread across a large ocean territory, regional jetties are important for disaster logistics. For remote outer-island provinces, local jetties are the only entry point for humanitarian relief.

Where no jetty is constructed, beach landings are used. In an emergency, this practice will be the last resort, but it is common under non-emergency circumstances. Access through reef channels can be treacherous but may often be the only method of transport to an island.[296]

For disaster responders, maritime transportation is likely to become one of the most important determinants of operational success. The Port of Suva should be considered the principal maritime point of debarkation for international assistance, while Lautoka provides important redundancy and direct connectivity to Nadi International Airport. Operations in northern Fiji will often depend on Malau and Savusavu, while response activities in maritime regions may rely heavily on small wharves and jetties that are highly vulnerable to storm damage.

Roads

Road transport is central to disaster response and recovery and for daily economic activity in Fiji. Roads connect communities to ports, airports, hospitals, evacuation centers, markets, schools, government offices, and relief distribution points. On Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, road corridors provide the primary means of moving emergency personnel, food, water, shelter materials, medical supplies, fuel, engineering equipment, and reconstruction materials from major ports and airports to affected communities.[297] In the outer islands, roads are often short but critical links among jetties, airstrips, villages, health centers, and administrative posts.

Main roads on Viti Levu and Vanua Levu generally follow coastal or circumferential alignments, with feeder roads extending inland to villages, agricultural areas, and upland communities. This layout creates important operational vulnerabilities. Many locations have few alternative routes; so, a single bridge washout, landslides, fallen trees, flooded crossing, or coastal erosion site can disrupt access to a large area. In urban areas, road congestion and drainage limitations can delay emergency movement, particularly around Suva, Nausori, Nadi, Lautoka, Ba, and Labasa. In rural areas, unsealed roads, low-level crossings, narrow bridges, and limited maintenance capacity can constrain heavy vehicle access and slow the delivery of humanitarian cargo.

The MPWMST is responsible for the management of policy, administrative, and regulatory activities of all national transport modes. A board-governed corporate body, Fiji Roads Authority (FRA) falls under direct oversight of MPWMST and is the central body responsible for all of Fiji's roads and bridges and for 48 wharves/jetties throughout the country.[298] FRA is actively replacing aging infrastructure with resilient structures. It prepositions heavy machinery and private contractors to ensure immediate clearing capability to restore access for emergency services. FRA established a dashboard (https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a31a488e1cca4f408081c7406e0d66c8/) to show the status of roads during heavy rain events and cyclones. Urban and town roads are managed by MRMDDM. The Land Transport Authority of Fiji is responsible for vehicle and driver licensing and registration while FRA is responsible for the road infrastructure.[299] Table 4 shows the road assets managed by FRA.[300]

The amount of unsealed (unpaved) roads could present operational constraints for heavy logistics, as only 1,707 km (1,060 mi) of roads are sealed (paved). Nearly 6,250 km (3,884 mi) of rural roads are predominantly single-lane, and approximately 80% are unsealed. Interior highlands and peripheral peninsulas are largely served by low standard, narrow and unsealed roads.[301] Furthermore, approximately 127 communities with 14,449 people have no access to the road network due to missing crossings or link roads and residents travel over 1 km (0.62

Division	National Roads (km / mi)			Bridges / Cross Drainages	Jetties / Wharves / Landings
	Sealed	Unsealed	Total		
Central – Eastern Division	675 km / 419 mi	1,681 km / 1,045 mi	2,356 km / 1,464 mi	487	27
Western Division	677 km / 421 mi	2,406 km / 1,495 mi	3,083 km / 1,916 mi	488	6
Northern Division	356 km / 221 mi	1,730 km / 1,075 mi	2,086 km / 1,296 mi	415	15
Total Country	1,707 km / 1,061 mi	5,818 km / 3,615 mi	7,525 km / 4,676 mi	1,390	48

Table 4: Fiji Roads, by Division

mi) and/or cross watercourses to reach a road.

Heavy vehicle mass limits may cause problems for road transport operators. The maximum load limit for 10-wheeler container trucks is 32-ton gross mass. This is insufficient to allow a typical 10-wheel truck to carry a container fully loaded with a dense cargo, such as water. Overweight vehicles have caused major damage to bridge infrastructure, and this practice may lead to closed lanes in high traffic while repairs are undertaken.

Viti Levu's island road system is organized around two major highway corridors, Kings Road and Queens Road. Kings Road extends along the northern and eastern portions, connecting Suva with Nausori, Rakiraki, Ba, and Lautoka before linking with Queens Road. The Nausori to Suva corridor is a 20-km (12.42-mi) stretch that the bulk of industrial, commercial, and transport companies are situated along. Kings Road serves numerous rural and agricultural communities and provides an alternative route when disruptions affect western transportation corridors.[302]

Queens Road serves as the southern and western coastal transportation corridor and connects Suva with Sigatoka, Nadi, and Lautoka. The route supports tourism operations along the Coral Coast, access to Nadi International Airport, and commercial transportation. Because it connects Fiji's largest airport, major tourism centers, and principal population centers, Queens Road is among the country's most strategically important transportation routes. The Lautoka—Nadi—Suva corridor serves industrial companies located in the Western Division. Since the Viti Levu interior is dominated by rugged volcanic mountain ranges, the main road transport network is forced to hug the perimeter of the island.[303]

Vanua Levu possesses a smaller but strategically important road network linking the island's principal population centers but lacks redundancy. Because of the island's steep volcanic topography and coastal exposure, Vanua Levu's roads are vulnerable to landslides, riverine flooding, and coastal washouts.

The Nabouwalu Road connects the main Ro-Ro ferry port that links Vanua Levu to Viti Levu and the northern commercial capital of Labasa. The Natewa West Coast Road is a vital connector for numerous rural communities and agricultural hubs. The Hibiscus Highway connects the main southern tourist center of Savusavu with the eastern peninsula, including the ferry landing points for Taveuni Island.

Fiji's mountainous terrain and numerous river systems require an extensive network of bridges and crossings. Bridges are among the most vulnerable transportation assets during disasters. Flooding, debris flows, and structural damage can isolate communities and sever transportation corridors. In addition to roads, Fiji has 1,390 bridges, many of which need to be renewed, repaired, or replaced. Many bridges in Viti Levu are vulnerable to seismic risk because of deep and weak alluvial soils at risk of liquefaction in seismic events.[304]

Past major cyclones in Fiji illustrate how rapidly road and bridge failures transform emergencies into nationwide logistical bottlenecks. In 2016, TC Winston caused unprecedented destruction, downing thousands

of trees and powerlines and strewing structural debris across Kings Road. Photo 6 shows storm damage from TC Winston in Rakiraki Viti Levu.[305] Trip disruptions were significant between Suva-Nadi, Nadi-Lautoka, Lautoka-Rakiraki, Rakiraki-Suva, and Labasa-Savusavu. The Nadi-Suva and Labasa-Savusavu corridors required up to a week to restore normal connectivity.[306]



Photo 6: Power Lines and Trees Block Roads after a Storm

Railways

Fiji does not possess a public passenger or standard-gauge commercial freight railway system. Instead, the country features a highly specialized, narrow-gauge (610-762-mm; 2-2.5-ft) industrial rail network dedicated exclusively to the transport of harvested sugarcane to processing mills. The railways are on the northern and northwestern coasts of both Viti Levu and Vanua Levu. The railway infrastructure is owned, operated, and maintained by the state-controlled Fiji Sugar Corporation. Of the nearly 700 km (435 mi) of line that were laid and used for sugar, fewer than 600 km (373 mi) remain in operation.

Navigable Waterways

While Fiji is a maritime nation highly dependent on ocean transport, the inland river systems on its largest islands in several riverine communities, particularly in the Rewa basin and areas with limited road access, waterways remain important local transport routes for populations living in the rugged, mountainous interiors. In regions where sealed road infrastructure is sparse or non-existent, these navigable waterways are the primary logistical arteries for daily commerce and, crucially, for emergency disaster relief.

The Land and Water Resources Management of the Agriculture Department is responsible for river engineering, drainage, and irrigation activities. Together with the Public Works Department, they are responsible for flood control and watershed management.[307] The MSAF serves as the regulatory authority that monitors and ensures all vessels registered in Fiji comply with all IMO instruments ratified by GoF. The Fiji Maritime Transport Act outlines the legal safety standards for vessels operating in Fiji's waters, including mandatory licensing for inland water operators.[308]

Industrial commercial shipping on rivers is minimal. Instead, inland navigation relies primarily on small-draft vessels:

- Motorized Longboats and Punts: Small, open boats powered by outboard motors are the workhorses of the river systems. During a disaster response, responders frequently rely on these shallow-draft civilian boats to shuttle emergency rations and medical supplies upriver.
- Bilibili (Bamboo Rafts): In the most remote highland areas, traditional bamboo rafts (bilibili) are still utilized. They are often used for local communities self-evacuating or moving goods downriver.

For many villagers, river punts provide the most efficient form of transport, and from remote areas, using bilibili can support transporting produce to market by floating it downriver.[309] The Rewa Delta, in southeast Viti Levu, supports a large but dispersed population of about 45,000 and is home to the largest population cluster without access to the road network; its seven communities house 2,900 inhabitants who may require river transport.[310]

Communications

Fiji's communication ecosystem combines modern early warning capabilities, expanding digital access, and strong traditional media networks to support disaster management. Significant national investment in DRR has strengthened forecasting and alerting systems, including the commissioning of 13 tsunami warning systems in 2019, the introduction of impact-based forecasting, improved observation networks, and expanded staffing and capacity-building.[311]

Early warnings are coordinated primarily through the FMS and the NDRMO, with dissemination via short message service (SMS) broadcasts, news channels, radio, television, sirens, and digital platforms. Rapid growth in mobile and online connectivity enables the broad distribution of alerts and real-time updates.

Mass media remain essential, especially radio for rural and maritime communities, while social media platforms such as Facebook, Viber, and WhatsApp facilitate quick outreach and communication. Together, these channels provide a multi-layered system for informing the public and supporting coordinated response efforts. Fiji's Ministry of Policy and Communications leads the Emergency Telecommunications Working Group alongside TAF as part of the national Emergency Telecommunications Cluster, with WFP leading the regional Pacific Emergency Telecommunications Cluster.

Early Warning Systems and Information Sharing

Fiji has significantly invested in modernizing its Early Warning System (EWS) to better manage frequent hazard events such as TCs, flooding, seismic events, and tsunamis. These systems aim to provide timely, actionable alerts that allow communities to prepare and reduce disaster impacts.

The FMS, under the MPWTMS, is the primary agency responsible for weather, hydrological, and climate forecasting. Serving as the Nadi Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre for Tropical Cyclones under the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), FMS also supports several other Pacific Island countries with severe weather monitoring and warning products in coordination with Australia's Bureau of Meteorology.

Earthquake and tsunami monitoring is led by the Seismology Section of the Mineral Resources Department (MRD). Its national seismological network includes six outer remote satellite stations that feed continuous real-time data to the MRD hub in Suva. Regional partners, including SPC, SPREP, the UN system, FRCS, and CSOs, actively complement national capacities, particularly in community-level dissemination.[312]

Together with FMS, the NDRMO is advancing a national Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (MHEWS) strategy through the EW4All initiative.[313]

NOAA (U.S.) serves as an important international forecast center for the Pacific Basin. It provides Fiji with essential detection data, numerical impact modeling, and early threat assessments. These NOAA advisories support Fijian authorities in evaluating risks and issuing timely warnings to vulnerable coastal communities. NOAA's PTWC in Hawaii continuously monitors seismic activity and ocean-level data. When a potentially tsunamigenic earthquake occurs, the PTWC calculates expected wave arrival times and heights for Fiji's coastlines. NOAA also operates a network of Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunamis buoys, which detect tsunami activity in the open ocean and transmit real-time data to warning centers before waves reach land.[314]

Fiji continues to expand and integrate its forecasting and warning capabilities through several key initiatives. A US$12.9 million Green Climate Fund (GCF) investment awarded in 2025 is accelerating EW4All implementation, improving hazard monitoring, data systems, communication channels, and preparedness capacities. In partnership with the UN Development Programme (UNDP), WMO, UN Office of Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR),

International Telecommunication Union (ITU), and the IFRC, this initiative accelerates the EW4All initiative launched by the UN Secretary-General in 2022.[315] The projected timeline for the project is to be completed by 2030.[316]

Complementary initiatives are underway. The IOM Coordination Office for the South Pacific, with support from the Government of Japan and the Fiji NDRMO, launched the Catalyzing Resilience project in 2026. This project brings together government agencies, technical institutions, telecommunications companies, and community representatives to align priorities for scaling early warning coverage.[317] Additionally, a new Regional Training Collaboration and Awareness Centre, established on 10 April 2026 at FMS Nadi with support from JICA, will enhance regional data quality, equipment calibration, and specialized training for Pacific meteorologists.[318]

Dissemination of warnings relies on multiple channels, including SMS cell broadcasts, national radio and television, and sirens in high-risk coastal zones. Civil society networks, such as the FCOSS and femLINKpacific's Women's Weather Watch, ensure that alerts reach remote islands and vulnerable populations through localized communication tools.[319]

Disaster communication in Fiji operates as a layered system in which social media, radio, and local leadership work together to relay information to communities. Community leaders play an important role in interpreting warnings and guiding local action. Many communities continue to rely heavily on face-to-face communication and established local relationships when deciding how to respond during emergencies.[320]

Traditional ecological knowledge continues to play a meaningful role in community preparedness. Environmental indicators such as yam vine behavior or patterns in bees and breadfruit trees are used by older generations to anticipate severe weather. Since 2016, an SPREP-supported traditional knowledge project has been crowdsourcing local environmental indicators, and in 2024, FMS began formally integrating these insights into scientific forecasting and warning systems.[321]

Despite significant progress, Fiji faces persistent constraints. Limited financial and human resources slow the advancement of multi-hazard systems. Monitoring capabilities remain uneven, including gaps in tsunami tide gauge coverage. Other challenges include delays in warning dissemination, lack of common alerting protocols, the need for more inclusive messaging for diverse communities, and the need for reliable, continuously updated hazard data and community feedback mechanisms.

Information Sharing Focal Points

National Disaster Risk Management Office (NDRMO)

Nasilivata House, Ratu Mara Road,
Samabula
Tel: 679-3319250
Web: *https://ndmo.gov.fj*
Email: *neocfiji@gmail.com*
Facebook: *https://www.facebook.com/FijiNDMO/*
X (formerly Twitter): *https://x.com/FijiNDRMO?lang=en*

Fiji Meteorological Services (FMS)

Korowai Road, NAP 0351
Nadi Airport
Tel: 6724888
Fax: 6720430
Web: *www.met.gov.fj*
Email: *fmscustomer@met.gov.fj*
Facebook: *https://www.facebook.com/FijiMetService*
X (formerly Twitter): *https://x.com/FJMETservice*

Telecommunications Infrastructure

Reliable Information and Communication Technology (ICT) infrastructure is central to Fiji's disaster management. Mobile networks, internet services, and broadcast systems enable early warning dissemination, coordination among agencies, financial support, and communication with communities across both

urban centers and remote islands. Despite geographic challenges posed by Fiji's dispersed islands, the country maintains one of the more advanced ICT infrastructures in the Pacific. A key asset is its submarine fiberoptic cable network, which links Fiji with neighboring countries and major international hubs and supports stable broadband and mobile connectivity.[322]

The Ministry of Policing and Communications is responsible for strengthening national resilience and safeguarding critical infrastructure during disasters. It coordinates emergency telecommunication networks, enforces EWS through the National Emergency Telecommunication Plan,[323] and secures real-time intelligence to support first responders. The Ministry works with its subsidiary, the Telecommunications Authority of Fiji (TAF), to ensure that telecommunication carriers allocate priority network capacity for emergency numbers, such as Police 917, and for public safety alerts. It also assists the NDRMO in maintaining reliable, interoperable communication assets, including HF radios, which allow EOCs to transmit voice, email, and text messages when traditional networks fail.

The TAF, a statutory government agency, serves as the national regulator, overseeing licensing, spectrum allocation, and compliance.[324] It also represents the GoF in regional and international telecommunications bodies when delegated. Fiji participates in organizations such as the ITU, the Pacific Islands Telecommunication Association, and the Pacific Telecommunications Council, reflecting its integration into regional and global telecommunications governance. [325]

Fiji's National Digital Strategy (2025–2030) focuses on building resilient digital infrastructure, expanding inclusive access, fostering innovation, enhancing government services, and supporting sustainable development. Key initiatives include improving nationwide connectivity, strengthening cybersecurity, promoting digital literacy, supporting micro, small, and medium enterprises, advancing e-government services, and encouraging the use of green technologies. Implementation will involve developing policies, establishing regulatory frameworks, and forming strategic partnerships to promote digital inclusion, economic growth, and international cooperation. As part of this effort, Fiji has begun expanding Starlink (low-earth orbit satellite)-supported community Wi-Fi to rural and maritime areas through a universal service program designed to bring internet and voice services to previously unconnected locations.[326]

Major telecommunications operators include Vodafone, Telecom Fiji, Fiji International Telecommunications Ltd., and Digicel. Vodafone, Telecom Fiji, and Fiji International Telecommunications Ltd. are subsidiaries of Amalgamated Telecom Holdings, in which the Fiji National Provident Fund holds a majority stake. Fiji has two main mobile network providers: Vodafone and Digicel. Vodafone is the larger of the two, with more than 85% market share[327] with 98% population coverage as of 2026.[328] Because of its investment in network infrastructure, Vodafone has widespread coverage in Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, which enjoy 4G/LTE and 5G coverage in urban areas and 3G service in many smaller towns and some rural locations. It also provides service to several outer islands such as parts of Lomaiviti, Lau, and Kadavu. On these islands, coverage can vary depending on terrain and proximity to a tower; some villages may get a strong signal while others may not. Approximately 2% of Fiji's population – mainly those living in rural areas – still lacks mobile network coverage due to limited infrastructure development.[329] Digicel has 90% terrestrial coverage and provides 4G and 5G service in major towns including Suva, Nadi, and Lautoka.[330]

Mobile money was introduced in Fiji just over a decade ago. It provides the ability to transfer funds, pay bills, and deposit or withdraw cash using mobile phones. Mobile money services such as MPAiSA and MyCash have become widely used, with more than

632,000 users conducting significant volumes of person-to-person transfers. These services play a practical role during disruptions when physical access to banking services may be limited.[331]

Mobile and broadband systems support coordination across government agencies, emergency services, and NGOs. By 2025, Fiji recorded 1.41 million active mobile connections – an indicator of widespread network use, including multiple subscriber identity module (SIM) ownership.[332] Coverage levels in 2024 included 94% for 2G, 93% for 3G, and 85% for LTE/WiMAX. Internet access continues to expand, supported by both terrestrial and satellite services.[333]

A large majority of the population uses smartphones, with high penetration in both urban (98%) and rural (97%) areas. Approximately 15% of Fijians have a laptop, and 4% own a Smart TV. This widespread device access contributes to effective dissemination of alerts, digital payments, and information sharing during emergencies.[334]

Connectivity levels are comparable between rural and urban areas. The Fiji Bureau of Statistics' Multiple Indicator Cluster (MICS) Plus 2024-2025 survey reported internet access for 92% of urban residents and 87% of rural residents, suggesting broad potential for reaching communities through digital channels.[335] In 2025, a total of 739,000 individuals used the internet for an online penetration rate of 79.4%.[336]

Geography remains a central challenge to consistent, nationwide coverage. While infrastructure is extensive, some areas of the outer islands experience variable signal strength due to tower placement and terrain. Internet use data from 2025 indicated that about 20% of the population (193,000 people) remained offline, highlighting continued reliance on radio, face-to-face communication, and community networks during emergencies.[337]

Telecom Fiji continues to expand services, including fiber-to-the-home and 5G fixed wireless. The Fiji Government launched 5G mobile services in late 2025, with initial rollout in Suva, Nadi, Lautoka, Denarau, Navua, Nausori, and Nasinu, and further expansion planned.[338] Telecom Fiji has signed a Universal Service Obligation contract with the TAF as part of the Government's Universal Service Scheme. Under this agreement, the first phase focuses on deploying Starlink-supported, community-managed Wi-Fi services to 30 rural and maritime sites across Namosi and Lomaiviti for improved connectivity for communities with limited or no prior access.[339]

The TFL's Satellite Network Operations team demonstrated the CommsBox, a portable, solar-powered, all-in-one satellite communications unit designed to strengthen communication during disaster response and recovery operations. It can be rapidly deployed to create a self-contained wireless network in areas where traditional systems are damaged or unavailable. The CommsBox was successfully tested during the 2023 NDAW SIMEX, demonstrating its value for emergency connectivity and field coordination.[340]

Fiji serves as a regional telecommunications hub and hosts landing points for major international subsea cables, including Southern Cross, Tabua, and Bulikula. These cables are vulnerable to mechanical damage caused by seismic activity and tsunamis. Coastal faults near landing stations can disrupt international bandwidth for extended periods.[341] Telecommunications towers and switching centers also depend heavily on commercial power grids and backup generators. Prolonged power outages following severe storms can lead to cascading network failures across the system.

Satellite services, including Starlink, are available nationwide through direct subscriptions and authorized resellers. Starlink terminals support highspeed connectivity in remote areas, expanding options for emergency communication and supporting disaster-resilient communication in remote communities.[342]

Mass and Social Media

Fiji maintains a diverse media landscape across radio, television, print, and digital news. Radio continues to be a vital medium, especially for rural and maritime communities.

Communications Fiji Limited (CFL) and the Fijian Broadcasting Corporation (FBC) are the two dominant media outlets. FBC, a state-owned national broadcaster, operates six stations: Radio Fiji One, Bula FM, Radio Fiji Two, Mirchi FM, Gold FM, and 2DAY FM.[343] CFL, a publicly listed company, operates five popular commercial stations: FM96, Legend FM, Viti FM, Navtarang, and Radio Sargam.[344] These stations deliver programming in English, iTaukei, and Hindi, supporting a broad reach across the population.

The Government of Fiji Gazette is the official public journal where the Fijian government publishes formal decrees, legal notices, and official announcements. Under the NDRMA, the Gazette is also used to formally publish any Declaration of a State of Natural Disaster.[345] For real-time updates and breaking news during emergencies, local news outlets such as Fiji Village and the FBC provide timely public information.[346]

The print media sector is dominated by two daily newspapers: the Fiji Times, known for its longstanding independence, and the Fiji Sun. Television broadcasting is provided by the state-owned FBC and privately-owned Fiji Television, with Mai TV maintaining a strong online presence. Fiji's media environment is considered relatively robust, with the country ranking 24th on the 2026 World Press Freedom Index.[347]

Digital communication is widespread. As of January 2025, social media use totaled approximately 559,000 users, representing around 60% of the population. Facebook remains the dominant platform, used by about 88% of adults 18 years of age and older. Instagram accounts for about one-third (34.4%) of users aged 13 years and above.[348] Messaging platforms such as Viber and WhatsApp are widely used for daily communication, community updates, and business transactions. The NDRMO uses Viber as a key channel for disseminating disaster alerts, illustrating the platform's role in emergency communication.[349] Social media also enables two-way information flows, allowing agencies to observe community concerns and identify emerging issues during response operations.

The Fiji NDRMO actively uses its Fiji NDRMO Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/FijiNDMO/) as a public communication channel for weather alerts, warnings, and emergency declarations.

Utilities

Fiji's utility systems are essential for sustaining public health, safety, and operational continuity, yet they remain highly vulnerable to environmental shocks. Energy Fiji Limited (EFL) supplies grid electricity to roughly 98% of the population. It draws on hydropower, solar, and imported fuels. Cyclones and extreme weather frequently damage transmission lines and generation assets. The Water Authority of Fiji (WAF) provides drinking water and wastewater services to more than 154,000 customers through a network of over 4,932 km (3,064 mi) of pipelines across urban centers and rural hubs.[350] Aging infrastructure and contamination from floods and heavy rainfall pose persistent risks to water security.

Power

Fiji's electricity sector operates within a uniquely challenging environment shaped by its dispersed island geography, high exposure to natural hazards, and reliance on a hybrid energy mix that combines hydropower, solar, and imported fossil fuels. EFL, the state-owned utility, provides electricity to more than 90% of the population on the Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, as well as on the outer islands of Ovalau and Taveuni, through the national grid.[351] Despite reaching 99.3% electricity access as of 2023, the country's energy systems remain highly vulnerable to disruption, particularly during TCs and prolonged droughts that routinely damage infrastructure and restrict power generation.[352]

The geography of the archipelago creates distinct vulnerabilities in both grid-connected and off-grid communities. Only four islands are connected to the national grid, while all other islands depend on localized, often low-capacity systems such as solar home systems,

diesel generators, and small-scale mini-grids. Many rural and maritime communities depend on farming or fishing for their livelihoods, and even short-term outages impede cold storage, market access, and communications. For these communities, off-grid electricity remains essential but inherently fragile, particularly where equipment maintenance is inconsistent and replacement parts or fuel must be transported by sea.[353]

The reliance on imported fossil fuels introduces additional systemic vulnerabilities. Nearly 40% of Fiji's electricity is generated using diesel and heavy fuel oil sourced primarily from Singapore-based suppliers.[354] As global fuel prices rose in 2026, Pacific Island countries – including Fiji – were reminded of their vulnerability due to their reliance on imported food, fuel, medicines, and essential supplies. In Fiji, the sharp increase in fuel costs – including a 20% rise in unleaded petrol, 35% in diesel, and 42% in kerosene – contributed to higher living costs and increased pressure on household budgets. In response, the Government announced transportation subsidies, fuel rebates, and temporary social welfare assistance to help families manage the impact.[355]

Any disruption to maritime transport, port operations, or the global supply chain directly affects the ability of the country to maintain reserve stocks or stabilize generation during emergencies. On outer islands, where diesel generators remain the primary power source, supply delays after major storms can leave communities without reliable power for extended periods. Hydropower produces nearly 60% of Fiji's electricity. However, many remote areas and outer islands still rely on imported fossil fuels and biomass for their energy needs. The commercial sector is the country's biggest energy user, followed by the transport sector, industrial, and household sectors. Essential services – including health care, education, water supply, and airport operations – depend heavily on grid-supplied electricity.[356]

Fiji's large rivers and mountainous landscape make hydropower an ideal source of renewable energy. EFL has successfully developed several hydropower projects over the years. The Monasavu Hydropower Scheme, commissioned in 1983, was Fiji's first major project of this kind, featuring a generating capacity of 80 megawatts (MW) and producing about 400 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of energy each year. In 1984, the Wainisavulevu Weir – part of the larger Monasavu Hydropower Scheme – was completed to divert water from the Wainisavulevu Creek through a tunnel to the Wainikasou Power Station and then to the Monasavu Reservoir. Raising this weir later increased annual energy production by an additional 10 GWh. In September 2012, the Nadarivatu Hydropower Scheme was commissioned, providing an additional 40 MW of power and producing about 101 GWh of energy annually.[357]

Fiji's electricity system is under increasing strain as declining water levels at the Monasavu Hydro Scheme, combined with fuel supply uncertainties linked to the global oil markets. Fiji relies on a careful balance between hydropower and thermal generation, and drought conditions threaten this balance. If hydro reserves drop too low, the system can meet only half of national demand, while fuel shortages would further limit generation capacity. Historical droughts, such as in 2003, illustrate how severely dry conditions can impair hydropower output.[358]

Electricity access also varies in quality. Census data (2017) indicated that while only a small proportion of households lack any connection, many still required improved service levels to meet reliability, safety, and affordability standards. These gaps complicate emergency planning, particularly when trying to anticipate the needs of households dependent on medical devices, refrigeration, or communication equipment. Meanwhile, critical services such as hospitals, water pumping facilities, schools, and airports depend heavily on grid-based electricity and face operational risks when outages are prolonged or widespread.

Water and Sanitation

Fiji's water and sanitation landscape

reflects both the significant progress the country has made in expanding access and the persistent vulnerabilities associated with its geography, aging infrastructure, and exposure to increasingly severe climate-related hazards. As of the most recent estimates, approximately 82% of the population has access to safe drinking water. However, this national figure masks substantial differences between urban and rural areas. Nearly all urban residents – around 98% – receive treated, piped water through the WAF – the primary statutory body responsible for public water supply and wastewater services across the country. In contrast, only 58% of rural residents have access to safe drinking water, and many rely on self-managed or community-operated systems that often lack the resilience and oversight of centralized utilities.

Sanitation access with the central sewerage network serves only 28% of the national population. The vast majority of Fijians – particularly those in rural villages and outer islands – depend on septic tanks, pit latrines, and other decentralized sanitation systems that are highly susceptible to flooding, damage, and contamination during extreme weather events. These disparities create differing levels of risk across the population during disaster events, where infrastructure failures can quickly escalate into public health emergencies.

Underlying these gaps is the age and fragility of the country's water infrastructure. Much of the piped system is more than 50 years old, and leaks are responsible for the loss of nearly half (47%) of all treated water before it reaches consumers. This loss reduces system efficiency during normal operations and significantly complicates efforts to maintain supply during emergencies. The government has launched a series of large-scale investments – including the Healthy Oceans and Water Supply Improvement Project with the ADB in 2025 – to modernize water and wastewater infrastructure, expand treatment capacity of the Kinoya Wastewater Treatment Plant, and reduce non-revenue water losses in high-demand areas such as the Greater Suva Area.[359]

Surface water is the primary source of municipal supply across Fiji's larger volcanic islands, including Viti Levu and Vanua Levu. Major rivers such as the Rewa, Navua, and Nadi play a critical role in supporting towns and cities. Groundwater from natural aquifers is also used, particularly in low-lying outer islands that lack permanent rivers. While seawater desalination through reverse osmosis is not part of the main public water supply, it is commonly used by small, remote luxury island resorts in the Mamanuca and Yasawa groups that do not have reliable natural freshwater sources.[360]

Even with improvements underway, hazard events continue to pose major threats to water security. Fiji's cyclone season, which runs from November to April, routinely results in widespread damage to water supply networks. High winds and flying debris can destroy exposed pipes and water intake structures, while storm surges inundate low-lying infrastructure with saltwater and sediment. Heavy and persistent rainfall creates additional operational challenges by increasing turbidity in rivers and surface water sources. Floodwaters frequently carry debris that blocks raw water intakes, limiting the amount of water that can be treated and reducing supply to households. At the same time, sediment-laden runoff introduces contamination risks that force utilities to issue boil-water advisories or temporarily restrict supply to protect public health.[361]

These disruptions have direct and often immediate health consequences. When water systems fail or become contaminated, Fiji experiences a heightened risk of outbreaks of waterborne diseases such as typhoid fever, leptospirosis, and acute watery diarrhea. Rural communities face particular challenges, as many rely on village-level catchment systems, small-scale rainwater harvesting, or boreholes that can be damaged or polluted during storms and floods. In communities where maintenance capacity is limited, restoring safe water access may take longer, prolonging exposure to unsafe sources.[362]

In recognition of these vulnerabilities, Fiji has strengthened institutional frameworks for water and sanitation resilience. The launch of

the Water Sector Strategy 2050 marks a major step toward long-term, sustainable management of water resources and infrastructure.[363] The Fiji National WASH Cluster – co-led by the MHMS and UNICEF – plays a critical role during disaster events by coordinating emergency drinking water distribution, sanitation support, and hygiene interventions. This cluster works with a broad network of partners, including the Ministry of Education; Ministry of Infrastructure and Transportation; NDRMO; Australia DFAT; FRCS; IFRC; New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade; SPC; UN OCHA; WAF; the World Health Organization (WHO); and World Vision.[364]

While WAF continues to provide reliable service to most urban areas, many rural and remote communities remain dependent on government programs and NGO-led initiatives to ensure safe drinking water. Programs such as the UN-supported "Provide Healthy and Safe Drinking Water in Rural Communities" initiative to improve drinking water in rural areas focus on developing decentralized and climate-resilient supply systems, recognizing that these communities are the most susceptible to hazard-related disruptions.[365]

Health Systems

Fiji faces a complex health landscape defined by both long-term disease burdens and rapidly emerging public health threats. The country continues to manage high rates of non-communicable diseases (NCD), including diabetes, hypertension, cardiovascular disease, and cancers. These conditions account for approximately 80% of all national mortality and are largely driven by lifestyle factors such as unhealthy diets, physical inactivity, and tobacco use.[366]

Beyond NCDs, vector- and water-borne diseases remain a concern. Dengue fever is endemic, with outbreaks frequently following periods of heavy rainfall or flooding. A significant outbreak was declared in May 2026 in the Central and Western divisions.[367] Heavy rainfall greatly increases the risk of leptospirosis, dengue, and typhoid.[368]

Tuberculosis (TB) continues to pose a persistent public health issue; 640 cases were recorded in 2025, with infections rising to 69 per 100,000 people. Children under 15 years of age account for about 8% of cases, a statistic that has prompted national authorities to implement the Fiji National TB Management Guidelines, supported by WHO, to standardize and strengthen prevention, diagnosis, and treatment.[369]

Fiji has been confronting a rapidly escalating HIV epidemic. In January 2025, the GoF formally declared an HIV outbreak following a sharp rise in newly diagnosed cases. Surveillance data indicate that Fiji recorded its highest annual newly diagnosed HIV cases at 2,016 cases in 2025 – a 27% increase from the 1,583 cases reported in 2024. Among the 849 reported transmission routes, injectable drug use accounts for 362 cases (18%), making it one of the most significant contributors to the surge in case reporting. The escalating case numbers observed since 2021 reflect not only a genuine increase in new infections but also enhancements in national HIV testing and surveillance capacity. Expanded testing coverage, strengthened monitoring systems, and improved identification of previously undiagnosed infections have contributed to more comprehensive case detection.[370]

Delivering health services across Fiji's widely dispersed maritime geography remains a fundamental challenge. The MHMS oversees four main Divisions and 21 sub-divisions, including Rotuma, and it manages an extensive network of over 200 health facilities.[371] There are three major divisional hospitals in Suva, Lautoka, and Labasa; they function as national referral centers for secondary and tertiary care. The hospitals are the Colonial War Memorial Hospital in Suva, Lautoka Hospital, and Labasa Hospital. There are also 18 sub-divisional hospitals, more than 80 health centers, and 99 nursing stations. Despite this broad infrastructure, the distribution of services remains uneven. Rural, outer-island, and peri-urban communities often face limited emergency response capabilities, reduced

access to trauma care, and frequent shortages of essential supplies and medications.[372] Private hospitals in Suva and Nadi fill some service gaps and offer Western-style clinical care, but many patients requiring advanced procedures must still be evacuated overseas, most commonly to Australia, India, or New Zealand.

Human resources continue to constrain health system performance. Fiji experiences persistent shortages of healthcare professionals, particularly in rural areas. To improve service availability and quality, the government works closely with international partners to expand training opportunities and build technical capacity within the workforce.[373]

WHO supports Fiji through the Pacific Islands Multi-country Cooperation Strategy for 2024–2029. The WHO Office in Suva partners with the MHMS and other international groups to advance priorities in three main areas: universal health coverage, NCDs, and health security and resilience. The Strategy also aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.[374]

A central component of Fiji's surge and emergency response capability is the Fiji Emergency Medical Assistance Team (FEMAT). Established in 2016 and classified by WHO as a Type 1 Fixed Emergency Medical Team, FEMAT represents the country's premier rapid-deployment medical unit. In 2025, FEMAT renewed its classification and continued its compliance with global standards. With more than 500 personnel on its roster and a core team deployable within 24-48 hours, FEMAT can establish field hospitals, step-down facilities, and self-sustaining medical tents to support outbreak response, mass-casualty incidents, and disaster recovery operations. Its activities include both domestic deployments and international missions.[375]

In February 2022, the province of Navosa, which has limited WASH services, experienced a leptospirosis outbreak that caused severe illness, hospitalizations, and deaths. FEMAT was activated to respond. The team joined local public health staff at Keyasi Hospital, where they helped contain and control the outbreak. At the same time, FEMAT provided community outreach, preventive care, and surgical services in this rural island community.[376]

FEMAT was deployed to Vanuatu in January 2025 to help provide emergency health care and support disaster recovery after the December 2024 earthquake that struck that country. A 12-member medical team was sent to Port Vila and stationed at Vila Central Hospital for two weeks to support local medical staff. The team provided emergency care, assisted local healthcare workers, and helped with broader recovery efforts alongside other international medical teams. FEMAT worked with several international disaster response groups in Vanuatu, including teams from Australia (AUSMAT), Indonesia, New Zealand (NZMAT), and the UN.[377]

Shelter and Housing

Fiji's housing sector faces a series of interrelated challenges that shape both day-to-day living conditions and the country's ability to withstand and recover from disasters. Large portions of the existing housing stock are of poor overall quality and lack adequate resilience, leaving households significantly exposed to TCs, flooding, and other hazards. Nearly half of all urban dwellings are assessed to be in average to poor condition, a proportion that underscores the scale of vulnerability. At the same time, Fiji continues to face a pronounced imbalance between formal housing supply and the level of demand, especially in urban areas where rapid population growth and internal migration have outpaced the development of affordable housing.[378] The country is facing a serious housing shortage. Over the next 30 years, it will need about 1,600 new homes each year, and around 24% of people living in cities currently live in informal settlements.[379]

National efforts to address these issues are led by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Established in 2018 as a dedicated line ministry, it consolidated long-standing urban programs formerly housed under the Ministry for Local Government, with

rural initiatives previously overseen by the MRMDDM. Guided by the National Housing Policy (2025–2030), the Ministry of Housing and Local Government is responsible for setting strategy, developing policy, administering funding assistance, and monitoring the performance of Fiji's housing system.[380]

The traditional Fijian bure is an example of how indigenous architecture and traditional knowledge can enhance resilience in housing and shelter. Constructed from locally sourced natural materials such as hardwoods, bamboo, and woven reeds and ferns, the bure is designed to withstand extreme weather. The bure of Navala in Viti Levu is constructed on mounds, have relatively short walls, limited wall openings, and a hipped roof with steep slopes and small eaves, all of which create natural cyclone resistance. Furthermore, if a bure is compromised by a storm, its lightweight, flexible materials minimize the risk of major or fatal injuries, often collapsing in a way that leaves an inner space where occupants can wait out the cyclone. However, the preservation of bures faces modern challenges, such as government rebuilding grants that restrict purchases to accredited hardware stores and national building codes that historically overlook indigenous construction methods.

Fiji's efforts to strengthen housing face several interconnected challenges. Many building standards and enforcement systems are outdated and were originally designed for building to withstand the impacts of Category 3 storms. Therefore, homes are vulnerable to far stronger Category 5 cyclone effects. As the cost of meeting these updated standards is high, compliance is mostly enforced only within towns and cities. Large rural areas and many iTaukei lands fall outside these regulated zones, and these communities are at significantly greater risk of losing homes or even being injured or killed when they fail. When major storms strike, local communities often lack the resources to rebuild on their own, and this lack creates heavy dependence on international aid. The long-term goal is to shift from relying on post-disaster recovery to proactively ensuring homes and communities are resilient before hazards occur.[381]

Under the NDRMA, the establishment of evacuation centers is guided by defined institutional responsibilities. The NDRMC, acting on advice from the National Coordinator, determines which buildings may be designated as evacuation centers and oversees approval for constructing purpose-built facilities. This authority ensures alignment with safety and operational standards. The National Coordinator is mandated to develop comprehensive management and operational guidance for evacuation centers in consultation with Divisional Commissioners and relevant government and cluster partners. This coordinated approach strengthens the consistency, quality, and safety of evacuation center operations across Fiji.[382]

Within the national disaster management architecture, the Shelter Cluster plays a central coordination role. Operating alongside eight other national clusters and under the overall leadership of the NDRMO, the Shelter Cluster serves as the permanent forum through which government agencies, humanitarian actors, civil society, and technical partners prepare for and coordinate shelter responses. It works in close collaboration with the Evacuation Center Management Cluster to ensure alignment between shelter and center management functions. During emergencies, the cluster system supplements the NEOC by providing sector-focused support and facilitating multi-stakeholder coordination.

The Fiji National Shelter Cluster is led by the MRMDDM. It is supported by two co-leads: the IFRC, which supports preparedness and response, and Habitat for Humanity Fiji (HFHF), which contributes to preparedness activities. The cluster's overarching objective is to collectively plan and deliver timely, appropriate, and proportionate shelter assistance that addresses both immediate and longer-term needs, while integrating DRR principles. Maintaining a permanent cluster strengthens continuity, institutional memory, and national capacity over time.[383]

The coordinated shelter response is well illustrated by the Shelter Cluster activation during TC Winston. Led at that time by the Ministry of Local Government, Housing and Environment with IFRC as co-lead, the response brought together more than 58 organizations and enabled coordinated reporting and resource sharing. By July 2016, about five months after the disaster, 29 organizations had reported shelter activities, and the GoF and partners had delivered emergency shelter assistance to more than 27,600 households and distributed over 50,000 shelter items during the Flash Appeal period. The response also emphasized owner-driven recovery through Build Back Safer training and awareness, complementing the Government's Help for Homes Initiative, which provided building materials to support household-level reconstruction.[384]

Food Security

Food security in Fiji is generally stable under normal conditions, but the country remains vulnerable to disruptions caused by TCs, flooding, drought, supply chain interruptions, and broader economic shocks. The food system relies on a combination of domestic agricultural production, fisheries, imported food commodities, and extensive transportation networks that connect population centers and remote island communities. While this diversity contributes to resilience, it also creates multiple points of vulnerability that can be exposed during emergencies.

The agriculture sector is a key pillar of Fiji's economy and societal resilience. It supports over one-quarter of the population and provides employment for 83% of rural residents. Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries collectively contribute 8.4% of the total GDP.[385] Despite this local production, Fiji imports nearly four times more food than it exports. While it exports around US$132.4 million worth of fresh and processed produce, it spends more than US$485.4 million on imported food to meet local demand and the needs of the tourism sector.[386] This dynamic creates supply chain vulnerabilities when a disaster disrupts international shipping or local port operations.

The diversity of food sources contributes to resilience during periods of disruption. Significant activity in root crops and vegetables, encompassing cassava, kumala, taro, yaqona, yams, and a variety of other produce including melons, bananas, watermelons, and ginger contribute to food security. Yam farming is highlighted as a resilient solution that supports food security in Fiji and helps with relief efforts during cyclones, when other crops are destroyed. Farmers have noted that yam farming has proven reliable during cyclone seasons, with the crops able to withstand harsh conditions and continue to produce food even after damage to farm structures. Following three cyclones, starting from Winston in February 2016, farmers were able to provide over two tons of yams to the government.[387]

Marine resources are fundamental to food security and livelihoods throughout Fiji. Fisheries provide an important source of protein for many households and support both subsistence and commercial economic activities. Coastal communities depend heavily on marine resources for nutrition, income generation, and cultural practices.

The importance of fisheries extends beyond food production. Fishing activities often serve as a livelihood safety net following disasters, particularly when agricultural production has been affected. Access to marine resources can therefore play an important role in supporting household recovery and reducing dependence on external assistance. Nonetheless, disasters can have significant impacts on fisheries. TCs frequently damage boats, engines, fishing gear, landing sites, and coastal infrastructure. Coral reef damage, sedimentation, and changes in coastal ecosystems may reduce fish availability and affect livelihoods long after the immediate disaster has passed. In maritime communities, restoration of fisheries often represents a critical component of recovery efforts.[388]

Although Fiji maintains a relatively productive agricultural sector, the country remains dependent on imported food commodities. Rice, wheat products, cooking

oils, processed foods, dairy products, and many consumer goods are imported through international supply chains that connect Fiji with markets in Australia, New Zealand, Asia, and beyond.

The movement of food throughout Fiji relies upon a complex transportation network consisting of ports, roads, airports, inter-island shipping services, and local distribution systems.

Disruptions to transportation infrastructure can create localized food insecurity even when sufficient food remains available elsewhere in the country. For many outer-island communities, transportation access represents one of the most important determinants of food security following disasters. Communities may retain local food resources but still face shortages of essential commodities, fuel, medicine, and other goods if transportation links remain disrupted. This dependence creates an important vulnerability within the national food system. Disruptions affecting ports, airports, shipping routes, fuel supplies, or international markets can rapidly affect food availability and prices. Because Fiji is an island nation, virtually all imported food enters the country through maritime transportation networks before being distributed through domestic supply chains.

Food security therefore depends not only on agricultural production but also on the continued operation of ports, shipping services, fuel distribution systems, warehouses, and transportation infrastructure. Maintaining these systems is often a major priority during disaster response operations.

Food Relief

Following disasters, food security responses should aim to meet short-term needs of the affected population. Over time, responses should protect and restore livelihoods and contribute to restoring long-term food security. In Fiji, the lead agency for the Food Security and Livelihood Cluster is the Ministry of Agriculture, supported by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). The Food Security and Livelihood Cluster aim to address both the immediate needs of the affected populations while looking at the integration of livelihood stabilization, achieving this through predictable, systematic, and country-driven services.

Food assistance and rationing during emergency situations can be critical to maintaining the nutritional status of affected people by complementing food available and accessible to them that are insufficient. The Fiji Emergency Food Basket aims to ensure maintenance of daily caloric intake, supply of macronutrients, and complement food to the affected population that lack sufficient supply. It was developed in collaboration with the FSLC and Nutrition Sub-Cluster to support general food distribution by the NDRMO and was endorsed by the NDRMC.

The GoF, supported by humanitarian organizations and development partners, employs a variety of approaches to address food security during emergencies. Immediate response activities often focus on emergency food assistance, while longer-term efforts emphasize restoration of livelihoods, agricultural recovery, and rebuilding of market systems. Increasingly, response strategies seek to support local markets whenever possible. Cash-based assistance may be used in areas where markets remain functional, while direct food distributions are generally prioritized when supply chains have been severely disrupted or access to markets is limited. Recovery efforts frequently include distribution of agricultural inputs, rehabilitation of fisheries assets, restoration of transportation networks, and support for local food production. These interventions help reduce long-term dependence on humanitarian assistance and strengthen community resilience to future shocks.

CONCLUSION

Fiji's disaster risk profile is shaped by the intersection of geographic exposure, climate vulnerability, economic dependence on climate-sensitive sectors, and the challenges associated with governing and servicing a dispersed archipelagic nation. TCs, flooding, droughts, landslides, earthquakes, and tsunami hazards will continue to pose significant threats to communities, infrastructure, livelihoods, and national development. The potential for rising sea levels, more intense rainfall events, and coastal erosion to drive more exposure, more vulnerability, and fewer resources available to build coping capacity will increase pressure on the GoF and its international partners and increase pressure on food systems and critical infrastructure.

At the same time, Fiji possesses considerable strengths that enhance its disaster resilience and response capacity. The country maintains one of the Pacific region's most mature disaster management systems, supported by a modern legal framework, experienced emergency management institutions, established cluster coordination mechanisms, and strong civil-military cooperation. National authorities have demonstrated the ability to coordinate complex multi-agency responses and effectively integrate international assistance during major emergencies.

Fiji's transportation infrastructure, particularly Nadi International Airport, the Port of Suva, and the national road network, provides critical foundations for emergency response and humanitarian logistics. However, these same systems remain vulnerable to disruption from TCs, flooding, and other hazard events. Maintaining transportation access and restoring critical infrastructure are therefore among the highest priorities during disaster response operations. The country's extensive network of remote maritime communities further underscores the importance of aviation, maritime transportation, prepositioned supplies, and community-level preparedness.

Successful disaster response operations in Fiji depend upon understanding the country's governance structures, disaster management architecture, transportation systems, and traditional leadership networks. Effective engagement requires coordination with the NDRMO, NEOC, Divisional Commissioners, local authorities, and community leaders. Fiji's strong relationships with regional organizations, humanitarian partners, and foreign governments provide important opportunities for coordinated response efforts and capacity enhancement.

Looking ahead, disaster management in Fiji will increasingly focus on resilience-building, anticipatory action, climate adaptation, and risk-informed development. Continued investments in infrastructure resilience, community preparedness, EWS, food security, and climate adaptation will be essential to reducing future disaster impacts. As both a disaster-prone nation and a regional humanitarian hub, Fiji will remain a key partner in strengthening disaster preparedness, response, and resilience across the Pacific Islands region.

Understanding Fiji's hazard environment, governance systems, infrastructure networks, and disaster management institutions is essential for military planners, humanitarian organizations, development partners, and government agencies seeking to support disaster response and resilience-building efforts. The information contained within this handbook is intended to support that understanding and facilitate effective coordination before, during, and after disasters affecting Fiji.

APPENDICES

Risk Indices

Risk calculation takes into account exposure to hazards, vulnerability, and coping capacity. Addressing all of these elements is important in reducing and mitigating disaster risk. Various indices emphasize structural or institutional risk while others emphasize hazards or losses (human and economic). Regardless of emphasis, disaster risk calculations use some form of the equation:

Disaster Risk = (Hazard × Vulnerability) / Capacity[389]

Taken from the UNDRR glossary, definitions will help clarify this formula:

- Capacity - The combination of strengths, attributes, and resources available within an organization, community, or society to manage and reduce disaster risks and strengthen resilience.
- Disaster risk - The potential loss of life, injury, or destroyed or damaged assets, which could occur to a system, society, or a community in a specific period of time, determined probabilistically as a function of hazard, exposure, vulnerability, and capacity.
- Hazard - A process, phenomenon, or human activity that may cause loss of life, injury, or other health impacts, property damage, social and economic disruption, or environmental degradation.
- Vulnerability - The conditions determined by physical, social, economic, and environmental factors or processes, which increase the susceptibility of an individual, a community, assets, or systems to the impacts of hazards.[390]

In general, the goal of indexing risk is to inform decision makers and DRR practitioners of the level of risk to and underlying capacity of the target community. The various risk calculation models support proactive crisis management frameworks and are helpful for prioritizing allocation of resources and for coordinating actions focused on anticipating, mitigating, and preparing for humanitarian emergencies.

INFORM Risk Profile

INFORM is a collaboration of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Reference Group on Risk, Early Warning, and Preparedness with the European Commission. It is a multi-stakeholder forum for developing shared, quantitative analysis relevant to humanitarian crises and disasters. The Joint Research Center of the European Commission is the scientific lead. There are three operational dashboards – i.e., INFORM Risk, INFORM Severity, and INFORM Climate Change.[391]

The **INFORM Risk Index** is an open-source assessment that supports prevention, preparedness, and response decisions. It measures the risk of humanitarian crises and disasters in 191 countries. The INFORM model is based on the standard dimensions of risk: Hazards and Exposure, Vulnerability, and Lack of Coping Capacity. The first dimension measures the natural and human hazards that pose the risk. The second and third dimensions cover population factors that can mitigate against or exacerbate the risk. The Vulnerability dimension considers the strength of individuals and households relative to a crisis while the Lack of Coping Capacity dimension considers factors of institutional strength.[392]

The INFORM model is split into different levels to provide a quick overview of the underlying factors leading to humanitarian risk. INFORM gives each country a risk score of 1-10 (1 being the lowest and 10 the highest) for each of the dimensions, categories, and components of risk, as well as an overall risk score.[393] The higher the score the more at-risk a country is. In the 2026 INFORM Risk Index, Fiji had an overall risk score of 3.1/10, which INFORM categorizes as the "Low" risk class and lands Fiji as the 118th most

at-risk country in the Index. The Hazards and Exposure dimension score takes into account a combination of both natural and anthropogenic hazards, and Fiji rated 3.0/10 or 110th of 191 countries. The Vulnerability dimension score was 3.1/10 or 117th of 191, and the Lack of Coping Capacity dimension score was 3.3/10 or 131st of 191. Physical exposure to tsunami and coastal flood, both scoring 7.1/10, were the greatest threats in the Hazards and Exposure dimension. Development Aid measured 7.4/10, the highest contributor to risk in the Vulnerability dimension. Lack of Access to Health Care rated 4.4/10 to be the most significant risk in the Lack of Coping Capacity dimension. Figure 14 shows the INFORM Risk dashboard for Fiji for 2026.[394]

U.S. Government Disaster Management Engagement

The U.S. and Fiji have shared diplomatic ties since 1971. The U.S. State Department's DHR is the lead federal office for short-term disaster response. Broadly, DHR provides funding, supplies, and personnel to support a disaster-affected state when that state requests or will accept international assistance and the U.S. offers assistance within the context that the assistance meets requirements for U.S. interests.

At the country level, these efforts are carried out by the agencies that make up the U.S. Country Team, led by the Chief of Mission (COM). The COM is responsible for issuing a Declaration of Humanitarian Need (DHN) when a major emergency requires international assistance. To improve preparedness – rather than only responding to disasters after they occur – the Country Team and other U.S. government partners regularly engage in training, information sharing, and capacity-building activities. The military-to-military relationship is especially important, as it supports the RFMF in strengthening preparedness across the full range of security challenges.

U.S. Country Team

The U.S. Embassy, headed by the COM, works closely with the GoF and the private sector. The COM heads a team of foreign service officers, consular agents, and representatives and agents from other U.S. federal government departments and agencies. Primary U.S. government agencies include U.S. Department of State, Defense Attaché Office (USDAO), Military Group (MILGP), U.S. Commercial Services, and Peace Corps.

The USDAO Suva coordinates defense engagement and security cooperation activities across the Southwest Pacific, including Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Tonga, and Tuvalu. USDAO Suva works on behalf of the U.S. Secretary of War, Commander of US PACOM, and the U.S. Ambassador in Suva. Its mission is to strengthen the capacity of Pacific Island countries' military, police, and government institutions to respond effectively to domestic and regional emergencies and disasters.[395]

Since 2018, the Nevada National Guard has partnered with the Republic of Fiji through the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program (SPP). The Partnership became official in 2019 during a formal signing ceremony. Through the SPP, the Nevada National Guard works closely with Fiji's military and its Ministry of Defense, in coordination with the U.S. Embassy in Suva, to support shared security goals in the Pacific region. The Nevada National Guard also has SPP partnerships with Tonga and Samoa, established in 2014 and 2023, respectively.[396]

The U.S. Army's Oceania Engagement

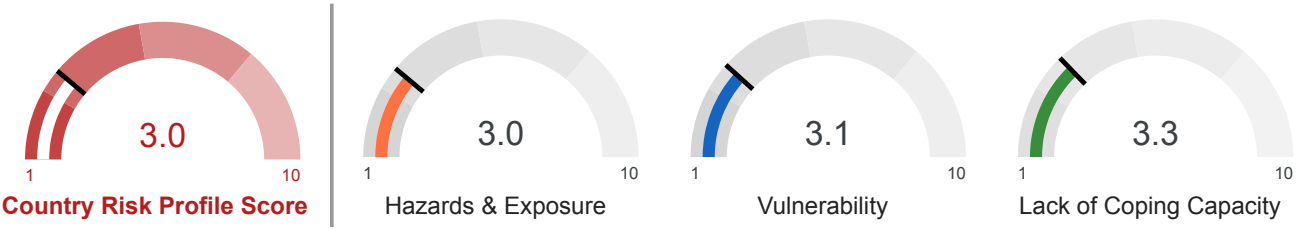


Figure 14: INFORM Risk Dashboard, Fiji (2026)

Team works in Fiji, where they partner closely with the RFMF. Their mission includes civil affairs activities, humanitarian assistance, disaster-response planning, and medical support. Working alongside the U.S. Embassy in Suva, the team regularly contributes to community-level projects that help strengthen local infrastructure and public health efforts across the country.[397]

U.S. Embassy in Suva
158 Princes Road
Tamavua, Suva, Fiji
Tel: +679-331-4466
Web: *https://fj.usembassy.gov/*
Email: *SuvaACS@state.gov*
Instagram: @usembassysuva
Facebook: USembassySuva

Large-Scale Responses

The U.S. State Department is the lead federal agency for U.S. international disaster response. Within the Department, DHR mobilizes funding, supplies, and personnel to support a disaster-affected state when that state requests or will accept international assistance and the U.S. offers assistance within the context that the assistance meets requirements for U.S. interests. The State Department may request other U.S. federal agency support if specific capacities are needed; as such, the Department may request U.S. military support for unique capacities and specified durations.

2020-2021 – COVID-19 Response

On 20 May 2021, the U.S. government, through the former U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), responded to Fiji's request for essential support in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic. In mid-April 2021, after a year without any local transmission, Fiji experienced an outbreak involving a COVID-19 variant of concern. As a result, the country required critical supplies to strengthen its national stockpile. With assistance from USAID and other donor partners, MHMS was able to address supply shortages and respond effectively to the outbreak.[398]

Through a partnership with UNICEF, USAID provided US$1.85 million under a regional initiative titled "Preventing and Responding to COVID-19 in the Pacific." This project, implemented in Fiji, the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu, focused on community-level risk communication, health worker training, and infection prevention and control measures, including WASH activities and supplies.[399]

2020 – TC Yasa

On 17 December 2020, TC Yasa made landfall on Fiji's main islands, Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, as a Category 5 cyclone. It caused extensive flooding and significant damage to buildings and crops on Vanua Levu. The GoF declared a state of natural disaster on 16 December, prior to the cyclone's arrival.[400] On 21 December, the U.S. Ambassador to Fiji announced the approval of US$100,000 in International Disaster Assistance from USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA). These funds were designated to support the FRCS in providing shelter, safe drinking water, hygiene assistance, and other essential services to affected communities.[401]

2020 – TC Harold

Between 2 and 9 April 2020, TC Harold, a Category 5 storm, affected Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu. On 8 April, the cyclone passed south of Fiji as a Category 4 system, bringing heavy rainfall. More than 180,000 people experienced disruptions to their homes and livelihoods, with 917 homes destroyed and another 2,629 severely damaged. The agriculture sector suffered extensive losses, and there was widespread damage to infrastructure, schools, and health facilities, particularly on the islands of Kadavu and Lau. USAID provided US$400,000 in immediate assistance and worked with partners in Fiji, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu to deliver shelter support and essential relief items in affected areas.[402]

2016 – TC Winston

TC Winston, a Category 5 storm and one of the most powerful cyclones ever recorded in the South Pacific, struck Fiji on 20 February 2016. According to the Post Disaster Needs Assessment, TC Winston affected approximately 540,000 people – about 62% of the country's population; it damaged homes, schools, and health facilities and disrupted essential public services and caused significant losses to crop and livelihoods. The total estimated damage and losses reached approximately US$900 million, equivalent to 20% of Fiji's 2014 GDP.[403] The scale of the disaster prompted a major response effort at the local, national, and international levels, led by the GoF with support from a wide range of partners. The NDMO (NDRMO's predecessor) coordinated these efforts, activating the National and Divisional EOCs. A 30-day State of Natural Disaster was declared and later extended on 21 March 2016. The U.S. was among the key donors contributing to the United Nations' Flash Appeal, which mobilized more than US$38.6 million to support Fiji's recovery.[404]

DoW DMHA Engagements

When the capacity of state and national authorities is outstripped by the requirements of a disaster response and the U.S. government has offered assistance, if the Department of State assesses that it requires additional capacity to deliver relief, it can request support from the DoW via an inter-agency process. If the Secretary of War assesses that U.S. military forces have the capacity to respond, the Pentagon will assign the response to a Geographic Component Command (e.g., US PACOM) who can assign the response to an available and trained commander or unit. That unit will support DHR for a specified period of time. On the ground, State and DoW responders utilize a specified process to receive tasking and report the status of tasks.

To ensure that U.S. forces are ready to fulfill their tasking, U.S. military units and agencies commonly undertake preparedness activities to train with and enhance the capacity of Fiji responders and partner states. In the past five years, U.S. military and Coast Guard personnel and assets have conducted multiple disaster management activities in Fiji.

Pacific Partnership Nabua Village Schoolhouse Project – June 2026

U.S. Navy Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1 worked alongside Fijian partners to complete a 2-room schoolhouse, as part of the enduring Pacific Partnership mission. The new facility will provide a safe and resilient learning environment for the children in Nabua Village. The project highlights how Pacific Partnership brings together partner nations, local communities, and subject matter experts to address shared challenges and invest in long-term capacity building.[405] Photo 7 shows sailors assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 1 and local Nabua villagers working together to construct a 2-room schoolhouse in Nabua.[406]



Photo 7: Pacific Partnership 2026 Schoolhouse Construction Project

Logistics Response Team Training – May 2026

Hosted by the GoF, the WFP delivered its first Logistics Response Team training from 24 April to 1 May 2026. Logistics professionals from around the world participated to strengthen preparedness for emergency response operations. The training featured intensive, real-life simulation exercises that reflected the complex environment of disaster response in the Pacific. Participants worked under field-like conditions and were challenged to respond to high-pressure scenarios where rapid decision-making, coordination, and problem-solving are essential to delivering life-saving assistance. Throughout the simulations, participants operated as part of interagency Logistics Response Teams. The exercises reinforced technical expertise, leadership, and coordination skills, while helping participants navigate common operational challenges such as limited access, multi-stakeholder coordination, and fast-changing conditions.[407]

Pacific Regional Disaster and Emergency Managers Meeting – April 2026

From 13 to 17 April 2026, SPC hosted the annual Pacific Regional Disaster and Emergency Managers Meeting (PRDEMM). The event brought together more than 200 participants, including DRM directors, police and fire chiefs, and international development partners from 23 Pacific Island countries and territories. The meeting focused on the combined impacts of recent extreme weather events. Another key theme was the urgent need to strengthen local response capacities during a time of global uncertainty. CFE-DM's participation in PRDEMM reinforced relationships with disaster managers across the region and provided valuable insights into the frameworks and systems shaping disaster response in the Pacific.[408]

Pacific Partnership – June 2025

Pacific Partnership is U.S. Pacific Fleet's largest annual multinational mission focused on humanitarian assistance and disaster response preparedness in the Indo-Pacific region. Pacific Partnership 2025 marked the 21st iteration of the mission. During this mission, a joint medical team composed of U.S. and Fijian public health personnel conducted 16 collaborative subject matter exchanges in hemoculture, permaculture, agriculture, and apiculture. The engineering team provided support to address several local infrastructure needs. Pacific Partnership continues to work closely with host and partner nations to improve regional interoperability and strengthen the collective ability to respond effectively to disasters.[409]

Regional Exercise Longreach – 2025

Regional Exercise Longreach is an annual initiative of the SPDMM. It is designed to strengthen regional humanitarian assistance, disaster response capabilities, and interagency coordination. It promotes collaborative learning and preparedness for disaster scenarios across the Indo-Pacific region. In 2024, the SPDMM established the PRG to enable the rapid deployment of regional military forces in response to natural disasters. SPDMM uses Regional Exercise Longreach as the annual platform to assess PRG interoperability and continue developing its life-saving operational capabilities.[410] Hosted by the Tongan NDRMO, the SPDMM Secretariat, and the Australian Army's First Division Headquarters, Regional Exercise Longreach 2025 brought together military and civilian disaster response planners from the seven SPDMM member nations – Australia, Chile, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and Tonga – along with three observer nations: Japan, the United Kingdom, and the U.S. Delegates collaborated to test the PRG's readiness and coordination through a major TC scenario in Tonga.[411]

Exercise Longreach – November 2025

Exercise Longreach 2025 took place 18-21 November in Suva, Fiji. Planned and hosted by ACMC in coordination with ADF and supported by CFE-DM to strengthen regional disaster-response capacity and civil-military coordination. NDRMO, NFA, Fiji Police

Force, local and international humanitarian organizations participated. NDRMO led an EOC activation to rehearse how various national entities would coordinate during a tsunami. PRG conducted planning as if operating from HQ in Australia and maintain situational awareness and prepare for potential deployment.

Acquisition and Cross Servicing Agreement – November 2024

In November 2024, the Department of Defense (now known as the DoW) deepened its defense cooperation and disaster management and humanitarian assistance engagement with Fiji. This milestone was highlighted by the signing of a landmark ACSA during the first-ever visit by a U.S. Defense Secretary to Fiji. The agreement was finalized after nearly a decade of negotiations and serves as a critical logistics mechanism designed to facilitate the rapid, efficient transfer of fuel, medical supplies, and other vital resources during crises. The ASCA allows both nations' militaries to utilize each other's maintenance facilities during emergencies, drastically boosting their joint readiness and capacity to execute rapid humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations.

Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum – August 2024

The 2024 Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum was held 6-9 August 2024 in Natadola, Fiji. The event focused on resilience and humanitarian assistance through environmental security and covered topics including water security, biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, and resilience and adaptation. CFE-DM executed a module on adaptation and resilience, focusing on localized data, future conditions, infrastructure, and ultimately improving long-term decision-making and efficient use of government resources.

Fiji National Disaster Awareness Week – October 2023

Organized by Fiji's National Disaster Management Office, its National Disaster Awareness Week 2023 was held in October. The event aimed to enhance the level of disaster preparedness amongst stakeholders and communities and featured a simulation exercise to test tsunami and earthquake preparedness. The event brought together nearly 500 participants and observers, including Fijian government bodies, international agencies, and humanitarian groups. CFE-DM supported the simulation exercise as a referee observing and assessing civil-military coordination. Photo 8 shows the simulation NEOC operations during the National Disaster Awareness Week's simulation exercise.



Photo 8: National Emergency Operations Center

Pacific Partnership – October 2023

Over the course of the 2023 Pacific Partnership from 31 October to 8 November, the multinational medical team completed more than 100 medical and veterinary engagements across 7 Fijian villages. Professional exchanges and nursing training sessions strengthened local clinical capacity, reaching more than 200 Fijian health professionals. Engineering teams made significant infrastructure improvements by partnering with Fijian counterparts to renovate Lomaivuna High School. Their work included completing a new building and upgrading campus plumbing, directly benefiting more than 400 students and faculty and enhancing the school's long-term functionality.[412]

CFE-DM supported Pacific Partnership by conducting an HADR workshop in Suva. There were 47 participants, including from the NDMO, NERT, MRMDDM, Ministry of Home Affairs, RFMF, Fiji Navy, Fiji Police Force, and the NFA. Photo 9 shows CFE-DM, U.S. Coast Guard, and Fijian stakeholders during an interactive session at Pacific Partnership.

Exercise Cartwheel – September 2022

Exercise Cartwheel 2022 kicked off on 12 September at Black Rock Camp, Fiji. The exercise is a multinational training event involving Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, the United Kingdom (UK), and the U.S. This iteration ran 12-23 September, all within Fiji. The exercise aimed at building "expeditionary readiness and interoperability," according to the U.S. Embassy in Suva. Approximately 270 troops from the five participating countries took part in drills conducted in both jungle and urban environments. U.S. Soldiers assigned to 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, supported by Army Reserve 797th Engineers, 402nd Forward Resuscitative Surgical Team, and 343rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, partnered with Republic of Fiji Military Forces (RFMF) as well as Australian, New Zealand, and British soldiers during the 11-day exercise. They trained in urban, rappelling, and jungle operations with opportunities for unit ministry teams, medical teams, and engineers to trade best practices simultaneously.



Photo 9: Stakeholders Discuss Disaster Preparedness

Additional Resources

This appendix provides additional references, with links, to enable readers to find relevant and contextual information.

International and U.S. Government Sources
U.S. Embassy in Fiji https://fj.usembassy.gov/
Traveler's Health U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/fiji
Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 United Nation Office for Disaster Risk Reduction https://www.undrr.org/publication/sendai-framework-disaster-risk-reduction-2015-2030 *Outlines targets and priorities for action to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk.*
European Commission Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre INFORM Risk Index https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index
Pacific Disaster Center (PDC) https://www.pdc.org/
Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT) https://response.reliefweb.int/pacific-region/pacific-humanitarian-team-pht?_gl=1*ewohob*_ga*MTU1MDI2MDAxOS4xNzcxOTc1OTUy*_ga_E60ZNX2F68*czE3NzUwNzY0NTkkbzEyJGcwJHQxNzc1MDc2NDU5JGo2MCRsMCRoMA
UN Office in Fiji https://pacific.un.org/en/contact-us *The UN office in Fiji covers not only Fiji but also the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.*

National Disaster Risk Management
National Disaster Risk Management Office https://www.ndmo.gov.fj
National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 https://www.ndmo.gov.fj/ndmo-act/
Fiji Meteorological Service – Strategic Development Plan 2024 https://www.met.gov.fj/about-fiji-met/strategic-development-plan/
National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy (2018-2030) https://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Natural-Disaster-Risk-Reduction-Policy-2018%E2%80%932030.pdf

Regional Organizations and Initiatives
Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) https://forumsec.org/pacific-islands-forum *Regional organization of 18 Pacific Island countries, including Fiji. Top-level political forum for collective action, including environmental security and disaster management.*
Pacific Community (SPC) https://www.spc.int/ *Regional organization of 27 Pacific Island countries and territories, including Fiji. The SPC emphasizes work on sustainable development, including adaptation and risk mitigation. It is the secretariat for work on PReSCoM to ensure a coordinated response among signatories after a disaster.*
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) https://www.sprep.org/ *Organization of 22 Pacific Island country and territory members and 4 metropolitan (former or current colonial powers) members. Scientific lead for many disaster management and environmental security initiatives.*
South Pacific Defence Ministers' Meeting (SPDMM) https://spdmm.org/
Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP) https://gem.spc.int/projects/frdp
Asia-Pacific Regional Guidelines for the Use of Foreign Military Assets in Natural Disaster Response Operations ("APC-MADRO Guidelines") The Asia-Pacific Conferences on Military Assistance to Disaster Relief Operations (APC-MADRO) & OCHA, 2014 https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/world/asia-pacific-regional-guidelines-use-foreign-military-assets-natural-disaster-response *Reference guide for states planning and executing foreign military support for regional disaster response.*
Multinational Force Standing Operating Procedures (MNF SOP) – Annex C: Humanitarian Assistance/ Disaster Relief Multinational Planning Augmentation Team (MPAT), U.S. Pacific Command https://www.pacom.mil/Portals/55/Documents/J7/MNF%20SOP%20Ver%203.4_14%20FEB%2025_vbf.pdf?ver=4LVTNxMJB8_1xpfxYdARrg%3d%3d (D1 C1/ PDF pg. 883) *Annex on international humanitarian assistance; part of broad standing procedures for regional multinational force operations other than war.*
USINDOPACOM Foreign Disaster Response in the Indo-Asia-Pacific April 1991 – January 2024 CFE-DM, U.S. Pacific Command https://www.cfe-dmha.org/Publications/New-Releases *Contemporary historical synopsis of foreign disasters the U.S. DoD responded to in the Indo-Pacific.*
Best Practices for Civil-Military Coordination in Disaster Management in the Pacific Islands: A Primer for Foreign Military Forces CFE-DM, U.S. Pacific Command https://www.cfe-dmha.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=P1bo8u2moc8%3d&portalid=0
Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination in Emergencies: Towards a Predictable Model Regional Consultative Group https://www.acmc.gov.au/resources/publications/humanitarian-civil-military-coordination-emergencies-towards-predictable-1

U.S. DoW Training
Humanitarian Assistance Response Training – Disasters (HART-D) Course CFE-DM, U.S. Pacific Command https://www.cfe-dmha.org/hart-d *Target Audience: O3-O6, E6-E9, and DoW civilians who may plan for or execute a Foreign Disaster Relief mission or participate in disaster response activities in exercises or security cooperation engagements.*

Acronyms and Abbreviations

°	Degree(s) – Celsius and Fahrenheit
$	Dollar(s)
AAL	Average Annual Losses
ACSA	Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADF	Australian Defence Force
APOD	Aerial Ports of Debarkation
AUSMAT	Australian Medical Assistance Team
BAF	Biosecurity Authority of Fiji
CAAF	Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji
CDRMC	Community Disaster Risk Management Committee
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
CFL	Communications Fiji Limited
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia)
DHR	U.S. State Department Bureau of Disaster and Humanitarian Response
DHN	Declaration of Humanitarian Need
DoW	U.S. Department of War
DRM	Disaster Risk Management
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DSLO	Disaster Service Liaison Officers
DWT	Deadweight Tonnage
EFL	Energy Fiji Limited
EM-DAT	Emergency Events Database
ENSO	El Niño-Southern Oscillation
EOC	Emergency Operation Centers
EW4All	Early Warnings for All
EWS	Early Warning Systems
FAL	Fiji Airports Limited
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation (UN)
FBC	Fijian Broadcasting Corporation
FBDRC	Fiji Business Disaster Resilience Council
FCOSS	Fiji Council of Social Services
FDPF	Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation
FEMAT	Fiji Emergency Medical Assistance Team
FIMSA	Fiji Islands Maritime Safety Administration
FMS	Fiji Meteorological Service
FNPF	Fiji National Provident Fund
FPCL	Fiji Ports Corporation Pte Limited
FPO	Fiji Procurement Office
FPTL	Fiji Ports Terminal Pte Limited

FRA	Fiji Roads Authority
FRANZ	France, Australia, and New Zealand
FRCS	Fiji Red Cross Society
FRDP	Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific
FREF	Fiji Rural Electrification Fund
FRIEND	Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises and Development
FSLC	Food Security and Livelihood Cluster
FWCC	Fiji Women's Crisis Centre
FWRM	Fiji Women's Rights Movement
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEM	Geoscience, Energy and Maritime Division (of SPC)
GoF	Government of Fiji
GSS	Government Shipping Services
HADR	Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief
HF	High-Frequency
HFHF	Habitat for Humanity Fiji
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HLS	Helicopter Landing Sites
IATA	International Air Transport Association
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDA	Initial Damage Assessment
IDMC	Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
JTFC	Joint Task Force Command
JTWC	Joint Typhoon Warning Center
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
LTDD	Leptospirosis, Typhoid, Dengue and Diarrhea
MHEWS	Multi-Hazard Early Warning System
MHMS	Ministry of Health and Medical Services
MILGP	Military Group
MJO	Madden-Julian Oscillation
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	Members of Parliament
MPWMST	Ministry of Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport
MRD	Mineral Resources Department
MRMDDM	Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management
MSAF	Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji

MT	Metric Tons
Mw	Moment Magnitude Scale
NCD	Non-communicable diseases
NDAW	National Disaster Awareness Week
NDMC	National Disaster Management Council (now the National Disaster Risk Management Council)
NDMO	National Disaster Management Office (now the National Disaster Risk Management Office)
NDRMA	National Disaster Risk Management Act
NDRMC	National Disaster Risk Management Council
NDRMO	National Disaster Risk Management Office
NEOC	National Emergency Operations Centre
NERT	National Emergency Response Team
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NZDF	New Zealand Defence Force
NZMAT	New Zealand Medical Assistance Team
PCDF	Partners in Community Development Fiji
PDF	Pacific Disability Forum
PDNA	Post Disaster Needs Assessment
PHT	Pacific Humanitarian Team
PIF	Pacific Islands Forum
PRC	People's Republic of China
PResCoM	Pacific Humanitarian Response Coordination Mechanism
PRF	Pacific Resilience Facility
PRFCM	Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility
PRG	Pacific Response Group
PS	Permanent Secretaries
PSC	Public Service Commission
PTWC	Pacific Tsunami Warning Center
RDC	Reception Departure Centre
RFMF	Republic of Fiji Military Forces
RFN	Republic of Fiji Navy
RICD	Risk Index for Climate Displacement
Ro-Ro	Roll-on/Roll-off
SAMOA	Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action
SAR	Search and Rescue
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing State
SIM	Subscriber Identity Module
SIMEX	Simulation Exercise
SMS	Short Message Service
SOFA	Status of Forces Agreement
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
SPC	The Pacific Community

SPCZ	South Pacific Convergence Zone
SPDMM	South Pacific Defence Ministers' Meeting
SPP	State Partnership Program (U.S. National Guard)
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SWIFT	Single Window International Facilitation Team
TAF	Telecommunications Authority of Fiji
TB	Tuberculosis
TC	Tropical Cyclone
TFL	Telecom Fiji Limited
TIN	Tax Identification Number
ULD	Unit Load Device
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNDAC	United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOCHA / OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNRC	United Nations Resident Coordinator
USAID/BHA	U.S. Agency for International Development / Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance
USDAO	U.S. Defense Attaché Office
USP	University of the South Pacific
US PACOM	U.S. Pacific Command
WAF	Water Authority of Fiji
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WLS	Water Landing Site
WHO	World Health Organization
WLS	Water Landing Sites
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WRP	Weather Ready Pacific

Endnotes

1 Pacific Water, "Fiji," Pacific Water Association, accessed July 23, 2026, https://www.pacificwater.org/_resources/article/files/Fiji.pdf.

2 "Fiji". Funk & Wagnalls New World Encyclopedia,2025

3 Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Country Profile: Fiji (Apia, Samoa: SPREP, 1998), accessed July 23, 2026, https://library.sprep.org/sites/default/files/2021-02/country-profile-fiji.pdf.

4 Fiji's coral reefs to be protected by new policy. SPREP Pacific Islands Protected Area Portal, 29 May 2020. https://pipap.sprep.org/news/fijis-coral-reefs-be-protected-new-policy

5 Pacific Water, "Fiji," Pacific Water Association, accessed July 23, 2026, https://www.pacificwater.org/_resources/article/files/Fiji.pdf.

6 Country Profile: Fiji. Sopac, 1998. https://library.sprep.org/sites/default/files/2021-02/country-profile-fiji.pdf

7 https://www.ebsco.com/research-starters/geography-and-cartography/fiji

8 Pacific Water, "Fiji," Pacific Water Association, accessed July 23, 2026, https://www.pacificwater.org/_resources/article/files/Fiji.pdf.

9 Fiji Map. Adobe Stock Image, https://stock.adobe.com/87852525

10 Jenkins AP, Jupiter SD, Jenney A, Naucukidi A, Prasad N, Vosaki G, Mulholland K, Strugnell R, Kama M, Crump JA, Horwitz P. Environmental Foundations of Typhoid Fever in the Fijian Residential Setting. Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2019 Jul 6;16(13):2407. doi: 10.3390/ijerph16132407. PMID: 31284613; PMCID: PMC6651141

11 "Concept Note Proposal for Single Country: Fiji Rewa Catchment Adaptation Programme. Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme submission to Adaptation Fund, accessed 12 June 2026. http://www.adaptation-fund.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/SPREP_Fiji_Resubmission_CN.pdf Page 3

12 Fiji Technical Report: An economic analysis of flood warning in Navua, Fiji. October 2008. https://spccfpstore1.blob.core.windows.net/digitallibrary-docs/files/08/083d6bf4a01abc9df98e6b246021b957.pdf

13 Republic of Fiji Geographical situation and geophysical context. ORSNET, accessed 22 May 2026. https://www.orsnet.org/?page_id=528

14 Cronin, S. J., & Neall, V. E. (2001). Holocene volcanic geology, volcanic hazard, and risk on Taveuni, Fiji. New Zealand Journal of Geology and Geophysics, 44(3), 417–437. https://doi.org/10.1080/00288306.2001.9514948

15 Logistics Cluster. "Fiji: 1.1 Fiji Humanitarian Background." Logistics Capacity Assessment. Last modified July 2026. Accessed July 23, 2026. https://lca.logcluster.org/fiji-11-fiji-humanitarian-background.

16 Shane J Cronin, Marie A Ferland, James P Terry, Nabukelevu volcano (Mt. Washington), Kadavu – a source of hitherto unknown volcanic hazard in Fiji, Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research, Volume 131, Issues 3–4, 2004, Pages 371-396, ISSN 0377-0273, https://doi.org/10.1016/S0377-0273(03)00414-1.

17 Climate Risk Country Profile: Fiji. World Bank Group, 2021. https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/country-profiles/15854-WB_Fiji%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf

18 Anish Chand. "Fiji faces rare 'icy' mornings." The Fiji Times, 2 August 2025. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/fiji-faces-rare-icy-mornings/

19 Fiji. World Bank Group Climate Change Knowledge Portal, accessed 27 April 2026. https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/fiji

Fiji. World Bank Group Climate Change Knowledge Portal, accessed 27 April 2026. https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/fiji

20 Prasad, Jasneel. "Climate Change Impacts in Fiji." PowerPoint presentation, 1st Seminar on the Sentan Project, Asian Disaster Reduction Center, Kobe, Japan, February 2025. https://www.adrc.asia/sentanpro/202502/documents/1st_05_Jasneel_PPT.pdf

21 "The Climate of Fiji." Blue Green Atlas, accessed 15 June 2026. https://bluegreenatlas.com/climate/fiji_climate.html

Tropical Cyclone Outlook. Fiji Meteorological Service, accessed 23 June 2026. https://www.met.gov.fj/climate-services/2025-26-tc-outlook/

"Climate Change Impacts in Fiji." Fiji Government, Fiji Meteorological Service, accessed 1 July 2026. https://www.adrc.asia/sentanpro/202502/documents/1st_05_Jasneel_PPT.pdf

22 Prasad, Jasneel. "Climate Change Impacts in Fiji." PowerPoint presentation, 1st Seminar on the Sentan Project, Asian Disaster Reduction Center, Kobe, Japan, February 2025. https://www.adrc.asia/sentanpro/202502/documents/1st_05_Jasneel_PPT.pdf

23 Yeo, Stephen W. Floods in Fiji: 1840-2009. Suva, Fiji: SOPAC, 2009. https://library.sprep.org/sites/default/files/floods-fiji-1840-2009.pdf.

24 IMERG Captures Rainfall from Tropical Cyclone Ana in Fiji. NASA Global Precipitation Measurement, 5 February 2021. https://gpm.nasa.gov/applications/weather/imerg-captures-rainfall-tropical-cyclone-ana-fiji

25 John Gottschalck. "What is the MJO, and why do we care?" NOAA Climate.gov 31 December 2014. https://www.climate.gov/news-features/blogs/enso/what-mjo-and-why-do-we-care

26 2024 Annual Climate Summary. Fiji Meteorological Service, Ministry of Public Works, Transport & Meteorological Services, 2024. https://www.met.gov.fj/media/climate_product_files/Annual_Summary_2024_final_UqTs8nX.pdf

27 El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO). World Health Organization, 9 November 2023. https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/el-nino-southern-oscillation-(enso)

28 Fiji Climate Outlook, March 2026. Fiji Ministry of Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport, 27 February 2026. https://www.met.gov.fj/media/climate_product_files/Fiji_Climate_Outlook_March_2026.pdf

29 2017 Population and Housing Census, Release 1: Age, Sex, Geography, and Economic Activity. Fiji Bureau of Statistics, FBoS Release No:1, 2018.

30 Fiji Statistics at a Glance. Fiji Bureau of Statistics, accessed 4 June 2026. https://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/

31 Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. Country Profile: Fiji. Apia, Samoa: SPREP, 1998. Accessed July 23, 2026. https://library.sprep.org/sites/default/files/2021-02/country-profile-fiji.pdf.

32 Fiji Bureau of Statistics. 2017 Population and Housing Census: Administrative Report and General Tables. Suva, Fiji: Fiji Bureau of Statistics, 2018.

33 Image adapted from https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fiji_Province.svg using 2017 Population and Housing Census https://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/census-surveys/census-of-population-and-housing/#2017

34 Disaster Risk Reduction Plan for the Western Division. Fiji National Disaster Risk Management Office, January 2024. Page 4

35 Fiji 2023-2024 Employment & Unemployment Survey

Report. Fiji Bureau of Statistics, February 2026.

36 Image adapted from https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fiji_Province.svg using 2017 Population and Housing Census https://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/census-surveys/census-of-population-and-housing/#2017

37 Fiji 2023-2024 Employment & Unemployment Survey Report. Fiji Bureau of Statistics, February 2026. Page 26

38 Gerard Finn. "One Year Into Fiji's Fourth Coup." EWC Insights, Vol. 2 No. 2, December 2007. https://www.eastwestcenter.org/sites/default/files/private/Insights00202.pdf

39 Population by Major Ethnicity Groups. Fiji Bureau of Statistics Population 2017 Census, accessed 26 June 2026. https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/fd6bb849099f46869125089fd13579ec/page/Population-by-Major-Ethnicity-Groups

40 Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Country Information Report: Fiji. Canberra, ACT: DFAT, 2023. Accessed July 23, 2026. https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/country-information-report-fiji.pdf.

41 Encyclopedia Britannica. Fiji—People of Fiji. https://www.britannica.com/place/Fiji-republic-Pacific-Ocean/People.

42 Population by Major Religious Groups. Fiji Bureau of Statistics Population 2017 Census. https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/fd6bb849099f46869125089fd13579ec/page/Population--by-Major-Religious-Groups

43 "Hindu temple Sri Siva Subramaniya Swami temple in Nadi, Fiji."Adobe Stock, accessed 22 July 2026. https://stock.adobe.com/275297395

44 SPREP. The Grim Reality Of Loss And Damage In Fiji. 19 July 2023. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/grim-reality-loss-and-damage-fiji

45 2019-20 Household Income and Expenditure Survey Main Report. Fiji Bureau of Statistics, August 2021. https://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/download/113/hies-2019-20/3847/2019-20_household_income_and_expenditure_survey.pdf

46 Fiji 2023-2024 Employment & Unemployment Survey Report. Fiji Bureau of Statistics, February 2026. Page 26

47 Country Partnership Strategy: Fiji, 2014-2018. Mandaluyong, Philippines: Asian Development Bank, 2014. https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/linked-documents/cps-fij-2014-2018-pa.pdf. Page 2

48 Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection. (2025). National Child Safeguarding Policy. Government of Fiji. Ministerial Statement recorded in the Parliamentary Daily Hansard, September 29, 2025. https://parliament.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Daily-Hansard-Monday-29th-September-2025.pdf

49 United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Pacific Office, technical feedback and peer-review comments on the Fiji Disaster Management Reference Handbook, 21 July 2026.

50 Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation. (2018). Fiji National Service Delivery Protocol for Responding to Cases of Gender-Based Violence. Government of Fiji / UN Women. https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2019/09/sops-gbv-fiji-service-delivery-protocol

51 "Parliament of the Republic of Fiji Fact Sheet." Parliament of the Republic of Fiji, January 2026, accessed 9 June 2026. https://www.parliament.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/HOW-LAWS-ARE-MADE.pdf

52 Australian DFAT, Country Information Report: Fiji, 13. https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/country-information-report-fiji.pdf Page 13.

53 "Discover Parliament: Card 2." Parliament of the Republic of Fiji, accessed 9 June 2026. https://www.parliament.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Card-2.pdf

54 Country Report Fiji. ADRC Visiting Researcher Program Fiscal Year 2024. https://www.adrc.asia/countryreport/FJI/2024/Fiji_CountryReport_Fy2024.pdf

55 Fiji Government Facebook, 18 October 2022. https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=487050743459128&set=a.305553278275543&id=100064626194509

56 Timoci Vula. "Beyond the Scope: Provincial councils under the microscope." The Fiji Times, 25 March 2024. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/beyond-the-scope-provincial-councils-under-the-microscope/

57 Beyond the Scope: Provincial councils under the microscope. The Fiji Times, 23 December 2023. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/beyond-the-scope-provincial-councils-under-the-microscope/

58 2024 Investment Climate Statements: Fiji. U.S. Department of State, 2024. Accessed 22 May 2026. https://2021-2025.state.gov/reports/2024-investment-climate-statements/fiji/

59 Fiji's Future: Prosperity through People and Productivity. The World Bank Group, 2025. https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/a9e852de-b78e-40b3-b06f-3e3bb67524d7

60 Political Causes of Poverty in Fiji. Borgen Magazine, accessed 26 June 2026. https://www.borgenmagazine.com/political-causes-of-poverty-in-fiji/

61 Fiji's Future: Prosperity through People and Productivity. The World Bank Group, 2025. https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/a9e852de-b78e-40b3-b06f-3e3bb67524d7; https://oec.world/en/profile/country/fji#most-specialized-products

62 Fiji: Country Factsheet. International Labour Organization, 2024.

63 Anish Chand. "Debt remains Fiji's biggest economic vulnerability." The Fiji Times, 8 June 2026. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/debt-remains-fijis-biggest-economic-vulnerability/

64 Fiji. International Monetary Fund Datamapper, accessed 15 June 2026. https://www.imf.org/external/datamapper/profile/FJI

65 Anish Chand. "Debt remains Fiji's biggest economic vulnerability." The Fiji Times, 8 June 2026. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/debt-remains-fijis-biggest-economic-vulnerability/

66 Fiji 2023-2024 Employment & Unemployment Survey Report. Fiji Bureau of Statistics, February 2026. https://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/download/430/employment-2023-24/6078/2023-24-fiji-employment-and-unemployment-survey-main-report.pdf Page 16

67 Fiji 2023-2024 Employment & Unemployment Survey Report. Fiji Bureau of Statistics, February 2026. https://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/download/430/employment-2023-24/6078/2023-24-fiji-employment-and-unemployment-survey-main-report.pdf Page 42

68 Anish Chand. Agricultural exports reach record $187.2M. The Fiji Times, 21 June 2026. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/agricultural-exports-reach-record-187-2-million/

69 Fiji 2023-2024 Employment & Unemployment Survey Report. Fiji Bureau of Statistics, February 2026. https://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/download/430/employment-2023-24/6078/2023-24-fiji-employment-and-unemployment-survey-main-report.pdf Page 42

70 Provisional Visitor Arrivals – December 2025. Fiji Bureau of Statistics, 18 January 2026. https://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/provisional-visitor-arrivals-december-2025/

71 Ryan Edwards, Toan Nguyen, and Kushneel Prakash. "Fiji fights for brain gain amid wave of emigration." East Asia Forum, 8 June 2024. https://eastasiaforum.org/2024/06/08/fiji-fights-for-brain-gain-amid-wave-of-emigration/

72 Personal remittances received (% of GDP) – Fiji. World

Bank Group, accessed 26 June 2026. https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/BX.TRF.PWKR.DT.GD.ZS?locations=FJ

73 Rakesh Kumar. inDEPTH: Workforce crisis. The Fiji Times, 11 May 2026. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/in-depth-i-workforce-crisis/

74 Ibid

75 Australian Aid. Pacific Risk Profile: Fiji. https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/pacific-risk-profile_fiji.pdf

76 Othering & Belonging Institute at UC Berkeley. Climate Crisis, Displacement, and the Right to Stay. Accessed 11 June 2026. https://belonging.berkeley.edu/climatedisplacement/case-studies/fiji#footnoteref7_13cpesr

77 IDMC. Sudden-Onset Hazards and the Risk of Future Displacement in Fiji. https://api.internal-displacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/fiji_riskprofile_idmc.pdf

78 Australian Aid. Pacific Risk Profile: Fiji. https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/pacific-risk-profile_fiji.pdf

79 Othering & Belonging Institute at UC Berkeley. Climate Crisis, Displacement, and the Right to Stay. Accessed 11 June 2026. https://belonging.berkeley.edu/climatedisplacement/case-studies/fiji#footnoteref14_5rhs7rw

80 ADRC. Country Report Fiji. Visiting Researcher Program Fiscal Year 2024. https://www.adrc.asia/countryreport/FJI/2024/Fiji_CountryReport_Fy2024.pdf

81 Government of Fiji. End of dengue fever and leptospirosis outbreaks. 23 July 2024. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/end-dengue-fever-and-leptospirosis-outbreaks

82 RNZ News. Fiji govt warns of 'LTDD' diseases post-cyclone. 28 April 2020. https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/415297/fiji-govt-warns-of-ltdd-diseasespost-cyclone

83 RNZ News. More than 2500 cases of dengue in Fiji this year. 3 September 2019. https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/398003/more-than-2500-cases-ofdengue-in-fiji-this-year; RNZ News. Over 1500 dengue cases recorded in Fiji. 23 August 2019. https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/397300/over-1500-dengue-cases-recordedin-fiji

84 World Bank Group. Climate Risk Country Profile: Fiji. 2021. https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/country-profiles/15854-WB_Fiji%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf

85 ADRC. Information on Disaster Risk Reduction of the Member Countries. Fiji. https://www.adrc.asia/nationinformation.php?NationCode=242&Lang=jp&NationNum=41

86 Nand, M. M., Bardsley, D. K., & Suh, J. (2025). Climate change loss and damage from droughts: key insights from Fiji's sugar industry. Local Environment, 30(6), 778–794. https://doi.org/10.1080/13549839.2024.2386963

87 Rabonu, Inoke. Fiji on El Niño watch: What you need to know. Fiji Sun. 15 June 2026. https://fijisun.com.fj/news/weather/fiji-on-el-nio-watch-what-you-need-to-know

88 IDMC. Sudden-Onset Hazards and the Risk of Future Displacement in Fiji. https://api.internal-displacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/fiji_riskprofile_idmc.pdf

89 Government of Fiji, World Bank, and GFDRR. "Climate Vulnerability Assessment: Making Fiji Climate Resilient." 2017. https://fijiclimatechangeportal.gov.fj/publication/climate-vulnerability-assessment-making-fiji-climate-resilient/

90 Reuters. Magnitude 8.2 quake strikes in the Pacific, no damage reported on Fiji. 18 August 2018. https://www.reuters.com/article/business/environment/magnitude-82-quake-strikes-in-the-pacific-no-damage-reported-on-fiji-idUSKBN1L4007/

91 Pignataro, Juliana Rose. Fiji Earthquake: 8.1 Quake Hits Near Suva. Newsweek. 06 September 2018. https://www.newsweek.com/fiji-earthquake-suva-magnitude-1109637; New Zealand Herald. Magnitude 7.8 earthquake rocks Fiji in early hours. 6 September 2018. https://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/magnitude-78-earthquake-rocks-fiji-in-early-hours/BL55BOS54ET5AJUZMFIDH2U764/

92 World Bank Group. Climate Risk Country Profile: Fiji. 2021. https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/country-profiles/15854-WB_Fiji%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf

93 IDMC. Sudden-Onset Hazards and the Risk of Future Displacement in Fiji. https://api.internal-displacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/fiji_riskprofile_idmc.pdf

94 World Bank Group. Climate Risk Country Profile: Fiji. 2021. https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/country-profiles/15854-WB_Fiji%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf

95 ADRC. Information on Disaster Risk Reduction of the Member Countries. Fiji. https://www.adrc.asia/nationinformation.php?NationCode=242&Lang=jp&NationNum=41

96 Adobe Stock, accessed 27 July 2026, https://stock.adobe.com/134304582

97 Pacific Community (SPC). Needs Assessment Report: A capacity building needs assessment for scaling up Nature-based Solutions. Building Resilience in the Pacific: Fiji, Tonga, and Vanuatu. 2025. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/needs-assessment-report-capacity-building-needs-assessment-scaling-nature-based-solutions-building-resilience-pacific-fiji-tonga-and-vanuatu

98 SPREP. The Grim Reality Of Loss And Damage In Fiji. 19 July 2023. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/grim-reality-loss-and-damage-fiji

99 NASA and University of Hawaii Sea Level Center. Sea Level Summary for Suva, Fiji, 30 August 2024. https://sealevel.nasa.gov/internal_resources/535/Suva_Fiji_combined.pdf

100 World Bank Group. Climate Risk Country Profile: Fiji. 2021. https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/country-profiles/15854-WB_Fiji%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf

101 SPC. Needs Assessment Report: A capacity building needs assessment for scaling up Nature-based Solutions: Building Resilience in the Pacific: Fiji, Tonga, and Vanuatu. 26 June 2025. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/needs-assessment-report-capacity-building-needs-assessment-scaling-nature-based-solutions-building-resilience-pacific-fiji-tonga-and-vanuatu

102 Tecchiato, Sira and Wilson, Geoffrey. Empowering Fijian villages through nature-based coastal protection. 4 May 2026. https://www.preventionweb.net/news/empowering-fijian-villages-through-nature-based-coastal-protection

103 Shiiba, Nagisa, et al. Climate change and coastal resiliency of Suva, Fiji: a holistic approach for measuring climate risk using the climate and ocean risk vulnerability index (CORVI). Mitig Adapt Strateg Glob Chang. 2023 Jan 10;28(2):9. https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC9838293/

104 Rosmiati, Nia. Adapting to Climate Change: Planned Migration in the Pacific Islands. 26 February 2025. https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2025/02/26/adapting-to-climate-change-planned-migration-in-the-pacific-islands/

105 ADRC. Country Report Fiji. Visiting Researcher Program Fiscal Year 2024. https://www.adrc.asia/countryreport/FJI/2024/Fiji_CountryReport_Fy2024.pdf

106 IFRC. Fiji | Tropical Cyclone - Simplified Early Action Protocol Operations Update (sEAP №: EAP2024FJ01, Operation №: MDRFJ008) 17 December 2025. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclone-simplified-early-action-protocol-operations-update-seap-no-eap2024fj01-opera-

tion-no-mdrfj008

107 NOAA Historical Hurricane Tracks, accessed 6 July 2026. https://coast.noaa.gov/hurricanes/#map=5.22/-17.192/178.177&search=eyJzZWFyY2hTdHJpbmciOiJGaWppIiwic2Vhcm-NoVHlwZSI6Imdlb2NvZGVkIiwib3NtSUQiOiI1NzE3NDciL-CJjYXRlZ29yaWVzIjpbIkg1IiwiSDQiLCJIMyIsIkgyIiwiSDEiLC-JUUyIsIlREIiwiRVQiXSwieWVhcnMiOltdLCJtb250aHMiOlt-dLCJlbnNvIjpbXSwicHJlc3N1cmUiOnsicmFuZ2UiOlswLD-k5MF0sImluY2x1ZGVVbmtub3duUHJlc3N1cmUiOmZhbHN-lfSwiYnVmZmVyIjo2MCwiYnVmZmVyVW5pdCI6WyJOYX-V0aWNhbCBNaWxlcyJdLCJzb3J0U2VsZWN0aW9uIjp7InZh-bHVlIjoieWVhcnNfbmV3ZXN0IiwibGFiZWwiOiJZZWFy-IChOZXdlc3QpIn0sImFwcGx5VG9BT0kiOnRydWUsImlzU3R-vcm1MYWJlbHNWaXNpYmxlIjp0cnVlfQ==

108 IDMC. Sudden-Onset Hazards and the Risk of Future Displacement in Fiji. https://api.internal-displacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/fiji_riskprofile_idmc.pdf

109 OCHA. Fiji: Severe Tropical Cyclone Winston Situation Report No. 8 (as of 28 February 2016). https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-severe-tropical-cyclone-winston-situation-report-no-8-28-february-2016; Government of Fiji. Post Disaster Needs Assessment. Tropical Cyclone Winston, February 16, 2016. https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/975781584942869315/pdf/Fiji-Post-Disaster-Needs-Assessment.pdf

110 FAO and Fiji Red Cross. Learning highlights with the Fiji Red Cross Society: Simulating anticipatory action for tropical cyclones in Fiji. 1 October 2025. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/learning-highlights-fiji-red-cross-society-simulating-anticipatory-action-tropical-cyclones-fiji

111 IFRC. Fiji | Tropical Cyclone - Simplified Early Action Protocol Operations Update (sEAP Nº: EAP2024FJ01, Operation Nº: MDRFJ008). 17 December 2025. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclone-simplified-early-action-protocol-operations-update-seap-no-eap2024fj01-operation-no-mdrfj008

112 IDMC. Sudden-Onset Hazards and the Risk of Future Displacement in Fiji. https://api.internal-displacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/fiji_riskprofile_idmc.pdf

113 International Tsunami Information Center. UNESCO. What determines how destructive a tsunami will be near the origin and at a distant shore? https://legacy.itic.ioc-unesco.org/legacy.itic.ioc-unesco.org/indexc0a5.html

114 IDMC. Sudden-Onset Hazards and the Risk of Future Displacement in Fiji. https://api.internal-displacement.org/sites/default/files/publications/documents/fiji_riskprofile_idmc.pdf

115 World Bank Group. Climate Risk Country Profile: Fiji. 2021. https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/sites/default/files/country-profiles/15854-WB_Fiji%20Country%20Profile-WEB.pdf; The Conversation. 5 ways climate change increases the threat of tsunamis, from collapsing ice shelves to sea level rise. 23 January 2022. https://theconversation.com/5-ways-climate-change-increases-the-threat-of-tsunamis-from-collapsing-ice-shelves-to-sea-level-rise-175247; Safdie, Stephanie. Why is Climate Change Increasing the Threat of Tsunamis? 7 December 2025. https://greenly.earth/en-us/blog/ecology-news/why-is-climate-change-increasing-the-threat-of-tsunamis

116 CRED / UCLouvain. EM-DAT. 2026. Brussels, Belgium. www.emdat.be

117 CRED / UCLouvain. EM-DAT – Data Structure. Accessed 8 April 2026. https://doc.emdat.be/docs/data-structure-and-content/emdat-sources/

118 CRED / UCLouvain. EM-DAT: Fiji, all hazards, 2000-2026 (June). Accessed 16 Junel 2026. Brussels, Belgium. www.emdat.be

119 Government of Fiji, GFDRR, UNDP. Tropical Cyclone Winston 2016 Fiji Post-Disaster Needs Assessment. 2016. https://www.preventionweb.net/publication/documents-and-publications/tropical-cyclone-winston-2016-fiji-post-disaster-needs

120 CRED / UCLouvain. EM-DAT: Fiji, all hazards, 2000-2026 (June). Accessed 16 Junel 2026. Brussels, Belgium. www.emdat.be

121 Government of Fiji, GFDRR, UNDP. Tropical Cyclone Winston 2016 Fiji Post-Disaster Needs Assessment. 2016. https://www.preventionweb.net/publication/documents-and-publications/tropical-cyclone-winston-2016-fiji-post-disaster-needs

122 ECHO. Fiji - Tropical Cyclone VAIANU, update (GDACS, JTWC, Fiji MET, IFRC) (ECHO Daily Flash of 9 April 2026). https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclone-vaianu-update-gdacs-jtwc-fiji-met-ifrc-echo-daily-flash-9-april-2026

123 Kamea, John. Agriculture hit hard by Vaianu. Fiji Times. 28 April 2026. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/agriculture-hit-hard-by-vaianu/

124 SPC, WHO. Dengue in the Pacific: Multicountry Situation (As of 26 June 2026). https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/dengue-pacific-multicountry-situation-26-june-2026; Fiji Ministry of Health and Medical Services. Press Release: Ministry Declares the End of the Dengue Fever Outbreak for the Western and Central Division. 12 August 2025. https://www.health.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Press-Release-101-Ministry-Declares-the-End-of-the-Dengue-Fever-Outbreak-for-the-Western-and-Central-Division.pdf

125 Fiji Ministry of Health and Medical Services. 2025 National HIV Statistics, Summary Report January – December 2025. https://www.health.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/2025_HIV_Summary_Report_Final_02042026.pdf

126 UN RC Fiji. As Fiji Announces HIV Outbreak, UNAIDS Echoes Calls for a Non-Discriminatory Approach23 January 2025. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-announces-hiv-outbreak-unaids-echoes-calls-non-discriminatory-approach

127 UN RC Fiji. United Nations Welcomes New Zealand's NZD 4 million Commitment to Fiji's HIV Outbreak Response. 24 July 2025. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/united-nations-welcomes-new-zealands-nzd-4-million-commitment-fijis-hiv-outbreak-response

128 Government of Fiji. End of dengue fever and leptospirosis outbreaks. 23 July 2024. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/end-dengue-fever-and-leptospirosis-outbreaks

129 ECHO. Fiji -Floods (NOAA – CPC, media) (ECHO Daily Flash of 19 March 2024). https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-floods-noaa-cpc-media-echo-daily-flash-19-march-2024

130 OCHA. Asia and the Pacific: Weekly Regional Humanitarian Snapshot (14 – 20 November 2023). 22 November 2023. https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/asia-and-pacific-weekly-regional-humanitarian-snapshot-14-20-november-2023

131 IFRC. Fiji: Tropical Cyclone Mal - DREF Operation n° MDRFJ007 - Final Report. 8 May 2024. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclone-mal-dref-operation-ndeg-mdrfj007-final-report

132 IFRC. Fiji: Tropical Cyclone Cody - Final Report, DREF Operation n° MDRFJ006 – Fiji. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclone-cody-final-report-dref-operation-ndeg-mdrfj006

133 IFRC Fiji: Tropical Cyclone Cody - Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA), DREF Operation n° MDRFJ006. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclone-cody-emergency-plan-action-epoa-dref-operation-n-mdrfj006

134 Johns Hopkins University of Medicine Coronavirus Resource Center. Fiji. https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/region/fiji

135 Fiji Met Office. 2021 Annual Climate Summary. 2021. https://www.met.gov.fj/media/climate_product_files/2021annualSum2024.11.29_12.10.46.pdf

136 IFRC. Fiji/Pacific: Tropical Cyclone Yasa – Operation Update Report n° 2, DREF n° MDRFJ005. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fijipacific-tropical-cyclone-yasa-operation-

update-report-n-2-dref-n-mdrfj005

137 IFRC. Fiji/Pacific: Tropical Cyclone Yasa/Ana – DREF Final Report (MDRFJ005) – Fiji. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fijipacific-tropical-cyclone-yasaana-dref-final-report-mdrfj005; Fiji Met Office. 2021 Annual Climate Summary. 2021. https://www.met.gov.fj/media/climate_product_files/2021annualSum2024.11.29_12.10.46.pdf

138 IFRC. Fiji/Pacific: Tropical Cyclone Yasa/Ana – DREF Final Report (MDRFJ005) – Fiji. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fijipacific-tropical-cyclone-yasaana-dref-final-report-mdrfj005

139 ADRC. Information on Disaster Risk Reduction of the Member Countries. Fiji. https://www.adrc.asia/nationinformation.php?NationCode=242&Lang=jp&NationNum=41

140 ECHO. Fiji - Tropical Cyclone YASA update (Fiji Met Service, IFRC, NDMO, Copernicus EMS, GDACS, media) (ECHO Daily Flash of 21 December 2020). https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclone-yasa-update-fiji-met-service-ifrc-ndmo-copernicus-ems-gdacs-media

141 "Cyclone Yasa Bearing Down on Fiji." Joshua Stevens using NASA Earth Observatory Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer on Aqua satellite. https://science.nasa.gov/earth/earth-observatory/cyclone-yasa-bearing-down-on-fiji-147672/

142 RNZ News. Fiji govt warns of 'LTDD' diseases post-cyclone. 28 April 2020. https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/415297/fiji-govt-warns-of-ltdd-diseasespost-cyclone

143 RNZ News. Fiji public ordered to clean up as govt tackles multiple diseases. 25 May 2020. https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/417442/fiji-public-ordered-to-clean-up-as-govt-tackles-multiple-diseases

144 RNZ News. Heavy rain, floods prompt road closures in Fiji. 28 April 2020. https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/415346/heavy-rain-floods-prompt-road-closures-in-fiji

145 OCHA. Fiji: Tropical Cyclone Harold Humanitarian Snapshot (As of 14 April 2020). https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclone-harold-humanitarian-snapshot-14-april-2020; ADRC. Information on Disaster Risk Reduction of the Member Countries. Fiji. https://www.adrc.asia/nationinformation.php?NationCode=242&Lang=jp&NationNum=41

146 Du Parc, Elisabeth and Spieth, Nacanieli Bolo. IDMC. Tropical Cyclone Harold and COVID-19: A double blow to the Pacific Islands. 24 April 2020. https://www.internal-displacement.org/expert-analysis/tropical-cyclone-harold-and-covid-19-a-double-blow-to-the-pacific-islands/#:~:text=Harold%20continued%20moving%20south%2Deast,phenomenon%2C%20displacing%20another%20500%20people; CRED / UCLouvain. EM-DAT: Fiji, all hazards, 2000-2026 (June). Accessed 16 Junel 2026. Brussels, Belgium. www.emdat.be

147 RNZ News. Three dead in Fiji landslide. 20 March 2020. https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/412262/three-dead-in-fiji-landslide

148 ECHO. Fiji - Floods and landslides (DG ECHO, Fiji NDMO, Fiji MET, FloodList, media) (ECHO Daily Flash of 23 March 2020) – Fiji. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fijifloods-and-landslides-dg-echo-fiji-ndmo-fiji-met-floodlistmedia-echo-daily-flash

149 Government of Fiji. Measles Media Release no. 22. (20 January 2020). https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/measles-media-release-no-22-20-january-2020-0

150 IFRC. Fiji: Tropical Cyclone Sarai - DREF Operation n°MDRFJ003, Final Report – Fiji. 27 July 2020. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclone-sarai-dref-operation-n-mdrfj003-final-report

151 RNZ News. More than 2500 cases of dengue in Fiji this year. 3 September 2019. https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/398003/more-than-2500-cases-ofdengue-in-fiji-this-year

152 RNZ News. Over 1500 dengue cases recorded in Fiji. 23 August 2019. https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/397300/over-1500-dengue-cases-recordedin-fiji

153 Government of Australia. Fiji - Tropical Cyclones Josie and Keni. 13 April 2018. https://reliefweb.int/report/ fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclones-josie-and-keni

154 RNZ News. 800 homes damaged on Fiji's Kadavu during Cyclone Keni. 18 April 2018. https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/355364/800-homesdamaged-on-fiji-s-kadavu-during-cyclone-keni

155 National Emergency Operation Center Tropical Cyclone Keni Situation Report No. 22 of 16 April 2018.https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/national-emergency-operation-center-tropical-cyclone-keni-situation-report-no-22-16

156 RNZ News. Cyclones Josie and Keni cost Fiji $US-3million. 1 May 2018. https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/356391/cyclones-josie-and-keni-cost-fiji-us3-million

157 ECHO. Fiji, Tonga – Tropical Cyclone Josie (GDACS, JTWC, VMGD, RSMC, Media) (ECHO Daily Flash of 3 April 2018). https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tonga-tropical-cyclone-josie-gdacs-jtwc-vmgd-rsmc-media-echo-daily-flash-3-april

158 ABC. Cyclone Josie: Four dead, major flooding as tropical storm batters Fiji. 2 April 2018. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/cyclone-josie-four-dead-major-floodingtropical-storm-batters-fiji

159 Government of Fiji. Fiji Meteorological Service Media Release No.58: Heavy Rain Eases and Weather Improves. 2 April 2018. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-meteorological-service-media-release-no58-heavy-rain-eases-and-weather-improves

160 ECHO. Fiji - Tropical Cyclone JOSIE Update (GDACS, Fiji Meteorological Service, RSMC, Local media), 5 April 2018. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclone-josie-update-gdacs-fiji-meteorological-service-rsmc-local-media

161 Murray-Atfield, Yara. Cyclone Josie: Four dead, major flooding as tropical storm batters Fiji. 2 April 2018. ABC. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/cyclone-josie-four-dead-major-flooding-tropical-storm-batters-fiji

162 ECHO. Fiji – Tropical Cyclone Josie Update (GDACS, JTWC, RSMC, Media) (ECHO Daily Flash of 4 April 2018). https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclone-josie-update-gdacs-jtwc-rsmc-media-echo-daily-flash-4-april-2018

163 RNZ News. Meningococcal outbreak ends in Fiji. 19 December 2018. https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/378646/meningococcal-outbreak-ends-in-fiji

164 OCHA. Flash Update 1: Tropical Cyclone Gita. 12 February 2018. https://reliefweb.int/report/tonga/flash-update-1-tropical-cyclone-gita-12-february-2018

165 ABC. Cyclone Gita batters southern Fiji, upgraded to category five, heading for Vanuatu, New Caledonia. 14 February 2018. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/cyclone-gita-batters-southern-fiji-upgraded-category-five-heading-vanuatu-new-caledonia

166 ECHO. Fiji, Tonga, Niue, American Samoa, Samoa –Tropical Cyclone Gita Update (GDACS, JTWC, Meteo Fiji, Meteo France New Caledonia, Government of Tonga, Media) (ECHO Daily Flash of 14 February 2018). https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-tonga-niue-american-samoa-samoa-tropi-

cal-cyclone-gita-update-gdacs-jtwc-meteo-0

167 Reuters. Worst-hit areas in western Fiji are still recovering from February's devastating Cyclone Winston. 20 December 2016. https://news.trust.org/item/20161220071123-ff50p/

168 RNZ News. Flood alert cancelled in Fiji but damage from storm extensive. 22 December 2016. https://www. rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/321008/flood-alert-cancelled-in-fiji-but-damage-from-storm-extensive

169 OCHA Flash Update #4 Fiji & Tonga | TC Zena - 7April 2016. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/ocha-flash-update-4-fiji-tonga-tc-zena-7-april-2016

170 Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Tropical Cyclone Winston Education Response Evaluation, October 2017. https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/tropical-cyclone-winston-education-response-evaluation.pdf

171 OCHA. Fiji: Severe Tropical Cyclone Winston Situation Report No. 8 (as of 28 February 2016). https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/fiji-severe-tropical-cyclone-winston-situation-report-no-8-28-february-2016; Government of Fiji. Post Disaster Needs Assessment. Tropical Cyclone Winston, February 16, 2016. https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/975781584942869315/pdf/Fiji-Post-Disaster-Needs-Assessment.pdf

172 Asian Disaster Reduction Center. Information on Disaster Risk Reduction of the Member Countries. Fiji. https://www.adrc.asia/nationinformation.php?NationCode=242&Lang=en&NationNum=41

173 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Schedule 9, Section 71.

174 Fiji National Disaster Management Plan. Government of Fiji and the Fiji National Disaster Management Council. January 1995.

175 Fiji National Humanitarian Policy for Disaster Risk Management. Government of Fiji Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and National Disaster Management, August 2017. https://wrd.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/2023-02/FIJI_National-Humanitarian-Policy-DRM.pdf

176 The Republic of Fiji National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2018-2030. Fiji Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport, Disaster Management & Meteorological Services. September 2018

177 Fiji's National Emergency Operations Centre Standard Operating Procedures 2010." Ministry for Provincial Development, Multi-Ethnic Affairs, National Disaster Management & Sugar. www.pacificdisaster.net/pdnadmin/data/documents/8136.html

178 Fiji Tsunami Response Plan. Fiji National Disaster Management Office and Disaster Committee, 8 August 2017. https://www.rcrc-resilience-southeastasia.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/National-Tsunami-Response-Plan-2017.pdf

179 Fiji Shelter Handbook: Inclusive and Accessible Shelter Planning for Fijian Communities. https://www.unisdr.org/conference/2019/globalplatform/programme/ignite-stage/assets/pdf/5cda519be64f6FINAL_FIJI_SHELTER_HANDBOOK_30.04.19.pdf

180 Logistics Manual. Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management. 8 November 2021

181 Post Disaster Assessment (PDNA) Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Fiji WaSH Sector. United Nations Development Programme, 7 February 2023.

182 Fiji National Anticipatory Action Framework for Tropical Cyclones. Government of Fiji and Pacific Humanitarian Team, December 2025.

183 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024). Government of Fiji.

184 Adapted based on National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024).

185 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Part 2 – National Administration, Division 1 – Disaster Risk Governance.

186 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Part 2 – National Administration, Division 1 – Disaster Risk Governance, Subdivision 3 – Disaster Risk Reduction Committee.

187 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Part 2 – National Administration, Division 1 – Disaster Risk Governance, Subdivision 3 – Emergency Committee.

188 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Part 3 – Subnational Administration, Division 1 – Divisional Disaster Risk Management Office

189 Adapted based on National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024)

190 About Us. Fiji National Disaster Risk Management Office, accessed 18 May 2026. http://www.ndmo.gov.fj/about

191 Fiji's National Emergency Operations Centre Standard Operating Procedures. Fiji Ministry for Provincial Development, Multi-Ethnic Affairs, National Disaster Management and Sugar, 2010. Page 20

192 NERT Induction Training Manual, page 52

193 National Emergency Operations Centre Standard Operating Procedures 2010. Fiji National Disaster Management Office.

194 Tristan Hilderbrand. Fiji and Taiwan cooperate in firefighting and first response training. RTI News, 21 April 2025. https://www.rti.org.tw/en/news?uid=3&pid=124613

195 Ema Ganivatu. Taiwan donates emergency medical equipment to Fiji. Islands Business, 10 December 2025. https://islandsbusiness.com/news-break/taiwan-donates-emergency-medical-equipment-to-fiji/

196 Taiwan inks disaster prevention pacts with Japan, Fiji. Taiwan Today, 22 April 2025. https://taiwanreview.nat.gov.tw/10/268573

197 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024).

198 Fiji National Disaster Management Office. Cluster System accessed 22 July 2026. https://www.ndmo.gov.fj/cluster-system/

199 OCHA. Fiji: Humanitarian Coordination Structure (As of 28 October 2025) https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/fiji/fiji-humanitarian-coordination-structure-28-october-2025

200 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Part 2 – National Administration, Division 5 – Cluster System

201 Adapted based on current Minister's oversight in Parliament of the Republic of Fiji. Members of Parliament accessed 22 July 2026, https://www.parliament.gov.fj/members-of-parliament/ ; Fiji National Disaster Management Office. Cluster System accessed 22 July 2026. https://www.ndmo.gov.fj/cluster-system/ ; and OCHA. Fiji: Humanitarian Coordination Structure (As of 28 October 2025) https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/fiji/fiji-humanitarian-coordination-structure-28-october-2025

202 United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Pacific Office, technical feedback and peer-review comments on the Fiji Disaster Management Reference Handbook, 21 July 2026.

203 NERT Induction Training Manual, page 54

204 "Fiji National Disaster Management Plan." Fiji National Disaster Management Council, January 1995.

205 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Part 9 – Emergency Operations, Division 3 – Sub-national Emergency Operation Centres.

206 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Part 2 – National Administration, Division 1 – Disaster Risk Governance, Subdivision 3 – Emergency Committee.

207 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Part 9 – Emergency Operations, Division 3 Sub-national Emergency Operations Centres.

208 "Fiji National Disaster Management Plan." Fiji National Disaster Management Council, January 1995.

209 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Part 9 – Emergency Operations, Division 3 Sub-national Emergency Operations Centres.

210 Republic of Fiji. NDRMO. Communications Boosted After Launch of High-Frequency Radios. 25 March 2022. https://www.ndmo.gov.fj/communications-boosted-after-launch-of-high-frequency-radios/

211 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Schedule 6 Section 50, Membership of Municipal Disaster Risk Management Committee

212 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Schedule 7 Section 50, Membership of Community Disaster Risk Management Committee

213 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024)

214 Republic of Fiji Military Forces Strategic Plan Beyond 2022. RFMF, 2024. http://www.rfmf.mil.fj/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/RFMF-Strategic-Plan-.pdf page 4

215 Fiji Military Commander yet to decide on second term. Pacific News Service, 30 June 2026. https://pina.com.fj/2026/06/30/fiji-military-commander-yet-to-decide-on-second-term/

216 Commander Alfred Fox. "The Fiji Navy and UNCLOS: The challenge of Climate Change." Royal Australian Navy Sea Power Soundings, Issue 38, 2021. http://seapower.navy.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-02/Soundings_No_38.pdf Page 10

217 Prime Minister Rabuka's remarks at the launch of the National Security Strategy 2025-2029. Fiji Office of the Prime Minister, 12 August 2025. https://www.pmoffice.gov.fj/prime-minister-rabukas-remarks-at-the-launch-of-the-national-security-strategy-2025-2029-12-08-2025

218 Vijay Narayan. RFMF Act to be reviewed next year. Fiji Village 12 December 2025. https://www.fijivillage.com/news/rfmf-act-to-be-reviewed-next-year-bdb24c

219 RFMF HQ Composition, accessed 13 May 2026. https://www.rfmf.mil.fj/hq

220 Republic of Fiji Military Forces Annual Report 2020-2021. https://www.parliament.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Republic-of-Fiji-Military-Forces-Annual-Report-2020-2021.pdf Page 27

221 Review Report on the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979 (SAR Convention). Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defense, Parliament of the Republic of Fiji Parliamentary Paper No. 12 or 2026, March 2026. https://www.parliament.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Review-Report-on-the-International-Convention-on-Maritime-Search-and-Rescue.pdf Page 17

222 Commander Alfred Fox. "The Fiji Navy and UNCLOS: The challenge of Climate Change." Royal Australian Navy Sea Power Soundings, Issue 38, 2021. http://seapower.navy.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-02/Soundings_No_38.pdf

223 Implications of Climate Change on Defence and Security in the South Pacific by 2030. Obervatoire Defense & Climat, May 2019. https://www.iris-france.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/2019_05_Implications_of_Climate_Change_in_the_South_Pacific_by_2030_Report_EN.pdf p 41

224 Republic of Fiji Military Forces Annual Report 2020-2021. https://www.parliament.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Republic-of-Fiji-Military-Forces-Annual-Report-2020-2021.pdf

225 Fiji Headquarters Joint Task Force Command, Blackrock Camp. Joint Task Force Command Deployed in Support of HADR Operations. Facebook, 4 March 2026. https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1222528258640389 50&set=pcb.122252827550038950

226 Fiji Headquarters Joint Task Force Command, Blackrock Camp. National Disaster Risk Management Training at Joint Task Force Command (JTFC) Blackrock. Facebook, 16 November 2026. https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1222408991840389 50&set=pcb.122240899526038950

227 RFMF Speaks on Humanitarian Civil Military Coordination. Republic of Fiji Military Forces, accessed 16 July 2026. https://www.rfmf.mil.fj/RFMF-Speaks-on-Huma/

228 Photo courtesy of Taryn Ino.

229 Implications of Climate Change on Defence and Security in the South Pacific by 2030. Obervatoire Defense & Climat, May 2019. https://www.iris-france.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/2019_05_Implications_of_Climate_Change_in_the_South_Pacific_by_2030_Report_EN.pdf p 30

230 Pita Ligaiula. "Pacific ministers endorse Fiji Military's Blackrock camp as disaster relief depot." Pacific Island News Service, 19 September 2022. https://pina.com.fj/2022/09/19/pacific-ministers-endorse-fiji-militarys-blackrock-camp-as-disaster-relief-depot/

231 Doorstop interview, Blackrock, Fiji. Australian Government Defence Ministers, 20 October 2022. https://www.minister.defence.gov.au/transcripts/2022-10-20/doorstop-interview-blackrock-fiji

232 Thomas, M. (2022). NZ signs military co-operation deal with Fiji. In Manawatu Standard (p. 6).

233 Ritika Pratap. "Historic defense agreement to boost security cooperation." FBC News, 24 November 2024. https://www.fbcnews.com.fj/news/historic-defense-agreement-to-boost-security-cooperation/

234 Rebekah Rasmussen, "Japan Backs Fiji Disaster Response with $5.5m Support," National Indigenous Times, March 31, 2026, https://nit.com.au/31-03-2026/23502/japan-backs-fiji-disaster-response-with-55m-support.

235 Fiji Headquarters Joint Task Force Command, Blackrock Camp. Strengthening Regional Disaster Response Through Joint HADR Exercise. Facebook, 28 July 2025. https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1222281316580389 50&set=pcb.122228132306038950

236 Fijian Military support to bushfire emergency response. Australian Government Defence Ministers, 10 January 2026. https://www.minister.defence.gov.au/media-releases/2020-01-10/fijian-military-support-bushfire-emergency-response

237 Australian Department of Defence. "Fijians Arrive to Assist Tonga." Department of Defence News, 15 February 2022. https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/news/2022-02-15/fijians-arrive-assist-tonga

238 Ilaitia Ravuwai. "RFMF for Vanuatu disaster response." Fiji Live, 22 December 2024. https://fijilive.com/rfmf-for-vanuatu-disaster-response/

239 The Pacific: Shared security in the Pacific. Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, accessed 7 July 2026. http://www.dfat.gov/au/geo/pacific/shared-security-in-the-pacific

240 Mosese Raquio. "Pacific nations unite under new disaster response force." FBC News, 20 May 2025. https://www.fbcnews.com.fj/news/pacific-nations-unite-un-

der-new-disaster-response-force/

241 United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) Pacific Office, technical feedback and peer-review comments on the Fiji Disaster Management Reference Handbook, personal communication, 21 July 2026

242 United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), UN CMCoord Guide for the Military 2.0, (Geneva, Switzerland: UN OCHA, 2025), accessed July 2026, https://www.cimic-coe.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/guide-for-the-military-v2.pdf.

243 Pacific Islands Forum intervention for building productive capacities in Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), Small Island Development States (SIDS) & Middle-Income Countries (MICs) for more resilient recovery and sust. Permanent Mission of Fiji to the United Nations, 20 October 2022. https://www.un.int/fiji/statements_speeches/pacific-islands-forum-intervention-building-productive-capacities-least

244 The Pacific Islands Forum. https://forumsec.org/pacific-islands-forum

245 Pacific Community. About Us. Accessed 30 May 2026. https://www.spc.int/about-us

246 Pacific Islands Forum. 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent. 2022. https://forumsec.org/sites/default/files/2023-11/PIFS-2050-Strategy-Blue-Pacific-Continent-WEB-5Aug2022-1.pdf

247 Island Times. Pacific Island Leaders endorse regional framework. 20 September 2016. https://islandtimes.org/pacific-island-leaders-endorse-regional-framework/

248 Pacific Community. Pacific Humanitarian Warehousing Program. November 2025. https://logcluster.org/sites/default/files/public/2025-11/phwp-intro-pack-external-thailand.pdf

249 Australia and Fiji ratify Pacific Resilience Facility Treaty. Minister for Foreign Affairs Senator the Hon Penny Wong, 6 May 2026. https://www.foreignminister.gov.au/minister/penny-wong/media-release/australia-and-fiji-ratify-pacific-resilience-facility-treaty

250 Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. 2023. Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility. Suva, Fiji: Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. https://forumsec.org/publications/report-pacific-regional-framework-climate-mobility.

251 Pacific Community (SPC), "Pacific Humanitarian Response Coordination Mechanism Activated Following Tropical Cyclone Maila," The Pacific Community, April 18, 2026, https://www.spc.int/updates/news/media-release/2026/04/pacific-humanitarian-response-coordination-mechanism-activated.

252 Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. Fifty-First Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Communiqué. Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, 2021, www.forumsec.org/publications/communique-fifty-first-pacific-islands-forum-leaders-meeting.

253 Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. 2021. Weather Ready Pacific: A Decadal Program of Investment. Apia, Samoa: SPREP. https://www.pacificmet.net/sites/default/files/inline-files/documents/Weather%20Ready%20Pacific%20-%20Decadal%20Program%20of%20Investment%20Final%20Draft_3.pdf.

254 Pacific Humanitarian Team. ReliefWeb, accessed 29 June 2026. https://response.reliefweb.int/pacific-region/pacific-humanitarian-team-pht

255 UNICEF Pacific Islands. https://www.unicef.org/pacificislands/fiji-head-office

256 Fiji receives relief supplies in wake of Cyclone Winston as UN backs up Government response. United Nation News, 23 February 2016. https://news.un.org/en/story/2016/02/522892

257 UNICEF and Fiji National Disaster Management Office sign Letter of Understanding for disaster preparedness, response and recovery tool. ReliefWeb, 8 Mar 2017. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/unicef-and-fiji-national-disaster-management-office-sign-letter-understanding-disaster

258 UNICEF and Fiji National Disaster Management Office sign Letter of Understanding for disaster preparedness, response and recovery tool. Government of Fiji and UNICEF via Reliefweb, 9 March 2017. https://reliefweb.int/report/fiji/unicef-and-fiji-national-disaster-management-office-sign-letter-understanding-disaster

259 International Organization for Migration Fiji & Pacific Office, technical feedback and peer-review comments on the Fiji Disaster Management Reference Handbook, July 2026.

260 United Nations in the Pacific, United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018–2022 (Suva, Fiji: Office of the UN Resident Coordinator, 2017), 21, 44.

261 Pacific Logistics Cluster, "Standard Operating Procedures (SOP): Transport and Storage Services, Nadi Hub," World Food Programme, accessed July 2026, https://logcluster.org/sites/default/files/public/logisticsclusterpacificregionsopstransportstorage_200616.pdf.

262 Fiji National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024, Schedule 1, Section 6 Other Members of the National Disaster Risk Management Council.

263 Disaster Management. Fiji Red Cross Society accessed 11 May 2026. https://fijiredcross.org/what-we-do/disaster-management/

264 Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination in Emergencies: Toward a Predictable Model, The Pacific Region, 2026 Edition. Regional Consultative Group, 2026. Page 42

265 Fiji National Disaster Risk Management Bill 2024, Division 4—Single Window International Facilitation Team, page 22-23.

266 National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024.

267 The FRANZ Partnership for cooperation serving the populations in the South Pacific hit by natural disasters. Ministere de l'Europe et des Affaires Etrangeres, 10 July 2023 updated 12 February 2026. https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/the-ministry-in-action/action-for-peace-and-respect-for-human-rights/emergency-humanitarian-action/the-franz-partnership-for-cooperation-serving-the-populations-in-the-south-pacific-hit-by-natural

268 Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique. What is the Future for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific? Paris, France: Observatory of the Indo-Pacific, 2023, 11–12. https://frstrategie.org/sites/default/files/documents/programmes/Obs%20Indo%20Pacifique/2023/04_final.pdf

269 Guidelines for Quad Partnership on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) in the Indo-Pacific. 2021-2025 Archived Content of the U.S. Department of State, 22 September 2022. https://2021-2025.state.gov/guidelines-for-quad-partnership-on-humanitarian-assistance-and-disaster-relief-hadr-in-the-indo-pacific/

270 Implications of Climate Change on Defence and Security in the South Pacific by 2030. Obervatoire Defense & Climat, May 2019. https://www.iris-france.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/2019_05_Implications_of_Climate_Change_in_the_South_Pacific_by_2030_Report_EN.pdf p 36

271 Nikhil Aiyush Kumar. "Australia deepens Fiji's disaster response." FBC News, 27 August 2025. https://www.fbcnews.com.fj/news/australia-deepens-fijis-disaster-response/

272 Fiji-Japan Relations Enter a New Strategic Era. Fiji Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade, 27 Feb 2026. https://www.foreignaffairs.gov.fj/fiji-japan-relations-enter-a-new-strategic-era/

273 Strengthening Ties: U.S. and Fiji Sign Landmark Acquisition and Cross-Servicing Agreement. Republic of Fiji Military Forces. Accessed 29 June 2026. https://www.rfmf.mil.fj/Strengthening-Tie

274 About Us. Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises & Development, accessed 29 June 2026. https://friendfiji.com/about-us/

275 2023 Annual Report. Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji, 2024. https://www.parliament.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Civil-Aviation-Authority-of-Fiji-Annual-Report-2023.pdf Page 26

276 Fiji Airports Annual Report 2024. Parliament of Fiji Parliamentary Paper No. 74/25. https://www.parliament.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/15Fiji-Airports-Annual-Report-2024.pdf Page 24

277 Rashika Kumar. "Fiji airports to receive FJD$15M boos from Japan to improve services." Fiji Village, 16 July 2024. https://www.fijivillage.com/news/Fijis-airports-to-receive-15M-boost-from-Japan-to-improve-services-x485rf/

278 Logistics Cluster, "Fiji LCA: 2.2 Fiji Aviation," Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA), World Food Programme, accessed July 2026, https://dlca.logcluster.org/22-fiji-aviation.

279 SFC Whitney Houston. U.S. Army Teams with Fijian Military for Exercise Cartwheel 2019 [Image 7 of 7]. Defense Visual Information Distribution Service, 27 July 2019. https://www.dvidshub.net/image/5621209/us-army-teams-with-fijian-military-exercise-cartwheel-2019

280 After the storm. New Zealand Defence Force, 21 February 2016. https://www.nzdf.mil.nz/nzdf/what-we-do/humanitarian-assistance-and-disaster-relief/after-the-storm

281 Helicopters vital in delivery of supplies to Fiji. Australia Defence Force, 21 January 2021. https://www.defence.gov.au/news-events/news/2021-01-25/helicopters-vital-delivery-supplies-fiji

282 Improving the Availability of Maritime Transport Cost Data in the Pacific Region: Fiji Country Report. Pacific Community, 2023https://wwwcdn.imo.org/localresources/en/OurWork/Environment/Documents/SPC%20Country%20reports/Transport%20cost%20data_05_Fiji.pdf Page 5

283 Fiji Ports Terminal Limited (FPTL), "Port Facilities: Summary of Wharf Facilities at the Port of Suva," FPTL Terminal Operations, accessed July 2026, https://www.fijiportsterminal.com/facilities

284 Logistics Cluster, "Fiji – 2.1.1 Port of Suva," Logistics Capacity Assessment, https://lca.logcluster.org/fiji-211-fiji-port-suva

285 U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Munro crew visits Suva, Fiji. Defense Visual Information Distribution Service, U.S. Coast Guard photo courtesy of Office of the FMSRCC, Republic of Fiji Navy, 22 April 2022. https://www.dvidshub.net/image/7157220/us-coast-guard-cutter-munro-crew-visits-suva-fiji

286 Fiji Shelter Handbook: Inclusive and Accessible Shelter Planning for Fijian Communities. https://www.unisdr.org/conference/2019/globalplatform/programme/ignite-stage/assets/pdf/5cda519be64f6FINAL_FIJI_SHELTER_HANDBOOK_30.04.19.pdf Page 65

287 Fiji Ports Terminal Limited (FPTL), "Port Facilities: Summary of Wharf Facilities at the Port of Suva," FPTL Terminal Operations, accessed July 2026, https://www.fijiportsterminal.com/facilities.

288 Fiji Ports Terminal Limited (FPTL), "Port Facilities: Summary of Wharf Facilities at the Port of Suva," FPTL Terminal Operations, accessed July 2026, https://www.fijiportsterminal.com/facilities.

289 Logistics Cluster. Fiji Logistics Capacity Assessment https://lca.logcluster.org/fiji-23-fiji-road-network

290 Fiji Revenue and Customs Service. Prime Minister of Fiji Officially Opens FRCS Lautoka Office, Reinforcing Commitment to Public Service Modernisation. 24 March 2026. https://frcs.org.fj/prime-minister-of-fiji-of-ficially-opens-frcs-lautoka-office-reinforcing-commitment-to-public-service-modernisation/

291 Fiji Shores & Marinas. Biosecurity in Fiji, accessed 22 July 2026. https://www.fijimarinas.com/biosecurity-in-fiji/

292 Fiji Ports Terminal Limited (FPTL), "Port Facilities: Summary of Wharf Facilities at the Port of Suva," FPTL Terminal Operations, accessed July 2026, https://www.fijiportsterminal.com/facilities.

293 Logistics Cluster. Fiji Logistics Capacity Assessment. https://lca.logcluster.org/fiji-212-fiji-port-lautoka

294 Ibid

295 Unaisi Ratubalavu. Back in History: Savusavu's grand copra mill. The Fiji Times, 23 February 2022. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/back-in-history-savusavus-grand-copra-mill/

296 Logistics Cluster. Fiji Logistics Capacity Assessment https://lca.logcluster.org/fiji-251-jettys-and-landing

297 Logistics Cluster. June 2023. "Fiji 2.3 Fiji Road Network." Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA). https://lca.logcluster.org/fiji-23-fiji-road-network

298 "Republic of Fiji Post-Disaster Needs Assessment Guidelines: Road Transport Sector." United Nations Development Programme, 2023. https://www.undp.org/pacific/publications/post-disaster-needs-assessment-guidelines-road-transport-sector-fiji Page 10

299 Fiji – 2.3 Fiji Road Network. Logistics Cluster LCA, accessed 15 June 2026. https://lca.logcluster.org/fiji-23-fiji-road-network

300 "Republic of Fiji Post-Disaster Needs Assessment Guidelines: Road Transport Sector." United Nations Development Programme, 2023. https://www.undp.org/pacific/publications/post-disaster-needs-assessment-guidelines-road-transport-sector-fiji Page 10

301 "Road Accessibility for All in Rural Fiji." Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, 19 March 2026. http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/event-documents/12_S3_AIIB.pdf

302 Logistics Cluster. June 2023. "Fiji 2.3 Fiji Road Network." Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA). https://lca.logcluster.org/fiji-23-fiji-road-network

303 Fiji – 2.3 Fiji Road Network. Logistics Cluster LCA, accessed 15 June 2026. https://lca.logcluster.org/fiji-23-fiji-road-network

304 Project Information Document: Fiji Critical Bridges Resilience Project. The World Bank, 15 November 2024.

305 Get Ready for the 2017-2018 Tropical Cyclone Season. U.S. Department of State Archived Content, 1 November 2017. https://2017-2021.state.gov/get-ready-for-the-2017-2018-tropical-cyclone-season/

306 Government of Fiji, Post-Disaster Needs Assessment: Tropical Cyclone Winston, Fiji 2016 (Suva, Fiji: Government of Fiji, 2016), 80, https://www.gfdrr.org/sites/default/files/publication/Post%20Disaster%20Needs%20Assessments%20CYCLONE%20WINSTON%20Fiji%202016%20%28Online%20Version%29_0.pdf.

307 Rishi Raj. "Fiji Islands: Flood Management – Rewa River Basin." WMO/GWP Associated Programme on Flood Management accessed 12 June 2026. https://www.floodmanagement.info/publications/casestudies/cs_fiji_sum.pdf

308 Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji. Information Sheet No 1: Operational Areas and Classification of Ships. Maritime (Fiji Maritime Code) Regulations 2014. https://www.msaf.com.fj/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/MSAF-INFORMATION-SHEET-No-1.pdf

309 Britannica. Fiji Transportation, accessed 22 July 2026.

https://www.britannica.com/place/Fiji-republic-Pacific-Ocean/People

310 Road Accessibility for All in Rural Fiji. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, 19 March 2026. https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/event-documents/12_S3_AIIB.pdf

311 UNDRR. Multi-hazard early warning systems in Fiji. 14 November 2024. https://www.undrr.org/resource/case-study/multi-hazard-early-warning-systems-fiji

312 Ibid

313 Telecom Fiji Limited. Telecom Fiji Partners with Live & Learn and National Disaster Risk Management Office (NDRMO) to Strengthen Fiji's Disaster Preparedness and Early Warning Systems. 17 November 2025. https://www.telecom.com.fj/telecom-fiji-knowledge/telecom-fiji-partners-with-live-learn-and-national-disaster-risk-management-office-ndrmo-to-strengthen-fijis-disaster-preparedness-and-early-warning-systems/; National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024 (Act No. 14 of 2024), Part 9 – Emergency Operations, Division 3 Subnational Emergency Operations Centres.

314 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. National Weather Service. Tsunami Warning Centers. Accessed 20 June 2026. https://www.weather.gov/safety/tsunami-twc

315 Talemaibua, Isoa. Riaz-Ud-Dean, Mohseen. UNDP. When the Sirens Sing: Fiji's Journey to a Future Where Every Warning Counts. 1 July 2025. https://www.undp.org/pacific/blog/when-sirens-sing-fijis-journey-future-where-every-warning-counts

316 Green Climate Fund. FP258. Multi-country Project Advancing Early Warnings for All. Accessed 12 May 2026. https://www.greenclimate.fund/project/fp258

317 Lal, Roneel. Embassy of Japan in the Republic of Fiji. JOINT PRESS RELEASE: IOM Launches Regional Early Warning Systems Scale-Up Project in Fiji and Solomon Islands. 11 May 2026. https://www.fj.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_ja/11_000001_00945.html

318 Hideaway Holidays. Fiji Breaks Grounds For A New $27Mn Regional Weather Hub. 13 May 2026. https://www.hideawayholidays.com.au/travel-blog/fiji-breaks-grounds-for-new-27mn-regional-weather-hub/

319 Shahid, Nigham. GSMA. Innovating early warning systems in pacific small island developing states for climate resilience. Accessed 15 June 2026. https://www.gsma.com/solutions-and-impact/connectivity-for-good/mobile-for-development/blog/early-warning-systems-in-pacific-small-island-developing-states/

320 RNZ Pacific. Social media 'has changed who becomes visible during a disaster' in Fiji, researcher says. 17 March 2026. https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/pacific/589778/social-media-has-changed-who-becomes-visible-during-a-disaster-in-fiji-researcher-says

321 BBC. The Fiji Times. The unusual ways Fijians predict when a cyclone is approaching. 25 April 2026. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/the-unusual-ways-fijians-predict-when-a-cyclone-is-approaching/

322 TeleGeography. Submarine Cable Map. Fiji. Accessed 28 May 2026. https://www.submarinecablemap.com/landing-point/suva-fiji

323 International Telecommunication Union. Fiji develops National Emergency Telecommunication Plan to strengthen disaster resilience. Accessed 25 June 2026. https://www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/digital-impact-unlocked/fiji-develops-national-emergency-telecommunication-plan-to-strengthen-disaster-resilience/

324 Telecommunications Authority of Fiji. About Us. Accessed 13 May 2026. https://taf.org.fj/functions-of-the-authority/

325 International Trade Administration. Fiji Country Commercial Guide. 23 January 2024. https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/fiji-information-and-communication-technology

326 Rassmusen, Rebekah. National Indigenous Times. Fiji expands Starlink community WiFi rollout to remote villages. 16 January 2026. https://nit.com.au/16-01-2026/22157/fiji-expands-starlink-community-wifi-rollout-to-remote-villages

327 "Vodafone Fiji: Increased revenue and monetized A2P SMS with Anam Protect SMS Firewall solution." Infobip, accessed 29 July 2026.. https://www.infobip.com/customer/vodafone-fiji

328 World Food Programme Pacific Office, feedback and recommendations: External Review of Fiji Disaster Management Reference Handbook

329 International Trade Administration. Fiji Country Commercial Guide. Accessed 25 June 2026. https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/fiji-information-and-communication-technology

330 Tasonic Staff. Tasonic. Fiji Mobile Networks and Island Coverage. 11 May 2026. https://tasonic.com/fiji-mobile-networks-and-island-coverage/

331 International Trade Administration. Fiji Country Commercial Guide. 23 January 2024. https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/fiji-information-and-communication-technology

332 Kemp, Simon. DataReportal. Digital 2025: Fiji. 3 March 2025. https://datareportal.com/reports/digital-2025-fiji

333 ITU. DataHub. Fiji. Accessed 13 May 2026. https://datahub.itu.int/data/?e=FJI&Markets=Revenues&Connectivity=Numbering&Trust=Applications+and+Services&Affordability=Interconnection

334 Chand, Anish. The Fiji Times. MICS Plus 2024-2025 survey – Almost every Fijian has a mobile phone. 26 January 2025. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/mics-plus-2024-2025-survey-almost-every-fijian-has-a-mobile-phone/

335 Ibid

336 Kemp, Simon. DataReportal. Digital 2025: Fiji. 3 March 2025. https://datareportal.com/reports/digital-2025-fiji

337 Ibid

338 Mili, Mereoni. Fiji One News. Telecom Fiji launches 5G network. 4 December 2025. https://fijionenews.com.fj/telecom-fiji-launches-5g-network/

339 Telecom Fiji Limited. Telecom Fiji and Telecommunications Authority of Fiji Sign Universal Service Obligation Contract to Connect Rural and Maritime Communities. 26 January 2026. https://www.telecom.com.fj/telecom-fiji-knowledge/telecom-fiji-and-telecommunications-authority-of-fiji-sign-universal-service-obligation-contract-to-connect-rural-and-maritime-communities/

340 Telecom Fiji. Facebook Post. 5 June 2023. https://www.facebook.com/telecomfiji/posts/our-satellite-network-operations-team-presented-a-demo-on-emergency-communicatio/648945500610022/

341 ETC. ETC Activities. https://new.etcluster.org/countries/fiji

342 Telecom Fiji Limited. Starlink. Accessed 14 May 2026. https://www.telecom.com.fj/starlink/

343 Fijian Broadcasting Corporation. A-Leads. Accessed 20 June 2026. https://a-leads.co/company/19529760_afc90b67

344 Communications Fiji Limited. Homepage. https://cfl.com.fj/

345 Policy Commons. National Disaster Risk Management Bill 2024: Fiji. 2024. https://policycommons.net/artifacts/17924054/national-disaster-risk-management-bill-2024/18819970/

346 FijiVillage. Homepage. https://www.fijivillage.com/; Fiji Broadcasting Corporation. Homepage. https://www.fbcnews.com.fj/

347 Reporters Without Borders. World Press Freedom Index. Fiji. Accessed 15 June 2026. https://rsf.org/en/country/fiji

348 Kemp, Simon. DataReportal. Digital 2025: Fiji. 3 March 2025. https://datareportal.com/reports/digital-2025-fiji

349 Rakuten Viber. NDMO Fiji. https://chats.viber.com/ndmofiji

350 Water Authority of Fiji. About. Accessed 17 June 2026. https://waterauthority.com.fj/about/

351 Chand, Anish. The Fiji Times. MICS Plus 2024-2025 survey – Almost every Fijian has a mobile phone. 26 January 2025. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/mics-plus-2024-2025-survey-almost-every-fijian-has-a-mobile-phone/

352 World Bank Group. Access to electricity (% of population) – Fiji. Accessed 5 June 2026. https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EG.ELC.ACCS.ZS?locations=FJ

353 Prasad, Ravita D. Georgetown Journal of International Affairs. Georgetown University. Powering the Periphery: Rethinking Rural Electrification in Fiji. 11 August 2025. https://gjia.georgetown.edu/science-technology/powering-the-periphery-rethinking-rural-electrification-in-fiji/

354 International Trade Administration. Fiji Country Commercial Guide. Renewable Energy. 15 May 2026. https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/fiji-renewable-energy

355 Australia National University. When the price of fuel becomes the price of childhood: Pacific families in a crisis. 7 May 2026. https://reliefweb.int/report/world/when-price-fuel-becomes-price-childhood-pacific-families-crisis

356 International Trade Administration. Fiji Country Commercial Guide. Renewable Energy. 15 May 2026. https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/fiji-renewable-energy; The Fiji Times. Commercial sector remains Fiji's largest energy consumer in 2025. 23 June 2026. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/commercial-sector-remains-fijis-largest-energy-consumer-in-2025/

357 Energy Fiji Limited. Hydro Energy Projects. Accessed 5 June 2026. https://efl.com.fj/about-us/renewable-projects/hydro-electricity-projects/

358 The Fiji Times. Low dam levels, fuel risks put pressure on Fiji's power supply. 22 June 2026. https://www.fijitimes.com.fj/low-dam-levels-fuel-risks-put-pressure-on-fijis-power-supply/

359 International Trade Administration. Fiji Country Commercial Guide. Water and Wastewater Treatment. 15 May 2026. https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/fiji-water-and-wastewater-treatment

360 Rural Water Supply Network. Sustaining Access to Safe and Healthy Drinking Water in Fiji: A Universal Challenge for Island and Rural Coastal Communities. 26 January 2026. https://rwsn.blog/2026/01/26/sustaining-access-to-safe-and-healthy-drinking-water-in-fiji/

361 Water Authority of Fiji. Natural Disasters Impact Water Supply, Customers Advised to Prepare. Accessed 15 June 2026. https://waterauthority.com.fj/NATURAL-DISASTERS

362 Batikawai, Suliasi Mekerusa. Osborne, Nicholas J. Do, Phu. Vosataki, Toga. Deo, Vimal. Reid, Simon A. Springer Nature Link. Patterns of acute watery diarrhea in Fiji: understanding the implications for water and sanitation services. 28 October 2025. https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s12889-025-24826-2

363 SDG Knowledge Hub. Lessons and Solutions from Addressing Water-related Challenges in Fiji. 28 January 2026. https://sdg.iisd.org/commentary/guest-articles/lessons-and-solutions-from-addressing-water-related-challenges-in-fiji/

364 Republic of Fiji. Ministry of Health and Medical Services. Water & Sanitation Cluster. Accessed 15 June 2026. https://www.health.gov.fj/water-sanitation-cluster/

365 United Nations. Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Provide Healthy and Safe Drinking Water in Rural Communities of Fiji. Accessed 15 June 2026. https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/provide-healthy-and-safe-drinking-water-rural-communities-fiji-0

366 Republic of Fiji. NCDs in Fiji. Accessed 18 June 2026. https://www.health.gov.fj/ncds/ncds-in-fiji/

367 U.S. Embassy in Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, and Tuvalu. Health Alert – Dengue in Fiji – U.S. Embassy Suva, Fiji. 26 May 2026. https://fj.usembassy.gov/health-alert-dengue-in-fiji-u-s-embassy-suva-fiji-may-26-2026/

368 Republic of Fiji. Ministry of Health and Medical Services – Fiji. Facebook. 15 June 2026. https://www.facebook.com/MHMSFiji/posts/the-ministry-of-health-medical-services-wishes-to-advise-members-of-the-public-t/1422159589944550/

369 Waqanivanua, Lavenia. Fiji Sun. TB-HIV cases surge to 41%, including cases among children. 24 March 2026. https://fijisun.com.fj/living/health/tb-hiv-cases-surge-to-41-including-cases-among-children

370 Republic of Fiji. Ministry of Health and Medical Services. 2025 National HIV Statistics Summary Report. 2026. https://www.health.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/2025_HIV_Summary_Report_Final_02042026.pdf

371 Republic of Fiji. Ministry of Health and Medical Services. About Us. Accessed 16 June 2026. https://www.health.gov.fj/about-us/

372 International Trade Administration. Healthcare. 15 May 2026. https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/fiji-healthcare

373 Ibid

374 World Health Organization. Pacific Islands–WHO multi-country cooperation strategy 2024–2029. Accessed 16 June 2026. https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789290620587

375 Wong, Nancy. World Health Organization. Fiji's FEMAT reclassified: maintaining global standards as an emergency medical team. 13 March 2025. https://www.who.int/westernpacific/about/how-we-work/pacific-support/news/detail/13-03-2025-fiji-s-femat-reclassified--maintaining-global-standards-as-an-emergency-medical-team

376 Mataika, Marica Boleia. Vatukela, Jese Rokalevulevu. Vatuvoka, Litia. Leone, Lawata, Nukutalai. Nasila, Viliame. Cambridge University Press. FEMAT Response to Leptospirosis Outbreak in Navosa, Fiji. 21 May 2025. https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/prehospital-and-disaster-medicine/article/femat-response-to-leptospirosis-outbreak-in-navosa-fiji/F661AAAD4CF4B464EC0FC3001B1D8DB1

377 Republic of Fiji. Ministry of Health and Medical Services – Fiji. Facebook Post. 4 January 2025. https://www.facebook.com/MHMSFiji/posts/the-12-member-fiji-emergency-medical-assistance-team-femat-departed-for-vanuatu-/993442062816307/

378 Republic of Fiji. Ministry of Housing. The National Housing Policy 2025-2030. Accessed 17 June 2026. https://www.housing.gov.fj/housing-policy-development

379 Vono, Temaleso. Fijivillage. Fiji needs 1,600 new homes annually over next 30 years – Nalumisa. 21 May 2026. https://www.fijivillage.com/news/fiji-needs-1-600-new-homes-annually-over-next-30-years-nalumisa-a09cc1/

380 Republic of Fiji. Ministry of Housing. The National Housing Policy 2025-2030. Accessed 17 June 2026. https://www.housing.gov.fj/housing-policy-development.

381 Ibid

382 Republic of Fiji. National Disaster Management Office. National Disaster Risk Management Act 2024. https://www.ndmo.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/NDRM-Act-2024.pdf

383 Global Shelter Cluster. Fiji National Shelter Cluster - Terms of Reference. 26 March 2024. https://www.sheltercluster.org/fiji/documents/fiji-national-shelter-cluster-terms-reference

384 Global Shelter Cluster. Fiji Cyclone Winston 2016. Accessed 17 June 2026. https://www.sheltercluster.org/response/fiji-cyclone-winston-2016

385 "Agricultural Commodities." U.S. International Trade Administration, 15 May 2026. https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/fiji-agricultural-commodities

386 Riya Mala. "Fiji faces food import gap as government plans food bill reform." FBC News, 13 April 2026. https://www.fbcnews.com.fj/news/fiji-faces-food-import-gap-as-government-plans-food-bill-reform/

387 Kelera Ditaiki. "Yam farming boosts cyclone food security." FBC News, 18 May 2026. https://www.fbcnews.com.fj/news/yam-farming-boosts-cyclone-food-security/

388 Ministry of Fisheries, Fiji. Facebook post, 9 December 2024. https://www.facebook.com/fisheriesfiji/posts/fijifisheries-public-advised-to-be-wary-of-ciguatera-fish-poisoning-during-festi/999297272239101/

389 Fitzgibbon, C. and Crosskey, A. Disaster risk reduction management in the drylands in the Horn of Africa. Brief prepared by a Technical Consortium hosted by CGIAR in partnership with the FAO Investment Centre. Technical Consortium Brief 4. Nairobi: International Livestock Research Institute. 2013. https://repo.mel.cgiar.org/handle/20.500.11766/5197

390 UNDRR. Terminology. Accessed 8 September 2022. https://www.undrr.org/terminology

391 European Commission. Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre (DRMKC). INFORM. https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index

392 European Commission. Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre (DRMKC). INFORM Global Risk Index. Methodology. https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/InDepth/Methodology

393 European Commission. Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre (DRMKC). INFORM Risk Methodology. https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/INFORM-Risk/Methodology

394 European Commission. Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre (DRMKC). INFORM Country Risk Profile 2026 – Fiji. https://drmkc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/inform-index/INFORM-Risk/Country-Risk-Profile

395 U.S. Embassy in Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, and Tuvalu. Defense Attaché. https://fj.usembassy.gov/defense-attache/

396 Lowell, Sgt. Walter H. National Guard. Republic of Fiji; Nevada Guard to expand Oceania partnership. 28 February 2019. https://www.nationalguard.mil/News/Article-View/Article/1770264/republic-of-fiji-nevada-guard-to-expand-oceania-partnership/

397 U.S. Embassy Suva. Facebook. 14 April 2026. https://www.facebook.com/usembassysuva/posts/-last-week-the-us-armys-oceania-engagement-team-provided-critical-medical-supp li/1373106768195574/; U.S. Army Reserve. A New Army Task Force in Oceania. 27 October 2020. https://www.usar.army.mil/News/News-Display/Article/2395094/a-new-army-task-force-in-oceania/

398 U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. USAID Partners with UNICEF to Provide Critical COVID-19 Response Supplies to Fiji. 24 May 2021. https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/Article/2629691/usaid-partners-with-unicef-to-provide-critical-covid-19-response-supplies-to-fi/

399 Ibid

400 OCHA. Fiji: Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasa Situation Report No. 01. 18 December 2020. https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/fiji/fiji-severe-tropical-cyclone-yasa-situation-report-no-01-18-december-2020

401 U.S. Embassy Suva. U.S. Ambassador Announces US$100,000 in TC Yasa Relief Funding. 21 December 2020. https://fj.usembassy.gov/u-s-ambassador-announces-us100000-in-tc-yasa-relief-funding/

402 U.S. Embassy Suva. U.S. Provides TC Harold Humanitarian Assistance. 22 April 2020. https://fj.usembassy.gov/u-s-provides-tc-harold-humanitarian-assistance/

403 Republic of Fiji. Post-Disaster Needs Assessment. Tropical Cyclone Winston, February 20, 2016. May 2016. https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/975781584942869315/pdf/Fiji-Post-Disaster-Needs-Assessment.pdf

404 UN OCHA. Fiji: Tropical Cyclone Winston – Response & Flash Appeal – Final Summary, 13 June 2016. 13 June 2016. https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/fiji/fiji-tropical-cyclone-winston-response-flash-appeal-final-summary-13-june-2016

405 Commander, Logistics Group Western Pacific, U.S. Navy. "Fijian Prime Minister Visits Nabua Village Schoolhouse Project." 3 June 2026. https://www.clwp.navy.mil/Pacific-Partnership/NewsStories/Article/4522477/fijian-prime-minister-visits-nabua-village-schoolhouse-project/

406 Commander, Logistics Group Western Pacific. Pacific Partnership 2026 Schoolhouse Construction Project at Nabua Village, SavuSau, Fiji [Image 4 of 5], 4 June 2026. https://www.dvidshub.net/image/9752628/pacific-partnership-2026-schoolhouse-construction-project-nabua-village-savusau-fiji)

407 CFE-DM News. CFE-DM. World Food Programme Brings Logistics Response Team Training to the Pacific. 1 June 2026. https://www.cfe-dmha.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=87dQwdtkDCE%3d&portalid=0

408 Naidu, Katherine. Fiji Sun. Pacific leaders warn of disaster response gaps. 13 April 2026. https://fijisun.com.fj/news/nation/pacific-leaders-warn-of-disaster-response-gaps

409 Commander, Logistics Group Western Pacific. Pacific Partnership 2025 Concludes Mission Stop in Fiji. 16 June 2025. https://www.clwp.navy.mil/Media/News/Article/4235449/pacific-partnership-2025-concludes-mission-stop-in-fiji/

410 CFE-DM News. Volume 65. CFE-DM Supports Exercise Regional Longreach 2025 in Tonga. https://www.cfe-dmha.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=p2HHad8tezw%3d&portalid=0

411 CFE-DM News. Volume 56. CFE-DM Helps Strengthening Regional Disaster Preparedness in Fiji. 1 December 2024. https://www.cfe-dmha.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=NRtbbV_wqoc%3d&portalid=0

412 U.S. Embassy in Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, and Tuvalu. Pacific Partnership 2023 Concludes Another Mission Stop in Fiji. 8 November 2023. https://fj.usembassy.gov/pacific-partnership-2023-concludes-another-mission-stop-in-fiji/

Center for Excellence in Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance
456 Hornet Avenue, Building 76, Joint Base Pearl Harbor - Hickam, Hawaii 96860-3503
Telephone: 808.472.0518 | DSN: 315.472.0518

WWW.CFE-DMHA.ORG
@cfedmha