

DROUGHT

FIJI

ACTIONS TAKEN & SPECIFIC PROGRESS MADE	LESSONS LEARNT	RECENT TRENDS & EMERGING ISSUES	MAJOR CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES
<p>ESTABLISHMENT OF A DROUGHT STEERING COMMITTEE AND A DROUGHT EXPERTS OR WORKING COMMITTEE.</p> <p>MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR EVERY MONTH AND AGENCIES ARE BEING ALLOCATED ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES ON DROUGHT AS FOLLOWS:</p> <p><i>FIJI METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES CLIMATE DIVISION</i> CLIMATE AND ENSO PREDICTION & MONITORING. MONITORING AND ADVISING ESPECIALLY ON METEOROLOGICAL ASPECTS OF DROUGHT. <i>DEVELOPMENT OF DROUGHT DEFINITION AND OTHER DROUGHT INFORMATION.</i></p> <p><i>MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE</i> MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT LOSS FROM CROP PRODUCTION REDUCED PRODUCTIVITY OF CROP LAND (WIND EROSION) HIGH LIVESTOCK DEATH RATE INCOME LOSS FOR FARMERS AND OTHERS DIRECTLY AFFECTED LOSS OF FARMERS THROUGH BANKRUPTCY DEVELOPMENT OF DROUGHT DEFINITION AGRICULTURAL DROUGHT</p> <p><i>PWD HYDROLOGY DIVISION</i> MONITORING OF DROUGHT THROUGH STREAM/RIVER LEVEL AND DAMS & RESERVOIRS. ADVISE ON WATER SUPPLY & CARTAGE. DEVELOP DROUGHT DEFINITION ESPECIALLY HYDROLOGICAL DROUGHT</p> <p><i>MINERAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT</i> MONITOR AND ADVISE ON GROUND WATER WATER SUPPLY (THIS IS ROLE OF PWD AND SHOULD MOVE TO HYDROLOGY SECTION) DISRUPTION OF WATER SUPPLY HIGH COST OF WATER TRANSPORT OR TRANSFER</p> <p><i>FIJI ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY</i> TO MONITOR WATER LEVEL AT THE</p>	<p>DROUGHTS ARE UNPREDICTABLE AND DOES OCCUR UNEXPECTEDLY BUT PLANS AND POLICIES SHOULD BE IN PLACE TO MINIMIZE ITS CONSEQUENCES WHEN THEY OCCUR.</p>	<p>CLIMATIC CHANGE AND THE DIFFICULTIES IN FOLLOWING THE CHANGING CLIMATIC PATTERNS IT BRINGS WITH IT.</p> <p>EXPERTS HAVE PREDICTED ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS SUCH AS DROUGHT AND HURRICANES ARE GOING TO GET WORSE.</p>	<p>LIMITATION OF DATA FROM PREVIOUS OCCURRENCES OF DROUGHT IN THE COUNTRY.</p> <p>DIFFICULTY BECAUSE OF THE CHANGING WEATHER PATTERN TO ACCURATELY PREDICT THE POSSIBILITIES OF DROUGHT AND WHEN IT CAN OCCUR.</p> <p>HAVING SUFFICIENT QUALIFIED PEOPLE IN CRITICAL AGENCIES LIKE METEOROLOGY, MINERAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT AND HYDROLOGY DEPARTMENT (MOST OF THE QUALIFIED PERSONNEL HAVE LEFT FOR THE FEW YEARS AND THERE HAS BEEN VERY FEW REPLACEMENTS).</p>

<p>MONASAVU DAM MONITOR ANY ENERGY DEMAND AND REDUCED SUPPLY BECAUSE OF DROUGHT RELATED CURTAILMENT COST OF ENERGY INDUSTRY WITH SUBSTITUTING MORE EXPENSIVE FUELS FOR HYDRO POWER</p> <p><i>MINISTRY OF FISHERIES</i> MONITOR LOSS FROM FISHERIES PRODUCTION AND FISH HABITAT</p> <p><i>MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT</i> MONITOR DAMAGE TO PLANT SPECIES INCREASED NUMBER AND SEVERITY OF FIRES LOSS OF WETLANDS ESTUARINE IMPACTS (E.G. SALT CONCENTRATION, INCREASED TEMPERATURE) INCREASED GROUNDWATER DEPLETION LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY WATER QUALITY EFFECTS (E.G. SALT CONCENTRATION, INCREASED TEMPERATURE)</p> <p><i>MINISTRY OF TOURISM</i> MONITOR LOSS TO RECREATIONAL AND TOURISM INDUSTRY</p> <p><i>MINISTRY OF HEALTH</i> MENTAL AND PHYSICAL STRESS (E.G. ANXIETY, DEPRESSIONS, LOSS OF SECURITY, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE) REDUCTION IN NUTRITION (E.G. HIGH COST FOOD LIMITATIONS, STRESS RELATED DIETARY DEFICIENCIES) LOSS OF HUMAN LIVES</p> <p><i>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION</i> MONITOR ALL SCHOOLS AFFECTED BY DROUGHT, SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND SCHOOL DROP OUT</p> <p><i>MINISTRY OF PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT</i> PUBLIC DISSATISFACTION WITH GOVERNMENT REGARDING DROUGHT RESPONSE INEQUITY IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF DROUGHT RELIEF</p> <p><i>SOPAC</i> ASSISTANCE IN TERMS OF TECHNICAL AND ADVISORY SERVICES.</p> <p>THE MINISTRY HAS ALSO FORMULATED A GUIDELINE ON RATIONING AND CARTING OF</p>			
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WATER TO AFFECTED AREAS AND SECTORS DURING DROUGHT.			
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