

RURAL DEVELOPMENT (IMPROVED ACCESS)

FIJI

| ACTIONS TAKEN/PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION | LESSONS LEARNT | TRENDS & EMERGING ISSUES | CONSTRAINTS & CHALLENGES |
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| <p>THE MINISTRY OF PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT FOCUSES ON IMPROVING ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN FIJI'S RURAL AREAS. IT HAS FIVE PROGRAMS WITH DIFFERENT AREAS OF FOCUS AS FOLLOWS;-</p> <p>(i) <u>SELF-HELP</u>- FOCUS ON SMALL INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS ON A PARTNERSHIP BASIS (1/3 COMMUNITY & 2/3 GOVT) AT A MINIMUM COST PER PROJECT OF \$1,500-00 AND A MAXIMUM OF \$ 50,000-00 .</p> <p>(ii) <u>DIVISIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE PROJECTS</u> - FOCUS ON MEDIUM SIZE FULLY FUNDED INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS AT A MINIMUM COST PER PROJECT OF \$50,001-00 AND A MAXIMUM OF \$ 200,000-00</p> | <p>(i) PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION HAS BEEN SUPPORTED BY A <u>CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM WORKING GUIDE</u> APPROVED BY FIJI'S CABINET IN 2003 WITH CONSEQUENT UPDATES AND AMENDMENTS ISSUED BY DEPARTMENTAL CIRCULARS.</p> <p>(ii) DISCREPANCIES HAVE BEEN PICKED UP BY INTERNAL & EXTERNAL AUDITORS AND CONTINUOUS EFFORTS ARE MADE TO IMPROVE INTERNAL SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES.</p> <p>(iii) ALTHOUGH THE DEPARTMENT HAS BOTH PROCESS & OUTCOME EVALUATION IN ITS WORKING GUIDELINES, THE FOCUS HAS ESSENTIALLY BEEN ON PROCESS EVALUATION. IT IS HOPED THAT OUTCOME EVALUATION WILL ASSIST WITH REPORTING AND LINKAGES TO ACHIEVEMENTS AGAINST MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS'.</p> | <p><u>(i) TRENDS</u></p> <p>FIJI'S TOWNS & CITIES FUNCTION AS SERVICE CENTRES FOR RURAL HINTERLANDS OFFERING OUTLETS FOR RURAL PRODUCTS, PUBLIC AND COMMERCIAL SERVICES AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.</p> <p>ITS RURAL AREAS PROVIDE RAW AND PROCESSED MATERIALS LABOR AND DEMAND FOR URBAN GOODS AND SERVICES IS STILL QUITE APPARENT.</p> <p>THE 2007 CENSUS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR WILL ALSO DETERMINE WHETHER THE HIGH RATE OF URBAN MIGRATION OF 2.6% PER ANNUM BETWEEN 1986 & 1996 HAS DECLINED OR INCREASED EVEN FURTHER.</p> | <p><u>CONSTRAINTS</u></p> <p>MANY RURAL AREAS HAVE POOR ROADING, UTILITIES, TRANSPORT(TO MARKET) AND SOCIAL SERVICES- ALL DISINCENTIVES TO FOLLOW ANYTHING OTHER THAN A SUBSISTENCE LIFESTYLE</p> <p><u>CHALLENGES</u></p> <p>FIJI'S RURAL AREAS HAVE GREAT POTENTIAL TO CONTRIBUTE TO ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE AREAS OF TOURISM, AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES.</p> <p>THE CHALLENGE IS FOR GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND MARKET TO HARNESS THIS POTENTIAL.</p> |

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| <p><u>(iii) UPGRADING OF NON-PWD ROADS</u> - FOCUS ON GRADING, LEVELING, GRAVELLING & OTHER MAINTENANCE WORK ON RURAL ROADS BRANCHING OFF FROM MAIN TRUNK ROADS.</p> <p><u>(iv) NON-CANE ACCESS ROADS</u> - FOCUS ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW FARM ROADS TO OPEN UP AREAS THAT HAVE POTENTIAL FOR COMMERCIAL AGRO-BASED LAND USE.</p> <p><u>(v) RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE</u> - FOCUS ON THE PROVISION OF AFFORDABLE, DURABLE AND CYCLONE RESISTANT HOUSES TO FAMILIES IN FIJI'S RURAL AREAS.</p> | | <p><u>(ii) EMERGING ISSUES</u></p> <p>THE MINISTRY OF PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT IS IN THE PROCESS OF REORGANIZING ALONG PROVINCIAL LINES WITH THE VIEW THAT LOCAL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT RESPOND BETTER TO LOCAL NEEDS.</p> | |

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RURAL DEVELOPMENT (EMPOWERMENT)

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| <p>THE MINISTRY OF PROVINCIAL DEVELOPMENT ALSO FOCUSES ON EMPOWERMENT OF FIJIS RURAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH ITS COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMS.</p> <p>APPROVAL FOR THIS PROGRAM WAS GRANTED BY FIJI'S CABINET IN APRIL 2003.</p> <p>THE FRAMEWORK CHOSEN FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM IS THE PARTICIPATORY PROJECT MANAGEMENT CYCLE (PPCM) FRAMEWORK INTRODUCED BY THE ASIAN PRODUCTIVITY ORGANIZATION (APO) .</p> <p>THE INTENDED OUTCOME WAS THAT JOINT PLANNING AND MUTUAL LEARNING USING THE PPCM FRAMEWORK WOULD BECOME AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF COMMUNITIES' WAY OF LIFE.</p> | <p>(i) THE PROCESS OF INTEGRATING THE PREVIOUS COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM WITH THE DEPARTMENTS CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM HAS BEEN A CHALLENGE</p> <p>(ii) THE INTEGRATION WITH TWO OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IS QUITE POSITIVE FOR THE LONG TERM IN TERMS OF SUSTAINING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES AND INTEGRATING THEM INTO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.</p> | <p>TRENDS</p> <p>THERE EXISTS NUMEROUS INFORMATION ON COMMUNITY FACILITATION AND COMMUNITY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE PACIFIC REGION AND GLOBALLY.</p> <p>THE GAP IS THE COLLATION OF THESE MATERIALS IN A WAY THAT IT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ALL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WORKERS AND COMMUNITIES.</p> <p>THERE IS A SHORTAGE OF EXPERTISE IN THE AREAS OF COMMUNITY FACILICATION BOTH WITHIN GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND ADDITIONALLY THERE ARE QUITE A NUMBER OF TOOLS BEING USED.</p> | <p>SEVERAL COMMUNITIES HAVE PRODUCED SUSTAINABLE PLANS OR IDENTIFIED SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS BUT HAVE BEEN HANDICAPPED BY THE LACK OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES.</p> <p>THE CHALLENGE IS TO EXPLORE LONG TERM INNOVATIVE FINANCIAL MECHANISMS FOR SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PLANS.</p> |
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IN APRIL 2007, AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND THE FIJIAN AFFAIRS BOARD, THE CCB PROGRAM WAS MERGED WITH THAT OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & IT IS NOW CALLED;-

“TOWARDS A HEALTHY Fiji”

IT IS INTENDED THAT THE PROGRAM IN ITS NEW FORM WILL BE DECENTRALIZED TO FIJI'S FOUR(4) DIVISIONS BY OCTOBER 2007.

PLEASE REFER TO ABOVE

ISSUES

IN ORDER TO ENSURE LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION OF COMMUNITY NEEDS AND ASPIRATION INTO NATIONAL GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, THERE NEEDS TO BE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE APPROPRIATE MECHANISMS FOR MAINSTREAMING COMMUNITY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES INTO NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION STRUCTURES

PLEASE REFER TO ABOVE