

PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FIJI

'Working in partnership to empower communities to make informed decisions about their own development'

RA KAKA NEWSLETTER March 2010



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SUCCESS STORY

YC4MH Presentation at the Australian High Commission:

On March 9 PCDF and YC4MH delegates, Rosie Catherine, Tevita Ravumaindama, and Jane Henty, attended the Australian High Commission for an event that highlighted the work of Australian volunteers.



Rosie Catherine, Laisanah Rakula and Jane Henty (YC4MH delegates) at the Australian High Commission.

Jane (AusAid Volunteer) gave a presentation on the work of YC4MH, in order to showcase the work of Australian volunteers and local NGOs in Fiji.



From left: Aleisha Carroll, Occupational Therapist at St Giles Psychiatric Hospital; Laisahah Rakula, YC4MH Member; Jane Henty, YC4MH Member; and Dr Narayan, St Giles Hospital Medical Superintendent.

MAIN ARTICLE

March 22: Cyclone Tomas' impact on NRM project sites:

The NRM team liaised with village headmen and district representatives from project sites in its five districts: Serua, Moturiki, Batiki, Cicia and Cuvu to determine the extent of damage to communities in these districts.

Water assistance was the number one priority for all the districts despite some being damaged more than others.

The Serua villages experienced huge swells but no major damage. Moturiki and Batiki did not experience any major destruction, however, damage to their plantations was prevalent. The extent of damage in Cicia district, in Lau province, was extensive – in two villages 24 roofs were uplifted, and plantation and house destruction was seen throughout the district. No village was unaffected in this district and in one particular village more than 20 houses were damaged.

NRM are currently assembling a proposal for the Catholic Church Mission and hope for work in this district to start in the next two months.

LATEST NEWS

Natural Resource Management (NRM)

March 9-10: Moturiki district planning discussion for their five year Management Plan:

The Moturiki District Management Plan for 2010-2015 was conducted with NRM and ED at Yanuca village. Eleven village Headmen, women and youth representatives, village Health Workers and Church representatives were involved in the two day deliberation which is expected to be ready by the end of April 2010.

March 19: EED representative visits PCDF:

EED representative, Mr. Bazakie Baput, visited PCDF to hold discussions with the Project Co-ordinator and Director on the progress of the "Community based Protection of Coral Reefs" project. The discussion centred on timely reporting of program and financials, capacity building training for project staff and strengthening of networking and partnerships with other NGO partners.

Community Capacity Enhancement (CCE)

YC4MH

March 24: Fiji Water Awards:

Ratu Lawa Vuna, YC4MH Member, and Jane Henty, PCDF Volunteer Advocacy and Communications Support Officer, attended the Fiji Water Foundation Awards. At the function they formally received a grant of \$4,600 FJD to train YC4MH members in the signs of suicide and teach local youths about signs of suicide. This grant will support the important identification of depression in youths within Fiji.

March 26: Stress and Mental Health Workshop:

Suli Waqa and Ratu Lawa Vuna, members of YC4MH, presented a workshop on stress and mental health in partnership with Fiji Council of Social Services (FCOSS) at Nabua Secondary School. The evaluation showed that all 19 students felt the workshop helped them a lot with improving their knowledge of stress and mental health .

March 27-28: Disability Rights Fund Workshop:

Rosie Catherine, Disability Rights and Mental Health Officer with YC4MH, and Jane Henty attended a two-day workshop in Nadi with their new funding body, Disability Rights Fund. This

workshop provided an opportunity to share stories, ideas, and future direction for organisations that advocate for people with a disability in the Pacific. The Youth Champs are now able to implement their project with greater understanding of disability issues in the Pacific; have more communication with other like minded organisations and have a closer relationship with the Disability Rights Fund.



**Disability Rights Fund Workshop:
Rosie middle left and Jane front Right.**

MORDI

March 9-12: Wailevu Good Governance and Leadership Workshop:

Iliapi and Sete spent a week in Naviavia Village, Wailevu facilitating a Good Governance and Leadership Workshop for 64 participants. The Workshop was opened by Assistant Roko Tui Cakaudrove (Taniela M).



Participants for Good Governance and Leadership Training at Naviavia – Wailevu District.

March 9-12: Veinuqa Business Training:

Talica and Tiri accompanied CATD Facilitator, Mere Tunidau, to Vunidavo, Veinuqa to conduct a Business Training Workshop with **XXXX** participants from the five villages in the district. The training was re-scheduled for the week ending April 9 due to a hurricane alert.

FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATION NEWS

- The Annual General Meeting was held on March 27. The main outcomes were:
 1. The appointment of new Board of Directors; Mr Sashi Singh, Mr Lionel Gibson, Dr Graham Roberts, Ms Monica Raghwan and Mrs Alisi Daurewa. It was agreed that BODs will reduce from seven to five members.
 2. Adi Laufitu Malani was elected Trustee to replace the late Mr Paula Kunabuli.
 3. PCDF Annual Report approved and circulated in April 2010.
- KPMG is currently undertaking the 2009 audit for EED and MORDI projects.
- Staff Employment Contract review underway.
- Staff at PCDF are mindful of the Health Promoting Policy, Child Policy, Gender Policy, and Environment Policy in work places.
- PCDF has a Training and Meeting Venue for Hire. The Vunimaqo Deck can accommodate fifty participants. For more information please contact the Office Manager.
- 30th Year Legacy Book "*An NGO Journey in the Pacific*" published in honor of PCDF's 30th Anniversary. A book not to be missed – copies are on sale at the office.

PCDF COMMUNICATIONS

- Annual Report finalized and available on the website.
- PCDF Facebook Group set up.
- Website optimization continues.
- Case studies and project stories continue to be compiled.
- Communications strategy continues to be developed.

STAFF NEWS

- Thankful to 2 Way Development and AYAD Volunteers, Kirsty Barnby, Communication Officer and Jane Henty, Advocacy Officer for their immense work all this time whilst at PCDF.

INTERNATIONAL MEDIA COVERAGE

- 2003 BBC Television – Coral Gardens
- 2004 BBC Radio – Coral Gardens
- 2008 BBC Television – The Coral Gardner
- 2008 ABC – Sustainable Tourism

MAJOR DONORS

PCDF could not complete any of its important work without the continuing support of local, national, regional and international donor organisations. Accessing support from some of these donors was only possible through the support and partnership of the Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific (FSPI), Counterpart International of USA, the Archdiocese of Suva and the Diocese of Polynesia. PCDF humbly salutes the following:

- AUSAID - Australian Agency for International Development
- NZAID— New Zealand Agency for International Development
- IFAD - International Fund for Agricultural Development via FSPI
- EED - Church Development Service (Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst)
- Shangri-La's Fijian Resort
- Canada Fund
- Rotary Water for Life

UPCOMING EVENTS IN MARCH

NRM

- A two day planning discussion in Batiki district for compilation of the district and village management plans.
- Moturiki Environment Committee (MEC) meeting to present their draft management plan
- Fish handling and processing and Fish Wardens refresher training: a joint (exchange) workshop for MORDI and NRM programs, in collaboration with the Fiji Police Force, Department of Fisheries and Department of Environment.

MORDI

- Continuation of Business Training at Veinuqa from April 6 – 9 at Vunidavo.
- Good Governance workshop at Namalata for the Kubulau District from April 20th to the 23rd.
- Fish handling and Fish Warden training at Navatu (Kubulau District) from April 26th - 30.
- Disaster Management Training for Veinuqa district to be conducted at Wainiyavu village from April the 27th – 30th.
- Women's cooperative store for Vuadomo village to be opened in April.
- Sanitation project for Keka, Nakorokacivi and Nadivakarua village surveyed and initiated by ESP.

AWARDS

- **Gold for International Green Apple Award (Environmental Best Practice) 2004.**
- Cuvu Site, Nadroga, awarded status of 'Model Site for Coral Reef Conservation' by the United Nations Environment Program (ICRAN Program). 2002.
- **Cuvu Site, one of 3 (along with WWF's Ono and USP's Verata) in Fiji's award by the UN Sustainable Development programme, Johannesburg 2003.**
- Best Annual report, South Pacific Stock Exchange – Not-for-profit section. 2003.
- **International Green Apple Award (Soil Conservation) Winner 2006.**
- First Runner Up for Annual Report 2006, by the South Pacific Stock Exchange.
- **First Runner Up for Annual Report 2007, by the South Pacific Stock Exchange.**
- First Runner Up for Annual Report 2008, by the South Pacific Stock Exchange.

MEET THE TEAM

Patron: Archbishop Petero Mataka
Trustees: Verona Lucas, Adi Laufitu, Susana Tuisawau

Board of Directors: Sashi Singh (Chairperson), Lionel Gibson, Dr Graham Roberts, Monica Raghwan, Mrs Alisi Daurewa and Tevita Ravumaidama (Executive Director).

Tevita Ravumaidama, Feke Serau, Ferine Bano, Filipe Waqairagata, Iliapi Tuwai, Ilisapeci Whippy, Matelita Kedrayate, Setefano Nauqe, Seruwaia Hoyte, Patrick Daurewa, Tiri Naulivou, Talica Anderson, Ilisoni Tuinasavusavu, Watisoni Sokiveta, Susana Lewanituva, Annie Madden, Jane Henty, Waisea Vereadau and Kirsty Barnby

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RA KAKA

Kaka is Kadavu for parrot. Kadavu is the home of the beautiful shining parrot, '*prosopeia splendens*', an endemic species for Kadavu Province.

The Kaka is a messenger not only on land but also on sea. When sitting in one of its domains, the mangrove, it serves as a communicator for God's living creatures.

Abbreviations:

ED	Executive Director, Tevita Ravumaidama
YC4MH	Youth Champs 4 Mental Health
MORDI	Mainstreaming of Rural Development Innovation
CATD	Centre for Appropriate Technology and development