

# PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FIJI

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

## RA KAKA NEWSLETTER February 2010



PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FIJI

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- **MORDI-Business Training for Kubulau communities.**
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### SUCCESS STORY

#### Beekeeping for Nayawa Youth

Youth and Women Coordinator, Tiri was in Nayawa, Sigatoka from February 8-12 to support a beekeeping and 'Financial Training for Youth' workshop. 14 young people participated in the workshop funded by the Pacific Council of Churches. The workshop was facilitated by contractors of McKenzie Beelines Ltd and the Business Incubation Centre.

PCDF will continue to facilitate monitoring support and additional training needs for the youth who have since formed a committee to run a honey processing business.

People and Policy Coordinator, Sete also supported the project by providing guidance on group networking and governance to the youth.

Workshop participant, Timoci Natuke, says: "This training has not only provided us with a new skill - bee keeping. There is now hope for us - we can run our own honey or wax making business. Now that we have formed a committee to look after the project for the first few months, we also have the opportunity to learn to work together as a youth group."

### MAIN ARTICLE

#### Good Leaders for Veinuqa District

The MORDI program facilitated a 'Good Governance and Leadership' workshop at Navunidavo for four days from February 16. 28 participants attended including men and women from the five villages of Burotu, Navunidavo, Wainiyavu, Wainilotulevu and Nasoqo.

The head of Namosi provincial office (Roko Tui) officiated both the opening and closing ceremony of this workshop. The Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Women and Culture, Department of Social Welfare and Department of Cooperatives also facilitated. At the end of the workshop, the participants were able to draw their own individual village Management Action Plan to address leadership as a key component in their strategies.



**Participants for Good Governance and Leadership Training at Navunidavo, Veinuqa, Namosi.**

One of the participants echoed a sentiment saying: "Quality leaders lead by example and possesses visionary outlooks that bring about unity that is based on love."

The Roko Tui in his closing remarks stated: "The success of this training will be seen in the latter years, as you lead your people in these difficult times with challenges that need your complete commitment to the welfare of your people..." It was received with acknowledgement of the difficult task that lies ahead for these community leaders. The women were challenged reiterated the importance of their role in holding the family together in both good and difficult times.

### LATEST NEWS

## **Natural Resource Management (NRM)**

### **Feb 9 -10: Moturiki Assessment and MEC Meeting:**

Mr. Ravumaidama, PCDF director, accompanied the NRM team to Moturiki. He held discussions with two village committees, the district school's management and the Moturiki Environment Committee (MEC) to assess their progress. The need for reliable water supplies was highlighted as a major concern. Discussions during the MEC meeting also revealed a lot of poaching by outside groups in the MPAs. MEC stressed the need for equipment to patrol their district fishing grounds. This is also something that the project will try and accomplish for the community.

### **February 23-27: Batiki Baseline Profiling:**

Watisoni Sokiveta, visited Batiki to conduct discussions with the members of the four villages in the district. There is a lot of slash and burn agriculture being practiced on the island so this is a priority area to be addressed. The project has the full support of the district elders and the church leaders in the rehabilitation works for their vegetation and forests.



**Slash and burn agriculture is widely practiced on Batiki.**

Watisoni also visited Batiki district primary school to talk with the class 7 and 8 students on the 'Environmental Awareness' programme which will commence this year. The national school curriculum has just introduced Natural Resource Conservation as part of class 7 and 8 studies. The awareness program will be an added bonus to the class as it will address land and marine resource conservation.



**NRM project officer, Watisoni taking a combined class at Batiki district primary.**

### **February 24: Yanuca Fish Wardens arrest poachers in MPA:**

Village headman, Sireli Kuga, and his Fish Wardens successfully arrested some illegal fishermen who were poaching within their MPA at night. He explained that they carefully followed the procedures they learnt at the Fish Wardens refresher training last year. The poachers were handed over to officers in Navua Police Station who then charged them. This refresher training was facilitated by Police Inspector Josaia Naimasi and the Fisheries Department.

This is a example of how the Fish Warden training has been put into practice and demonstrates the commitment to protecting and conserving their marine resources

### **February 25: Support from Fiji Police Force:**

The Commissioner of the Fiji Police Force, Commodore Esala Teleni, has shown his support for the NRM program by approving our request to engage Inspector Josaia Naimasi of the Navua Police Station in our upcoming Fish Wardens training. The Commissioner had also supported the same training in 2009. We wish to thank Commodore Teleni for his continued support of our community training programs.

## **Community Capacity Enhancement (CCE)**

### **YC4MH**

YC4MH was successful in gaining \$5000 from Fiji Water Foundation for a mental health education project. This project will upskill champs in suicide training and then they will disseminate the information to schools and youth groups.

### **MORDI**

#### **Feb 15—26: Business Training for Kubulau Communities:**

MORDI collaborated with the Centre for Appropriate Technology and Development to provide business training for 70 people in communities within Wailevu and Kubulau. The initiative was intended to strengthen the income generating projects of individuals and groups within the communities.

Training participant, Ilisabeta Volau, says: "I have always wanted to try to run a business of my own. But I have been fearful because of my lack of knowledge on how to run a business. I am so happy that MORDI has brought this training to us. I am now confident to take steps to begin my business. I have just been in touch with the Agriculture Office to seek more information as I would like to start a vegetable farming business."



**Participants of the Business Training workshop in Kubulau.**

The training is needed by these specific communities to help them run either a small or medium business. The communities in question tend to be vulnerable as they depend entirely on one source of income—normally fishing or farming.



**Participants work on their Business Plans during the Business Training workshop, Kubulau.**

#### **PRAC meeting – Feb 10:**

The MORDI team and the PRAC committee had a discussion about the new projects proposals and so as the progresses of the implemented projects. Most of the projects will need to be reviewed via the community facilitators. The meeting was held at PCDF (Vunimaqo deck).

#### **Good Governance and Leadership Training where-Feb 15—19:**

The training was facilitated by PCDF (MORDI Coordinator) Mr. Iliapi Tuwai and was assisted by Ms. Susana Lewanituva. This was a coordinated training consisting of various chiefs, village leaders and other group leaders with their wives.

It targeted the leaders of various communities to show them the benefits of regaining community relations and give them tools to instigate better, more proactive leadership with their communities.



**Participants in Wailevu during the Business Training in Vunidawamoli.**



Group discussion on Sales and Management during the Business Training in Vunidawamoli.

### FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATION NEWS

- Annual Audit by KPMG.
- Awaiting 2010 transfer as per Agreement with AusAid
- Awaiting confirmation on new project funding
- Programme Staff had started with training, implementing and monitoring in communities.
- 30<sup>th</sup> Year Legacy Book “*An NGO Journey in the Pacific*” published in honor of PCDF’s 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A book not to be missed - copies are on sale at the office and soon at the USP bookshop.
- PCDF has a training and meeting venue for Hire. The Vunimaqo Deck can accommodate fifty participants. For more information please contact the Office Manager.
- Finance and admin staff support the work of the PCDF programmes with finance, admin, graphic design, reporting, fundraising, publicity, media releases, assisting the programmes in the field and facilitating in meetings.
- Staff at PCDF are mindful of the Health Promoting Policy, Child Policy, Gender Policy, and Environment Policy in work places.

### PCDF COMMUNICATIONS

- An article written by Communications Officer, Kirsty Barnby, was published in the Fiji Sun titled ‘Northerners take up Beekeeping’. A page article promoting the benefits of beekeeping and how MORDI started a colony in Wailevu West, Vanua Levu.

- Annual Report at final stages.
- Website optimization continues.
- Case studies and project stories continue to be compiled.
- Communications strategy continues to be developed.



### STAFF NEWS

- Volunteers from AYAD and Two Way Development are still working for PCDF until mid 2010.
- Monthly staff meeting are on-going.

### 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

- Two days planning meeting in Yanuca, Moturiki to work with the communities on drawing up their strategic plan for the next 5 years and also a district strategic plan EED representative site visit to Yanuca island, Serua to meet with the community members and hear from them how the MPAs have impacted on their marine resources.
- Planned Kubulau exchange trip for fish wardens from Moturiki and Serua to meet their counterparts and share success stories and challenges on management of MPAs.

##### MORDI

- Business training in Vunidavo village Veinuqa, Namosi which will be held on March 8—19.
- Good Governance and Leadership training which will be in Naviavia village, Wailevu, Cakaudrove on March 9-12.
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- Disaster Management and First Aid Training will be held in Wainiyavu village, Veinuqa, Namosi on March 25-31.

##### YC4MH

- YC4MH will be highlighted and celebrated in an event at the Australian High Commission on March 9.
- The first AGM will be held on March 25.
- Champ catch up Sat 13th March. Guest presenters Lifeline Fiji on some future training they will be conducting with the Champs and Mary Jane, an artist, who is collaborating with the champs for an art exhibition.

- YC4MH being a guest speaker at National Youth Day (postponed)
- Rosie the new YC4MH employee is implementing 'Seed to Success' training with champ members in March and April. This training works on helping young people with issues such as identity, goals, stress etc.

#### 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, Paula Kunabuli,  
Susana Tuisawau

Board Members: (Chairperson) Sashi Singh, Adi Laufitu Malani (Deputy Chairperson), Ratu Joni Madraiwiwi, Dr Graham Roberts, Lionel Gibson, Monica Raghwan, Bernadette Rounds-Ganilau, Tevita Ravumaidama (Executive Director)

#### KEY CONTACTS

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 Vereadua and Kirsty Barnby  
**Finance & Administration** - Annie Madden  
**Graphic Art** - Filipe Waqairagata  
**Press** – Kirsty Barnby (and Ra KaKa Editor)

**MORDI** - Iliapi Tuwai  
**Natural Resource Management** - Matilita  
Kedrayate  
**Good Governance** — Setefano Nauqe

**ADDRESS**

**PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
FIJI**

8 Denison Road  
PO Box 14447, Suva, Fiji.

**Phone:** (679) 330 0392/(679) 3314 160

**Fax:** (679) 3304 315

**Email:** [admin@pcdf.org.fj](mailto:admin@pcdf.org.fj)

**Website:** [www.pcdfiji.org](http://www.pcdfiji.org) or [www.pcdf.org.fj](http://www.pcdf.org.fj)

## **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 it's domains, the mangrove, it serves as a communicator for God's living creatures.**