

# FIJI FRONTLINE NEWS

Oct 2023

 PINKtober raising awareness for Cancer

## 2023 Achievements



<b>New Homes Built:</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Retrofit Builds:</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>WaSH Infrastructure:</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Provinces Worked in:</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Volunteers Engaged:</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Communities Served:</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Training Sessions:</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>No of Attendees:</b>	<b>471</b>

**"We were often rationed water, 3 buckets for 3 days, 2 buckets for cooking and one 1 bucket for drinking only. Today, we are very grateful for improved access to water in our village through Habitat's work."**

**Losana Toga -  
Waiqori Village**

## **Pacific Housing Forum 2023: Progressing access to safe and resilient Housing**

The lack of adequate housing and the negative impact this has on the Fijian people and the broader Pacific community was the focus of last month's Pacific Housing Forum held in Suva. Jointly hosted by Habitat for Humanity Fiji (HFHF) and Habitat for Humanity New Zealand (HFHNZ), the forum aimed to promote collaboration, highlight innovations, advocate for policy reform, and strengthen community engagement. The forum covered a wide range of topics including, barriers to resilient housing; informal settlements; climate change; WaSH; demographic changes; urbanisation; key stakeholder responsibilities; enabling access to resilient houses; governing laws, regulations and implementations; and the call to action. By joining forces and sharing expertise, HFHF and HFHNZ drove for positive change with a view to creating access to resilient housing solutions that will have a lasting impact on the lives of Pacific communities. The report from this forum is due out in October, so watch this space!

## **Negotiated Partnership: BBS build in Lau**

In the East of the Lau Islands group, the Narocivo community in Nayau have recently completed the Participatory Approach in Safe Shelter Assessment (PASSA) training. Through the PASSA programme, Habitat for Humanity Fiji has enabled and empowered small communities like these to build and maintain their own homes, create their own community projects and village developments. Proving the importance of these programmes, this training inspired a number of students to start their own construction company, which now serves as a source of income for their families.



Our work is only possible thanks to kind donations from the public and our sponsors



# "Through housing we build resilience"

Since 1991 we have helped more than 115,000 beneficiaries in Fiji

## National Disaster Week

Habitat for Humanity Fiji was proud to be part of the National Disaster Awareness Week celebrations at Albert Park on the 17th and 18th of October! Our dedicated team was there to raise awareness and promote resilience in the face of disasters. Habitat for Humanity Fiji is a co-lead of the Fiji shelter cluster.



THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHT

## The Rosewood Project: Relocation

With fifteen communities identified as at risk, Habitat Fiji is currently working with public and private stakeholders and government agencies to design and implement the relocation of Fijian communities impacted by climate change. The Rosewood project aims to compile a report which will recommend the scope of work for the development of a relocation plan, with a particular focus on the communities of Nabavatu and Serua Island who will be assessed for project suitability. One of these communities will then be recommended as the focus of this project, which will in turn open the doorway for future communities to be assisted in making lives safer.

## UNDP Project: In Waiqori Village on Oneata in Lau

In partnership with UNDP and the Government of Fiji, Habitat for Humanity Fiji recently assisted in the building of the Oneata Waiqori resource centre in the Lau group. As a multi-purpose facility, this building will be used to conduct training, and as an emergency evacuation centre during times of disaster. During a training exercise with the village water committee, Habitat Fiji taught skills on safe water management to ensure the community has improved access to safe drinking water, and how to manage water in times of drought. To ensure a consistent supply of water, the centre has been fitted with guttering and a rainwater harvesting system.

## Habitat at FNU open day

On the 6th & 7th October, Habitat for Humanity Fiji were at the Fiji National University Open Day where we spoke to students about our volunteering opportunities. For students looking to test out their skills in a real work environment we have places in finance, human resources, communications, I.T., and trades such as plumbing, carpentry and logistics. If you would like to contribute to a rewarding project, meet interesting, likeminded people and help those in need, then we would love to hear from you!



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