



# **EMPOWERING CHILDREN TRANSFORMING FUTURES**



**Save the Children**

**Save the Children Fiji Annual Report 2023**





Proverbs 31:25 – 31

**66** *She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future. When she speaks, her words are wise, and she gives instructions with kindness. She carefully watches everything in her household and suffers nothing from laziness. Her children stand and bless her. Her husband praises her: "There are many virtuous and capable women in the world, but you surpass them all!" Charm is deceptive, and beauty does not last; but a woman who fears the LORD will be greatly praised. Reward her for all she has done. Let her deeds publicly declare her praise.* **99**

**Forever in our hearts, Rachael Seymour Hiagi Ledua.**

**Date of birth: 17/08/1976**

**Date to be with the Lord: 08/05/2024**

### **Tribute to Rachael: A Beacon of Dedication and Love**

With heavy hearts and profound sorrow, we dedicate this annual report to Rachael, our cherished colleague and dear friend at Save the Children Fiji. Rachael's passing leaves an immense void, but her spirit and legacy will forever remain a guiding light for all of us who had the honor of working alongside her.

Rachael was a woman of vibrant colors, much like her favorite, the color purple. She brought warmth, depth, and a touch of magic into our lives, much like a beautiful sunset casting its hues across the sky.

As the gatekeeper and first point of contact for Save the Children Fiji, Rachael was much more than our administrative officer.

She was the heartbeat of our organization, the pillar upon which we all leaned. Her directness was a breath of fresh air, and her lovable demeanor made her the confidant and friend we all cherished. Rachael's dedication to her work was nothing short of heroic. Even in the face of illness, she pushed through with unwavering determination, never allowing her own struggles to overshadow her commitment to others.

Her selflessness knew no bounds; she constantly put her family, her colleagues, and our mission before herself. In a world that often forgets the importance of putting others first, Rachael stood as a beacon of what it means to be truly selfless.

To many of us, Rachael was more than a colleague. She was a trusted confidant, a resilient warrior, and a friend who spoke her mind with admirable honesty. Her courage to be direct and her steadfast resilience in the face of adversity were qualities that inspired us all. We could always rely on her, and her integrity and strength were cornerstones of our team's success.

Rachael's absence leaves a gap that can never be filled. We will profoundly miss her team spirit, her infectious energy, and her unwavering support. Her legacy of dedication, resilience, and selflessness will continue to inspire us in every step we take.

Rest in peace, dear Rachael. Your memory will forever be etched in our hearts, and your spirit will continue to guide us. We are eternally grateful for the time we shared with you, and we promise to carry forward your legacy with the same dedication and love you showed us every day.

## OUR 2030 AMBITION

We will do whatever it takes to ensure that all children Survive, Learn, and are Protected by 2030.

We won't inspire breakthroughs on our own. We will work hand in hand with children and their communities, our partners, and our donors. Only then will we transform the lives of children and make a real difference.

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**There are currently 2.6 BILLION children in the world.**

**5.9 MILLION CHILDREN**  
under the age of 5 die from  
preventable causes each year.

**59 MILLION CHILDREN** are  
not in school. Of the children  
in school, **250 MILLION are**  
**not learning the basics in**  
**reading and mathematics.**

**Up to 1.5 BILLION**  
**children** experience violence  
each year.

## OUR THREE GLOBAL BREAKTHROUGHS FOR 2030.

### SURVIVE

**NO CHILD DIES** FROM PREVENTABLE CAUSES BEFORE  
THEIR FIFTH BIRTHDAY

### LEARN

ALL CHILDREN LEARN FROM A QUALITY BASIC  
**EDUCATION**

### BE PROTECTED

**VIOLENCE** AGAINST CHILDREN IS NO LONGER TOLERATED

## Who We Are

We have been creating sustainable and lasting change in the lives of children in Fiji for 49 years. Created in Fiji in 1972, we are a non-political organisation that continues to be dedicated to driving positive change for children across the region.

As a Child Rights Organisation, we work to ensure children can realise their rights, particularly those children who are in the most vulnerable and marginalised environments. Currently, we work from ground level to policy level with direct work in 54 informal settlement and communities across Fiji.

## Our Work

Globally, Save the Children protects the lives of children in more than 120 countries, and each year, we support millions of the hardest to reach and most vulnerable children and young people around the world.

Locally we work to create long-lasting, sustainable change in the lives of children in Fiji by driving change from the community level to Government and policy. We take a holistic approach to our advocacy and programmatic work by working directly on key areas of:

- **Education**
- **Health**
- **Child Protection**
- **Child Participation**
- **Child Centered Disaster Risk Reduction**
- **Child Sensitive Livelihoods**
- **Humanitarian Response**



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# Board Chair Report 2023



2023 was another year of evolution for Save the Children Fiji and the organization kept at the forefront of its priorities, how best to support and protect children in Fiji. Save the Children Fiji continued to implement its key strategic goals being education, health, child protection and safety net and resilience via its Fiji's wide programs.

The work of Save the Children Fiji is constantly evolving, as is the donor landscape (including funding practices), which poses challenges and opportunities for NGO's, including Save the Children globally. Save the Children Fiji continues to diversify its donor portfolio and in addition to existing donors, began implementation of programs funded by USAID (which now has a Pacific regional office based in Suva), Pacific American Fund (USAID), Women's Fund Fiji and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Save the Children Fiji is constantly looking for innovative programming approaches and opportunities.

In addition, Save the Children Fiji is grateful for the support of ongoing donors including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade New Zealand (MFAT), Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), META, the Fiji Water Foundation and individuals and businesses from Fiji and overseas.

This funding has supported an ongoing range of programs at the core of Save the Children Fiji's strategic goals, including child protection, emergency response, digital online safety for children, food security, child-centered disaster risk reduction, positive discipline and Water Sanitisation and Hygiene (WASH). Such programs have been implemented in partnership with Save the Children Australia, Save the Children New Zealand and now, Save the Children Korea.

Save the Children Fiji continues to voice its concerns in the media about the deeply disturbing statistics relating to sexual offending against children, as reported by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP.) The ODPP's reports (which relate to formal indictments of sexual offences filed in the High Court of Fiji) for 2023 indicate that over 60% of the victims of sexual offences were children and approximately 10% of the perpetrators of sexual offences were juveniles. Save the Children Fiji is committed to raising awareness and working collaboratively with the government (including law enforcement agencies), other CSO's and communities to address the root causes of child sexual abuse and to enhance protective mechanisms. More action needs to be taken urgently and taking steps to address sexual offending against children is a key priority of the Board and the Organisation.

Save the Children Fiji extends its gratitude to its supporters, particularly its hardworking staff, its donors, volunteers, stakeholders, and key partners including Save the Children Korea, Save the Children New Zealand, Save the Children Australia and Save the Children's Asia Regional Office. 2023 was a year of transition, with a new Government in place in Fiji and a sense of optimism, freedom and hope. Save the Children Fiji will continue to work closely with key stakeholders, including the Fijian Government, and it continues to build new partnerships, seek new opportunities and promote the interests of the children of Fiji in all of its work. We thank you all for your support.

# Message from the Chief Executive Officer, Shairana Ali



The year 2023 was truly a grim year for children throughout the world as they continued to suffer immense impediments to their basic rights as a result of war, violence and climate induced natural disasters. Millions of children throughout the world are becoming more impoverished, fearing for their lives, and are being forced to flee their homes due to violence and inequality. The bombing of children in Gaza, famine related child deaths in Sudan, war related internal displacement facing children in Ukraine are a stark reminder that children continue to experience the worst forms of crisis that constrains their access to education, healthcare and livelihood. In the Pacific and in Fiji, the situation of children is no different as thousands of children in the region are subjected to unimaginable horrific acts of violence, abuse and exploitation. Gains that were made in improving access to education and health of children in Fiji have been constrained due to the rising cost of living, low quality service provision and simply the inability of duty bearers to provide the best for their children in the current economic climate facing the country.

In summary, there are many more families slipping into poverty, more and more children are dropping out of school, more children are reporting being malnourished, more children are reporting negative health outcomes overall, the NCD burden is growing and affecting a bigger proportion of the younger population, and the staggering cases of violence, abuse and exploitation faced by children are all issues that impede the wellbeing and development of the country's future generation. Save the Children's Regional Situational Analysis of Child Protection in the Pacific, conducted in 2023, reinforces existing data on child vulnerability to violence and abuse in Fiji.

The study findings have indicated that child protection risks have likely increased over the past five years due to COVID-19, increased migration, climate change, and digital connectivity. In Fiji, many caregivers are most concerned about online violence against children and children themselves have identified serious concerns around online safety, including encountering inappropriate content, cyberbullying which led children to emotional harm and even suicide and mental health concerns. Persistent social norms that accept high levels of violence in homes, schools and communities were identified as key threats to children's right to live free from harm, abuse and neglect. Furthermore, socio cultural and religious norms regarding gender and violence continue to be the dominant driver of violence against children in Fiji. Additionally, increasing prevalence of drug and substance abuse by children in schools and communities is a major concern that calls for a strategic shift in the way preventative programs are conducted to address child protection issues in Fiji.

While Save the Children Fiji (SCF) continues to respond to the Child Protection issues highlighted in this report, there are significant gaps in achieving impact at scale. In 2023, we have reached 531,595 individuals including 36,058 children through our innovative programs aimed at improving children's right to survival, being protected and being able to learn. SCF's total income for the 2023 programming period stood at \$2,979,046, a significant reduction from the 2022 period as we closed many covid 19 and tropical cyclone Response related projects. The 2023 financial performance was relatively strong as we recorded a surplus of \$568,960 however, in comparison to previous years, the funding portfolio shrunk significantly which hinders SCF's strategic goal to achieve impact at scale for all children in Fiji.



It is therefore, a matter of great urgency that the government and donor partners review budgetary policies and allocations to support child rights work and commit a fair share of funding to support the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) including funding the important work of SCF in the various communities around Fiji.

In 2023, majority of SCF's funding was derived from traditional donors such as the New Zealand and Australian governments but I am pleased to report that we successfully diversified our funding sources and added new donors to our funding Portfolio such as USAID and KOICA with whom we have started impactful new projects that support the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The grants that we received enabled SCF to create more sustainable and resilient programs for children in Fiji which gained SCF widespread recognition from communities that we served as well as our stakeholders including the government. We are grateful to all our donor partners for their support and commitment to our current strategic goals. In the current context of child rights, child protection and safeguarding concerns in Fiji, there is a clear and growing need for SCF's strategic expertise across different sectors to promote and protect children's rights. SCF, therefore, remains well positioned to offer bespoke child safeguarding training to a range of partners in Fiji to ensure that all sectors in Fiji have sound policies and procedures in place to prevent the abuse and exploitation of children.

SCF, in 2023, continued to support staff, volunteers and stakeholders to strengthen their capacities by introducing ground breaking training opportunities. We rolled out 'Safe Families' training programs, successfully trained our Program Manager as a regional trainer on project management and rolled out several initiatives to enhance leadership capabilities so that our staff become more agile and skilled at responding to children's issues. These capacity strengthening initiatives are part of SCF's Strategic plan to recognise and nurture talent for a transformative work environment that inspires teamwork and collaboration and empowers our staff. Our aim is to continue leveraging opportunities in 2024 so that more staff benefit from empowering training opportunities.

Looking forward, SCF continues to work closely with other members of the Save the Children Association to ensure that the organisation remains relevant and is focusing its efforts on improving the lives of all children. In Fiji and the wider Pacific region, SCF has entered into a collaborative partnership agreement with Save the Children New Zealand and Save the Children Australia to work together and support more children in the Pacific region to attain their rights. This led to a first Pacific Strategy for Children which was endorsed by all three member partners in 2023 and is subsequently being implemented by a Pacific regional team.

On the global front, SCF is closely working with Save the Children Association members to make Save the Children fit for the future. This work involves three crucial areas; combatting the erosion of children's rights, being locally led and making the most of Save the Children's income in really challenging global circumstances. By tackling these three things, it is envisioned that the organization will remain relevant for years to come fulfilling its core purpose, addressing the rights and needs of children, in the countries that need it the most. SCF recognizes that in order to deliver on its 2030 breakthroughs for children, it must become a better partner for children, communities, local NGOs and the government. Therefore, as we enter the last year of our current 2022 to 2024 Strategy and as part of our Strategy refresh process, SCF will strategically advance its role as a child rights defender, share resources and expertise with key partners, work to reach fundraising targets and reduce operational costs.

We will review how we campaign and advocate and convene for children, how we leverage staff skills and experiences, make changes to our operating model including funding and decision making and support the global movements 'locally led and globally connected' ambition for children. In 2024, we will actively unlock further opportunities and embark on a vision to do more and better for children in Fiji and the region because we are the undisputed expert in child rights and we must live up to our mandate and accountability to children.

Finally, SCF's mandate to protect and empower children will not be possible without the support of the key donors, stakeholders, staff and volunteers. We value and celebrate our achievements together while recognizing that more needs to be done to alleviate the suffering faced by children in Fiji. A special mention and thank you to staff who have left SCF to pursue other opportunities and also to all staff and volunteers who make a lot of personal sacrifices to serve the organization. I also acknowledge and dedicate the 2023 achievements to our dear departed colleague, Ms Rachael Hiagi whom we lost to a long-term illness in May 2024.

# Governance and Organisational Development

Save the Children Fiji is governed by Trustees and a Board. The Trustees are Mr. Vijay Naidu, Ms. Patricia Sachs-Cornish, and Ms. Gina HOUNG Lee.

The Board Chair is Ms. Lorraine Reiher. In 2023, the Board comprised of ten members.

The current Board members are:

Ms. Lorraine Reiher-Board Chairperson

Mr. Garry Wiseman- Vice Chairperson

Ms. Shairana Ali- Ex-officio Member

Ms. Sushil Narayan

Mr. Romulo Nayacalevu

Dr Donald Wilson

Ms. Freda Junara-Board Secretary

Ms. Karen Sorby

Ms. Ana Tuiketeti

Ms. Meliki Tuinamuana

Dr Rosalina Sa'aga-Banuve- Child Safeguarding Trustee

In 2023, the Board had five Board meetings and the Annual General Meeting was held on the 30th of May 2023. The Board has three sub-committees: The Finance Sub-Committee, the Property Development Sub-Committee, and the Human Resource Sub-Committee.

## Senior Management Team 2023

Shairana Ali	Chief Executive Officer
Afsrin Ali	Program Manager
Raveen Chand	Finance Manager
Shalvin Chand	Finance Manager
Neilesh Prasad	Finance Manager
Tasianna Lulu	Child Protection Manager
Renu Yogita Chand	Human Resource Manager

## Locations

Head Office	25 Pender Street, Suva
Labasa Office	86 Sarwan Singh Street, Labasa
Lautoka Office Building	11 Valetia Street Lautoka

# SAVE THE CHILDREN

## FIJI'S IMPACTFUL JOURNEY IN 2023

2023 saw Save the Children Fiji implement projects that enabled to make children safer, healthier and the opportunity to learn and be protected from harm. We stand resolute, embodying unwavering dedication and tireless action, in our commitment reverberating with purpose, resonating across our **strategic thematic priorities: Education, Health, Child Protection, Safety Net, and Resilience**. Through our endeavors, we reached out and directly impacted the lives of 18,296 individuals, a testament to our steadfast mission through a child centered approach.

Within these numbers lie stories of hope and transformation as we delivered projects that involved the whole community to transform children's lives for the better. Among them, 4,240 girls and 6,074 boys, totaling 10,314 children, found transformative change through our initiatives. Additionally, 3,238 women and 4,744 men were uplifted, contributing to a grand total of 7,982 adults who were fortified by our programs.

Yet, our influence extends far beyond mere statistics. It extends into the very fabric of communities, touching the lives of 36,058 children and 477,241 adults who were beneficiaries of our collective efforts. This cumulative impact, reaching an astounding 513,299 lives indirectly, speaks volumes about the enduring legacy of Save the Children.

The extent of our reach highlights the breadth of our engagements and interactions, showcasing the vast beneficiaries and stakeholders we connect with. However, it's crucial to discern that reach alone doesn't measure the true effectiveness or transformative power of our collective actions. Impact, on the other hand, delves into the depth of the change, influence, or benefits generated by our efforts, reflecting the meaningful outcomes and lasting effects we strive to create for the children through our work. Hence, while reach signifies visibility and potential, impact signifies significance and tangible value.

As we reflect on the year gone by, the combined reach of 531,595 individuals stands as a testament to the profound and lasting influence of our work by putting children at the heart of what we do. It underscores our unwavering commitment to the betterment of children in Fiji and beyond. This is our promise, and it is one we hold dear as we chart our path forward to a future in which every child learns, thrives and survives.

As we turn the pages of this annual chronicle, let us bear witness to the triumphs and challenges of a journey fueled by compassion, courage, and unwavering dedication. For within these stories lies the blueprint for a future where every child is cherished, protected, and free to dream without fear.

## CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Child Protection and Child Participation program had many notable successes in 2023, while dedicated to ensuring every child, everywhere, is protected from harm. Continued strong partnerships with various stakeholders, namely the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection, Ministry of Education, Heritage, The Fiji Police Force and the iTaukei Affairs Board and Arts, and Civil Society Organizations

Child Protection and Participation activities aligned with the priorities identified within government ministries' priorities for children. Save the Children Fiji's technical expertise on child protection and participation resulted in several grants to provide capacity building training, conduct audits, and support with child protection policies for local civil society and faith-based partners. We advance our commitment to improving our duty of care of children by implementing Child safeguarding training for seven organizations.

Awareness sessions on child safeguarding were conducted and, overall, well-received by participants with recommended next steps, including reviewing child protection policies and code of conduct. The Child Protection team would continue providing follow up support to these organizations during the remaining quarters.

Information session on Child's Rights continued throughout schools and communities in Fiji below are some key highlights under the Child Protection Program for 2023.





Awareness on Child Rights, Child Protection, Safeguarding for Communities, Schools and stakeholders  
THE LEARNING CENTER Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

# AWARENESS ON CHILD RIGHTS, CHILD PROTECTION, SAFEGUARDING FOR COMMUNITIES, SCHOOLS AND STAKEHOLDERS

## THE LEARNING CENTRE

The Learning Centre (TLC) began in 1995 with the aim of providing co-educational, non- denominational Primary education through a flexible, board and balanced curriculum with an emphasis on skills and processors. TLC had expressed its interest to conduct Child Safeguarding to 14 teachers including the administration staff on the 19th April 2023.

The Child Safeguarding Training was conducted to motivate the raising of awareness and equipping the teachers on how to identify different signs of abuse and the paving the reporting process to escalate concerned issues of children at the TLC.

Some key recommendations at the conclusion of this training was to continue the momentum of Child Protection awareness within schools and strengthen the Child Safeguarding Policy in line with Ministry of Education Child Protection Policy.



Participants presentation on Child Safeguarding Training  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

The Child Protection team had successfully worked with the principal in finalizing the Child Safeguarding policy for The Learning Center and to have this reviewed every 3 years.

## THINK PACIFIC

Twenty-three students from the Western Sydney University were on a study tour under the New Colombo Plan. These group of students are studying Children's Rights: Localand International as part of their Bachelor of Law degree.

During their two-week tour, the students visited different organizations and one of them was Save the Children Fiji to provide them valuable insights to assist with their course work. The Child Protection Team used this opportunity to introduce Save the Children through the Child Protection Programs. Also the students raised key interest in the I Am Digital Project focusing on online safety for children as this is an emerging issue.



Students from the Western Sydney University  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji





Pacific American Fund Staff at the Child Safeguarding awareness session.  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

The **Pacific American Fund** is currently funding Save the Children's Child Centered Innovative Resilience Outreach (CIRO) Project. A Child Safeguarding awareness session was conducted to 11 staff who were from management, finance, projects and administration staff to strengthen the capacity and equip the employees on how to work safely with children at a professional and also at personal level. A staff member also joined in virtually from Papua New Guinea.

Under the **Australian Humanitarian Partnership 2.0** the Child Protection Team conducted and strengthen the inclusion component of Child Protection to the AHP partners. Save the children Fiji worked in partnership with Fiji Disability Peoples Federation and Rainbow Pride Foundation as GEDSI partners in this project. Save the Children wishes to acknowledge CARE Australia for funding the GEDSI partners in 2023.



AHP Partners at the Enumerators Training before the baseline activity.  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

## CARE AUSTRALIA

CARE is an international humanitarian aid organisation fighting global poverty, with a special focus on working with women and girls to bring lasting change to their communities. As a non-religious and non-political organization, CARE works with communities to help overcome poverty by supporting development projects and providing emergency relief. CARE recognises that supporting women and girls is one of the most effective ways to create sustainable outcomes in poor communities.

CARE Australia is directly responsible for program design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, as well as management and contractual control of all projects. As a consequence, CARE has a high degree of accountability and transparency. CARE Australia is committed to protecting the rights of children in all areas CARE works around the world. All CARE staff must demonstrate a commitment to the prevention of sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse and the protection of children in their work.

CARE has been working in the Pacific region since 1989, with established Country Offices in Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu, and projects implemented together with partners in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Samoa, Kiribati and Tuvalu. Save the Children Fiji was engaged by CARE Australia to design, and deliver the Child Protection and Child Safeguarding for its partners. In November – December 2023, Tasianna Lulu of Save the Children Fiji (SC Fiji) conducted Child Protection and Child Safeguarding training for 29 CARE partners over 9 days in half day sessions. The training was adapted to an online training modality. Jojivini Mocevinaka, the Child Protection Volunteer, was the dedicated note taker for the 9 days.

The sessions were also co facilitated by Faaolo Utumapu, CARE's Disability Inclusion Advisor, who facilitated the sessions on People with Disability with support from Rebecca Hunter, the CARE Australia Safeguarding Lead. Kelly Vacala, Communications Officer from SCF, also joined in to share her experiences implementing SCF's communications guidelines when working with children. Aydah Akao, a Child Protection Specialist from Save the Children Solomon Islands, also joined to share her experiences in navigating the legislative and policy framework in the Solomon Islands, and how Save the Children Solomon Islands supports partners to strengthen and embed child safeguarding.



Save the Children Fiji was engaged by CARE Australia to design, and deliver the Child Protection and Child Safeguarding for its partners. CARE is an international humanitarian aid organisation fighting global poverty, with a special focus on working with women and girls to bring lasting change to their communities. As a non-religious and non-political organization, CARE works with communities to help overcome poverty by supporting development projects and providing emergency relief. CARE recognises that supporting women and girls is one of the most effective ways to create sustainable outcomes in poor communities.

The training was attended by 29 partner representatives (25 Female and 4 Male). Of the 29 participants, there were 3 persons with a visual impairment that attended a few child safeguarding sessions. Acknowledgement to the CARE Australia Team that assisted with providing their technical expertise on how to tailor make the training package to suit their needs. Participants represented Management, Administration staff, Field Officers, and Disaster Response coordinators from the following organizations:

- **Live and Learn Environmental Education - Kiribati, Tuvalu, and Solomon Islands**
- **Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation**
- **Mainstreaming of Rural Development Innovation (MORDI) Tonga Trust - Tonga**
- **Women in Business Development Inc - Samoa**
- **Talitha Project - Tonga**
- **Nuanua O Le Alofa - Samoa**





# REGIONAL CHILD PROTECTION PROJECT

## Negotiated Partnership Programme, 2021 -2025

This three-year Regional Child Protection Project focused on addressing violence against children by making change at the macro (policy and training) level and ensuring that children themselves are heard and provided with opportunities to develop skills useful for their own futures. The Long-term outcome (goal) of the project is '*Violence against Children in the Pacific is reduced*' funded by Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade through Save the Children New Zealand.



Under Output 4 Save the Children's Regional Situational Analysis of child protection in the Pacific was carried out in 2023 in five countries; Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Fiji. The aim of the research was to better understand the nature and prevalence of violence against children in the region, how the drivers of violence and risk and protective factors have changed since before COVID-19 outbreak, and in response, what changes are needed to child protection systems to keep children safe from harm.

This report would have not been possible without the valuable time and perspective been shared by children who are at the forefront of this research, with their personal experiences of violence in their home, school, community and online a major contribution to the analysis, along with caregivers, adolescents and child protection stakeholders namely the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection, The Fiji Police Force, iTaukei Affairs Board, Faith Based Organisations and Ministry of Education.

Significant input was provided by Save the Children Child Protection Team and Iris Low, COLAB Consultant. This research is also dedicated to the memory of our dear colleague Emma Davind from PNG, the Child Protection Technical Advisor.



Child Facilitators with Consultant to conduct the Child Led Research Activity in the community.

The Child Led research component is the research is based on Doel Mackaway's model for children's participation that utilises a child rights based approval which only took place in Solomon Islands and Fiji Islands. Ninety-four children and young people participated in the child led research: 49 females and 45 males across Fiji and Solomon Islands with ten adolescent facilitators.

There were an equal number of participants in Fiji (47) and Solomon Islands (47) with almost the same gender breakdown across the two participant cohorts. The questions used for the child led research were based on the three overarching questions below used in the broader study, but were adapted for the child participants

Methods and sample size	Fiji	Papua New Guinea	Solomon Islands	Tonga	Vanuatu
Online survey with child protection stakeholders	24	-	20	16	-
Online survey with caregivers	60	-	15	28	45
Online survey with adolescents (self-administered/facilitated)	19	-	-	20	-
Interviews with child protection stakeholders	16	10	11	10	5
Focus group discussions with parents/caregivers of children 6-16 years (number of groups)	4	2	4	10	3
Child led focus group discussion with children aged 8-11 (mixed)	2	-	2	-	-
Child led focus group discussion with adolescents aged 12-16 (mixed)	4	-	4	-	-
Adult led focus group discussion with children aged 8-11 (mixed)	-	2	-	1	-
Adult led focus group discussion with adolescents aged 12-16 (mixed)	-	3	-	2	-
Total number of participants	196	83	122	145	85

## Three main key themes emerged across the five countries:

1

### Importance of child participation within the child protection system

- Engage with children, including children with disabilities, diverse groups of children (sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics), and children with lived experience of violence, within the process of strengthening the child protection system, and in its ongoing governance at the national, district and community level.
- Develop child rights based principles to guide child protection mechanisms at a community level. These would include: defining the context in which such mechanisms are appropriate; basic principles governing the use of such mechanisms, including when referral to formal services is necessary, and the involvement of women and children in decision-making regarding dispute resolution.

2

### Strengthen primary prevention and community-based programming that addresses the links between violence against women and violence against children

- Use an evidence-based approach to meaningfully engage with children and caregivers to develop prevention programmes that address the gendered nature of violence against women and children, integrating online safety. Advocate to governments and donors for multi-year and core funding that adequately resource long-term programming.

3

### Advocate with national level institutions in primary prevention and response

- Advocate for the prohibition on the use of violent discipline in all settings, and marriage before 18 years. Enable and support child-led campaigns and activities to address these issues.
- Advocate for appropriate resourcing (including budget allocation and adequate staff levels) to establish effective child protection response services, and provide ongoing opportunities for pre- and in-service training.

The research analysis reveals the multifaceted nature and pervasive extent of violence that Fijian children face across various contexts – in the home, at school, in the community and increasingly online. Furthermore, that this violence has increased in the past five years. The strengths in the current child protection system are evident in some children seeking help from or reporting violence to parents, police, teachers, and social welfare. These entities are recognised for their potential to offer legal assistance, support, counselling, prayer, and advice. However, notable gaps in the formal and informal child protection systems include children's hesitancy to seek help from certain individuals, such as strangers, some friends or teachers, siblings, or unsupportive step-parents, and a hesitancy to report sexual violence due to fear and cultural taboos. This underscores the importance of fostering a trusting and supportive environment within formal and informal systems to encourage children to disclose their problems, and the need to tackle or address cultural taboos that enable the silences related to sexual violence. Children's voices are at the forefront of this analysis and they must continue to be to shape the solutions required to honour their rights and better protect them from violence that has detrimental impact on their development and sense of safety in the world.



Children presenting their safe and unsafe places in the community.  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji





Child Participation at Narata Village with Fiji Police Force Team. Nadroga Province. Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

# WOMEN'S FUND FIJI PROJECT

This one-year project, Ending Violence Against Children (EVAC) will focus on building collective action to end violence against children in Fiji. The goal of the Ending Violence against Children is 'Families and communities, protect Boys and Girls from all forms of Violence' This supports our Save the Children International breakthrough areas which is "Be Protected" and is also aligned to our Strategic Plan for 2020-2024 together with the Fiji National Child Protection Strategy 2020- 2025.

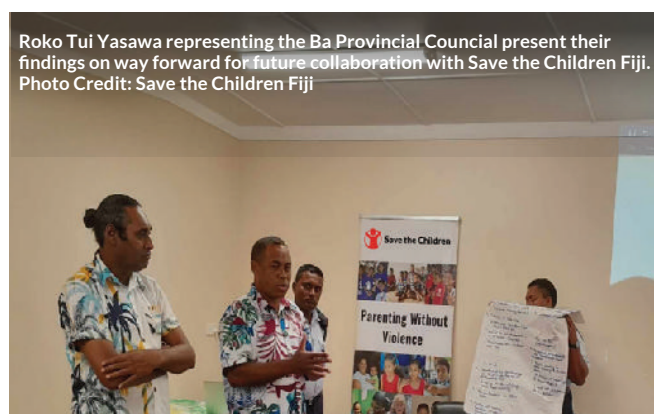
In this project the Project team have completed the Child Safeguarding Training, Child Participation and the Precious Gift of God training to 6 communities in the Ra, Ba and Nadroga Province in partnership with Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection, iTaukei Affairs Board and The Fiji Police Force reaching 350 beneficiaries of which 223 girls and women, 127 boys and men with 2 persons with disabilities.

The project activities were also aligned to the Women's Fund Fiji project of eliminating violence against women by ensuring that women and girls are informed about child rights and to be free from sexual and gender-based violence. This was also an opportunity to strengthen child protection systems at the community level and link them to the national stakeholders who are mandatory reports under the Child Welfare Act 2010. The communities are also now well informed and are aware of the Child Help. The Child Protection team continues to strengthen the partnership with stakeholders in the western division.

The End of Evaluation for this activity to be conducted in 2024.



Anjali Prasad, Former Project Assistant during the Baseline Activity in Rokovuaka Village in Ra. Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji



Roko Tui Yasawa representing the Ba Provincial Council present their findings on way forward for future collaboration with Save the Children Fiji. Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji





The Fiji Police Force, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection at the Western Division for a Children are a Precious Gift of God Training Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

## CASE STUDY

This case study delves into the harsh realities faced by children in a community plagued by food insecurity and water scarcity. The lack of access to basic necessities has forced many children to embark on a daily quest for sustenance, wandering from household to household in search of food while their parents indulge in their own pursuits.

The individual's participation in the training on Child is the Precious Gift from God (CPGG) has ignited a newfound awareness of the neglect of children's rights within their community. Witnessing firsthand the struggles of these children, from their early morning quests for food to their persistent presence at neighbors' doorsteps during meal times, has stirred a deep sense of empathy and concern within them. Despite feeling powerless to effect widespread change, the individual has taken small yet meaningful actions to alleviate the suffering of these children. By sharing their own meals with those in need, they are offering a ray of hope and sustenance in an otherwise bleak landscape.

However, the individual recognizes the limitations of their efforts and acknowledges the urgent need for broader community engagement and support. They appeal for the return of the training, recognizing its potential to empower individuals like themselves to advocate for the rights and well-being of children within their community.

**66** The training on Child is the Precious Gift from God (CPGG) has made me realize that parents in our community are neglecting children's rights to foods, eating 3 meals a day **99**

"I need the training to come back as my father refuses to listen to me. I, as the child of this community, need your full support". This case study serves as a reminder of the stark inequalities that persist within societies, where children continue to bear the brunt of systemic injustices. It underscores the importance of collective action and community support in addressing the root causes of child neglect and deprivation, and highlights the critical role of education and awareness in driving positive change.



CAEVAC Project team with partners during a PWV collective one-day meeting  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

# COLLECTIVE ACTION TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN PROJECT (CAEVAC)

Embarking on its fourth year of implementation from June 2023, the Collective Action to End Violence Against Children Project stands as a testament to the power of collaboration and determination. Funded by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade and bolstered by the unwavering support of Save the Children New Zealand, this transformative initiative was born amidst the chaos of 2021, with a singular mission: to eradicate all forms of violence against children in Fiji.

Spanning a five-year trajectory from 2021 – June 2025, this visionary project is not merely a venture in child protection; it is a profound endeavor to redefine the narrative for generations to come. With a strategic footprint across 24 communities in the central division, which are located in informal settlements, this project operates hand-in-hand with esteemed partners such as the Ministry of Women, Children & Social Protection's Child Services Unit, the iTaukei Affairs Board, and the Fiji Police Force Community Policing Division. At its core, the project champions a multi-faceted approach, engaging with formal systems and national child protection structures. Through comprehensive capacity-building initiatives, our project partners are empowered to effect tangible change from within. Simultaneously, community-wide behavior shifts are catalyzed through targeted child protection programming, igniting a ripple effect of awareness and advocacy.

Yet, perhaps most inspiring of all is the project's unwavering commitment to amplifying the voices of those it seeks to protect – the children themselves.

Through the creation of safe spaces, in the form of child clubs, that nurture empowerment and support, young voices are not only heard but elevated. Here, in these sanctuaries of solidarity, children are equipped to advocate fiercely for their own safety and protection, embodying the very essence of resilience.

CAEVAC is implemented in 3 approaches with the first specifically focusing on national systems and the other 2 approaches targeting community systems and children's meaningful participation in their communities and homes. In line with the aims of the National Child Protection Strategic Plan to strengthen national systems, the project team carried out child safeguarding trainings to the management and staff of the 11 children's residential homes with the support of the Department of Social Protection and the Child Services Unit.

The activity was aimed at strengthening the child protection technical capacities and understandings of the management and staff in anticipation of the enactment of the National Child Safeguarding Policy within all government ministries and institutes. A total of 70 people were trained of which there were 52 females and 16 males.

Through the child safeguarding trainings, the management and the staff of the 11 residential had gained more knowledge in best approaches in safeguarding and ensuring children in their care were safer. The support from the Welfare Officers and the Child Services Unit complimented the trainings particularly in the defining of legal contexts of child protection according to the legislations to the management and their staff.





The management team of St Tabitha Home during the group discussions (picture right) and the staff of Treasure House Christian Children's Home noting down their thoughts during their child safeguarding training. Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

The programming of the Children are a Precious Gift from God in the project communities was aimed at strengthening community knowledge to stimulate changed behavior and attitude in raising children in positive environments. The 3day program in the communities had 454 parents and carers learning from the sessions about positive ways to raise their children that would help their children in the future.

The support from the project partners, the iTaukei Affairs Board provincial Training Unit Officers, the Department of Social Protection Welfare Officers and the police officers from the community police posts across the project communities added value to the learnings of the participants as the partners would provide technical knowledge on their services and the legislations and policies that govern their work. It was interesting to note that more women attended the trainings considering that of the 454 participants, there were 118 males and 336 females.

**KEY ACHIEVEMENTS** from the Children are a Precious Gift from God program included communities developing their child protection action plans complimented by their increased understanding and knowledge of child protection contexts from their participation in the program.

Additionally, the consensus among participants, that child protection has increasingly become a concern for everyone, is a reflection of communities' realization of the children's plight regarding their safety and protection in their homes and communities. The continued child protection programs and interventions in the communities is anticipated to enhance the communities' mobilization in addressing their children's needs, safety and protection.

**The child participation component of the project has been the highlight of the project**, since its inception in 2021. Reflections on the journey of child participation with the communities indicated that whilst the concept of children's participation is misunderstood in communities, families and their children have shown a lot of enthusiasm in participating in activities specifically designed for children's participation.

**The establishment of child clubs in the communities was a testament to the communities' willingness to support their children's development** which also reflected the impact of the child protection programming in the communities such as the Children are a Precious Gift from God and the child safeguarding trainings. Communities were also trained in the 9 basic requirements of child participation to strengthen their understanding of children's meaningful participation in their homes and communities.

A total of 20 child clubs were established in the communities to which 537 children participated in their community-led child club activities such as child led community clean-up campaigns and art & craft activities such as tie & dye or painting. These activities were aimed at building children's capacities in teamwork, understanding of their rights and responsibilities as well as meaningful participation in their homes and communities.



Participants of members of Nadera Public Rental Board Flats posing after their Children are a Precious Gift. Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji





Children from the Senibua Child Club of Kecisemani community in Muslim League community posing with their tie & dye creations during one of their community-led child club activities.  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

The annual Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect (PCAN) Day was a key highlight of child participation for 2023. Building on from the successful celebrations of the 2022 PCAN Day, the 2023 event was commemorated with the Ministry of Women, Children & Social Protection, the Asia Foundation and stakeholders from the National Coordinating Committee on Children together with families and the children from the communities of Navatuyaba, Vunisei, Muana villages and Wainbuku HART as well as the children's residential homes Dilkusha and Homes of Hope.

A total of 475 adults and children from the 4 communities and 2 residential homes including SCF staff and families as well as the partners and stakeholders, were registered to have attended the event.

There were 235 children of which 120 were boys and 115 were girls from the communities including 4 children with disabilities as well as 95 carers from the communities and residential homes supporting the children.

The number of participants in the event was an indication of the commitment from communities and stakeholders to collectively advocate for the ending of all forms of violence against children and promote the safety and protection of children in Fiji.



PCAN Day saw the Children enjoy the activities, in which they also took an active part in planning and participating in, strengthening and highlighting the child participation component of the CAEVCA project.  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji



Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect Day 2023  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji



## CASE STUDY 1:

Talent: Raijieli Vuli – Child Club Coordinator, Vunisei Village, Toga District.

*“Being given the responsibility as the Child Club Coordinator has been a great lesson for me in the way I raise my own children, I’m very grateful to the CAEVAC Project for all the awareness they do”*

42-year-old Ms Raijieli Vuli is a talented woman who passionately creates and sells beautiful handicrafts, weaving artistry into every thread of her creations. She was appointed the Child Club Coordinator for the village of Vunisei in Toga and says the role has been very fulfilling for her.

**66** From my perspective, there has been a positive change and impact since we have established our child clubs, there is less unnecessary loitering by children in the village, as the child clubs have meaningful and educational activities for children to participate in” said Ms. Vuli **99**



Child clubs are not only for sports and fun activities but a safe space as well for their learning and development. Ms Raijieli Vuli assisting children from their community child club during their tie & dye activity. Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

The Child Clubs carries out activities that enable children to learn how to paint or draw as well as tie and dye activities where they are taught how to tie, twist, and design their own patterns on fabric. A few child clubs have literacy activities where children learn and improve how to read.

The 2023 Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect Day was celebrated in the village of Navatuyaba where the children from her village also took part in the celebrations together with children from Navatuyaba, Muana villages, Wainbuku HART, Dilkusha Children’s Home and Homes of Hope. This was also an opportunity for her children to participate in a larger activity campaigning with other children for their rights and protection.

“The children found the event very interesting and exciting. They loved it as it was the first time for us to have something like the PCAN celebration. They enjoyed everything that was organized for them.”

Raijieli goes on to explain that while there have been positive impacts since the establishment of the child clubs, there are also challenges. Her observations indicate that during awareness sessions or child club activities, parents tend to retain their children. However, it has been noted that for events such as PCAN Day, there is a higher likelihood of parents entrusting their children to participate. Understanding the factors influencing this discrepancy can provide valuable insights for future engagement strategies.

Overall, Ms. Vuli says it has been a great journey with the CAEVAC Project so far. “Being given the responsibility as the Child Club Coordinator has been a great lesson for me in the way I raise my own children, I’m very grateful to the CAEVAC Project for all the awareness they do.”





Save the Children Staff from Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea staff pose after completion of their Child Participation Capacity Building Training that was carried out by the Alana Kapell | Save the Children Sweden/International | Senior Advisor for Child Rights Programming and Children's Participation (seated 3rd from right). The participants were commended on their successful training by Save the Children Fiji CEO, Shairana Ali (seated 4th from right). Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

## Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP)

The Skills to Succeed: Capacity building for ending violence against children in Fiji, was an Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) funded project that was aimed at strengthening child protection technical capacities of the Save the Children Fiji Collective Action to End Violence Against Children Project team and its key partners; the Child Services Unit and the Department of Social Protection Officers, the Training Officers of the iTaukei Affairs Board Provincial Training Unit and the Fiji Police Force Community Policing Division.

This 6month project was specifically designed to provide high-level technical capacity building trainings on three key areas; child protection, child participation and gender inclusion with the projected outcome of increased knowledge and capacity for staff and partners that would strengthen their work and progress towards achieving specific targets in the areas of child protection, child participation and gender inclusion.

The project had 3 specific objectives, aimed at building and strengthening organization capacities in child protection to which a total of 51 staff from Save the Children, the iTaukei Affairs Board, the Department of Social Protection/Child Services Unit and the Community Policing Division were trained in child protection, child participation and gender inclusion. The following is an outline of the specifics of each output and course of its implementation;

► Objective 1: SCF Staff and key partners are trained in Parenting without Violence ToT course;

- The Parenting without Violence is a Save the Children Common Approach resource that was developed to strengthen positive parenting and relationships within families and communities. Additionally, the resource targets child protection systems aimed at strengthening existing systems and structures to enhance support to families and communities;
- A total of 22 staff were trained in the 5day Save the Children Common Approach Parenting without Violence – Silver Course Training of Trainers of which 7 were males and 15 were females. This training enabled the trainees to be able to carry out the trainings in their communities as well as within their different organizations maintaining the aims of strengthening positive parenting and enhancing child protection knowledge in their communities, they work in.

Participants of the training were made up of officers from the iTaukei Affairs Board Provincial Training Unit, staff from the Department of Social Protection, the National Coordinator Community Policing of the Fiji Police Community Policing Division and Save the Children Child Protection staff;





Participants discussing ideas in their group work during the Child Participation Capacity Building Training.  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

- The training was facilitated by the Principal Advisor Child Protection Save the Children Australia who was also instrumental in the development and consolidation of the Parenting without Violence resource to the SCI Common Approach;
- Objective 2: Staff trained in GEDSI
  - The aim of this activity was to support the team and partners in strengthening and increasing their knowledge of gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI) programming approaches that would result in strengthened considerations for the equitable engagement of men, women, boys and girls and the inclusion of people with disabilities;
  - Targeting key personnel of partner organizations, officers from the iTaukei Affairs Board, the Department of Social Protection/Child Services Unit and the Community Policing Division – Fiji Police, the 2day GEDSI training was conducted by the Fiji Women's Rights Movement with a total of 41 staff including Save the Children staff being trained in GEDSI;
- Objective 3: The Child Participation toolkit is developed
  - The aim of the activity was to carry out a Save the Children Child Participation Capacity Building Training to enhance organizational capacities in understanding child participation contexts and localize minimum standards into local interventions and support in communities;
- The 4-day training was conducted by the Alana Kapell from Save the Children Sweden/International who is the Senior Advisor for Child Rights Programming and Children's Participation to staff from the Child Protection teams from Save the Children Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea staff, the iTaukei Affairs Board, the Child Services Unit and the National Coordinator Community Policing;
- A total of 28 staff from Save the Children and the partner organizations were trained;
- Through the learnings from the training, the team was able to develop a draft child participation toolkit which will be tested with the children from the Collective Action to End Violence Against Children Project and finalize the toolkit for dissemination across the communities as a resource for working with children;

At the conclusion of the project, a lessons learned activity was carried out with the partner organizations aimed at collating feedback from partners on the project contexts and relevance to their organization child protection strategic plans. Key learnings from the lessons learned activity were;

- The partners collectively agreeing that the child protection work is increasingly becoming an area of concern considering the alarming statistics of child abuse pointing out that children are increasingly exposed to risks to harm and abuse;
- The trainings have influenced the work of partners in child protection and has provided strengthened efforts within their organizations to address gaps in their strategic approaches;
- The maintaining of the partnership is important as the work of child protection cannot be carried out in silos and there was a need to collectively strengthen collaboration among all organizations mandated to work with children;
- Partnerships are important as they support organizations compliment key areas of child protection such as the project providing an opportunity to build and strengthen the technical capacities of organizations that have gaps in child protection in addition to the legal mandates of partners adding value to the collective approaches of child protection;





Assistant Director Child Services Ms Ela Tukutukulevu during her presentation at the ANCP Lessons Learnt Workshop  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

## CASE STUDY 1:

### Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection

Ms Ela Tukutukulevu – Assistant Director of Child Services Unit (now Department of Children) shared that the three trainings provided by the ANCP Project (Parenting without Violence, Child Participation and Gender, Equality & Social Inclusion) alongside other child protection and safeguarding workshops have helped their social welfare officers in terms of raising advocacy and awareness in communities and Save the Children Fiji has even come on board to assist us with national celebrations such as the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (PCAN) that we have every year.”

Ms Tukutukulevu further adds that social welfare officers at the Ministry are often asked how trainings facilitated by Save the Children Fiji has impacted their work and there’s always a positive response.

*“Child Protection is their day-to-day- everyday duty. They say to me most times when they’re handling child welfare cases – they sometimes have to bring up positive parenting as a form of advice to parents and this is where they unpack the knowledge and skills learned from the training” she adds.*

The Ministry has gone through the GEDSI training but Ms Tukutukulevu adds that having them go through another round of it when invited by Save the Children Fiji is an added bonus as social welfare officers take it as a refresher course.

With the Minister for Women, Children, and Social Protection Lynda Tabua heavily interested in child participation, Ms Tukutukulevu says there are plans in the pipeline to establish a Children's forum – an event Save the Children Fiji can play a crucial part in

*“Our Minister is very big on child participation. I know Save the Children Fiji has assisted us with symposiums involving children and this even includes having the Child Rights Situation Analysis. This is something that we really don't have but we thank Save the Children for giving us that.”*

Ms Tukutukulevu also mentioned there have been a lot of learnings developed from the training and activities both partners have engaged in over the last few years and hopefully such training continue in an effort to strengthen partnership and sustainability in communities.

## CASE STUDY 2:

### iTaukei Affairs Board (ITAB)

The iTaukei Affairs Board Manager Wellbeing Unit Mr Jone Drugunalevu mentioned that when a collaboration was established with Save the Children Fiji, they shifted their business plan toward child protection, and working closely with the CAEVAC project meant they had to look at the kind of environment children were raised in.

*“This meant the parents, the guardians, and the environment. We are fortunate to have attended the multiple trainings that were organized by Save the Children Fiji so we can better focus on children when we go out to communities.”*



Manager Wellbeing iTaukei Affairs Board Mr Jone Drugunalevu addressing partners during his presentation at the ANCP Lesson Learnt workshop in Suva. Photo credit: Save the Children Fiji



Mr Drugunalevu further added; “Child protection is not an easy delivery message because it’s sensitive, so we always have to be aware of the community background and the people in it because sensitive issues can arise when training is conducted.”

He also mentioned that they work closely with community leaders who are their key focal points in assisting them and Save the Children Fiji in implementing and welcoming many of their community activities.

For Jone Drugunalevu, the trainings organized by SCF through the ANCP Project have built their confidence to deliver in communities, understand the community better, and formulate fitting responses to queries from participants. Training Officers from the iTaukei Affairs Board Provincial Training Unit have been part of the three trainings (Parenting without Violence, Child Participation and Gender, Equality & Social Inclusion as well as the Children are a Precious Gift from God trainings with the CAEVAC Project) alongside other child protection and safeguarding workshops have helped their officers in terms of raising advocacy and awareness in communities.

As a trainer himself, Mr Jone Drugunalevu shared that the impact of such trainings can be seen through the visual attention of participants as many raise questions and are curious about the proper and rightful ways of raising children and protecting them from all forms of violence.

The inclusion of their officers in trainings facilitated by Save the Children Fiji has strengthened their knowledge of child protection and even extended their outreach with many community leaders requesting parenting and children training over time.

The learnings from the project indicated that the project was an opportunity to strengthen collaboration with key partners in progressing towards achieving the collective actions of child protection specified in the National Child Protection Strategic Plan. In light of the successful completion of the project and the partners’ feedback during the lessons learned activity, the following are areas of interest that will continue to strengthen partnerships and the collective actions of ensuring a sustained and effective child protection approach;

1. Formalization of partnerships – it is imperative that the formalization of partnerships between Save the Children and key partners be explored as this will further add value considering that each organization have shared interests and goals of addressing child protection gaps in the national structures and designs with the vision of a safer Fiji for children;
2. As the leading child rights organization, Save the Children will continue to ensure that opportunities for strengthening technical child protection capacities will be shared across to partners as it will be beneficial to the continued collaboration and collective actions of addressing child protection;

## I AM DIGITAL – ONLINE SAFETY CAMPAIGN







The project team handed over the educational materials to the students and teacher of AD Patel College.  
Photo credit: Save the Children Fiji

Implemented from the 1st of October 2022 till the 31st of October 2023, the IAM Digital Online Safety Project, Phase 3, a collaborative initiative led by Save the Children Fiji (SCF) and META in partnership with the Ministry of Education, has demonstrated exceptional effectiveness and success in promoting online safety, particularly in the context of scam prevention and media literacy. The project's impact is underscored by its significant reach, engagement, and the positive outcomes achieved during its Phase 3 campaign.

**Campaign Reach:** The campaign achieved an impressive total direct reach of 90,809 during various events, including school visits, reflection workshops, focus group discussions, the I Am Digital Phase 3 campaign launch, and awareness booth held at the Fiji Showcase event. Moreover, the total indirect reach through the I Am Digital social media campaign from December to February reached a staggering 462,696. This included diverse linguistic and geographic outreach, spanning countries such as Fiji, Kiribati, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and Tonga.

**Social Media Impact:** The online campaign reached a vast audience, with a total English campaign reach of 2,382,343 users and a broader reach of 2,819,644 users when considering locally spoken languages. Impressively, content was viewed millions of times across multiple countries, with Fiji leading at 5,286,500 views, followed by significant engagement in Kiribati, Tonga, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu.

**Focus Group Discussions and Feedback:** Youth and children engagement through focus group discussions provided valuable insights. Recommendations and feedback from these sessions influenced the development of new educational materials, emphasizing misinformation prevention and media literacy. This inclusive approach ensures that the campaign is tailored to address the specific needs and concerns of the target audience.

**Financial Commitment and Expert Consultation:** A commendable financial commitment of \$174,933.11 FJD was allocated to the campaign, demonstrating a dedication to the cause. The hiring of a Communications Officer for Digital Educational Programme, along with ongoing consultations with inclusion partners and experts from Project member countries, the Ministry of Education, Youth Groups, Online Safety Commission, and Cybercrime Unit, reflects a strategic and collaborative effort.



Students of Ratu Kadavulevu School have a read of the factsheet donated by the I Am Digital Onlien Safety project team.  
Photo credit: Save the Children Fiji

**Local Engagement and School Initiatives:** SCF and META's engagement with local schools showcased a commitment to hands-on impact. Visiting 14 schools within Viti Levu, the project disseminated 466 educational materials, raising awareness on scam prevention and media literacy. This localized approach allowed for direct interaction with students, educators, and communities, contributing to a more profound understanding of online safety.

The total direct reach of the campaign, which was captured during the school visit, reflection workshop, focus group discussion workshop, I Am Digital Phase 3 campaign launch, Fiji Showcase event, was 90,809 and the total indirect reach was 462,696.

The total indirect reach of the online campaign, which was captured from the I Am Digital social media campaign that ran over December to February are as follows:

- Total English campaign reach: 2,382,343 users
- Total campaign reach (English + locally spoken languages): 2,819,644 users
- Countries: Fiji, Kiribati, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tonga
- Languages: English+ Kiribati, Fijian iTaukei, Fiji Hindi, Tongan, Samoan, French, Bislama, Tok Pisin and Solomon Islands Pijin.

#### Country specific results

- Fiji: campaign reached 715,921 users and content was viewed 5,286,500 times

- Kiribati: campaign reached 73,231 users and content was viewed 526,340 times
- Tonga: campaign reached 91,667 users and content was viewed 679,690 times
- PNG: campaign reached 1,404,189 users and content was viewed 5,491,467 times
- Samoa: campaign reached 166,434 users and was viewed 1,121,931 times
- Solomon Islands: campaign reached 214,571 users and was viewed 1,083,778 times
- Vanuatu: campaign reached 153,631 users and was viewed 925,016 times.





The Acting Minister for the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Honorable, Dr. Antonio Rabici Lalabalavu, is joined by the Chief Executive Officer of Save the Children Fiji, Mrs. Shairana Ali and students from Marist Brothers High School, DAV Girls College and Dilkusha Methodist High School to officially launch the I AM DIGITAL Phase 3 Online Safety Programme. Photo credit: Save the Children Fiji

Save the Children Fiji (SCF) and META in partnership with the Ministry of Education, has visited 21 local schools in total, within Viti Levu, including 7 schools in the central division, 7 schools in the eastern division and 7 schools in the western division from March to July 2023. The project team have also disseminated 466 educational materials to the schools and at the same time, raising awareness on scam prevention and media literacy.

### PHASE 1: I AM DIGITAL

Phase 1 of the campaign, which ran from 1st of February till 31st March 2021, saw it being piloted in three Pacific Island Countries, Fiji, Samoa and Tonga, with the aim to take lead in the development and implementation works of the campaign; focusing on delivering online safety materials and resources to cater for all youths and children in the Pacific. The total reach of Phase 1 of the campaign resulted in just slightly under 13 million impressions (the number of views resulting from ads, boosts, organic traffic and shares) against a pre-planned estimate of 1 million impressions, according to Webmedia South Pacific.

### PHASE 2: I AM DIGITAL

The phase 2 of the campaign was officially launched on the 8th of December 2021 and was executed for a period of 3 months from December till March with a reporting period until June 2022. There were new inclusions of 4 other countries, i.e., Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and PNG and the focus was to deliver all new learning materials and online safety resources for children and youths, inclusion of differently abled children and youths and children of the SOGIESC community.

The pilot phase 2 of I Am Digital ran for five weeks and during that time, reached 7.1 million people and was viewed 12.65 million times on Facebook alone. By the end of the campaign, there was a total reach of 15 million impressions across the countries involved.

### PHASE 3: I AM DIGITAL

In Phase 3 of the campaign, the project ran for six months, from the month of October till the month of August 2023. The primary objective was to develop new I Am Digital educational materials on scam prevention and media literacy (including new fact sheet and social media creative assets, which will likely comprise 2 new fact sheets, 2 highlight videos and up to 5 new social media 'Quick tips').

These materials were translated into iTaukei Fijian, Fiji Hindi, Samoan and the Kiribati language. Save the Children Fiji took lead on the arrangements for Fiji Hindi and the itaukei translations of the educational materials only; Meta led the arrangements for the Samoan and Kiribati language translations.

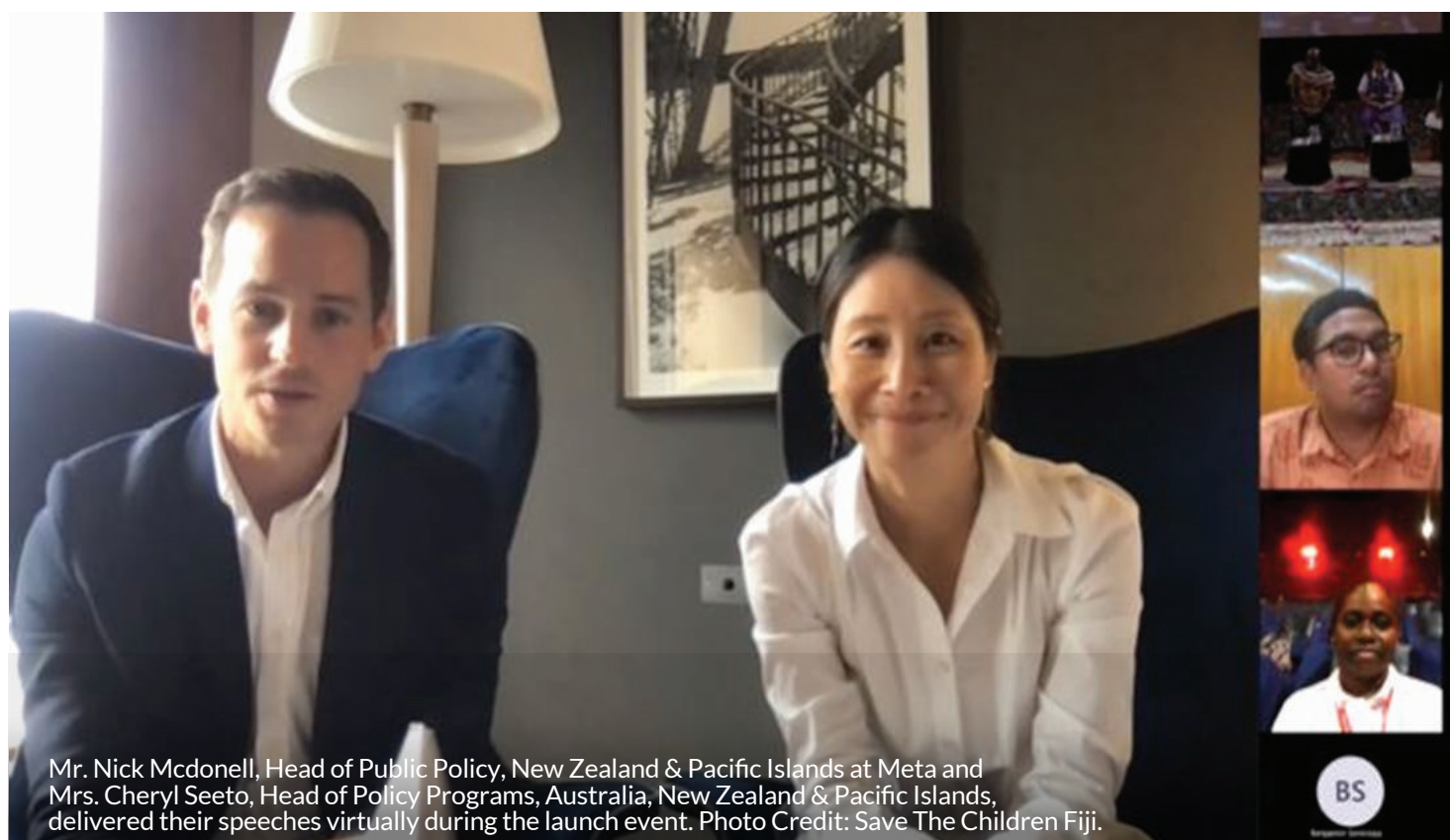
For Fiji, Save the Children Fiji in partnership with the Ministry of Education, delivered all educational materials into seven local schools as recommended by the Ministry of Education. There were 4 schools in the central division, i.e., Marist Brothers High School, DAV Girls College, Bhawani Dayal Arya College and Dilkusha Methodist High School.

Save the Children continued to deliver the educational materials to 6 schools in the western division, i.e., Cuvu College, Central College Lautoka, Nadi Muslim College, Khalsa College, Nadarivatu High School and AD Patel College. Save the Children Fiji also expanded the school visit implementation into 4 schools in the eastern division, which included, Adi Cakobau School, Tailevu North College, Queen Victoria School and Navesau Adventist High School.

An in-person launch was held on the 10th of March 2023, officiated by the Minister for Health and Medical Services, who is also the Acting Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation Honourable Antonio Lalabalavu, the online safety commissioner, Tajeshwari Devi, students and teachers from the pilot schools, META representatives joining online, our key partners and stakeholders.

*The Hon. Lalabalavu further expressed, “The “I AM DIGITAL – PHASE 3” project is particularly important because it promotes online safety for children in schools. I acknowledge and thank the Ministry of Education for their support allowing Save the Children to pilot the program in selected schools in Fiji.*

*I commend the various partners, Save the Children, Ministry of Education, the Project schools, and Meta for coming together and forming this partnership to address this concerning issue that our children and young people face on social media platforms.”*



In delivering their speech virtually, Mr. Nick McDonnell, Meta’s Head of Public Policy for New Zealand and the Pacific Islands said, “To develop this initiative, our mission from our team when we particularly focus on the Pacific and particularly focus on our work and Fiji and other countries across the region is really to work to create safe, connected, resilient and empowered communities. And we do that through a number of different areas. Online safety is our key. Across the region, particularly coming out of COVID and connecting again with the world, but it’s just really to give you an example of how we look at our relationship across the region as multifaceted, but online safety is our particular focus today and it dominates most of our work across the region.”

Mrs. Cheryl Seeto, the Head of Policy Programs, Australia, New Zealand & Pacific Islands at Meta said, “I Am Digital is such an important initiative for us at Meta given our focus on online safety for the Pacific islands region and it’s a project that we’ve really shaped and developed from the very beginning with Save the Children also with young people and with organizations locally across Pacific Island countries. “

“I’d really like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the Government of Fiji and particularly their Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and the Ministry of Education for your support and your openness to the I Am digital program and in bringing its educational resources into schools in Fiji.

We really welcome your feedback on the relevance and usefulness of this pilot initiative for young people in Fiji and hope that it can continue to be successful and that we will have the opportunity to expand the school visits into other countries in the future.”

Save the Children Fiji in partnership with the Ministry of Education, hosted a reflection workshop on the 1st of July 2023; bringing together, partners, stakeholders and focus group members to interpret the findings and to also input key recommendations that will be considered to be built upon for future phases of the campaign.

Through funding from META, the IAM digital Online Safety Project commemorated the Prevention of Child Abuse & Neglect Day in the west with students and teachers representing Tilak, Jasper, and Central College, student representatives took the stage alongside Ms. Arieta Tagivetaua, the Principal Welfare Officer West as the Chief Guest.





Save the Children Fiji project team are joined key partners, focus group members and stakeholders for a group photo during the reflection workshop. Photo credit: Save the Children Fiji



A group photo in Lautoka of stakeholders, key partners, and students during the PCAN event held in the West. Photo credit: Save the Children Fiji

The heart of the West PCAN event lay in its interactive stations, designed to engage and empower the student attendees. Divided into three captivating corners—TikTok Corner, Poetry Corner, and Digital Artwork Corner—the students were encouraged to unleash their creative energies. Their task? To craft artworks, poems, and TikTok dances that echoed the essence of the PCAN Day Theme 2023.

But the event wasn't just about artistic expression. It was a platform for meaningful dialogue and collaboration. Among the stakeholder's present were key organizations dedicated to safeguarding children's rights and well-being.

From the Online Safety Commission to the Fiji Red Cross Society, the Cyber Crime Unit, and governmental bodies like the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection, a diverse coalition united under one cause.

In this convergence of creativity and advocacy, the youth found their voices amplified, their talents celebrated, and their commitment to ending child abuse and neglect reaffirmed. Beyond the confines of the conference room, their artworks and performances would serve as poignant reminders of the importance of safeguarding the most vulnerable in society.





An artwork done by the students of Central College Lautoka.  
Photo credit: Save the Children Fiji



Students of Tilak High School present their artwork during the PCAN event.

These stakeholders were provided with booths to display their IEC material and also to enlighten students on what their individual roles are. Students were given ample time to work on their projects in their designated spaces and the Competition Judges consisted of 4 stakeholder reps. After the presentation of prizes, everyone partook in a fire drill conducted by NFA.

Nadarivatu High School: The Principal for Nadarivatu High School, Mr.Kumar, received the educational materials from Save the Children Fiji's project team on behalf of the school.

Mr. Kumar stated, "Nadarivatu High School is isolated from most schools because we're located in the interior part of Viti Levu.

This is the first ever online safety programme to be introduced to our school and we're so very fortunate to have the team from Save the Children Fiji who have come all this way to teach our students about online safety."





## CASE STUDY

### Case Study Feedback:

Student Representative:

Maria-Rosa

School: AD Patel College

Maria-Rosa, a student representative from AD Patel College, shared her enthusiasm for the recent awareness session on misinformation prevention and media literacy. She expressed gratitude for the opportunity provided by the presentation, highlighting its role in equipping students with essential knowledge to navigate the digital landscape safely.

Maria-Rosa emphasized the practical advantage gained from learning about various scams and developing media literacy skills, underscoring the session's relevance in safeguarding students against potential online threats. Her feedback reflects the valuable impact of the awareness session in empowering students to make informed decisions and protect themselves from digital vulnerabilities.

In terms of recommendations, Maria-Rosa proposed proactive measures to enhance the reach and effectiveness of the program. She suggested expanding the initiative to more schools, recognizing the value it offers in educating students beyond AD Patel College. Additionally, Maria-Rosa emphasized the importance of increased promotion and awareness about the program, advocating for the creation of informational pamphlets to disseminate vital information to students and teachers alike. By providing additional resources and outreach efforts, Maria-Rosa envisioned a broader implementation of the program, ensuring that more individuals are equipped with the knowledge and tools necessary to combat digital scams and misinformation effectively.

Maria-Rosa's feedback reflects the positive impact of the awareness session on students' understanding of digital safety and media literacy. Her recommendations for program expansion and promotion underscore the importance of proactive measures in reaching a wider audience and equipping them with essential skills to navigate the digital world confidently. Through such collaborative efforts and strategic outreach, the IAM Digital Online Safety Campaign will work to further empower students and communities to stay vigilant and resilient in the face of digital threats.



# CASE STUDY

## Case Study Feedback:

Enhancing Media Literacy at AD Patel College

Feedback from Teacher Representative: Mrs. Lieta Vueti

Position: Child Protection Focal Point and Head of Economics

School: AD Patel College

Mrs. Lieta Vueti, the Child Protection Focal Point and Head of Economics at AD Patel College, expressed her gratitude for the recent awareness session conducted by our team. In her feedback, she emphasized the significance of the topics discussed and highlighted the rarity of such comprehensive education reaching the school's corridors. Drawing from her extensive experience, Mrs. Vueti underscored the importance of educating future leaders on misinformation prevention and media literacy, citing instances where such knowledge would empower both students and faculty in safeguarding the well-being of the school community.

In terms of recommendations, Mrs. Vueti proposed practical enhancements to the implementation of the program. She suggested the creation of recorded presentations that could be easily accessed by students in media rooms, utilizing projectors and the school's television infrastructure. This approach would facilitate widespread dissemination of the valuable information shared during the session, ensuring that students have continuous access to essential knowledge on media literacy and misinformation prevention. Additionally, Mrs. Vueti extended a heartfelt request for our team to revisit the school and present the program to the entire student body during a school assembly. This broader dissemination would amplify the impact of the initiative, reaching every corner of the AD Patel College community.

Mrs. Lieta Vueti's feedback reflects a deep commitment to the well-being and education of the students at AD Patel College, and her insights and recommendations provide valuable guidance for refining and expanding our program, ultimately contributing to the cultivation of informed, empowered, and resilient young leaders in the school environment.

The I Am Digital Campaign has gained incredible receptiveness on all level of engagement and awareness from the Fiji Online Safety campaign, The Fiji Police Force, The Ministry of Education, Online Safety Commission, eSafety Commission, Cybercrime Unit, Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation, e-Learning Unit and Rainbow Pride Foundation and also the most important stakeholders which were the children for whom this campaign was initially designed.

Based off these evidence-based findings, and also noting the swift transition of online teaching and learning methodology adopted by the education systems globally, which has made technology, a very important aspect of modern school life and is used every day to improve teaching and enhance learning. However, technology can be dangerous when it comes to students using the internet.

A child can find themselves at risk whilst using the internet by a simple wrong click of the mouse. That is why it is very important to widen the reach of the offline campaign in remote island schools so that the information reaches children and youths in those areas. It has been a common feedback received from focus group members (i.e., students and teachers) to explore other avenues to promote the campaign's content so that everyone's made aware.

Save the Children Fiji and the Ministry of Education will continue to work together to disseminate information on online safety, making it safer for children and youths to navigate the online world, safely and responsibly.



She also noted the critical role of the school in addressing and escalating cases of concern, demonstrating a proactive approach to child protection.





Group photo with Child Health Promoters of Savatu District School in Nadarivatu. Photo Credit: Save The Children Fiji

# WASH PROJECT

## RIPPLES OF CHANGE

### Empowering through Comprehensive WASH Initiatives.

Save the Children Fiji's Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) project, a collaborative endeavor between Save the Children Fiji (SCF), government stakeholders, and the Fiji Water Foundation, embarked on a transformative journey from February 2023 to January 2024, focused on seven selected schools within the Ba and Ra Province, this initiative aimed to address critical WASH needs and foster sustainable practices for improved public health and well-being in schools.

The WASH project in the year 2023 benefitted 1260 students of which 679 were males and 581 were females with 79 school staffs; 32 males and 39 females in collaboration with Ra & Ba education office and Ra & Tavua Health office.

The WASH project operated on a dual framework encompassing software and hardware components. The software aspect centered on empowering children with comprehensive WASH awareness training to combat infectious diseases effectively.

Meanwhile, the hardware component focused on infrastructure enhancement, ensuring access to clean water, functional handwashing stations, and adequate sanitation facilities within targeted schools.

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

Over the course of the project, substantial progress was achieved in bolstering WASH infrastructure and knowledge dissemination:

#### Infrastructure Enhancement:

Construction works were meticulously undertaken to revamp WASH facilities in the selected schools, addressing specific needs identified through rigorous assessments towards enabling better and more hygienic WASH facilities in schools for the students and teachers.

Access to clean drinking water was ensured through the installation of reliable water sources and the implementation of water purification systems.

Functional handwashing stations were strategically placed to promote regular hand hygiene practices among students and staff.

Sanitation facilities were upgraded, promoting hygienic practices and fostering a conducive learning environment.

#### Knowledge Dissemination:

WASH awareness training sessions were conducted for 43 females and 29 males across the seven target schools. These sessions served not only to enhance students' understanding of WASH practices but also to instill a sense of responsibility as advocates for health within their communities.

Empowered students actively promoted WASH practices, such as fruit washing, and raised concerns about hygiene lapses among peers, fostering a culture of accountability.





A Child Health Promoters of Savatu District School in Nadarivatu demonstrating hand washing steps during WASH awareness training Photo Credit: Save The Children Fiji



The image depicts students from Mataso Primary School participating in a WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) awareness training session conducted by Save the Children's WASH department. Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

#### Project Progress:

Building upon previous endeavors, the WASH project expanded its reach to seven target schools, leveraging support from the Fiji Water Foundation. Collaborative efforts with government stakeholders facilitated meticulous planning and implementation, ensuring alignment with project goals and sustainability objectives.

#### Impact Assessment:

The transformative impact of the WASH project resonated beyond school boundaries, influencing behavioural changes and community engagement:

Student-led initiatives resulted in widespread adoption of hygiene practices, positively influencing the health and well-being of peers and families.





This image shows a 10,000-liter water tank with tank stand is installed at Nilsen College. Senior Assistant Health Inspector Adi Losana Tuisawau, two student Child Health Promoters, Principal Mr. Umendran Reddy, and SCF WASH officer Anaseini Dimate stand proudly in front of the newly established secondary water source. Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

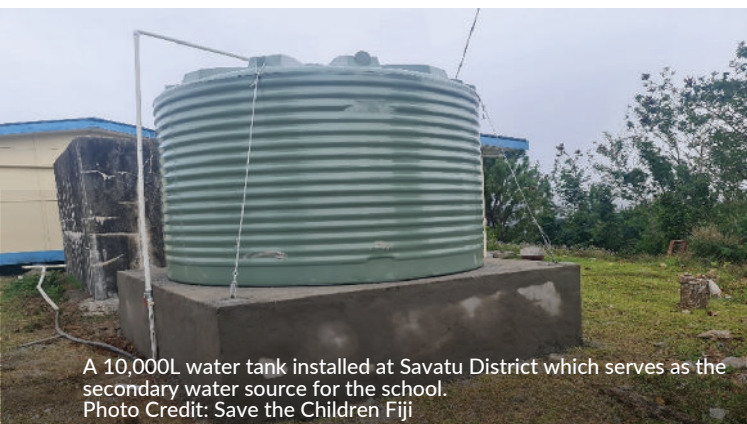
Parents, influenced by their children's advocacy, actively embraced cleanliness and sanitation practices, fostering a ripple effect of positive change within communities. Holistic transformation was evident in improved hygiene practices, cleaner surroundings, and heightened awareness of the importance of WASH initiatives for long-term health outcomes.

► **Hardware Component** – Improve WASH facilities through construction works

A contractor with construction background was identified to carry out the following WASH construction works at the 7 target schools:

- i. Nilsen College – Installed a 10,000L water in the upper block with concrete tank stand and plumbing works connected the existing WASH facility. This is to ensure that there is sufficient supply of water during water shortage or cuts particularly during raining seasons since the debris from the main water supply causes blockage to the toilet pipes and cistern.

- ii. Savatu District - Installed a 10,000L water with concrete tank stand and plumbing works connected to the existing water supply to distribute the water to the schools WASH facilities.
- iii. Nabau District – Installed a new sheltered handwashing station of 8 taps with retrofitting of WASH defects found in the school ablution block.



A 10,000L water tank installed at Savatu District which serves as the secondary water source for the school. Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji



Newly sheltered hand washing station installed at Nabau District School Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji





This image displays the renovations conducted at Nasau District School, including retrofitting of the ablution block and installation of a water tank with a tank stand and plumbing works. These enhancements guarantee an ample water supply for the school's ablution block.  
Photo Credit: Save The Children Fiji

- iv. Nasau District – Installation of water tank with tank stand and plumbing works connected to the existing water supply to distribute the water to the schools WASH facilities. Also retrofitting of WASH defects found in the school ablution block.
- v. Dobuilevu Muslim Primary – Installation of handwashing station of 12 taps and handwashing concrete basin in the ablution block.
- vi. Nalaba District – Installation of water tank with tank stand and plumbing works connected to the existing water supply to distribute the water to the schools WASH facilities and improve existing handwashing station.



**Photo 1:** The image above illustrates the transformation from the initial state to the completion of the handwashing station installation at Dobuilevu Muslim Primary School.  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

**Photo 2:** The image above depicts the condition of the handwashing station at Nalaba District before the commencement of improvement works, followed by an image showing the upgraded structure after renovations.  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji



vii. Mataso Primary – Improve the existing WASH ablation block structure and existing handwashing station.

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the WASH project, we are reminded of the power of collaborative action in effecting positive change.

Through strategic partnerships, comprehensive interventions, and community engagement, the project has laid the foundation for a healthier, more resilient future for children and communities across Fiji. Moving forward, we remain steadfast in our commitment to advancing WASH initiatives and nurturing sustainable practices for generations to come.



The before and after pictures showcase the construction progress at Mataso Primary School's WASH facilities, including the ablution block and handwashing station. They depict both the initial condition and the enhancements made afterward.

Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji



# BENEFICIARIES

## FEEDBACK



In the image above, Sera Leballagi of year 13, sharing her knowledge on WASH with the entire school during one of their assemblies. Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji



Assistant Principal Mrs. Marica Meo of Nilsen College, situated in Vatukoula, Tavua, expressed gratitude for the school's participation in the WASH initiative project, particularly in the installation of a secondary water source. Historically plagued by water shortages since 1969, the installation of water tanks with piping system has significantly alleviated the challenge, allowing both students and teachers to access water within the school during shortages from the main source.

Mrs. Meo emphasized the school's active role in promoting WASH, Mental Health, Diet and Physical activities, all of which are poised to be incorporated into the Health Promoting School (HPS) framework.

Notably, Nilsen College has achieved a silver rating for Health Promoting School Initiatives and is ambitiously striving for gold and Mrs. Meo stated that WASH activities in school will definitely lend them a gold. The Child Hygiene Promoters have demonstrated exceptional initiative by setting up an information board using materials found around the school.

Mrs. Meo elaborated on the students' participation in the WASH training, highlighting the activities planned for the year. These initiatives include training lower-form students on the importance of WASH while integrating the health promoting school component. Mrs. Meo expressed the school's gratitude for being chosen as a recipient of the WASH project, especially acknowledging the significant impact on female students during menstruation.

In heartfelt appreciation, Mrs. Meo concluded, "We are so grateful and blessed for Save the Children Fiji to choose our school as one of the WASH project recipients. In the past, especially for our female students, when they go through their menstruation, we had to send them home because of the water shortage we experienced in the school. Now we don't need to do that anymore, with our secondary water source. We have set up a sick bay, and teachers pitch in with the little that they have (towels, soap, a set of uniform, etc.) to accommodate a female student in that situation. Thank you, Save the Children."

Head Teacher Mr. Luke from Nalaba District School expressed gratitude for the WASH training facilitated by Save the Children Fiji and the installation of a new handwashing station. He conveyed the school's appreciation for the initiative taken by Save the Children Fiji in implementing WASH initiatives, emphasizing the significant benefits expected from the training. Mr. Luke highlighted the particular impact on the 10 students and a teacher designated to spearhead WASH initiatives in the school. He underscored the importance of children gaining access to clean and safe water within the school premises.

The designated Child Hygiene Promoters (CHP) received education on enhancing all components of WASH in the school, guided by school coordinators committed to fostering a healthy learning environment. The training equipped them with fundamental knowledge on healthy living, with a comprehensive understanding of Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene principles. Mr. Luke expressed confidence that these CHPs would extend their knowledge to peers not only within the school but also to their families and the wider community. He anticipated significant improvements in water, sanitation, and hygiene practices in the school in the coming years, emphasizing the long-term impact of the WASH initiatives.

Iowane Waqairatavo, a Year 4 student and one of the designated Child Hygiene Promoters, shared his experience, stating that the workshop introduced him to numerous new words. He expressed happiness about being part of the workshop and emphasized the valuable knowledge gained on how to protect himself from various diseases. Iowane's positive response reflects the effectiveness of the WASH Program in not only imparting practical hygiene skills but also in creating awareness about health and disease prevention among the students at Nasau District School.





Pictured is one of the school committee representatives alongside three training students, the head teacher Mr. Luke Rocevalevu and SCF WASH officer Anaseini Dimate at the newly renovated handwashing station in Nalaba District School. Photo Credit: Save The Children Fiji



The image depicts Child Health Promoters at Nasau District School washing their hands following the steps of handwashing they learned during a WASH awareness training conducted by the WASH department of Save the Children Fiji. Photo Credit: Save The Children Fiji

Access to Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) remains a critical necessity in schools and communities, especially in remote areas. Save the Children Fiji is actively seeking funding to sustain its WASH project, which addresses the essential needs of schools and communities lacking adequate WASH facilities and services.





# Child-Centered Innovative Resilience Outreach

The "Child-Centered Innovative Resilience" project (2023-2025) , implemented by Save the Children Fiji through funding from USAID's Pacific American Fund (PAF), is being implemented over a duration of 28 months and is dedicated to addressing the multifaceted challenges faced by remote

communities and schools in Fiji, with the the overarching goal to create a safe and healthy setting for vulnerable communities through WASH and Resilience activities and in the process create a supportive environment that supports the overall wellbeing of target individuals.

The Project’s target Communities and schools are from 4 Provinces, which are as follows:

Province	Communities	Schools
Ra	19	8
Bua	6	5
Macuata	15	0
Cakaudrove	10	7
TOTAL	50	20





Official handing over of Grant from left to right: CIRO Project Manager, Mrs. Kartika Chandra, the Divisional Medical Officer – West Ministry of Health and Medical Services, Dr. Abdul Shah, the Mission Director for USAID in the Pacific Islands, Ms. Zema Semunegus, Save the Children Fiji's Chief Executive Officer, Mrs. Shairana Ali, the USAID Pacific American Fund Chief Of Party, Ms. Grace Kim and the USAID Pacific American Fund Acting Senior Development Advisor, Mr. Patrick Bowers and Save the Children Fiji's Programs Manager, Ms. Afsrin Ali. Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

This is achieved through a multifaceted approach involving Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) interventions and resilience-building activities. In parallel, the project strives to create a supportive ecosystem that fosters the holistic well-being of the target communities. The project operates within two primary sectors: Environment and WASH, with a pronounced emphasis on child participation and active community engagement.

The core objectives of the project encompass the enhancement of resilience and overall well-being in 50 rural remote communities, distributed across the Western Division (19 communities) and the Northern Division (31 communities). The project aims to directly benefit a minimum of 4,000 community members and approximately 20,000 indirect beneficiaries, which include at least 20 feeder schools.

Through collaborative efforts involving stakeholders, communities, and schools, the project is poised to co-create local solutions and sustainable practices.

Key activities include the provision of training on WASH best practices, the development of WASH action plans within local and provincial development frameworks, the promotion of COVID-19 protection measures, the distribution of hygiene kits, facilitation of waste management through composting bins, and the promotion of gender equality and social inclusion awareness.

Child-Centred Innovative Resilience Outreach (CIRO) project was launched on 31st August 2023 in Vanuakula Village, Ra. Attended by representatives from 19 communities in Ra, the event symbolized collaboration and commitment. The key stakeholder representatives also included Ministry of I-Taukei Affairs, Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts (MEHA), Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS), Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection (MOWCSP), Ministry of Waterways and Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Head of Schools, Children, Teachers, Parents, Guardians and Caregivers.

Mrs. Shairana Ali, the Chief Executive Officer for Save The Children Fiji expressed her sincere gratitude to USAID and PAF for supporting the project activities for the next two years. At the gathering, she expressed gratitude towards USAID and awarded them with the Pacific American Fund Award.





Students of Nasau District School with official guest during the project launch ceremony.  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

Delivering an opening speech at the launch event the Chief Executive Officer for Save the Children Fiji, Mrs. Shairana Ali expressed that the success of our project heavily relies on the involvement of our target communities and key partners. Save the Children Fiji through the Child Centred Innovative Resilience Outreach project will actively engage and train them in developing supportive strategies and sustainability measures. It is important to involve the community to ensure that the project truly embodies child-centered principles.

Furthermore, The Mission Director for USAID in the Pacific Islands, Ms. Zema Semunegus also expressed, "In USAID, we try to establish and have a closer partnership with people of the Pacific Islands and definitely here in Fiji.

Our overall goal is to support programmes and efforts that chart the same type of inclusive and sustainable and prosperous future. I see today's event as a way to highlight how we want to partner with your country and with your communities and to deliver good results in our programmes. Through PAF, we have been supporting several local organizations in the Pacific to tackle various development challenges, such as climate change, which is a big one, disaster resilience, poverty alleviation and of course water sanitation and hygiene."

Our Environment sector will address urgent issues related to environmental conservation and sustainability. We will implement educational programs and hands-on initiatives on food security, establishment of school gardens and communal gardens, climate adaptive agriculture programs to instill in children a profound understanding of the significance of preserving our natural resources. By fostering their sense of responsibility towards the environment.

During the event, traditional ceremonies conducted by communities expressed gratitude, while the Ministry of Health and Agriculture displays promoted community health and sustainability.

School children's performances on WASH and healthy living added vibrancy and educational value. This ceremony underscored a shared vision for fostering resilience and well-being within the communities, setting a promising tone for future progress.

The project's introduction and engagement with the key stakeholders set the stage for a collaborative effort that can bring about transformative changes in the lives of target communities and schools.

SCF will work closely with the relevant stakeholders by involving them to assist the decision-making process and obtain their support for the long-term sustainability of the project.

At this initiation phase, the implementation of the project activities in the target settings conducted a series of meetings with the stakeholders advising them of the details of the project to obtain their support and for the sustainability of the project.

Additionally, Save the Children believes there is a need for community sensitization in target communities to provide detailed information on the proposed activities relating to the two primary sectors, integrating the importance of participation of the marginalized target groups in communities particularly the women, children, and people with disability who are often left out due to our traditional norms in remote communities.



This is achieved through a multifaceted approach involving Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) interventions and resilience-building activities. In parallel, the project strives to create a supportive ecosystem that fosters the holistic well-being of the target communities. The project operates within two primary sectors: Environment and WASH, with a pronounced emphasis on child participation and active community engagement.

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CIRO Team visited Yaro Village, in Kia Island, Macuata during the Baseline Survey. Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

The protocol presentation is the gateway to accessing a community. The team was accompanied by the Provincial administration office to formally obtain a consensus from the chief and leaders of the community through the presentation of sevusevu.

In conjunction with this, a project overview was also presented with an emphasis on core community activities. The Project Officer established connections with the Turaga-Ni-Koro's, advisory councillors and other community leaders/groups for community sensitization and future project engagements.

During our project introduction to the targeted communities, the community members exhibited a high level of enthusiasm and openness towards the initiative. They were genuinely receptive to the idea that their communities had been selected as one of the targeted settings for the implementation of project activities. The warm welcome and positive engagement from community members underscored the significance of our collaborative efforts and highlighted the shared commitment to enhancing the well-being of the residents. This initial reception sets a promising foundation for the successful execution and positive impact of Save the Children's endeavours in these communities.





Project Introduction meeting at Naele Settlement, Ra.  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji



Road access at Nakuku Village, Cakaudrove  
Photo Credit: Save the Children Fiji

The ultimate purpose of the CIRO project is to serve as an outreach to rural communities, particularly those rarely accessed by our partners due to financial constraints or capacity limitations. Through our baseline survey, the project highlights key areas of WASH & environmental practices for communities to access better services from authorities and to be informed on their rights to services, accessibility of resources, and relevant training.

Marking a significant stride towards community well-being as Save The Children Fiji engaged in a pivotal meeting with the Ministry of Health & Medical Services, on Friday 24th November 2023, towards a collaborative aimed at improving WASH awareness and making a meaningful impact on the most vulnerable people in our 50 remote communities in the west and north of Fiji.

Dr. Fong, the Permanent Secretary for Health, expressed the Ministry's support for collaborating with Save The Children and underscored the Ministry's dedication to health promotion, public awareness campaigns, and capacity building through WASH.

The project achieved significant progress by sensitizing key government stakeholders at divisional and district levels in the provinces of Ra, Macuata, Bua & Cakaudrove which includes the Ministries from Agriculture, Health, Education, Women, Children and Social Protection, and the iTaukei Affairs Board.

Team efforts led to establishing vital connections, and exchanging contacts for future collaboration. Officials warmly welcomed the project, expressing gratitude for its focus on remote and rural communities. This positive reception underscores the potential for fruitful partnerships and highlights shared commitment to improving the well-being of vulnerable populations.





(Left to Right) Child-Centered Innovative Resilience Outreach Project Manager Ms. Kartika Chandra, SC Fiji Programs Manager, Ms. Afsrin Ali, SC Fiji CEO Ms. Shairana Ali, Permanent Secretary for Health Mr. James Fong, Chief Medical Advisor Dr. Jemesa Tudravu and Chief Health Inspector Mr. Vimal Deo. Photo Credit: Save The Children Fiji



Project Brief Conducted to the Senior Welfare Officials at Ministry of Women, Children & Social Protection, In Labasa by Project Manager Ms. Kartika .C & Project Officer Mr. Ashneel. K. Photo Credit: Save The Children Fiji

The project, spanning 50 remote communities, with 19 located in Ra and 31 in the North, took a pivotal step by conducting a comprehensive baseline survey from August 27 to September 30th, 2023. This survey, focusing on the Environment and WASH sectors, aimed to understand the current conditions within these communities.

The survey sought to assess the community's starting point and identify areas where intervention could have the most significant impact. This meticulous approach ensures that the project's efforts are tailored to address specific needs, laying a solid foundation for effective implementation and sustainable outcomes.

A total of 439 households, comprising 144 males and 295 females, were interviewed face-to-face and through focus group discussions in communities.

### Some of the baseline findings highlights that ;

1. **Water Access Challenges:** Findings from the survey highlighted significant challenges, with 94% of households lacking access to clean water suitable for drinking and essential uses. Only 6% relied on the Water Authority of Fiji for clean water.





CIRO team disembarking from the boat to visit Yaqqa Island in Bua for Baseline Survey.  
Photo Credit: Save The Children Fiji

2. **Water Source Diversity:** The survey revealed that 96% of communities depend on village dams as their primary water source, while 4% use boreholes and the Water Authority of Fiji. Unfortunately, these alternative sources lack proper treatment and filtration.
3. **Water Access Challenges:** Findings from the survey highlighted significant challenges, with 94% of households lacking access to clean water suitable for drinking and essential uses. Only 6% relied on the Water Authority of Fiji for clean water.
4. **Water Source Diversity:** The survey revealed that 96% of communities depend on village dams as their primary water source, while 4% use boreholes and the Water Authority of Fiji. Unfortunately, these alternative sources lack proper treatment and filtration.
5. **Training Gaps:** A notable gap in training was identified, with 70% of respondents having received no WASH training, 87% lacking agricultural training.
6. **Hygiene Planning:** None of the communities surveyed had a WASH action plan or established hygiene promoters in place previously.
7. **Agricultural Practices:** Sixty-three percent of households employed contemporary agricultural methods, incorporating hybrid seedlings and fertilizers.
8. **Perception of Livelihood Opportunities:** Respondent perceptions on access to diverse and sustainable livelihood opportunities varied, with 78% viewing their access as moderate.
9. **Climate Change Challenges:** A significant majority (81%) reported adverse effects from environmental factors, particularly those associated with climate change, such as droughts, floods, landslides, and alterations in soil texture.
10. **Hygiene Practices:** Eighty-three percent reported having access to soap, and 75% adhered to a daily handwashing routine. Among surveyed households, 75% had the means to practice proper hand hygiene with access to both soap and water.

Despite these findings, the need for community training in WASH, climate-smart agriculture, Environmental conservation, and Gender inclusivity remains evident.

The project is committed to addressing these gaps and fostering sustainable development within the communities.



Ms Mere Vunisa, MEAL Officer conducting face to face interview with a head of household at Barotu Circular, Ra. Photo Credit: Save The Children Fiji



Mr. Ashneel Kumar Project Officer for the North conducting face to face interview in Dama Village, Bua. Photo Credit: Save The Children Fiji





Students gather during an assembly.  
Photo credit: Save the Children

# **REGIONAL PACIFIC COALITION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCHOOL SAFETY (PCASS)**

The Pacific Coalition for the Advancement of School Safety (PCASS) is a regional coalition of governments and development partners in the Pacific that seeks to strengthen school safety programming in the sub-region. PCASS project is hosted by Save the Children Fiji and Implemented by Save the Children Australia in partnership with Save the Children New Zealand through the Save the Children Pacific Regional Team from July 2023 – June 2025

Pacific Island Countries are highly exposed to a range of natural hazards such as cyclones, droughts, landslides, floods, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and tsunamis. These hazards often lead to disasters, which take their toll on children and can drastically impact educational achievements. The objective of PCASS is to ensure that all school children in the Pacific are safe from disasters, climate risks, and pandemics such as COVID-19 and that Pacific education authorities are implementing school safety. The objective is to also advance child protection in and around schools and plan for the continuity of education through all expected hazards and threats.



Children of the Pacific at their respective schools. Photo credit: Save the Children



**Project Goal:** All school-age girls and boys are safe and protected from violence and hazards in and around schools.

**Target Countries for Implementation:** All Pacific Island Countries. PCASS is currently being implemented in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Tonga.

**Key Partners:** Ministries of Education (MOE), National Disaster Management Offices (NDMOs), Ministry of Social Welfare, and other relevant Government agencies, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFs) and its Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP) agencies, UN and multilateral agencies.

### Implementation of Activities & Progress

Over the past 12 months, PCASS has made significant strides in establishing a regional initiative for school safety in the Pacific. The project adapted its approach by actively engaging with the Pacific Regional Education Framework (PacREF), which has played a pivotal role in driving this change. The collaboration with PacREF involves coordinating activities through its Facilitating Unit, hosted by the University of the South Pacific. This shift has enabled the project to align with PacREF's principles of inclusivity and equity, engaging with all 15 Pacific countries. The project is progressing well towards its outputs, which are the establishment of a Pacific School Safety coordination mechanism, the initiation of a Safe Schools Community of Practice, and the development of a regional monitoring mechanism.

### Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach

The project successfully established connections with Ministries of Education (MoE) from Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu, Samoa, Marshall Islands, Palau, Kiribati, and Vanuatu through PacREF, overcoming challenges in countries where Save the Children lacked an existing presence. Contacts were mostly the senior administrators like Secretaries, Directors and CEOs. The project has made stronger relationships with Tonga, PNG, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Fiji, who are potential champions for promoting a regional coalition for school safety.

Key engagements included workshops, events, and meetings with various stakeholders, such as the Pacific Council of Churches, Pacific Youth Council, UN agencies like UNICEF, UNESCO and UNDRR, national stakeholders, like Fiji Itaukei Affairs Board – Wellbeing Department, Habitat for Humanity, Fiji Education Program – Tetra Tech Development, Fiji Plan International, National Disaster Management Office Fiji, Child Fund PNG, Equal Playing Field PNG, and more. Adding on, the PCASS team also actively participated in the Pacific Resilience Meeting and PacREF Joint Oversight Mission, contributing to the project's visibility and network building. As a result of establishing connections with the MoE and other relevant implementing agencies of PacREF, international, local, and regional organizations we have updated a comprehensive list of contacts and stakeholder data base.



PCASS Regional Coordinator Kelly Vacala and Project Officer Alowesi Tucika conduct stakeholder meetings. Photo: Save the Children





The PCASS team with PS Education Selina Kuruleca and Youth Advocate Tokasa Senibiau of the PRM. Photo credit: Save the Children

## PACIFIC RESILIENCE MEETING 2023

In an effort to enhance resilience in the Pacific Education sector, Save the Children's Pacific Coalition for the Advancement of School Safety (PCASS) project participated at this last years Pacific Resilience Meeting. The project team hosted a session on Day 1 of the event. The meeting was an opportunity to share stories of strength and resilience. It is about showcasing the strength, adaptability, and sustainability of the Pacific communities and ecosystems in the face of adversity.

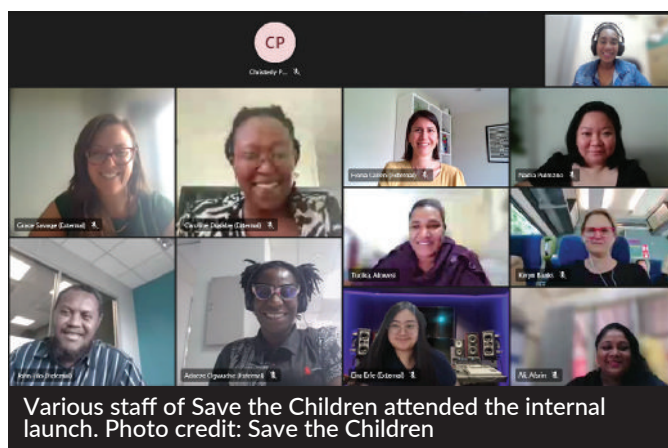
Part of the PCASS panel were Permanent Secretary for Fiji's Ministry of Education Selina Kuruleca, Christopher Sakiri Solomon Islands Deputy Secretary Education Services Ministry of Education Human Resources Development and Youth Advocate for DRR and Climate Change Adaption Tokasa Senibiau.



PS Education Selina Kuruleca panels during the PCASS session. Photo credit: Save the Children

## PCASS INTERNAL LAUNCH

The PCASS internal launch was successfully conducted on the 5th of October 2023 via online. The meeting helped to inform the Pacific Save the Children Country offices about the project mission and cultivated a sense of ownership. It marked a critical step in ensuring diverse perspectives and expertise contribute to the project's success.



Various staff of Save the Children attended the internal launch. Photo credit: Save the Children





PCASS participants and country member teams at the MEL workshop. Photo credit: PacREF

### **Pacific Regional Education Framework (PacREF) Monitoring, Evaluation, And Learning Reflection Blended Workshop**

The purpose of attending the PacREF monitoring, evaluation, and learning workshop was to gain a deeper understanding of PacREF and the participating countries' access to the "Regional Goods", and their expectations of its impact on them. This provided the PCASS team valuable information as to how we can contribute to supporting the monitoring of school safety if we support countries in school safety work that align with the PacREF framework.

### **PacREF Joint Oversight Mission (JOM)**

From October 30th, till November 1st, 2023, the PCASS team were part of the Pacific Regional Education Framework (PacREF) Joint Oversight Mission (JOM).

One of the purposes of the JOM consultation is to identify new and emerging issues associated with education in all the 15 pacific island countries. It is also focused in assessing progress on Regional Goods delivery, contextualization and support; and identify actionable recommendations to facilitate the uptake of the Regional Goods. Thus, allowing the team to further understood the workings and direction PacREF will undertake in the phase II.

This will help with the alignment of the PCASS objective into PacREF's leading to effective and efficient collaboration and working together for the benefit of all children around the Pacific.



PCASS Regional Team Lead John Lilo and PO Alowesi Tucika were part of the JOM Discussion. Photo credit: PacREF

### **CHALLENGES**

One of the primary challenges we faced was establishing connections with the MoEs across the region. Connecting with countries where Save the Children already had a presence proved to be less challenging, while it posed greater difficulty in countries where we lacked any existing foothold. However, by actively engaging with PacREF, particularly through their workshops and events, the project successfully forged more connections, leading to a recognition of our ongoing efforts.

Adding on, one the of the challenge faced in addressing sustainability is the integration of various stakeholders and their viewpoints as each stakeholders have different priorities, concerns and ideas about what sustainability means and how to implement it. Thus, the team are working towards the establishing of a coalition for the advancement of school safety so that shared vision and learning are achieved and maintained.

### **FUTURE PLANS**

The goal of PCASS is to strengthen the resilience of PICs, by taking a systems-strengthening approach to school safety to ensure all children are safe and protected from hazards in and around schools. The approach is based on the clear recommendation of The Pacific Platform Outcome Statement to identify a coordination mechanism to foster leadership, uptake and replication of best practice in school safety in the Pacific. The scoping phase of this design found that no clear coordination mechanism exists. Therefore, investment is needed to identify either a suitable existing forum which can broaden its scope or to establish a mechanism within the existing education sector development and humanitarian regional infrastructure.





CDRR Project Manager, Irene Prasad and Senior Project Officer Isireli Roganivatu conducting Fire Safety Drill with students from the Fiji School for the Blind students and teachers. Photo credit: Save the Children Fiji.

# EMPOWERING CHILDREN FOR DISASTER RESILIENCE: CHILD CENTERED DISASTER RISK RESILIENCE (CDRR) PROJECT

In March 2023, Save the Children Fiji concluded its Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction project, leaving a lasting imprint of resilience across 11 schools and beyond.

Through innovative strategies and inclusive practices, children emerged better equipped to face disasters, with enhanced knowledge of evacuation procedures and a swifter recovery mindset.

At the forefront of this success story were the 11 schools fully embracing disaster risk reduction policies, evident in their improved safety procedures, enhanced evacuation plans, and upgraded facilities. Hazards were addressed, leading to a notable decrease in school-related injuries reported by teachers. Crucially, child representatives found a voice on school Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

committees, ensuring their perspectives were integrated into comprehensive disaster preparedness strategies. The project's long-term outcomes were tangible, with national school safety strategies inching closer to fruition with the School Safety Context Analysis receiving official endorsement from the Ministry of Education in 2023, underscoring the sustainability of Save the Children Fiji's approach.





Students of Ratu Navula College in Nadi with the suggestion box. Photo credit: Save the Children Fiji.

A testament to the project's impact lies in the transformation of student perceptions of safety. From feeling vulnerable on the way to school, 95% of students now feel secure, fostering a conducive learning environment. Notably, adaptations for the Fiji School for the Blind ensured inclusivity, with tailored materials and equipment empowering visually impaired children to navigate disaster risks confidently.

Beyond the school gates, households experienced a remarkable surge in resilience to shocks, with a 66% increase in high-resilience households, nearing the ambitious 70% target. Parents, too, embraced preparedness measures, with 76% implementing tangible changes at home in response to project interventions.

Active participation in safety initiatives surged, with 72% of boys and girls now actively identifying dangers, marking a significant increase from baseline figures. Particularly noteworthy was the empowerment of girls, whose resilience to disasters soared from 66% to 90%, surpassing targets and exemplifying the project's gender-inclusive approach.

Save the Children Fiji's Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction project stands as a beacon of hope and empowerment, showcasing the transformative power DRR-driven initiatives in building a resilient future for Fiji's children.



# TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH AGRICULTURAL EMPOWERMENT:



Students of Nakorotubu District School pictured with their harvest and the KANA Project team.  
Photo credit: Save the Children Fiji

## Resilience Through Knowledge And Action In Agriculture And Food Security (KANA) Project's Impact.

Embarking on a mission to bolster resilience in communities ravaged by Tropical Cyclone Winston, Save the Children Fiji (SC Fiji) and Save the Children New Zealand (SCNZ) joined forces in 2020 to launch the Resilience through Knowledge and Action in Agriculture and Food Security (KANA) project. Funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, this transformative endeavor spanned two and a half years, culminating on June 30, 2023, leaving an indelible mark on the lives of thousands in Ra and Koro.

With a focus on children's well-being, the KANA project set out to tackle agricultural and food security challenges head-on, propelling communities toward sustainable futures. Targeting 14 communities in Koro and 10 in Ra, the project's reach extended to over 1,395 men, 1,263 women, and 1,170 children in Koro, and 480 men, 391 women, and 561 children in Ra. Additionally, 11 schools, housing 1,661 students and 94 teachers, became focal points for transformative change. Amidst the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic and past tropical cyclones, the KANA project forged ahead, achieving remarkable progress across all fronts.

Noteworthy accomplishments include a surge in household income, successful diversification of crops, improved nutrition and health for children, and heightened resilience and food security awareness in target communities.

The project's end evaluation showcased significant strides, with household income skyrocketing by 93% in Ra and 44% on Koro. Notably, a staggering 62.8% of income was allocated to children's needs, reflecting a profound shift in priorities. Farmers pivoted towards short-term crops, generating quick income streams, while women gained newfound knowledge and agency in nutrition, leading to improved childhood health outcomes.

The project's impact reverberated beyond economic gains, fostering stakeholder networking and collaboration. Engaged communities established disaster committees, implemented mitigation strategies, and harnessed traditional preservation techniques to fortify resilience against future calamities. At the heart of the KANA project lay a commitment to education and empowerment. School gardens flourished, nurturing a generation of Food Heroes and promoting healthy eating habits. Parents became stewards of safe food handling practices, while surplus vegetables from school gardens bolstered nutritious school lunches and community resilience.

## CASE STUDY

### Case Study Feedback:

#### Koro Island's Resilience Journey After Tropical Cyclone Winston

Koro Island measured almost 110 square kilometers and has 14 small villages along the coast, and about 5000 people living on the island. It belongs to the Lomaiviti Archipelago and lies east of Fiji's second important island, Vanua Levu, and Northeast of Fiji's main island Viti Levu. The island is named after the Koro Sea which is part of the South Pacific Ocean. Most of the inhabitants are subsistence farmers.

In February 2016 - the island and its villages were devastated by Tropical Cyclone Winston, the most intense TC in the Southern Hemisphere on record with the center of the storm passing right over the island.

Around 3000 people of Koro Island were left homeless after the storm. Since then, the island has slowly recovered from this disaster.

## THE DAY OF TROPICAL CYCLONE WINSTON

62-year-old Rigina Leba has been living on Koro since 1981. Her husband is from Sinuvaca village and for the past 40 years - the island has been her home. Rigina vividly remembers the devastation caused by Tropical Cyclone Winston in 2016 and the lives that were lost. For Rigina, the category 5 severe storm left the entire island on ground zero as it destroyed everything in its path including schools, homes, crops, and livelihoods. "I remember on the 20th of February. It was a normal day for us here at Sinuvaca village, but the Island was already experiencing some rain and strong wind. On that day, my husband went down to the coastline. It was around midday, and I had just finished cooking our lunch. At that hour, we started to see tidal waves coming into the village" She said everything happened so fast. Within seconds tidal waves flooded the entire village and everyone ran toward the community church to take shelter, but little did they know it was not the safest place.

*"As soon as I reached the church, someone told me that the villagers need to run to safety uphill because the tidal waves were coming with full force, and it entered the village like a Tsunami. The strong wind blew the roof off the church. I saw the villagers running towards the church. Some of them fell on their way because they were scared and many panicked and got hurt. The waves kept coming and the water level kept rising."*

At this point, Rigina emotionally shared how she hurt herself from flying debris and she didn't even notice she fractured her leg until she made it to a nearby hill where a school was located. "I looked back and saw the tidal waves destroying everything in its way. The houses, appliances, farming equipment, pieces of wood and steel - all sorts of debris were just laying everywhere. The village looked like it was part of the ocean" she said.

The 62-year-old elderly said everyone had to swim if they wanted to survive that day. Many got injured due to the huge amount of debris in the water. All houses were destroyed and washed away; nothing was left except for the clothes on their back.

*"After the cyclone passed, we were left with nothing at all. We were hungry, cold, and homeless. The children were scared, even though we were scared. Even though the storm came during the daytime, it got dark so quickly. We were traumatized"*

Described as the toughest day for Koro islanders, hope remained as villagers not only fought to survive the severe storm, but they showed genuine Fijian spirit in helping each other during and after the cyclone.

Rigina said even though everyone was tired and exhausted, villagers never lost faith in God.

*"We prayed even during the worst times. I didn't even know where my husband was ever since he went down to the coastline that day, but I am thankful I met him at the hilltop with the rest of my family."* Tropical Cyclone Winston even destroyed the school at the hilltop where villagers were running to in hopes of getting sheltered, but they were met with broken tables and desks which they used instead. *"We took shelter under the desks and tables that we found within the school premises."*

When the village head called for everyone that day - we looked around and saw that some people were missing." When the villagers came together late that evening, it was unfortunate that not everyone made it. As Rigina recalls, a woman and a 10-month-old baby were nowhere to be found that day. Family members of the two were left devastated and did not know where to start their search.

The next day, the water receded, and the damage left behind by Tropical Cyclone Winston became more visible. A group of men also found the missing woman. As Rigina said "The woman was badly hurt. She was found under a pile of bricks. She lived for a few hours and died later. She's buried just behind my house. And the 10-month-old baby was never found till this day. The strong tidal waves must have dragged him into the open sea."

A day after Tropical Cyclone Winston, light that emerged from behind dark clouds was a sign of hope for the villagers. Even though they were left with nothing, the villagers depended on their survival instincts and the knowledge of their forefathers. The clothes on their back were the only possessions they had. Villagers bathed in the ocean and nearby creeks and survived on food that was floating around.

"I found a pack of sausages from a floating fridge. I got it, cooked it, and shared it with my family and some other villagers. I had to cut the sausages into small pieces, so everyone got at least get two pieces each. That was the only food we survived on a day after TC Winston" sobbed Rigina. It's been more than six years since TC Winston and recovery on the island has picked up tremendously, especially in Sinuvaca village. Women have since formed groups and men have managed to run sustainable farms with the assistance of Save the Children Fiji's Resilience through Knowledge and Action in Agriculture and Food Security Project (KANA).

"I want to thank you Save the Children Fiji for reaching out to assist us immediately after Cyclone Winston. Thank you for remembering us even though we reside in the rural areas" said Rigina.





Rigina Leba stands in front of her new home that was built after Tropical Cyclone Winston in 2016. Photo credit: Save the Children Fiji

**66 I am happy that even our children have become food heroes. They have also learned the importance of growing their own food. Thank you, Save the Children Fiji. 99**

62-year-old Rigina says while her husband focuses on farming, bringing home fresh produce and harvesting for commercial purposes, she too makes her own income through mat weaving.

“Save the Children Fiji has been providing us with mat weaving materials. We grow the pandanus leaves here on the island, cook them, and dry them. I use the materials given to make mats which are taken to the city to be sold and sometimes people just order them online. I get good money and it all contributes to buying what we need at home and other expenses.”

She also highlights that many families have been able to recover quickly due to the amount of assistance provided by Save the Children Fiji.

She said “The men have been very sustainable with their farms because Save the Children Fiji have been working in this area for several years now after TC Winston and helping farmers get back on their feet so they can not only have fresh produce on the table but also have a source of income. Many have gone into commercial farming and are the main suppliers to supermarket chains.”

Rigina says children have resumed their education and families have been able to afford stationary and grow nutritious food for their children.

Life on Koro Island after the severe storm has returned to normal. It was encouraging to note that through Save the Children Fiji’s work – people on Koro have also learned about being resilient and disaster preparedness.

## Fundraising

Save the Children Fiji was able to mobilize more support to assist children with their needs in 2023. In 2023, we were able to secure \$ 3,328.00 in total donations.

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## List of Corporate Partners

- 1) KPMG
  - 2) Fiji Water Wonderful Giving Program
  - 3) Deakin University
  - 4) Maps Pacific
  - 5) Standss
- 

## Our Partnerships

We are grateful to our corporate, international, private and local donors and partners. In particular, we are thankful to Save the Children Association members for their support towards our programs.

- ▶ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade New Zealand (MFAT)
- ▶ Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
- ▶ United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the Pacific American Fund (PAF)
- ▶ Women's Fund Fiji (WFF)
- ▶ Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA),
- ▶ International Organization for Migration (IOM).
- ▶ Fiji Water Foundation
- ▶ Canada Fund for Local Initiatives
- ▶ CARE Australia
- ▶ META (formerly the Facebook company)
- ▶ Francis Herbert Ryan Trust Fund
- ▶ Local Corporate Organisations
- ▶ Private Individuals (Local and abroad)
- ▶ Key SC partners; Save the Children New Zealand, Save the Children Australia, Save the Children Asia Regional Office and Save the Children Korea.
- ▶ Our deepest appreciation to the Fiji Government, Regional and local Civil Society Organisations for their support.



# Save the Children Fiji

## Team 2023

### Management

Shairana Ali	Chief Executive Officer
Afsrin Ali	Program Manager
Raveen Chand	Finance Manager (until Feb 2023)
Shalvin Chand	Finance Manager (until October 2023)
Neilesh Prasad	Finance Manager (Joined November 2023)
Tasianna Lulu	Child Protection Manager
Renu Yogita Chand	Human Resource Manager

### Finance

Jessica Sukhu	Finance Officer
Ashika Prasad	Finance Officer
Manjula Lal	Finance Officer
Evon Prasad	Finance Officer

### Logistics

Jeremy Ahkee	Logistics Coordinator
Teresia Malaucake	Logistics Officer
Jalesi Young	Logistics Officer
Ana Boginivalu	Logistics Officer
Inoke Dauniseka	Volunteer Driver
Takape Baleiwai	Volunteer Driver

### Operations

Rachael Hiagi	Administration Officer
Kelerayani Likuiwau	Janitor

### Child Protection Program

MFAT - Collective Action to End Violence Against Children

John Mausio	Child Protection Coordinator
Moses Sereivalu	Child Protection Officer
Ilisapeci Buinimasi	Child Protection Officer
Alowesi Tucika	Project Officer ANCP
Coletta King	Communications Officer
Makereta Tawa	MEAL Officer
Semisi Siga	MEAL officer
Taufa Qoro	Volunteer
Bernadette Ferei	Volunteer
Timoci Tavusa	Volunteer
Adi Jojivini Moceivinaka	Volunteer

### Women's Fund Fiji- Ending Violence Against Children

Flora Naqio	Project Officer
Anjali Prasad	Project Assistance
Sereana Seavula	Project Assistance
Ilisapeci Temo	Project Volunteer

### Australian Humanitarian Partnership

Talei Banuve	Project Officer AHP
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### Canada Fund- Parenting Without Violence

Josevata Suka	Project Officer
Anjali Prasad	Child Participation Officer

### Project CDRR

Irene Prasad	Project Manager
Isireli Roganivatu	Senior Project Officer
Alita Goneva	Project Officer North
Rusiate Delai	Project Officer West
James Sinclair	MEAL Officer

### Project KANA

Mereseini Maafu	Project Manager
Kartika Chandra	Senior Project Officer
Emi Vutevute	Project Officer Ra
Jaoji Malumalumu	Project Officer Koro
Mere Vunisa	MEAL Officer

### Project WASH

Anaseini Dimate	Project Coordinator
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### Child Centered Innovative Resilience Outreach (CIRO) Project

Kartika Chandra	Project Manager
Isireli Roganivatu	Project Officer
Ashneel Alvin	Project Officer
Mere Vunisa	MEAL Officer

### Response

Niumai Kavoa	Humanitarian Coordinator
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### Facebook – I Am Digital

Vika Ramara	Communications Officer
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### Communications

Kelly Vacala	Communications Officer
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# **Save the Children Fiji** **Audited Financial Statements**

**31st  
DEC** | **2023**



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NATURE OF THE ORGANIZATION	: Creating lasting and sustainable change for the lives of children in Fiji while innovating breakthroughs that drive children's rights in the Pacific.
TRUSTEES	: Ms. Patricia Mary Sachs Mr. Vijay Naidu Ms. Gina HOUNG Lee
BOARD MEMBERS	: Ms. Lorraine Reiher - Board Chairperson Mr. Garry Wiseman - Vice Board Chairperson Ms. Shairana Ali - Ex- officio Member Ms. Sushil Narayan Mr. Romulo Nayacalevu Ms. Freda Junara- Board Secretary Mr. Donald John Wilson Ms. Karen Sorby Ms. Ana Tuiketeti Ms. Meliki Tuinamuana Dr. Rosalina Saaga-Banuve - Child Safeguarding Trustee
AUDITORS	: PKF aliz pacific Chartered Accountants & Business Advisors Suva
LOCATION	: 25 Pender Street Suva
BANKERS	: ANZ Banking Group Limited Suva



**SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)**  
**EXECUTIVE MEMBERS' STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

We, being the executive members of Save the Children (Fiji), state that in our opinion, the accompanying financial statements are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Save the Children (Fiji) ("the organisation") as at 31 December 2023 and of the results, movement of funds and cash flows for the year ended at that date.

**Executive Board**

The executive board members in office during the year and up to the date of this report are:

Ms. Lorraine Reiher	Board Chairperson
Mr. Garry Wiseman	Vice Chairperson
Ms. Shairana Ali	Ex- officio Member
Ms. Sushil Narayan	Board Member
Mr. Romulo Nayacalevu	Board Member
Ms. Freda Junara	Board Secretary
Mr. Donald John Wilson	Board Member
Ms. Karen Sorby	Board Member
Ms. Ana Tuiketeki	Board Member
Ms. Meliki Tuinamuana	Board Member
Dr. Rosalina Saāga-Banuve	Child Safeguarding Trustee

**Principal Activities**

The principal activities of the organisation during the financial year were to promote and defend children's rights and deliver immediate and lasting improvements to children's lives. There was no significant change in the nature of the activities of the organisation during the year.

<b>Operating Results</b>	<b>31 December 2023 \$FJ</b>	<b>31 December 2022 \$FJ</b>
Total Income	2,979,046	7,347,394
Total Expense	2,410,086	5,705,987
<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>568,960</b>	<b>1,641,407</b>

**Current and Non Current Assets**

The executive board members took reasonable steps prior to the completion of the organisation's financial statement to ascertain that the current and non-current assets were unlikely to realise in the ordinary course of business, their values as shown in the accounting records of the organisation. Where necessary, these assets have been written down or adequate allowance has been made to bring the values of such assets to an amount that they might be expected to realise.

As at the date of this report, the executive members are not aware of any circumstances which would render the values attributed to current and non current assets in the organisation's financial statements misleading.

**Unusual Transaction**

In the opinion of the executive board members, the results of the operations of the organisation during the financial year were not substantially affected by any item, transaction or event of a material unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the executive members, to affect substantially the results of the operations of the organisation in the financial year, other than those reflected in the financial statements.

**Subsequent Events**

No matter or circumstance has arisen since the end of the financial year that has significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the organization, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the organization in financial years subsequent to the financial year.

**Basis of Accounting - Going Concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The executive board members consider the application of the going concern principle to be appropriate in the preparation of the financial statements as they believe with the plans and strategies put in place by the organisation together with the ongoing support of the executive board members and donors, the organisation will generate and maintain required funding for its operations and meet its liabilities and commitments as and when they fall due over the next twelve months. Accordingly, executive board members believe that the classification and carrying amounts of the assets and liabilities as stated in the financial statements to be appropriate.

SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)  
EXECUTIVE MEMBERS' STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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**Significant Event During the Year**

There were no significant changes in the operations of the organisation during the financial period.

As at the date of this report:

- (i) no change on the accounts has been given since the financial year to secure the liability of any other person;
- (ii) no contingent liabilities have arisen since the end of the financial year for which the organisation could become liable; and
- (iii) no contingent liabilities or other liabilities of the organisation have become or likely to become enforceable within the period of twelve months after the end of the financial year which, in the opinion of the executive members, will or may substantially affect the ability of the organisation to meet its obligations as and when they fall due.

As at the date of this report, the executive board members are not aware of any circumstances that have arisen, not otherwise dealt with in this report or the organisation's financial statements, which would make adherence to the existing method of valuation of assets or liabilities of the organisation misleading or inappropriate.

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Signed for and on behalf of the Executive Committee of Save the Children (Fiji).

Dated at Suva, this

14th

day of

May

2024.



Chairperson



Vice Chairperson



SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)  
STATEMENT BY BOARD OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

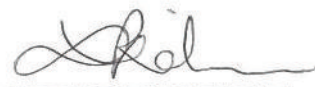
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On behalf of the Board of Executive Committee:-

- (a) the accompanying Statement of Comprehensive Income is drawn up to give a true and fair view of the operations of the organization for the year ended 31 December 2023;
- (b) the accompanying Statement of Changes in Accumulated Funds is drawn up to give a true and fair view of the operations of the organization for the year ended 31 December 2023;
- (c) the accompanying Statement of Financial Position is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of the organization's affairs as at 31 December 2023;
- (d) the Statement of Cash Flows is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the cash flows of the organization for the year ended 31 December 2023; and
- (e) at the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the organization will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Signed for and on behalf of the Executive Committee of Save the Children (Fiji).

Dated at Suva, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.



Chairperson



Vice Chairperson

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**To the Management and the Executive Board Members of Save The Children (Fiji)**

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

We have audited the financial statements of Save the Children (Fiji) (the organisation) which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of accumulated funds, the statement of cash flows for the year ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

### **Basis for Opinion**

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Organization as at 31 December 2023, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium-sized Entities (IFRS for SMEs).

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the organisation in accordance with the International Ethics Board for Accountants Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) and the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Other Information**

The Management and Executive Board Members are responsible for the other information. The other information that we received comprises the Executive Members' Statement, and the client representation letter of the organisation for the year ended 31 December 2023 but does not include the financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, our knowledge obtained during the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If based upon the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information; we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.



## **Responsibilities of the Management and the Executive Board Members for the Financial Statements**

The Management and the Executive Board Members are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRS for (SMEs), and for such internal control as the Management and the Executive Board Members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Management and the Executive Board Members are responsible for assessing the organisation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern, and using the going concern basis of accounting.

The Management and the Executive Board Members are responsible for overseeing the organisation's financial reporting process.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISA will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud and error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organisation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by Management and Executive Board Members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Management and the Executive Board Members' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the organisation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures, are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the organisation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Management and Executive Board Members regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the Management and Executive Board Members with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.



Sunil Sharma

Partner

Suva, Fiji

16 May 2024



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CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



**SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)**  
**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
Revenue	3	2,503,009	4,831,562
Other Income	4	476,037	2,515,832
		<hr/> 2,979,046	<hr/> 7,347,394
<b>Less Expenses</b>			
Project Expense	5	1,842,598	3,018,262
Administrative Expense	7	488,017	2,597,354
Advertising and Marketing Expense	6	15,233	22,423
<b>Surplus from Operations</b>		<hr/> 633,198	<hr/> 1,709,355
Depreciation Expenses		64,238	67,948
Operating Surplus for the year		<hr/> 568,960	<hr/> 1,641,407
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
<b>Total Comprehensive Income</b>		<hr/> <b>568,960</b>	<hr/> <b>1,641,407</b>

*The Statement of Comprehensive Income is to be read in conjunction with the Accounting Policies and notes to the Financial Statements set out on pages 12 to 25.*

SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ACCUMULATED FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Asset Revaluation Reserve \$FJ	Accumulated Funds \$FJ	Total \$FJ
Balance as at 31 December 2021	1,000,000	1,456,957	2,456,957
Total Comprehensive Income for the year			
Surplus for the year ended 31 December 2022	-	1,641,407	1,641,407
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	-	1,641,407	1,641,407
Balance as at 31 December 2022	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>3,098,364</b>	<b>4,098,364</b>
Total Comprehensive Income for the year			
Surplus for the year ended 31 December 2023	-	568,960	568,960
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	568,960	568,960
Balance as at 31 December 2023	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>3,667,324</b>	<b>4,667,324</b>

*The Statement of Changes in Accumulated Funds is to be read in conjunction with the Accounting Policies and Notes to the Financial Statements set out on pages 12 to 25.*




SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	8	2,528,900	3,374,516
Project Inventory	9	-	256
Trade and Other Receivables	10	263,038	574,660
Financial Assets	11	1,448,573	1,003,873
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>4,240,512</b>	<b>4,953,305</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Property Plant and Equipment	12	1,239,074	1,276,169
Available for Sale Financial Assets	13	8,496	8,496
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>		<b>1,247,570</b>	<b>1,284,665</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>5,488,082</b>	<b>6,237,970</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	14	73,339	170,256
Deferred Income	16 (c)	727,679	1,903,723
Employee Entitlement	15	19,740	65,627
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>820,758</b>	<b>2,139,606</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>4,667,324</b>	<b>4,098,364</b>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>	Page 9		
Opening balance		3,098,364	1,456,957
Asset Revaluation Reserve		1,000,000	1,000,000
Accumulated Surplus		568,960	1,641,407
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>		<b>4,667,324</b>	<b>4,098,364</b>

These Financial Statements have been audited.

Signed for and on behalf of the Board of Trustees and in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Trustees.

  
Chairperson

  
Vice Chairperson

The Statement of Financial Position is to be read in conjunction with the Accounting Policies and Notes to the Financial Statements set out on pages 12 to 25.

**SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>31 December 2023 \$FJ</b>	<b>31 December 2022 \$FJ</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>			
Cash Receipts from Grants and Donations		2,979,046	7,347,394
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(3,352,819)	(7,340,215)
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	17 (ii)	(373,774)	7,179
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>			
(Acquisition) of Property, Plant and Equipment		(27,142)	(24,023)
(Increase) in Investments		(444,700)	(17,795)
<b>Net Cash (Used in) Investing Activities</b>		(471,842)	(41,818)
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents		(845,616)	(34,639)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the year		3,374,516	3,409,142
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the year</b>	17 (i)	<b>2,528,900</b>	<b>3,374,516</b>

*The Statement of Cash Flows is to be read in conjunction with the Accounting Policies and Notes to the Financial Statements set out on pages 12 to 25.*



**1. General Information**

Save the Children (Fiji) ("the organisation") is an autonomous and independently funded non governmental organisation, affiliated to the International Save the Children Alliance (ISCA). Save the Children (Fiji) is a charitable organisation formed in 1972. Their principal activities are to promote children's rights and respond to their needs by facilitating lasting improvements that enable children to become responsible citizens.

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

These financial statements are prepared by Save the Children (Fiji) in accordance with the 'IFRS for Small and Medium-sized Entities' (IFRS for SME's) issued by the International Accounting Standards Board. The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

**a). Basis of Presentation**

The financial statements of Save the Children (Fiji) have been prepared in accordance with the 'International Financial Reporting Standards for Small and Medium' (IFRS for SMEs). They have been prepared under the historical cost, as modified by the revaluation of investments property and derivative financial instruments at fair value.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with the IFRS for SMEs requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgment in the process of applying the Organisation's accounting policies.

The amount reflected in the financial statements are stated in Fijian currency.

**b). Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position comprise of cash at bank and in hand. For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and cash equivalents as defined above, net of any outstanding bank overdrafts.

**c). Inventories**

Inventories consist of Christmas cards and are measured at the lower of cost and net realizable value.

**d). Other Receivables**

Other receivables are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less provision for impairment. A provision for impairment of trade receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the organization will not be able to collect all amount due according to the original terms of the receivables.

**e). Property, Plant and Equipment**

Property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the Management.

The organisation adds to the carrying amount of an item of property, plant and equipment the cost of replacing parts of such an item when that cost is incurred if the replacement part is expected to provide incremental future benefits to the organization. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to profit and loss during the year in which they are incurred.

Depreciation on the other assets is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight line method.

<b>Assets</b>	<b>Rates</b>
Building	2.5%
Office Equipment	15%
Motor Vehicles	15%

**2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)**

**f). Deferred Income**

Property, Plant and Equipment acquired with the aid of specific grants or through donations are capitalised and depreciated in accordance with the above policy, with the related grant being credited to Deferred Income (donated assets). Deferred income is released to the Statement of Comprehensive Income over the expected useful economic life of the related property, plant and equipment. The exception to this is when the acquisition of property, plant and equipment is financed either through the organisation's own funds or a loan or finance lease, when no revenue is deferred.

**g). Unexpended Funds**

Grants and funds received for specific end purpose is recognised as revenue when the conditions attached to the grants and funds have been met. Until those conditions are met, receipt of grant and funds in advance is accounted for as unexpended funds and recognised as a liability.

**h). Trade and Other Payables**

Liabilities for trade creditors and other amounts are carried at cost (inclusive of VAT where applicable) which is the fair value of the consideration to be paid in the future for goods and services received whether or not billed to the organisation. Payables to related parties are carried at the principal amount. Interest when charged by the lender, is recognised as an expense when incurred.

**i). Employee Entitlements**

Provision is made for annual leave estimated to be payable to employees on the basis of statutory and contractual requirements.

**j). Revenue Recognition**

**Grants received**

Grants received are recognised in profit and loss on a systematic basis over the periods in which the entity recognises expenses for the related costs for which the grants are intended to compensate, which in the case of grants related to assets requires setting up the grant as deferred income or deducting it from the carrying amount of the asset. These grants are restricted income.

**k). Income Tax**

The organisation is a Not-for-Profit institution, and is exempted from income tax in accordance with the provisions of Income Tax (Exempt Income) Regulations 2016. This exemption has been confirmed by the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service.

**l). Available for sale financial assets**

The organisation's financial assets have been designated as available for sale. After initial measurement, available for sale financial assets are recorded at cost. Gains or losses are recognised on disposal of the asset.

**m). Investments**

The investments recorded at market value and any income derived from these investments are recorded in the Profit and Loss.

**n). Comparatives**

The comparative figures are the for the year ended 31 December 2022 and have been regrouped where considered necessary.



**SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

<b>3. Grant Income</b>	<b>31 December 2023 \$FJ</b>	<b>31 December 2022 \$FJ</b>
Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction - MFAT Funded	501,520	427,385
Resilience through Knowledge & Action in Agriculture and Food Security (KANA) -MFAT Funded	531,757	515,430
AHP Disaster Ready : Shared Service Project - DFAT Funded	129,208	17,585
AHP PPF 1 - DFAT funded	30,603	(797)
AHP Covid 19 Recovery Pacific Package Proposal July 2020 - Whitelum Group	-	437,931
Fiji NPT Cash Programme 2020-21 (FinCAP 1) - National Philanthropic Trust	4,919	202,599
Iam Digital Phase 1 - Facebook	70,244	-
Humanitarian Response Strategy TC Yasa- ARO - Seed Fund	8,734	445
Pacific American Fund	220,456	-
Collective Action to End Violence Against Children in Fiji - MFAT Funded	368,132	237,290
Positive Discipline P2 - Canada Fund	-	33,033
AHP TC Yasa Recovery in Vanua Levu	-	155,702
TC Yasa Vanua Levu - Facebook	-	796
DRP TC Yasa Vanua Levu	2,851	32,254
Fiji NPT Cash Programme 2020-21 (FinCAP 2) - National Philanthropic Trust	(535)	2,443,681
Covid 19 Response Food Pack - SCNZ	-	893
Iam Digital Online Safety Campaign Phase 2 - Facebook	36,043	88,587
Covid 19 Response Appeal	-	57,000
Fiji Water	11,661	89,098
Canada Fund Phase 3	80,866	33,531
I am Digital Phase 3	170,516	30,196
Other minor projects	7,682	28,923
Fiji Water Feb 23	22,600	-
Women's Fund Fiji	116,249	-
Fiji Water Foundation 2023	80,740	-
ANCP	82,582	-
MFAT Safe School Regional - PCASS	23,149	-
Humanitarian Co-ordinator and EPP	3,034	-
	<b>2,503,009</b>	<b>4,831,562</b>
<b>4. Other Income</b>	<b>31 December 2023 \$FJ</b>	<b>31 December 2022 \$FJ</b>
Activities	6,840	2,544
Administration	311,912	2,472,080
Donations	3,328	10,342
Interest Income	(3,094)	16,429
Amortisation of Deferred Income	137,394	24,023
Insurance	1,535	-
Funding and Other Fundraising	12,838	(10,227)
Dividend	701	640
Sundry income	4,582	-
	<b>476,037</b>	<b>2,515,832</b>

**SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

<b>5. Project Expenditure</b>	<b>31 December 2023 \$FJ</b>	<b>31 December 2022 \$FJ</b>
School Meals and Supplies Project	620	77,286
Project Allowances	120,544	181,693
Project Printing Expenses	36,281	16,368
Project Contractors and Consultants	55,859	177,390
Project Materials and Equipment	232,680	382,880
Training Cost	143,855	215,384
Transportation	67,745	158,644
Wages and Salaries	994,866	1,509,426
Other Project Expenditure	190,149	299,191
	<b>1,842,598</b>	<b>3,018,262</b>
<b>6. Advertising and Marketing Expense</b>	<b>31 December 2023 \$FJ</b>	<b>31 December 2022 \$FJ</b>
Advertisement and Marketing	15,233	22,423
<b>7. Administrative Expense</b>	<b>31 December 2023 \$FJ</b>	<b>31 December 2022 \$FJ</b>
Administration Expense	304,198	2,313,189
Auditors remuneration	8,163	-
Other Administration Expenses	175,657	284,165
	<b>488,017</b>	<b>2,597,354</b>
<b>8. Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>31 December 2023 \$FJ</b>	<b>31 December 2022 \$FJ</b>
Cash on Hand	2,004	3,175
Cash at Bank - Flood Response - ANZ	775,731	963,779
Cash at Bank - Main account - ANZ	1,247,859	2,186,670
Cash at Bank - Nutrition - ANZ	273,147	286,076
Cash at Bank - SDF - ANZ	1,531	1,591
Cash at Bank - CDRR - ANZ	228,629	(66,775)
	<b>2,528,900</b>	<b>3,374,516</b>
<b>9. Project Inventories</b>	<b>31 December 2023 \$FJ</b>	<b>31 December 2022 \$FJ</b>
Christmas Cards	-	12
Merchandise	-	244
	<b>-</b>	<b>256</b>



10. Trade and Other Receivables	31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
Trade Receivables	247,198	472,886
Interest Receivable	9,107	18,836
Other Receivables	6,733	82,938
	<b>263,038</b>	<b>574,660</b>

11. Financial Assets	31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
ANZ Bank - Term Deposit	-	722,409
HFC - Term Deposit	1,443,561	276,464
ANZ Term Deposit- 13608356	5,013	5,000
	<b>1,448,573</b>	<b>1,003,873</b>

Held to maturity investments are as follows:

Term Deposits	Account Number	Maturity Date	Interest Rate	Amount
Home Finance Company PTE Limited	100229207	09/09/2024	1.25%	725,660
Home Finance Company PTE Limited	100105297	14/09/2024	1.00%	108,433
Home Finance Company PTE Limited	100068083	30/10/2024	1.00%	45,119
Home Finance Company PTE Limited	100017379	14/09/2024	1.00%	126,284
Home Finance Company PTE Limited	100114170	17/02/2024	0.50%	438,065
				<b>1,443,561</b>

12. Property, Plant & Equipment	31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
Land and Building	1,200,000	1,200,000
Less Provision for Depreciation	(111,500)	(101,000)
	<b>1,088,500</b>	<b>1,099,000</b>
Motor Vehicles at Cost	183,209	183,209
Additions	-	-
Less Provision for Depreciation	(138,431)	(110,950)
	<b>44,777</b>	<b>72,259</b>
Computer Equipment	167,696	156,040
Additions	25,008	11,656
Less Provision for Depreciation	(113,072)	(93,660)
	<b>79,635</b>	<b>74,037</b>
Furniture and Fittings	22,655	17,721
Additions	349	1,180
Less Provision for Depreciation	(20,606)	(15,654)
	<b>2,398</b>	<b>3,247</b>

12. Property, Plant & Equipment (Continued)	31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
Office Equipment	122,251	111,064
Additions	1,775	11,187
Less Provision for Depreciation	(100,262)	(94,624)
	23,764	27,627
<b>Net Written Down Value</b>	<b>1,239,074</b>	<b>1,276,169</b>

(ii) Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year.

	Carrying Amounts	Additions	Depreciation	Total
Land & Building at Cost	1,099,000	-	(10,500)	1,088,500
Motor Vehicles	72,259	-	(27,481)	44,777
Computer Equipment	74,037	25,008	(19,407)	79,635
Furniture and Fittings	3,247	434	(1,283)	2,398
Office Equipment	27,627	1,703	(5,566)	23,764
<b>Net Written Down Value</b>	<b>1,276,169</b>	<b>27,132</b>	<b>(64,238)</b>	<b>1,239,074</b>

13. Available for Sale Financial Assets		31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
<b>At cost</b>			
i). Unit Trust of Fiji	10,236 units @ \$0.83	8,496	8,496
<b>At market value</b>			
ii). Unit Trust of Fiji	10,236 units @ \$2.65 (2021:\$3.35)	27,125	34,291

14. Trade and Other Payables		31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
Trade Creditors		53,017	61,387
Other Payables and Accruals		20,322	108,870
		73,339	170,256

15. Employee Entitlement Liability		31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
Annual leave		19,740	65,627



SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

16. Unexpended Funds	31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
<b>a). Unexpended funds from various projects</b>		
<b>(i) Health Grant - Fiji Program Support Facility</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	1,844	1,834
Funds utilised during the year	(1,844)	10
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,844</b>
<b>(ii) MEHA Wash Grant 19/20 - Fiji Program Support Facility</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	(1,844)	(1,844)
Funds received during the year	-	-
Funds utilised during the year	-	-
Funds refunded to Donor	-	-
Transfer of Funds	1,844	
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,844)</b>
<b>(iii) Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction - MFAT Funded</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	24,018	57,259
Funds received during the year	195,478	394,144
Funds utilised during the year	(219,496)	(427,385)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,018</b>
<b>(iv) Resilience through Knowledge &amp; Action in Agriculture and Food Security (KANA) -MFAT Funded</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	259,650	140,007
Funds received during the year	272,108	635,074
Funds utilised during the year	(531,757)	(515,430)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>259,650</b>
<b>(v) AHP PPF 1 - DFAT funded</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	30,603	29,806
Funds received during the year	-	-
Funds utilised during the year	(30,603)	797
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,603</b>
<b>(vi) WASH Improvement Works 2020 - 2023 - Fiji Water Foundation Funded</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	23,353	23,353
Funds received during the year	-	-
Funds utilised during the year	(23,353)	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>23,353</b>
<b>(vii) AHP Disaster Ready : Shared Service Project - DFAT Funded</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	24,935	24,925
Funds received during the year	-	17,585
Funds utilised during the year	(24,935)	(17,585)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,925</b>

16 a). Unexpended funds from various projects (Continued)		31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
(viii)	<b>Positive Discipline - Canada Fund</b>		
	Balance as at 1 January	-	(525)
	Funds received during the year	-	525
	Funds utilised during the year	-	-
	<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
(ix)	<b>AHP Covid 19 Recovery Pacific Package Proposal July 2020 - Whitelum Group</b>		
	Balance as at 1 January	54,849	178,573
	Funds received during the year	-	314,207
	Funds utilised during the year	-	(437,931)
	Funds released to procure capital asset	-	-
	<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>54,849</b>	<b>54,849</b>
(x)	<b>Fiji NPT Cash Programme 2020-21 (FinCAP 1) - National Philanthropic Trust</b>		
	Balance as at 1 January	5,109	8,976
	Funds received during the year	-	198,732
	Funds utilised during the year	(4,919)	(202,599)
	<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>5,109</b>
(xi)	<b>Iam Digital Phase 1 - Facebook</b>		
	Balance as at 1 January	25,571	25,571
	Funds received during the year	-	-
	Funds utilised during the year	(18,530)	-
	<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>7,041</b>	<b>25,571</b>
(xii)	<b>Francis Ryan Herbert Fund Trust</b>		
	Balance as at 1 January	259	28,959
	Funds received during the year	-	-
	Funds utilised during the year	(259)	(28,700)
	<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>259</b>
(xiii)	<b>Humanitarian Response Strategy TC Yasa- ARO - Seed Fund</b>		
	Balance as at 1 January	9,708	10,153
	Funds received during the year	-	-
	Funds utilised during the year	(8,734)	(445)
	<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>9,708</b>
(xiv)	<b>Collective Action to End Violence Against Children in Fiji - MFAT Funded</b>		
	Balance as at 1 January	(103,555)	55,519
	Funds received during the year	506,841	78,216
	Funds utilised during the year	(367,477)	(237,290)
	<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>35,808</b>	<b>(103,555)</b>



SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)  
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

16 a). Unexpended funds from various projects (Continued)	31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
(xvi) <b>Positive Discipline P2 - Canada Fund</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	1,904	16,548
Funds received during the year	-	18,389
Funds utilised during the year	-	(33,033)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>1,904</b>	<b>1,904</b>
(xvii) <b>AHP TC Yasa Recovery in Vanua Levu</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	36,294	71,145
Funds received during the year	-	120,850
Funds utilised during the year	-	(155,702)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>36,294</b>	<b>36,293</b>
(xviii) <b>TC Yasa Vanua Levu - Facebook</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	43,125	43,921
Funds received during the year	-	-
Funds utilised during the year	0.43	(796)
Funds transferred to Humanitarian Co-ordinator and EPP	(43,125)	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>43,125</b>
(xix) <b>DRP TC Yasa Vanua Levu</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	2,851	63,316
Funds received during the year	-	-
Funds utilised during the year	(2,851)	(32,254)
Funds refunded to Donor	-	(28,210)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,852</b>
(xx) <b>FDG Child Displacement Survey -SCI</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	2,564	2,564
Funds received during the year	-	-
Funds utilised during the year	-	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>2,564</b>	<b>2,564</b>
(xxi) <b>CP Training - Fiji Program Support Facility</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	451	451
Funds received during the year	-	-
Funds utilised during the year	(451)	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>451</b>
(xxii) <b>Fiji NPT Cash Programme 2020-21 (FinCAP 2) - National Philanthropic Trust</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	374,522	1,465,918
Funds received during the year	-	1,352,285
Funds utilised during the year	535	(2,443,681)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>375,058</b>	<b>374,522</b>

16 a). Unexpended funds from various projects (Continued)	31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
(xxiii) <b>Covid 19 Response Food Pack - SCNZ</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	14,685	15,578
Funds received during the year	-	-
Funds utilised during the year	-	(893)
Funds refunded to Donor	(15,713)	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>(1,028)</b>	<b>14,685</b>
(xxiv) <b>Iam Digital Online Safety Campaign Phase 2 - Facebook</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	32,581	121,168
Funds received during the year	-	-
Funds utilised during the year	(32,581)	(88,587)
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,581</b>
(xxv) <b>Safe School - OMEP Australia Ltd Funded</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	3,985	3,985
Funds received during the year	-	-
Funds utilised during the year	-	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>3,985</b>	<b>3,985</b>
(xxvi) <b>Covid 19 Response Appeal</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	169,739	226,739
Funds received during the year	-	-
Funds utilised during the year	-	(57,000)
Funds refunded to Donor	(214,739)	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>(45,000)</b>	<b>169,739</b>
(xxvii) <b>Fiji Water</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	10,902	-
Funds received during the year	-	100,000
Funds utilised during the year	(10,902)	(89,098)
Funds released to procure capital asset	-	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,902</b>
(xxvii) <b>I am Digital Phase 3</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	155,596	-
Funds received during the year	-	185,792
Funds utilised during the year	(140,231)	(30,196)
Funds refunded to Donor	(11,755)	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>3,611</b>	<b>155,596</b>



SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

16 a). Unexpended funds from various projects (Continued)	31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
(xxviii) <b>Canada Fund Phase 3</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	90,096	-
Funds received during the year	-	123,627
Funds utilised during the year	(80,866)	(33,531)
Funds refunded to Donor	(9,230)	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>90,096</b>
(xxix) <b>Fiji Water Feb 23</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	-	-
Funds transferred from 2021 to 2022 Grant	23,353	-
Funds utilized during the year	(22,600)	-
Funds transfer to 8044	(753)	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
(xxx) <b>Women's Fund Fiji</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	-	-
Funds Received during the year	150,000	-
Funds utilized during the year	(118,978)	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>31,022</b>	<b>-</b>
(xxxii) <b>Fiji Water Foundation 2023</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	-	-
Funds Received during the year	95,000	-
Funds utilized during the year	(80,740)	-
Funds received from 8042	753	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>15,013</b>	<b>-</b>
(xxxiii) <b>ANCP</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	-	-
Funds Received during the year	133,964	-
Funds utilized during the year	(82,582)	-
Funds refunded to Donor	(51,381)	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
(xxxiiii) <b>MFAT Safe School Regional - PCASS</b>		
Balance as at 1 January	-	-
Funds Received during the year	56,860	-
Funds utilized during the year	(52,453)	-
<b>Balance as at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>4,407</b>	<b>-</b>

16 a). Unexpended funds from various projects (Continued)		31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ
(xxxiv) Facebook I am Digital Phase 2 Extension			
Balance as at 1 January	-	-	
Funds Received during the year	89,679	-	
Funds utilized during the year	(44,402)	-	
Balance as at 31 December 2023	45,277	-	
(xxxv) Humanitarian Co-ordinator and EPP			
Balance as at 1 January	-	-	
Funds Received during the year	43,125	-	
Funds utilized during the year	(3,034)	-	
Balance as at 31 December 2023	40,091	-	
(xxxvi) Frances Herbert Ryan Trust			
Balance as at 1 January	-	-	
Funds Received during the year	12,218	-	
Funds utilized during the year	-	-	
Balance as at 31 December 2023	12,218	-	
Total Deferred Income	624,280	1,293,786	
16 b). Reconciliation of Deferred Income on Capital Asset procured from the Grant Funding			
	31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ	
Balance as at 1 January	609,937	469,326	
Additions	27,132	24,023	
Grant unutilised during the year	103,399	375,402	
Less: amortisation during the year	(637,069)	(258,814)	
Balance as at 31 December 2023	103,399	609,937	
c). Reconciliation of Deferred Income			
	31 December 2023 \$FJ	31 December 2022 \$FJ	
Unexpended Funds from various projects (16 a)	624,280	1,293,786	
Deferred Income on capital asset procured from the grant funding (16 b)	103,399	609,937	
	727,679	1,903,723	



**17. Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows**

**(i) Cash and cash equivalents include the following for the purpose of Statement of Cash Flows:**

	<b>31 December 2023 \$FJ</b>	<b>31 December 2022 \$FJ</b>
Cash at Bank	2,526,896	3,371,342
Cash on Hand	2,004	3,175
	<b>2,528,900</b>	<b>3,374,516</b>

**(ii) Reconciliation of Net Cash provided by Operating Activities to Net Surplus**

	<b>31 December 2023 \$FJ</b>	<b>31 December 2022 \$FJ</b>
Net Surplus	568,960	1,641,407
<b><u>Add Non-Cash Items</u></b>		
Depreciation	64,238	67,948
Employee Entitlement	(45,887)	15,274
Amortisation of Deferred Income	(506,538)	140,611
	<b>80,772</b>	<b>1,865,241</b>
<b><u>Change in Assets and Liabilities</u></b>		
Decrease in inventories	256	-
Decrease/(Increase) in Trade and Other Receivables	311,622	(159,965)
(Decrease) in Trade and Other Payables	(96,917)	(377,983)
(Decrease) in Unexpended Funds	(669,506)	(1,320,114)
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>(373,774)</b>	<b>7,179</b>

**18. (i) Related Party Transactions**

The executive board members in office during the year and up to the date of this report are:

Ms. Lorraine Reiher	Board Chairperson
Mr. Garry Wiseman	Vice Chairperson
Ms. Shairana Ali	Ex- officio Member
Ms. Sushil Narayan	Board Member
Mr. Romulo Nayacalevu	Board Member
Ms. Freda Junara	Board Secretary
Mr. Donald John Wilson	Board Member
Ms. Karen Sorby	Board Member
Ms. Ana Tuiketeti	Board Member
Ms. Meliki Tuinamuana	Board Member
Dr. Rosalina Saâga-Banuve	Child Safeguarding Trustee

(ii) **Key management personnel**

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any members (whether executive or otherwise) of that entity.

During the year, the Chief Executive Officer was identified as key management personnel, with the greatest authority and responsibility for the planning, directing and controlling the activities of the organisation.

The remuneration of the key management personnel during the year was as follows:

Name	2022	2023
Shairana Ali	\$ 115,500	\$ 110,000
2022 is inclusive of remuneration and bonus while no bonus was paid in 2023.		

**19. Contingent Liabilities**

Contingent Liabilities as at 31 December 2023 amounted to \$Nil (2022: \$Nil).

**20. Capital Commitments**

Capital Commitments as at 31 December 2023 amounted to \$Nil (2022 : \$Nil )

**21. Organisation details**

i). Principal place of business

25 Pender Street  
Suva

ii). Number of Employees

As at balance date, the organisation employed a total of 52 Employees (2022: 49 employees)

**22. Approval of Financial Statements**

These financial statements were approved by the organisation's executive board members and authorized for issue on 14 May 2024

**23. Significant Event During the Year**


During the financial year, management made adjustments to write off amounts carried forward from previous years in the Statement of Financial Position. These adjustments resulted in a net impact of \$48,785 on this year's surplus. Apart from this matter, no other significant events occurred during the year.



#### **DISCLAIMER TO SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

The additional financial data presented in the following pages is in accordance with the books and records of Save the Children (Fiji) which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our statutory audit of the entity for the year ended 31 December 2023. It should be appreciated that our statutory audit did not cover all the details of the additional financial data. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on such financial data and no warranty of accuracy or reliability is given.

In accordance with our firm's policy, we advise that neither the firm nor any member or employee of the firm undertakes responsibility arising in any way whatsoever to any person (other than the entity) in respect of such data including any errors or omissions therein arising through negligence or otherwise however caused.

  
**PKF aliz pacific**  
**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**  
Suva, Fiji  
16 May 2024

**SAVE THE CHILDREN (FIJI)**  
**DETAILED STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	<b>31 December 2023 \$FJ</b>	<b>31 December 2022 \$FJ</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Grant income	2,503,009	4,831,562
Other Income	476,037	2,515,832
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,979,046</b>	<b>7,347,394</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Accommodation Expense	87,207	120,239
Administration Expense	304,198	2,313,189
Advertising	15,233	22,423
Audit Fees	8,163	-
Bank Charges	2,351	2,635
Board Meeting and Other Expenses	3,559	1,269
Depreciation	64,238	67,948
Dues and Subscription	6,012	5,882
Electricity	10,447	12,626
General Expense	21,065	18,309
Insurance	49,949	60,699
Motor Vehicle Expenses	20,646	42,535
Office Cleaning and Maintenance	2,828	46,762
Printing, Postage and Stationery	43,089	57,734
Project Printing Expense	36,281	16,368
Project Contractors and Consultants	55,859	177,390
Project Materials and Equipment	232,680	382,880
Project Travel and Allowances	120,544	181,693
Project Hosting and Catering	43,024	60,256
Project Local Training	174	360
Property Rates	2,123	1,252
Rent	50,315	101,549
School Meals	240	57,078
School Supplies and Fees	380	20,208
Security	505	495
Staff Clearance	1,085	3,605
Telephone, Fax and Internet	18,859	33,573
Training Costs	143,855	215,384
Transportation	67,745	158,644
Wages and Salaries	994,866	1,509,426
Water	2,568	3,178
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,410,086</b>	<b>5,705,987</b>
<b>Net Surplus for the year</b>	<b>568,960</b>	<b>1,641,407</b>

*The Detailed Statement of Income & Expenditure is to be read in conjunction with the Disclaimer to Supplementary Information set out on pages 26.*



### **Our Vision**

is a world in which every child attains the Right to Survival, Protection, Development and Participation.



**Save the Children**  
**Fiji**

### **Breakthroughs by 2030:**

- No child dies from preventable causes before their fifth birthday
- All children learn from a quality basic education
- Violence against children is no longer tolerated

### **Our Mission**

Is to stimulate breakthroughs in the way the world values children and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.

### **To achieve the breakthroughs:**

We will put the rights of the most deprived and marginalised children first in our work and advocate for others to do the same. This will be a key measure of our success.

Many factors will be critical to enabling our ambition for children 2030.

We will focus on people, innovative technology, our structure and governance as the areas where we need to change and invest.

### **Our Values**

are  
**Accountability**  
**Ambition**  
**Collaboration**  
**Creativity**  
**Integrity**

**Building a Better World  
For Children**



# SAVE THE CHILDREN FIJI STAFFS







**Save the Children**