



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

Pro-Resilient Fiji

Strengthening climate
resilience of communities for
food and nutrition security





STRENGTHENING CLIMATE RESILIENCE OF COMMUNITIES FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Agriculture plays a main role in the livelihoods of many people in Fiji. Yet, it is vulnerable to climate change and fluctuations in temperature and rainfall induced by El Niño.

The impact of the recent El Niño highlighted the vulnerability of Fiji to climate change. El Niño has increased household vulnerabilities with limited preparedness and response capacity in place. With no indication that the incidence of climate change disasters will discontinue or decrease, the best course of action is to prepare.

WHAT IS THE PRO-RESILIENT FIJI PROJECT?

To help address the impact of drought on rural communities in Fiji, the European Union has provided EUR 2.8 million (USD 3 264 000) to FAO to support the country in its efforts to build resilience. The ongoing project, set to complete on 31 October 2020, aims to structurally and sustainably reduce food insecurity and nutrition deterioration from climate change-induced disasters by tackling the root and underlying causes of vulnerability.



65% of Fijians partially derive their income and livelihood from agriculture



The agriculture sector accounts for 45% of total employment, of which women comprise 37%



EUR 2.8 million (USD 3 264 000) to support Fiji in its efforts to build resilience.

FAO assessed crop losses and food security impacts caused by the prolonged dry spell in Nabalabala, Ra



HOW WILL THE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES BE ACHIEVED?

By strengthening the capacity of El Niño-affected communities, villages, and provincial and national government institutions to identify climate risks and vulnerabilities, strengthen Early Warning Early Action (EWEA) system for drought, develop community-based disaster risk management (CBDRM) plans and support the adoption of climate-smart and nutrition-sensitive agricultural practices.

The key expected outcomes are:

- Reduced climate change disaster risks and impacts
- Improved food security and nutrition
- Decreased incidences of anemia by at least 10 per cent
- Increased access to iron-rich foods by 10 per cent for at least 90 percent of farming households across the three drought-prone provinces.

WHO ARE THE BENEFICIARIES AND WHERE?

The project focuses on strengthening the capacities of national institutions and improving the resilience of vulnerable rural households, including women and youth groups, in north-western provinces of the main islands in Fiji – Ra and Nadroga (Western Division) and Bua (Northern Division), where little to no rain is received for up to four-month periods each year.



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MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDER THE PROJECT

COMMUNITY-BASED DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

- Develop and implement 10 community-based Disaster Risk Management (DRM) plans informed by vulnerability and risk assessments for climate extreme and season variability, proven (modern and traditional) climate-smart agricultural practices, and with clear roles for implementation by national, provincial and village stakeholders.

CLIMATE-SMART AND NUTRITION-SENSITIVE AGRICULTURE

- Ensure the adoption of climate-smart and nutrition-sensitive agricultural production by 10 000 smallholder farmers, including seed and seedling raising soil.

MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDER THE PROJECT

WATER MANAGEMENT

- Support 100 communities involved in mixed crop and livestock farming in rain water management through the identification and promotion of efficient on-farm water management and water harvesting techniques.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- Strengthen national institutions capacities and support the Food Security and Livelihood Cluster in minimum common standard assessment indicators and survey methodologies for agricultural and rural livelihoods needs assessments on slow-onset disasters (i.e. drought).

EARLY WARNING EARLY ACTION

- Identify indicators for hazard monitoring and sets of triggers within national policies and mechanisms with relevant stakeholders.
- Pilot a drought EWEA system across the three target provinces.

FOOD PROCESSING AND PRESERVATION

- Train youth and women groups in 100 communities to strengthen their capacities on food processing and preservation techniques, particularly in the use of local technology for drying fruits and local root crops.

Photo: Focus group discussion with women villagers to identify food security and nutrition challenges and vulnerabilities during drought.

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FAO handed over 50 tablets to the Ministry of Agriculture to strengthen their capacity to conduct data collection, analysis and mapping for vulnerability and disaster assessments

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MAIN PROJECT PARTNERS

Financing Partner

The European Union

Implementing Agency

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Partners

Ministry of Agriculture, Rural & Maritime Development, Waterways and Environment; National Disaster Management Office, Fiji Meteorological Services; Adventist Development and Relief Agency; Food Security and Livelihood Cluster; Ministry of iTaukei Affairs.



EUROPEAN UNION

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Cover photo: Inspection of existing wells and provision of technical recommendations were carried out to ensure clean and constant water supply in Galoa Island, Bua

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