

NEWSLETTER

Ecosystems-based Climate Adaptation Project
LOT 4 Naiyaca Sub-Division, Labasa | PH: 8818 855

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LAND USE AWARENESS & TRAINING COMPLETED

The Ecosystems-based Climate Adaptation Project together with the Ministry of Agriculture Land Use Section completed Land Use Planning, Awareness and Training (LUPAT) in the remaining 9 communities between October and November. Rauriko village had withdrawn from the Project because members of the landowning unit had concerns on leasing of their land.

The main purpose of this training is to equip the communities to sustainably rationalise infrastructure development and take into account all land-based resources such as forest, agriculture, minerals and streams. A total of 273 participants were engaged in this training inclusive of men, women, youth, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.



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1. Communities understanding land boundaries and demarcating proposed conservation area.
2. Group activity on management activities on the proposed conservation area.
3. Safely opening of bee boxes
4. Inspecting the colonies to check for healthy brood pattern.
5. Youths of Mataqali Navucivuci Co-op LTD (Saolo) showing uncapped & sealed honeycombs ready for extraction
6. Women of the Savuinuku Cooperative LTD (Navakasali village) showcasing their bottled honey

MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF BEEHIVES

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of beehives was conducted from the 17th - 21st October 2022 in 9 communities with the support of Cegu Valley Farm's Mr Joshua Prasad, who is a member of the Fiji Beekeepers Association.

The M&E is a follow up on how well the bees are adapting to their new habitats. This is an important management practice to determine:

- The presence or absence of queen
- Infestation of pests or diseases.
- The presence of eggs or larva in the cell
- A healthy brood pattern



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HONEY HARVESTING

A total of 4 cooperatives had undergone practical training in harvesting and extracting honey during the quarter. This was delivered by Mr Joshua Prasad of Cegu Valley Farm. These cooperatives are Navakasali village (*Savuinuku Cooperative LTD*), Saolo village (*Mataqali Navucivuci Cooperative LTD*), Nacodreudreu settlement (*Mataqali Naboutini Cooperative LTD*) and Banikea/Kavula villages (*Yavusa Kavula Cooperative LTD*). The main aim of this training was for the targeted groups to have hands-on experience to upskill with the knowledge and abilities for future honey harvesting and extraction.



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STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTATION

For the last quarter, the ECAP team continued with stakeholders consultation. The three Provincial Council offices were updated on progress of the project in the three provinces and plans way forward. The goal of these stakeholder consultations is to strengthen networking, bring important issues to light and to encourage ECAP to develop corporate social responsibility.



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Consultation:

- Ministry of Rural & Maritime Development: PA Cakaudrove.
- iTaukei Affairs Board Cakaudrove Provincial Council.
- Bua Provincial Council.
- Mudrenacagi Farm and Apiary, Fiji Beekeepers Association, Bua.
- Honey Joe Farms, Fiji Beekeepers Association, Cakaudrove.
- Macuata Provincial Council.
- Joint Consultation Macuata Provincial Council in Rauriko.
- Meeting with Ministry of Agriculture and Fiji Beekeepers Association, Savusavu.



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COOPERATIVE BUSINESS REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE

14 out of 18 Cooperatives have been registered and have received their registration certificates in this quarter. These certificates will allow the communities to open their Tax Identification Number (TIN), open their cooperative bank accounts and legalise their business. The team is working with the respective communities and the Department of Cooperative to fast-track cooperative registrations and to register the remaining 4 Cooperatives.



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CARBON ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

The ECAP team engaged NAKAU as their Technical Adviser for the Carbon Eligibility Assessment for selected communities. An online workshop was conducted for the identification of eligible sites for Payments for Ecosystem Service (PES) project development. The workshop was designed to assess sites based on eligibility and suitability for the development of community forest carbon projects for the voluntary carbon market. A series of on-going virtual meetings was conducted with the team from NAKAU to collate information and data needed for the Carbon Eligibility Assessment report.



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7. Group photo after meeting with the Bua Provincial Council office.

8. Meeting with Mudrenacagi Farm and Apiary.

9. Joint Consultation with the Macuata Provincial Council in Rauriko village.

10. Meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fiji Beekeepers Association, Savusavu.

11. 9/10 Cooperatives in Cakaudrove received their Registration Certificates in Savusavu.

12. Online workshop with NAKAU

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