

NEWSLETTER

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ONGOING STAKEHOLDER NETWORKING

Strengthening stakeholder networking has been an ongoing activity for the ECAP project, including recently meeting the Commissioner Northern Division, Provincial Administrator Macuata, Provincial Council Offices, iTaukei Lands Trust Board, Department of Co-operative, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Forest and other stakeholders. The team provided an update to the stakeholders on recent progress and discussed and shared plans for the next quarter, while also strengthening our collaboration.



CONSULTATION

In collaboration with key stakeholders, namely iTLTB and Drawa Block Forest Conservation Committee (DBFCC), Live & Learn conducted community consultation workshops in eight communities/Land Owning Unit (LOU) members to disseminate the procedures and required documents for the issuance of the Conservation Lease. The presentation from DBFCC has been an inspiring session for the communities, visualizing the benefits of beekeeping and forest conservation for carbon trading as a sustainable livelihood activity and a nature based solution to climate change. The consultation drew in a total of 85 participants including men, women and peoples with disabilities of LOU members. Representatives from iTLTB and DBFCC during the session are pictured below.



COMMUNITY COOPERATIVE REGISTRATION

Ongoing Cooperative awareness in 20 communities saw the submission of necessary documents to the Department of Cooperative for the issuance of the certificate. In total 18 cooperative registrations were submitted to Department of Cooperative in Labasa. Kavula and Banikea village (LOU) decided to form one cooperative, while Buavou communities showed near to ground commitment and had other priorities. This has been a major achievement after COVID-19 and Cyclone Yasa impacted the northern division. It has been a promising outcome with 18 cooperative registration submitted, which is 95%.

No	Province	District	Village
1	Cakaudrove	Vaturova	Vanuavou
2	Cakaudrove	Vaturova	Vatukuca
3	Cakaudrove	Koroalau	Bucalevu
4	Cakaudrove	Koroalau	Nakawaga
5	Cakaudrove	Wailevu East	Bagata
6	Cakaudrove	Wailevu East	Nabalebale
7	Cakaudrove	Wailevu West	Wailevu
8	Cakaudrove	Wailevu West	Nacodreudreu
9	Cakaudrove	Wailevu West	Nakasa
10	Cakaudrove	Wailevu West	Dawara
11	Bua	Wainunu	Navakasali
12	Bua	Wainunu	Nawaisomo
13	Bua	Wainunu	Nakawakawa
14	Bua	Wainunu	Saolo
15	Bua	Dama	Driti
16	Bua	Lekutu	Kavula & Banikea
17	Macuata	Seaqaqa	Nacreyaga
18	Macuata	Dogodoli	Rauriko

BEEKEEPING SITE SELECTION

The site selection was conducted as preliminary activity prior to the Basic Beekeeping Training to identify suitable places to install beehives. The Fiji Beekeepers Association trainer, Mr Saimone Tunaqase, trading as Paradise Natural Produce was engaged to assisted the team in site selection in 19 targeted communities for the safety and sustainability of the beehives and colony, taking into consideration favourable apiary sites with an abundant food supply, availability of water, flood-free area and less exposure to sunlight. Mr Tunaqase also supported in assembling beehives, raising the queen bee and colony, obtaining approval from Biosecurity Authority of Fiji and delivering beehives with a colony to communities one week prior to the training, ensuring bees acclimatise to the new environment and are friendly for the practical session of the training.



BASIC BEEKEEPING TRAINING

Beekeeping is a nature-based livelihood intervention to reduce the growing effect of climate change in our communities. While the aim is to enhance socioeconomic resilience within the community, it is also aimed at fastening tree pollination and vegetative growth and improving the ecosystems.

The Basic Beekeeping skill training has been successfully conducted in 8 communities; Bua province- Salo, Nakawakawa, Saolo, Nanikea and Kavula villages; Cakaudrove province- Nakasa, Bagata and Nacodreudreu villages.

The training consisted of the in-house and practical component where the participants had first hand experience working with beehives. A total of 210 people from women and youth trained from 8 communities. The training for the remaining 9 communities is scheduled for July 2022. Though the training was targeted at youth and women's groups it was not limited to other age groups.



At the end of the training, participants were honored with the certificate of participation and communities were given beekeeping equipment and personal protective equipment such as 4 double bee boxes with colonies, extractor, bee suits, gloves, smoker, uncapping tool, hive tool, bee brush, gum boots and bee strainer.



MONITORING BEEHIVE

Monitoring the beehives was done with the support of trainer Mr Saimone Tunaqase after 3-4 weeks of the training and installation of the hives in the communities to detect problems at an early stage. This was an important management practice to determine the presence or absence of the queen bee, pests and diseases, eggs or larva in the cell and the brood pattern of the hive. Lack of monitoring previously saw major failure in beekeeping farming.

The last phase of beekeeping training will be conducted in late July and early August 2022 in 9 communities. Cakaudrove province- Bucalevu, Dawara, Wailevu, Nakawaga and Nabalebale villages; Bua province- Driti and Nawaisomo villages; Macuata province- Nacereyaga and Rauriko villages.

Photos:

- Top left - Saimone Tunaqase delivers the beehives to the community
- Middle Left - Trainer Saimone Tunaqase conducts in house training and practical.
- Top right - participants honored with certificate by Paradise Natural Produce Manager Ms Asenaca
- Right - ECAP Manager hand overs equipment's and PPEs to the Youth and Women's group.
- Bottom Left - Participants with trainer Saimone Tunaqase monitoring the bee hives.

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