

MACUATA PROVINCE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

2014 – 2018 ▶▶

Macuata Provincial Office



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Presented By
Macuata Provincial Office

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Macuata Provincial Office
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Your input into the drafting of the Macuata Provincial Natural resource Management Strategy is valuable and greatly appreciated.

Contributors

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ACRONYMS

AusAID:	Australian Agency for International Development
C3/CCC:	Community Centre Conservation
CBNRM:	Community Based Natural Resource Management
CCA:	Climate Change Adaptation
CITES:	United Nations Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CMS:	United Nations Convention on Migratory Species
DoE:	Department of Environment
EA:	Ecosystem Approach
EBM:	Ecosystem Based Management
EIA:	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMA:	Environment Management Act
eNGOs:	Environmental Non-Government Organizations
FNU:	Fiji National University
GIZ:	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
ICM:	Integrated Coastal Management
IRDF:	Integrated Rural Development Framework
IT:	Information Technology
IUCN Red List:	International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List
LLEE:	Live and Learn Environmental Education
LWRM:	Land and Water Resource Management
Macuata LMMA:	Macuata Locally-Managed Marine Area
MPAs:	Marine Protected Areas
MPO:	Macuata Provincial Office
NFMV:	Nature Fiji Mareqeti Viti
NGOs:	Non-Governmental Organizations
NRM:	Natural Resource Management
NTF:	Natural Trust of Fiji
OHS:	Occupational Health and Safety
PO:	Provincial Office
POE:	Provincial Environmental Officer
QCMC:	Qoliqoli Cokovata Management Committee
SPREP:	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UNCBD:	the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
UNCCD:	the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP GEF SGP:	United Nations Development Programme, Global Environment Facility, Small Grants Programme
UNFCCC:	the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USP-IAS:	University of the South Pacific - Institute of Applied Science
WWF UK:	World Wide Fund for Nature in United Kingdom

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Natural Resource Management

Natural Resource Management (NRM) refers to the management of natural resources such as land, water, plants and animals, with a particular focus on how management affects the quality of life for both present and future generations. It deals with managing the way in which people and natural landscapes interact, bringing together land use planning, water management, biodiversity conservation, and the future sustainability of industries like agriculture, mining, tourism, fisheries and forestry.

It recognises that people and their livelihoods rely on the health and productivity of our landscapes, and their actions as stewards of the land play a critical role in maintaining this health and productivity.

The United Nation Convention on Biological Diversity recognises that Local Government Units are experts in local Natural Resource Management. Formulating a Natural Resource Management Strategy enables Local Government and Provincial Units to:

- better protect their natural resources,
- identify best ways to direct funding and limited capacity to sustained NRM interventions,
- provide a venue for citizen participation and co-management of natural resources and encourage NRM investment from within and outside the province.

(<http://www.cbd.int/kb/Results?FreeText=Natural%20Resource%20Management>)

The mandate to manage Fiji's natural resources lies within the relevant line ministries:

- Department of Forestry – responsible for all types of forests including forested land
- Department of Fisheries – responsible for inshore and offshore fisheries
- Department of Agriculture – responsible for agricultural products including agricultural lands
- Department of Lands – responsible for mangrove forests, rivers and streams
- iTaukei Affairs – administration and financial transactions around the use of native owned lands and the affairs of each Province.
- Department of Environment – responsible for all environment related policies and legislations including the Environment Management Act (EMA).

The Provincial Administrators including the communities (land and resource owners and resource users) are not directly involved in the use and management of the natural resources within the province. They are, however, consulted by the relevant authorities when a decision to use these resources is to be made. The provincial offices will seek the advice of the relevant ministries on matters regarding the use of or that will affect the status of the natural resources within its provincial boundaries. Affected communities may also seek the council of the provincial administrators on natural resource management issues affecting them. The provincial administrators will then direct such concerns to the relevant authorities or ministries.

The Provincial Natural Resource Management Strategy serves to ensure that the relevant ministries involved, streamline national plans such as the ICZM, NBSAP, etc, into their sectoral plans and have up-to-date information and data to make sound and informed decisions on sustainable use and management of the resources within their jurisdictions. The strategy will also add value to existing community based NRM plans and conservation initiatives, district and provincial development plans through an integrated and holistic approach. It will empower the Provincial Office to direct funding and resources to priority communities and biodiversity hotspots and ensure that development is in tandem with conservation objectives and outcomes. It will also empower the communities to be able to raise their concerns with relevant authorities with regards to issues affecting their natural resources within their communities. In addition the Strategy will also ensure that community members can access up to date information to help inform their community based natural resource management plans and development.

In summary, the Provincial Natural Resource Management Strategy serves to:

- Strengthen sectoral management of natural resources through awareness, capacity building, legislation and empowerment
- Conserving and protecting the biological diversity and integrity of all ecosystems within the province by reducing or halting habitat destruction, pollution and over-exploitation
- Promoting sustainable development and utilisation of all natural resources within the province

1.2 Integrated Coastal Zone Management Framework

The 2005 Environment Management Act (EMA) specifies the development of a coastal management plan under Section 3(8). It defines the coastal zone as “the area within 30 meters inland from the high water mark and includes areas from the high water mark up to the fringing reef or if there is no fringing reef within a reasonable distance from the high water mark”.

The ICZM framework recommends extending the jurisdiction of the ICM Plan inland within a clearly defined watershed when appropriate (instead of merely 30m).

Fiji's collective coastline of 1,130 km covers 31,000 sq. km of coastal and inshore waters of which, most are in pristine conditions. However, the quality of Fiji's coastal environment is being threatened by the increasing urbanisation trends, demand for cash, modern goods and services as the local economy integrates globally. All Fiji's urban centres and around 690,000 of Fiji's 900,000 people live within 30 km of the country's surrounding reefs (Burke et al. 2011). Half of Fiji's population is now urbanised and is predicted to increase to 70 per cent by 2050 according to global projections. A significant proportion of Fiji's urban areas are poorly planned and serviced. This means that the increasing rural urban drift only leads to the expansion of informal settlements, particularly in low lying and coastal areas where substandard housing and sanitation practices are among the main threats to the health of Fiji's coast.

The expanding tourism, agricultural, forestry and fisheries industries coupled with the increasing rate of urbanisation operating within a legal and institutional framework with limited environmental considerations indicate that serious steps need to be taken at the national level to safeguard the country's coastal ecological system.

Fiji's ICZM Framework creates the context and rationale for the protection of this important natural resource, in the form of ICZM Plan at the national, provincial and district level, by delineating the plan's scope and structure.

The framework is guided by the vision of the coastal zone to:

- Maintain ecological processes and services
- Preserve, enhance and rehabilitate natural resources
- Improve health and wellbeing of the people of Fiji

[INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI; 2011 Opportunities and issues for managing our coastal resources sustainably. Department of Environment, Ministry of Local Government, Urban Development, Housing and Environment].



1.3 Ecosystem Based Management

Ecosystem-based management, or EBM, is an approach that goes beyond examining single issues, species, or ecosystem functions in isolation. Instead it recognizes ecological systems for what they are: a rich mix of elements that interact with each other in important ways. This is particularly important for oceans and coasts. A single commercially valuable fish species, for example, may depend on a range of widely separated habitats over its life, depending on whether it is young or adult, feeding, spawning, or migrating. It needs access to each habitat at the right time, as well as ample food, clean water, and shelter.

Because humans depend on an array of ocean and coastal functions for our well-being — including fish as food, for example — EBM recognizes that our welfare and the health of the environment are linked. Put another way, marine and coastal systems provide valuable natural services, or “ecosystem services”, for human communities.

Therefore, to protect our long-term wellbeing, we need to make sure marine and coastal ecosystem functions and productivity are managed sustainably. This means managing them in a way that acknowledges the complexity of marine and coastal ecosystems, the connections among them, their links with land and freshwater, and how people interact with them.

Management must be integrated, just as ecosystems are interconnected. One of the most important aspects of EBM is that it is fundamentally a place-based approach, where an ecosystem represents the place. Across an entire “place”, EBM aims to manage each of the human uses at a scale that encompasses its impacts on marine and coastal ecosystem function, rather than scales defined by jurisdictional boundaries. Regional-scale management is an important practice in a range of places, including within the framework provided by regional governance mechanisms, such as the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans and other regional frameworks.

To summarize the above, EBM involves two changes in how management is practiced:

- each human activity is managed in the context of ALL the ways it interacts with marine and coastal ecosystems,
- multiple activities are being managed for a common outcome.

To describe this, the terms ecosystem-based management and ecosystem approach (EA) are often used interchangeably, and they mean generally the same thing.

UNEP (2011): Taking Steps toward Marine and Coastal Ecosystem-Based Management - An Introductory Guide

The EBM is an adaptable tool that can be used for Provincial Natural Resource Management as well as the Provincial Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans.

1.4 Similarities and Differences between ICZM and NRM:

There is a lot of overlap between the Provincial ICZM plans and the Provincial NRM plans. Both plans apply the concept of the “Ecosystem Based Management” or “Ridge to Reef” approach as a conservation tool to sustainably manage the resources within each province and provide a guide towards sustainable provincial development. Both are developed through extensive consultative processes with all similar stakeholders and are aligned to national policies such as the National ICZM framework, Fiji’s NBSAP and Fiji’s National Climate Change Policy Framework, National Action Plan to Combat Land Degradation and Desertification, and many others. Both plans also aspire to achieve the same vision and encourage an integrated approach towards development across all sectors.

The Coastal Zone is legally defined under Fiji’s Environment Management Act (EMA) as “the area within 30 metres inland from the high water mark and includes areas from the high water mark up to the fringing reef or a reasonable distance from the high water mark”. There are recommendations under Fiji’s Integrated Coastal Zone Management Framework to change the legal definition of the coastal zone to include inland watersheds.

The provincial NRM on the other hand encompasses the management and sustainable use of all the resources from the ridges including cloud montane forests, water sheds, coastal habitats and the fringing reefs and areas beyond. It moves beyond traditional approaches which tend to be sectorally oriented and fragmented, mostly addressing a single issue in character and seeks to manage all the resources from the ridges to the reefs through an integrated approach.



2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Macuata is one of Fiji's 14 provinces located on the North Eastern side of Vanua Levu, Fiji's second largest island. The province has 114 villages spread over 12 tikina or districts and has a population of 72,441 (2007 Census).

The province is governed by the Macuata Provincial Council, under the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs. The Roko Tui is the head of the Provincial Council and looks after the affairs of the iTaukei or indigenous Fijians. The Macuata Provincial Council reports to the Commissioner Northern who oversees the administration of the three provinces in Vanua Levu.

Macuata Province, which has a total land area of 2004Km² is the fourth largest province in Fiji and is home to the Great Sea Reef, the third longest barrier reef in the world. In 2003, the Fiji Island Marine Eco-region process identified the Great Sea Reef as an area of Global Significance in terms of Biodiversity.

A comprehensive Marine Survey conducted in 2004 found that the Great Sea Reef hosted:

- 55% of all known coral reef fish in Fiji (with a predicted actual value of 80%)
- 74% of all known corals found in Fiji
- 40% of all known flora and fauna in Fiji
- 117 species of sponges, 31 species of coelenterates and 12 species of ascidians were collected
- 12 species are listed on the IUCN Red List of threatened species which includes:
 - 10 species of fish
 - Green turtles
 - Spinner dolphins
- 43 new records of hard coral were documented
- 16 new flora species were identified

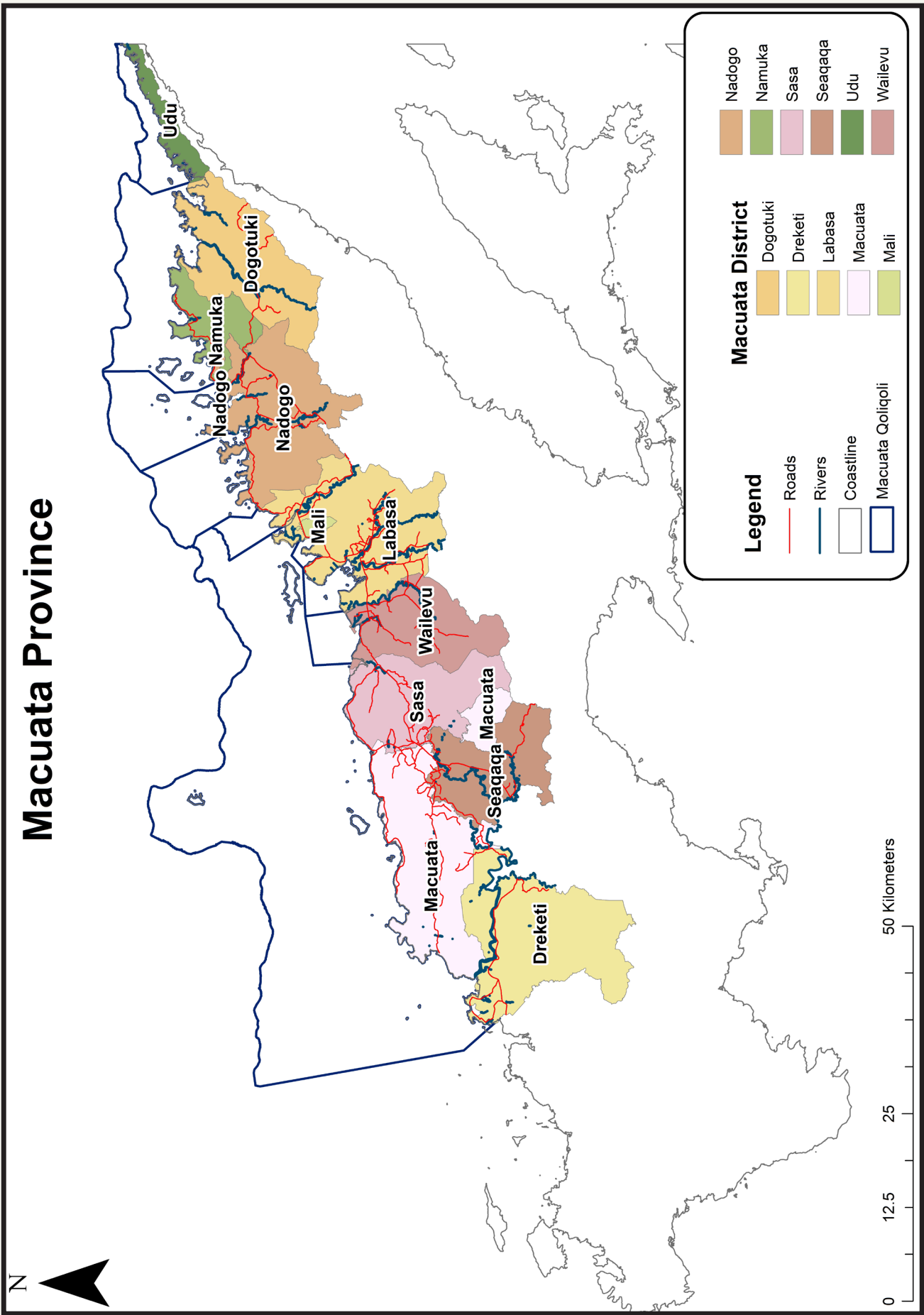
The number of species recorded from this survey remains the highest in any other reef surveyed in Fiji.

Much of Macuata's Landscape is dominated by non-forested areas followed by lowland rainforests and dotted with a few pine plantations mostly in the district of Dreketi.

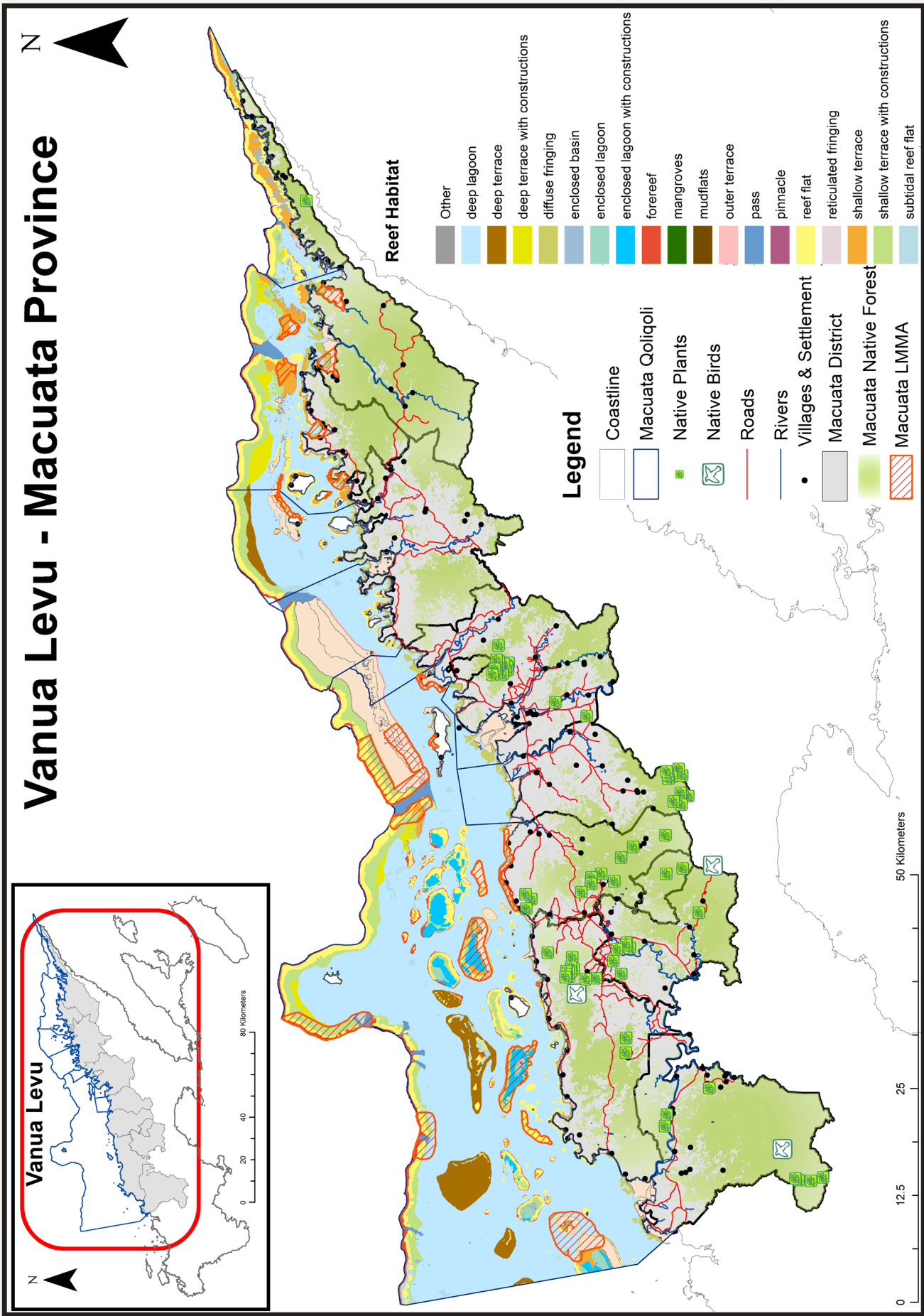
The province of Macuata hosts the third largest mangrove delta in Fiji. These mangrove deltas are culturally and economically linked to the livelihoods of the communities within the area and Fiji's economy as a whole. Mangrove areas provide crabs, prawns, fish, molluscs and other fisheries as well as an important source of firewood, building materials, dyes, medicines and a variety of other uses. The direct and indirect benefits are free and self-sustaining thus are important determinants of the quality of life of many coastal communities.

Macuata also has four major river systems drains into the sea – Labasa, Qawa, Wailevu and Dreketi rivers.

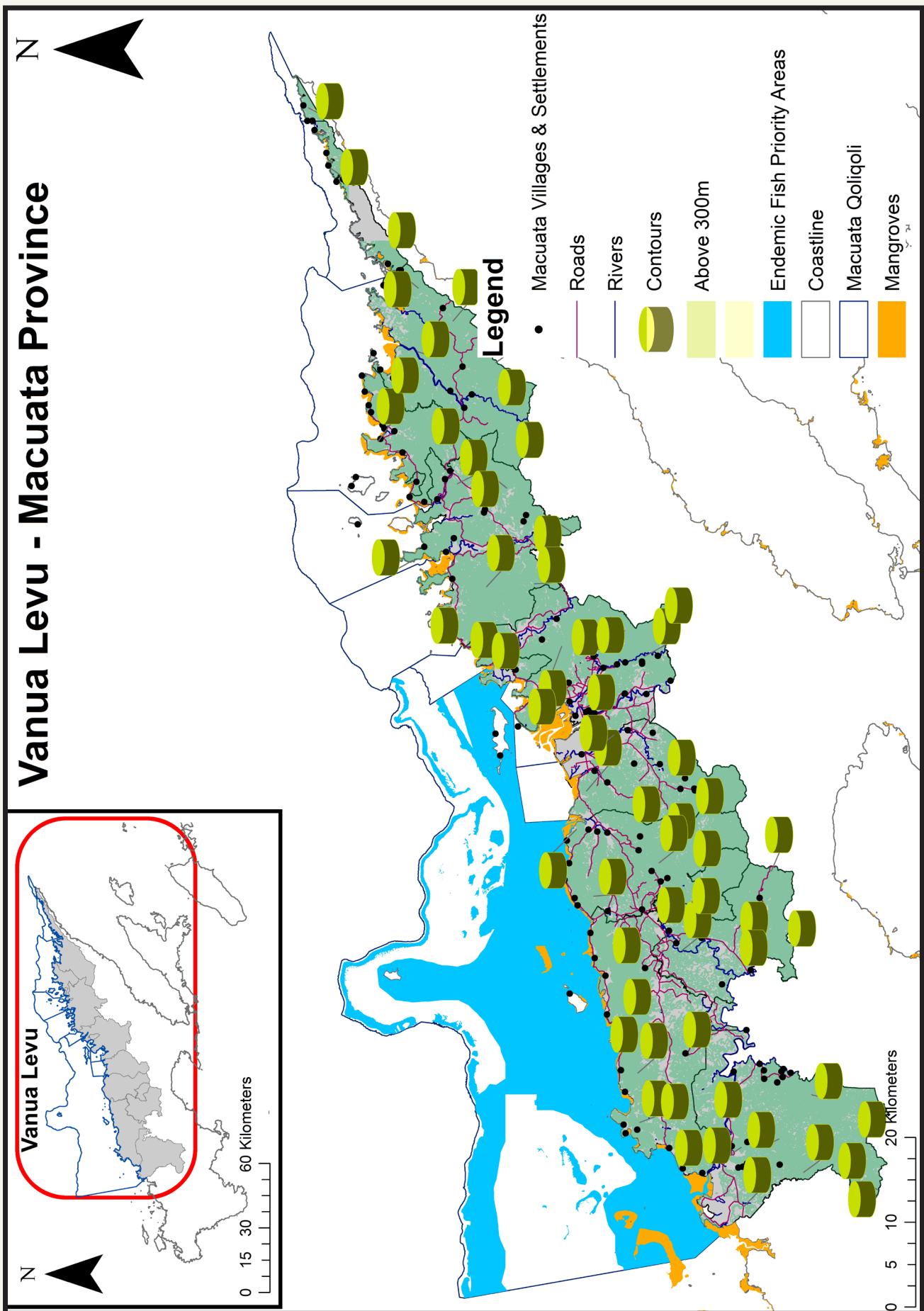
Macuata Province



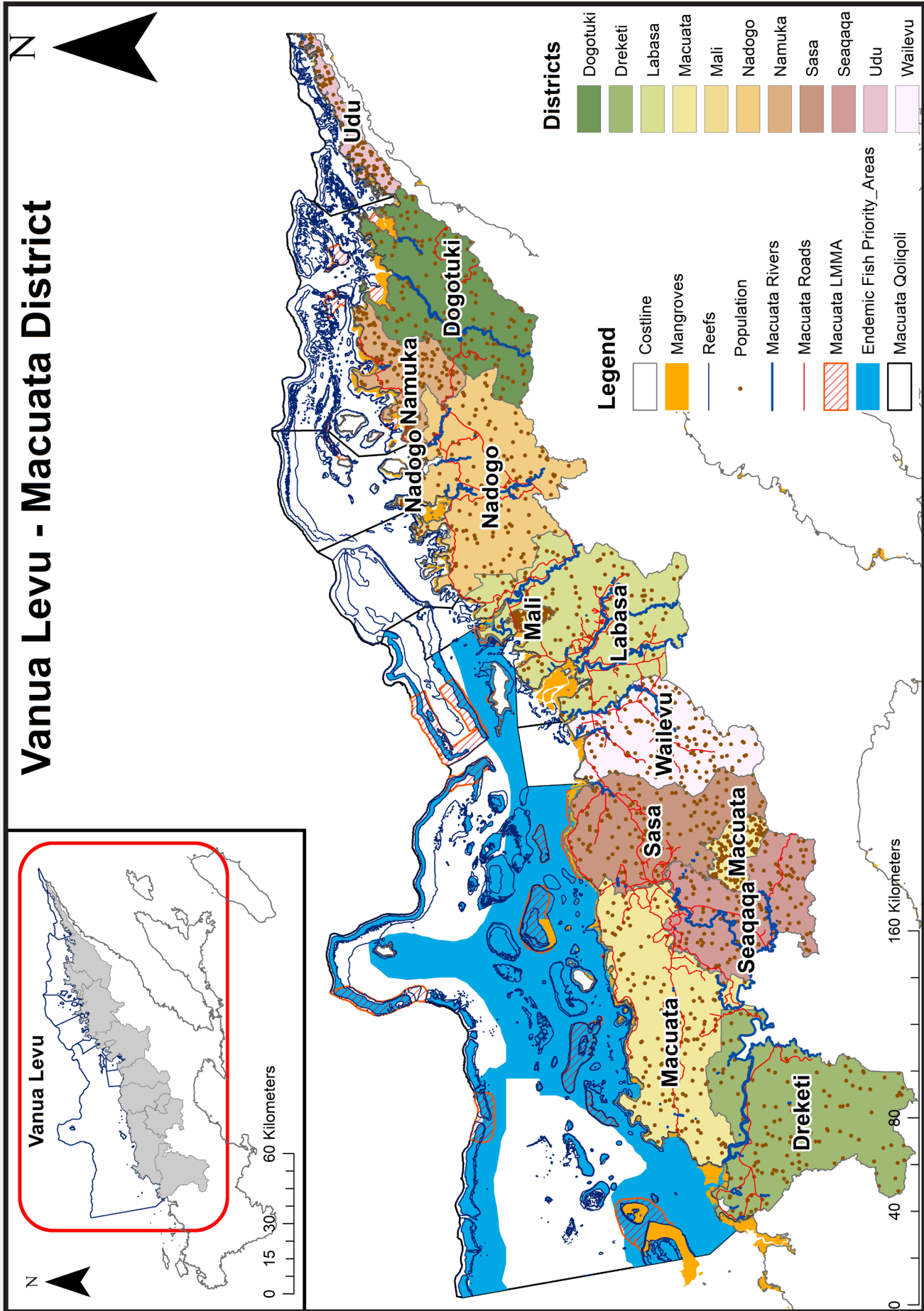
Map illustrating the District of Macuata Province
 Source: Wildlife Conservation Society Fiji, 2013.



Map illustrating the important biodiversity habitats for the Province of Macuata
 Source: Wildlife Conservation Society Fiji, 2013.



Contour map for Province of Macuata
 Source: Wildlife Conservation Society Fiji, 2013.



Map illustrating the demography for the Province of Macuata
 Source: Wildlife Conservation Society Fiji, 2013.

3.0 MACUATA PROVINCIAL NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY CONTEXT



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Local and Provincial Government Units play a critical role in the management of natural resources within their jurisdiction. The island of Vanua Levu has been earmarked under Governments Look North Policy for major developments. A lot of investors such as mining companies, tourist operators, etc., are expressing interest in setting up business in Vanua Levu with improved infrastructure and transport system.

89.4% of the Population in Macuata (Census, 2007) live in rural areas and rely heavily on their natural resources for the daily livelihoods. The Fiji Road Map for Democracy 2009 to 2014 recognizes the importance of maintaining environmental sustainability in terms of Sustainable Land Use, Sustainable Sugar Industry, Sustainable Forestry Management, Sustainable Fisheries Resource Management, Sustainable Mineral and Ground Water Resource Management and appropriate Sanitary Waste Disposable System as pre-requisites for sustainable economic development for Fiji.

3.1 Rationale

An analysis of the Annual Corporate Plan for Macuata Provincial Office 2007 to 2011 showed that the plan focused mainly on the following objectives and strategies:

- Good Governance
- Raise awareness on good governance
- Training on good governance principles
- Realignment of processes and procedures of good governance

3.2 Policies for Good Governance of Fijians

- Promotion and application of good governance
- Strengthening of traditional leadership to manage community development
- Development of the code of conduct for iTaukei institutions
- Promote local and traditional knowledge and expression of culture

3.3 Policies for the well being of the iTaukei

- Ensure that work programmes of line agencies and NGOs meet PO benchmark
- Consult with stakeholders where necessary
- Improve coordination and cooperation between partners
- Facilitate the implementation of Integrated Rural Development Plan
- Improve Government extension services
- Monitoring of Policies and Frameworks to ensure good governance and wellbeing of the Fijians
- Develop a monitoring policy in line with Integrated Rural Development Framework
- Evaluate the impact of IRDF on iTaukei well beings
- Monitor the implementation and progress of development projects
- Decentralisation of Data upgrade
- Sound Policy Advice to the Board
- Review legislations to re-enforce good governance principles
- Sound Entity Management
- Facilitate council meetings and other forums to deliberate on issues and concerns of the iTaukei
- Maintain sound and affective accounting system
- Financial Management
- Comply with relevant statutory requirements
- Monitor grants, investment and compulsory saving
- Implementation of OHS
- Sound IT infrastructure
- Personal Development of PC staff
- Ensure that assets and facilities are used cost effectively
- Coordinate the rehabilitation process of reporting of natural disaster
- Coordinate and manage Provincial assets
- Organise, coordinate and facilitate the Bose Vanua

For the last two years, Macuata Provincial Office's Annual Corporate Plan is focused mainly on good governance, and well being of the iTaukei.

Having a Provincial Natural Resource Management Strategy incorporated into the Macuata Provincial Office Annual Corporate Plan will

- Guide, strengthen and ensure implementation of National, Regional and International Plans and Policies at the provincial level
- Coordinate and enhance conservation efforts/initiatives within the Province
- Strengthen relationship between all stakeholders and practitioners
- Identify gaps and needs as well as ways to access or raise much needed funding and resources
- Identify communities vulnerable to impacts of climate change as well as develop innovative adaptation measures
- Provide guidelines that will ensure development within the province is sustainable, safeguards biodiversity, food security, community livelihoods, build community resilience
- Lessons learnt and best practices from Provincial Level can be shared at national and regional level
- Contribute towards policy advocacy at national, regional and international level
- Support sustainability of conservation initiatives within the province
- Help boost the local economy through increased tourism activities, increased agricultural productivity and improved health as well as contribute to poverty eradication



4.0 VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

4.1 Strategic Vision

By 2017, MPO / Partners will strive towards Conservation, Protection, Rehabilitation, and Restoration of the province's natural resources

For whom:

- Inland, coastal and island communities of all ethnic groups and for the current and future generations of Macuata

Through:

- Sound planning, implementation and monitoring and management of natural resources
- Empowering communities to manage their resource well, enforce rules and regulations.
- Strategic partnership of various stakeholders

So that:

- there is resilience and abundance in biodiversity & sustainable livelihoods
- there is caring and peace within the communities
- Good leadership
- Working together
- Decrease in pollution and poverty.
- Knowledgeable society



4.2 Strategy in brief

The Natural Resource Management Strategy is divided into 5 thematic areas with 18 focal areas. The thematic and focal areas are:

- 1. Biodiversity**
 - a. Forest
 - b. Marine
 - c. Freshwater
 - d. Research
 - e. Climate Change
 - f. Heritage Sites
- 2. Capacity Building**
 - a. Training
 - b. Awareness
 - c. Provincial Environmental Officers
- 3. Sustainable Financing**
 - a. Fundraising
 - b. Macuata NRM Trust Fund
- 4. Leadership and Governance**
 - a. Networking
 - b. Data Gathering
 - c. Monitoring and Evaluation
 - d. Environmental Watchdog
 5. Sustainable Economic Development
 - a. Rural Development
 - b. Development Plans
 - c. Greening Local Industries

It is estimated that a total of about 2.083 Million FJD is needed to implement the 5 year NRM Strategy for the province of Macuata.



5.0 MACUATA NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

5.1 Thematic Area 1: Biodiversity

Goal - Key priority areas in Macuata Province is identified and under some form of district or provincial level protection and management by 2017 through:

Focal Area:	Activity	Cost	Lead Organization	Funds Available	Fundraising Agent	Timeline
1.Forest	Capacity building for Sustainable Forestry Management at the district/tikina level	\$10,000/ awareness session	Department Of Forestry Provincial Office District/Tikina Committee	No	Provincial Office Forestry District/Tikina Committee	by 2017
	Awareness training on the Provincial Natural Resource Management Strategy to communities, resource owners and relevant stakeholders	\$1000, Awareness Session	WWF Provincial Office	No	Provincial Office District Committee WWF	June 2014
	Tree Planting (Rehabilitation of degraded, deforested Area)	\$3,000 per district	Village/District Tikina Committee	No	Village/District Committee	June 2015
	Sustainable Land Management Training at District Level Establishment of District Land care Group	\$10,000 per District	Department of Land Use and Planning	No	District Committee, Provincial Office and Department of Land Use & Planning	June, 2016
	Establishment of Forest Parks/Reserves	\$200,000	Forestry Department Macuata Provincial Office Department of Environment Environmental NGOs Relevant Districts	No	Forestry, Provincial Office, Department of Environment, Relevant Environmental NGOs	December, 2017
2.Marine	Training/Refreshment training for fish warden/fishermen/Police	\$10,000	Fisheries Department	No	Fisheries Department Provincial Office Environmental NGOs	December, 2015
	Mapping of Taboo areas for Maucata Province – Terrestrial and Marine Protected Areas	\$10,000	Provincial Office Protected Areas Committee	No	Provincial Office Protected Areas Committee	December, 2013
	Rehabilitation of River banks and coastal areas through replanting of Mangroves and Coastal Trees	\$3,000/site	Village Committee District/Tikina Committee Labasa Town Council Environmental NGOs Schools Department of Environment Macuata Provincial Office USP	Some funds are available for some sites	Village/District Committees Provincial Office Labasa Town Council Environmental NGOs	On-going till December, 2017
3.Fresh Water	Workshop(Waste Management, Recycling , Chemical Usage)	\$20,000	Department Of Environment NGO's Agriculture Department	No	Department of Environment NGO's	2016
	Rehabilitation of Buffer Zones/Riparian Zones – replanting of native trees and vertivar grass	\$4000/site	Village/District Committee	Some funds are available for some sites	District Committee Department of Forestry Provincial Office Environmental NGOs	On-going till 2017
	Setting up of buffer-zones and monitoring the protection of buffer zones – to be included as part of their village by-laws	No cost	Village Turaga-ni-Koro *Village and District Committee		Village Committee District Committee Provincial Office	December 2013

	Conduct water-shed management training for communities in Macuata	\$60,000	Macuata Provincial Office Department of Environment Relevant Environmental NGOs		Macuata Provincial Office Department of Environment Relevant Environmental NGOs	December, 2017
4. Research	Collate all baseline data available in Macuata for Marine, Freshwater, and Forest in partnership with relevant institutions, NGOs and partners	\$2,000	Macuata Provincial Office Relevant Stakeholders	No	Macuata Provincial Office, Relevant stakeholders and partners	December, 2014
	Collate data to set up a Marine Resource Inventory, Forest Resource Inventory for Macuata- work with Department of Environment Fisheries and Forestry to finalize this.	\$5,000	Macuata Provincial Office Fisheries Department Forestry Department Department of Environment	No	Macuata Provincial Office Fisheries and Forestry Department	December 2016
	Collect Data on the amount of fishing licenses issued per year from fisheries and work with relevant stakeholders to identify a quota system per annum.	\$7,000	Macuata Provincial Office Fisheries Department	No	Macuata Provincial Office	June, 2014
	Update the Bio-physical Data and Land-Use Maps for the Province of Macuata	\$30,000	Macuata Provincial Office Department of Land Use and Planning	No	Macuata Provincial Office Department of Land Use Planning	2016
5. Climate Change	Awareness Programme	\$20,000	Relevant Government Departments WWF, USP-IAS, CCC, LLEE	No	Relevant Government Departments WWF, USP_IAS, CCC, LLEE LWRM	2017
			LWRM DoE		DoE	
6. Heritage Sites	All heritage sites identified and protected by Macuata Provincial Office.	100,000	MPO DoE WWF	Yes/No	Macuata Provincial Office Department of Culture and Heritage	2017
7. Climate Change	All communities vulnerable to effects of climate change identified and adaptation plans developed and implemented	\$100,000 per community	MPO DoE Relevant Environmental NGOs [WWF, USP-IAS, CCC, LLEE]	Yes/NO [Some communities already have funding in place to develop and implement CCA plans]	MPO DoE Relevant Environmental NGOs	2017

5.2 Thematic Area 2: Capacity Building

Goal – That the Macuata Provincial Office is adequately equipped and staffed to effectively implement and monitor the NRM strategy by 2017 through:

- Awareness
- Training
- Provincial environmental officers



Thematic Area	Capacity Building					
	Activity	Cost	Lead Organization	Funds	Who will look for the money?	Timeline
Focal Area:						
8. Training	Capacity building for Sustainable Forestry Management at the district/tikina level	\$10,000/ awareness session	Department Of Forestry Provincial Office District/Tikina Committee	No	Provincial Office Forestry Department Provincial Office District/Tikina Committee	by 2017
	Conduct water-shed management training for communities in Macuata	\$60,000	Macuata Provincial Office Department of Environment Relevant Environmental NGOs		Macuata Provincial Office Department of Environment Relevant Environmental NGOs	December, 2017
	Training/Refreshment training for fish warden/fishermen/Police	\$10,000	Fisheries Department	No	Fisheries Department Provincial Office Environmental NGOs	December, 2015
	Sustainable Land Management Training at District Level	\$10,000 per District	Department of Land Use and Planning	No	District Committee, Provincial Office and DoLUP	June, 2016
	Capacity Building of the Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team to manage, coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Macuata NRM Strategy through adaptive management	\$15,000	Macuata Provincial Office	No	Macuata Provincial Office WWF	June 2014
	Building capacity of the Yaubula Management Support Team on raising funds to implement the Macuata NRM Strategy	\$10,000	Macuata Provincial Office Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team	No	Macuata Provincial Office WWF	June 2014
	Training of Sugar Cane Farmers on Sustainable Land Management and Practices		Fiji Sugar Corporation Labasa Cane Producers Association	Yes	Labasa Cane Producers Association WWF	December 2014
9. Awareness	Raising awareness at the district level on the Macuata NRM Strategy and community role on the implementation of the strategy	\$5,000 per district	Macuata Provincial Office Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team Mata ni Tikina	No	Macuata Provincial Office Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team Relevant Environmental NGOs	December 2013
	Raising awareness at the Provincial Level with various Government Departments, Private Sector and Municipal Council on the Macuata Provincial NRM Strategy and their role in implementation and supporting the strategy	\$15,000	Macuata Provincial Office Department of Environment WWF	No	Macuata Provincial Office Department of Environment WWF	June 2014
	Raising awareness on environmental issues and climate change at the community level and schools	\$3,000 per session	Yaubula Management Support Team Department of Environment Relevant Environmental NGOS Ministry of Education	No	District Committee Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team Relevant Environmental NGOs	On-going till 2017
10. Provincial Environmental Officers	Built Capacity of POE in: - programme and project management and coordination, - monitoring and evaluating and review of the NRM Strategy - to compose concepts and proposals for donor agency - to conduct, facilitate awareness programmes, community workshops and community consultations - on national, regional and international environmental policies and legislations and proper procedures to follow	\$10,000	iTaukei Affairs Board Macuata Provincial Office Relevant NGOs	No	iTaukei Affairs Board Macuata Provincial Office	December 2014

5.3 Thematic Area 3: Sustainable Financing

Goal – The Macuata Provincial Office is self-sustainable and financially secure to effectively lead the implementation of the NRM strategy by 2017 through:

- Carbon trading
- Fundraising

Thematic Area	Sustainable Financing					
Focal Area: Financing	Activity	Cost	Lead Organization	Funds	Who will look for the money?	Timeline
11.Fundraising	Hosting an annual bazaar for the Provincial NRM Strategy	\$20,000 per Bazaar	Macuata Provincial Office Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team	NO	Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team Macuata Private Sector for Sponsorship Relevant Environmental NGOs	On-going: Annually till 2017
	Village Soli - \$1 per head	\$2,000	Macuata Provincial Office Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team	No	Macuata Provincial Office	Once annually
	Concept and Proposal Writing	Staff Cost	Macuata Provincial Office Provincial Environmental Officer Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team	Staff Cost		4 concepts per year(on-going)
	Provincial Rugby and Netball Tournament to raise money for the NRM Strategy	\$10,000	Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team Provincial Environment Officer Macuata Youth Representative	No	Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team Sponsorship from Private Sector	Once Annually
12.Macuata Natural Resource Management Trust Fund	Setting up of a Macuata Natural Resource Management Trust Fund	\$20,000	Macuata Provincial Office Macuata Yaubula Management Support team Department of Environment	No	Macuata Provincial Office All partners and stakeholders working in Macuata Province in the area of Environmental Conservation	June 2015
	Develop a paper on the possibility of deducting a levy from business companies on any extraction of any sort of Natural Resources within the boundaries of Macuata Province that will be injected to the Macuata Natural Resource Management Trust Fund	Staff Time	Macuata Provincial Office Department of Environment Provincial Administrator Commissioner Northern Relevant NGOs USP/FNU Private Sector	No		June, 2015
	Deduction of 1% of Lease Money from all Mataqali that will be added to the Macuata Natural Resource Management Trust Fund	Staff Time	Macuata Provincial Office iTaukei Lands Trust Board	No		Annually: On-going
	Explore the opportunity for Carbon Trading – a percentage of the fund goes into the trust fund	\$3,000	Forest Department GIZ Live and Learn Environmental Education Department of Environment	No	Forestry Department	December, 2014

5.4 Thematic Area 4: Leadership and Governance

Goal – The Macuata Provincial Environment Committee is effectively coordinating the implementation of the NRM strategy through strategic partnerships and provision of advisory support to the Macuata Provincial Council by 2017

- Networking
- Data gathering
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Watchdog
- Stakeholders

Thematic Area	Leadership and Governance					
Focal Area:	Activity	Cost	Lead Organization	Funds	Who will look for the money?	Timeline
13. Networking	Annual summit to convene all stakeholders working in the province of Macuata to discuss the implementation of the NRM Strategy, share lessons and ideas and the way forward	\$20,000/event	Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team Macuata Provincial Office Department of Environment	No	Co-sponsorship from all stakeholders and relevant Government Departments	Annually
	Leadership Training at the District Level on Natural Resource use and management	\$5,000/training	Department of Environment Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team	No	Department of Environment District Committee Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team	December 2016
	Establish, strengthen and maintain strategic partnership with relevant stakeholders from relevant government departments, civil society organisations, institutions and private sector to effectively support and implement the	Staff Time	Macuata Provincial Office Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team Provincial Environmental Officer			On-Going
	NRM plan as well and work towards a sustainable future for the province		Department of Environment Commissioner Northern Office			
14. Data Gathering	Establishment of a Data-Base within the Provincial Office to house all relevant data important for Natural Resource Management for the Province of Macuata	\$5,000	Macuata Provincial Office Department of Environment	No	Macuata Provincial Office Department of Environment	December 2014
	A copy of all data on Macuata's Natural Resources must be submitted to the Macuata Provincial Office		All Stakeholders			On-going
	A copy of all reports of workshops conducted in Macuata related to Natural resource management to be submitted to The Macuata Provincial Office		All Stakeholders			On-going
	Submit Quarterly reports and updates to Macuata Provincial Office on activities carried out in Macuata		All Environmental NGOs and Institutions currently working in Macuata on Natural Resource Management WWF NFMV			

			USP IAS NTF CCC			
15. Monitoring and Evaluation	Conduct quarterly review and evaluation of the implementation of the NRM Strategy and inform the Macuata Provincial Council of the progress in the implementation of the NRM Plan	Staff Time	Macuata Environmental Officer Macuata Provincial Office Macuata Yaubula Management Support team			On-going: Quarterly
	Compile monthly reports on the implementation of the NRM Strategy and submitted to the Provincial Office	Staff Time	Provincial Environment Officer			On-going
	Annually Review the implementation of the NRM Strategy, identify success stories, gaps and challenges and apply adaptive management to suggest ways of improvement	\$5,000	Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team Environmental Officer Department of Environment Macuata Provincial Office Relevant NGOs	No	Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team Relevant NGOs	Once Annually
16. Watchdog	Ensure that all development taking place in Macuata follows the proper channel including following the proper EIA process	Staff Time	Provincial Environmental Officer Department of Environment Commissioner's Office Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team			On-going
	Ensure that all business within Macuata is sustainable with less impact on the environment - No over exploitation of resources - Proper waste management	Staff Time	Department of Environment Macuata Provincial Office			On-going

5.5 Thematic Area 5: Sustainable economic development

Goal – The Macuata Provincial Office together with key partners will work towards driving and enhancing sustainable economic development and growth for all its communities within the context of Natural Resource Management by 2017

- Development plans
- Rural development
- Greening Local Industries

Thematic Area	Sustainable Economic Development					
Focal Area:	Activity	Cost	Lead Organization	Funds	Who will look for the money?	Timeline
17.Rural Development	Promote the set of District 20 Year Development Plans for all districts in Macuata through participatory process & consultation with district communities and resource owners linking into the Macuata NRM Strategy	\$30,000 per district	Macuata Provincial Office NGO partners iTaukei Affairs Board	Some funds are available for certain districts	Macuata Provincial Office NGO Partners iTaukei Affairs Board	2017
18.Development Plans	Ensure that all development plans for Macuata takes into consideration the environment and natural resources so that development is sustainable.		Department of Environment Provincial Administrator Commissioner Office Macuata Provincial Office Relevant Environmental NGOs			On-going
	Establish a Development Committee with representatives from the private sector, civil society and relevant government department to meet quarterly to discuss proposed developments with-in the province as well as the NRM Strategy updates	Staff time	Macuata Provincial Office Department of Environment Provincial Administrator			Quarterly every year
19.Greening Local Industry	Work with the Labasa Town Council and Labasa Chamber of Commerce towards greening of local industries within the municipality boundaries	\$30,000	Labasa Town Council Labasa Chamber of Commerce Provincial Administrator Department of Environment	No	Labasa Town Council Labasa Chamber of Commerce Relevant NGOs	2017
	Work with the Fiji Sugar Cooperation towards improving management and disposal of waste	Staff time	Fiji Sugar Cooperation Department of Environment			2016

6.0 NRM STRATEGY MONITORING AND REVIEW

To ensure effective and timely implementation, the Macuata Environment Committee together with the Provincial Environment Officer will be responsible for the coordination of implementation and monitoring of the Macuata Provincial Natural Resource Management Strategy.

The Macuata Provincial Environment Committee will review the progress of implementation of the NRM strategy and regularly report to the Macuata Provincial Council at their quarterly meetings.

All stakeholders and agencies implementing on the Macuata NRM Strategy must provide quarterly reports on their status of implementation of the strategy including lessons learnt and achievements to date.

6.1 WWF history of work in Macuata

WWF South Pacific had been working with the communities of the four district of Mali, Dreketi, Sasa and Macuata in the Province of Macuata since 1999 using Ecosystem Based Management as a tool to develop a Community Based Natural Resource Management Plan for Qoliqoli Cokovata. The Qoliqoli Cokovata Management Committee was established in 2005 with the launch of the district Marine Protected Areas and Management Plan. A summary of activities conducted were listed below:

- Socio-economic surveys – 2006 & 2008
- Marine biological surveys – 2006 & 2008
- Freshwater surveys – 2006 & 2010
- Financial Literacy training - 2007
- Action plan and reviews – 2004, 2007, 2009
- Fish warden training and action plans 2007, 2009, 2011
- Expanding income and creating alternative livelihoods – Revolving Fund – 2011
- Reconfiguration of Marine Protected Areas workshop – 2008
- Endorsement of reconfigured network of MPAs - 2012
- Secured small grants funds from UNDP's GEF SGP for Dreketi and Mali land care intervention (2008- 2012)
- Sustainable Land Management workshop and capacity building for District of Sasa 2012
- Integrated approach on climate change adaptation work through funding secured from AusAID (Building resilience project)
- Footprint reduction advocacy with sugar industry – better sugar cane initiative.

6.2 WWF-Macuata new directions for the future

- District long term development plans
- Effective district management structures
- District level fundraising and financing mechanisms in place.
- Opportunity to align with the Inshore Fisheries decree and improving compliance and enforcement of the MPAs.
- Enhance regulated fisheries and improve its management on promoting sustainable seafood sourcing and its supply chains.
- Adding value to MPAs through advocacy for better seafood choices.
- Enabling community structures and management processes to implement effective long term self-financing mechanisms, ensuring sustainability of protected areas network.
- Building the Capacity of the Provincial Office to coordinate and monitor all conservation initiatives within the Province
- WWF – hand over of all project activities to QCMC and WWF exiting from Macuata project site

Based on WWF's years of experience working with QCMC, it had been identified that there is a need for Macuata Provincial Office to develop a Natural Resource Management Strategy for the province to support, coordinate and monitor all conservation initiatives within its province. As the governing authority responsible for all activities within the province, the Macuata Provincial Office NRM Strategy will ensure the sustainability of all conservation activities with the appropriate capacity and support. It was also ensure an integrated approach towards sustainable development for the Province of Macuata.

APPENDICES

1.0 POLICIES AND LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORKS:

1.1 International and Regional Frameworks:

Fiji has ratified at least 57 International and regional Multilateral Environmental Agreements. Few of which are:

- the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD)
- the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
- the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- United Nations Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
- United Nations Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- United Nations Convention on Wetlands of International Importance - Ramsar Convention
- Pacific Ocean-scape Framework

1.2 National Frameworks:

The following national policies and legislations that are implementing on Multi-Lateral Environmental Agreements that Fiji has ratified, had been taken into consideration when planning the Natural Resource Management Strategy for Macuata Provincial Office:

- People's Charter for Change, Peace and Progress 2008 – umbrella framework for national development
- Fiji Road Map for Democracy and Sustainable Socio-Economic Development 2009-2014 – implementation framework for the “Charter”
- Ministry of iTaukei 2011 Annual Corporate Plan
- Fiji's Strategic Development Plan 2007-2011
- Environment Management Act
- National Environment Strategy
- Fiji's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
- Fiji National Climate Change Policy - 2012
- Integrated Coastal Management Framework for Fiji
- Land Use Policies
- Forest Decree 1992
- Water Resource Policies
- Land Development Act
- Land Conservation Act
- Litter Decree (Amendment) 2010
- Rivers and Streams Act
- Town Planning Act
- Natural Disaster Management Act

2.0 DEVELOPMENT PROCESS FOR THE MACUATA PROVINCIAL NRM STRATEGY:

First Consultation Workshop to develop the Macuata Provincial NRM Strategy was held in Labasa Town Council Hall in Labasa on the 22nd of August, 2012. The workshop objectives included:

- To provide a learning platform of conservation and environmental protection in Macuata on all initiatives undertaken in the province.
- To explore coordination and establish network for the environment and conservation work in Macuata.
- To identify key priority areas for protection in the province.
- To promote the Great Sea Reef as the unified target for conservation goal in Macuata.
- To find the extent of Macuata's initiatives contribution to national plans.
- To formalize the Macuata Yaubula Management Support team as the Province's environment and conservation advisory body to the governance process.
- To formulate an NRM Strategy for the province.

Thirty six participants representing the Private Sector, Community Representatives, Government Departments and eNGOs were present at the workshop.

Second Consultation Workshop was held on the 22nd of October at the Labasa Town Council Hall in Labasa Town. The purpose of the meeting was to:

- To engage and present to Macuata Province Stakeholders the outcomes of the first NRM Strategy Workshop and the draft NRM Strategy Matrix which summarizes the priority focal areas for Macuata identified through the first consultation workshop
- To provide an opportunity for Macuata Provincial stakeholders to discuss, contribute and collectively agree on the NRM matrix
- To inform participants of the process that will be undertaken to draft and finalise the NRM Strategy

Twenty eight participants representing government departments, the private sector, communities and eNGOs were part of the workshop.

Third Consultation workshop was held on the 17th of April, 2013 at Labasa Civic Center in Labasa Town. 72 participants attended the workshop. The purpose of this workshop was to provide an opportunity for the Macuata Provincial Stakeholders and Partners to:

- Identify and draft an action plan that will be implementing the Natural Resource Management Strategy
- Confirm the Macuata Provincial NRM Strategy Vision Statement
- Finalise the Terms of Reference for the Macuata Yaubula Management Support Team

Stakeholders involved in the Development of the Macuata Provincial Natural Resource Management Strategy:

The following stakeholders were part of the Macuata Provincial NRM Strategy consultation:

Government Departments:

- Department of Environment
- Department of Fisheries
- Department of Forestry
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Lands
- Mineral Resource Department
- Macuata Provincial Office
- Divisional Planning
- Fiji Council of Social Services

Civil Society Organisations and Institutions:

- WWF South Pacific
- USP Institute of Applied Science
- Community Centred Conservation
- Nature Fiji Maraqueti Viti
- Live and Learn Environmental Education

Each of the stakeholders presented on the following key issues:

- Organisation or department portfolio and scope of work
- Success stories or achievements
- Challenges faced
- Lessons learnt
- Future directions
- Key issues and recommendations for the provincial NRM Strategy

Based on these presentations and the discussions that followed, common issues were identified and classed under common thematic areas that formed the basis of the provincial NRM strategy.

A stakeholder visioning exercise and action planning development were also part of the consultation process which led to the compilation and formulation of the NRM Strategy.

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